



2018 SPRING NEWSLETTER

City of Missoula Public Works Department - *Missoula*



Water Tap on Existing Main - Linda Vista
Missoula Water Employee - Kevin Johnson

Missoula Water Updates

Project Improvements

In keeping with the City's goals in public ownership of the water utility, Missoula Water has implemented a water main replacement program to reduce leakage and improve aging water mains. Most of the planned improvements are in residential neighborhoods, but three projects will take place in downtown Missoula.

The first project downtown is to replace a water main that dates back to 1949. This main is located on 4th Street from Orange to Higgins, including the section that crosses Higgins Avenue. We don't anticipate closing Higgins through the intersection, but there will be lane closures for a week or two.

Other water projects include:

- Grant (McDonald to Brooks) and Harve (Grant to Garfield)
- West Kent (Bancroft to Park)
- South 2nd (Oak to Railroad)
- 1400 block of Howell (Bulwer to halfway between Burton and Shakespeare)
- Scott Street (Rodgers to Palmer)
- Railroad and Woody (Toole Ave - McCormick to Orange) (Woody St. -Alder to Railroad)
- Stoddard (Scott to Dickens)
- Defoe (Worden to Waverly)
- Gerald (6th Street to Connell - Sewer) (6th Street to Daly - Water)
- Wyoming (Prince to California - City) (Russell to Prince - MT Dept of Transp.)

Public meetings will be scheduled before construction begins. For updates and maps of Missoula Water projects, please visit our website at www.ci.missoula.mt.us/waterprojects.

Rattlesnake Intake Dam

The City of Missoula and Trout Unlimited hosted a public open house for the Lower Rattlesnake Dam and Reclamation Project on Tuesday, March 20. Information presented at the open house outlined the options to restore Rattlesnake Creek and the creek corridor in the area of the dam and included maps and graphs and options for preservation and recreation opportunities. Based on the results of public comments, the project partners will continue to refine design and costs focusing on the alternative and goals that gain the best value per community wishes and best practices in science and engineering. For more information, visit www.ci.missoula.mt.us/1038/New-Open-Space-For-Missoula.



Public Works Department Newsletter

Find out the latest information on Public Works projects by reading the new monthly newsletter at: www.ci.missoula.mt.us/publicworks

There are six divisions within Public Works that provide essential public services to maintain and improve our City infrastructure systems. The following divisions offer monthly updates in the newsletter:

- Storm Water
- Wastewater
- Missoula Water
- Street Maintenance
- Traffic Services
- Traffic Signal & Communication Shop

What is the Fluoride Level?

We're often asked if fluoride is added to Missoula's water system. The answer is no. However, the public water supply does contain some naturally occurring fluoride as a result of the geological composition of soils and bedrock.

Many communities add fluoride to their drinking water to promote dental health, but excessive exposure can lead to potential health problems. That is why the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) sets drinking water standards for fluoride by regulating the maximum level to 4.0 ppm (parts per million).

The average fluoride level in Missoula's water system in 2017 was below the maximum standard at 0.14 ppm. The lowest level sampled was a "no detect," and the highest level sampled was 0.2 ppm.

For more information about drinking water standards for fluoride, visit the EPA's website at www.epa.gov.

2017/2018 Consumer Confidence Report

Your annual Water Quality Consumer Confidence Report will be available in the next couple of months as required by the EPA. We will inform you of its availability on your water bill.

facebook

Missoula Water is on Facebook!

For project updates and other water service information, please visit us at facebook.com/missoulawater.



Irrigation Meters

We would like to offer a friendly reminder for our customers who have separate irrigation meters to please call us when your irrigation system has been turned on for the season. We will then activate your irrigation account.

Summer Sprinkling Hours

Missoula Water recommends that you water your lawn and plants during the cool parts of the day to avoid water evaporating into the air during the warmer part of the day. **The permitted sprinkling schedule is:**

Monday through Sunday – 6 a.m. to 11 a.m. and 5p.m. to 10 p.m.

If you have underground sprinklers, you may set your timer to water during the middle of the night.

Storm Water Management

Spring gardening is in the air. For a healthy yard, aerate topsoil, cut grass so it's able to stand a bit taller (short grass doesn't retain moisture as well, and longer grass stands a better chance in competing with weeds), water plants in the mornings or cooler hours and use only as much fertilizer as the package instructs. Being mindful of fertilizer use is especially important, as using too much on your property will result in polluted storm water.

Need a springtime project? Planting a vegetation buffer around your property could save your community money on storm water treatment costs. Vegetation decreases erosion and uses excess nutrients found in fertilizers, effectively treating any sediments or pollutants that may be flowing with the storm water running from Missoula's private properties. Every pollutant filtered out on-site decreases the costs for infrastructure and treatment facilities. This means cleaner drains, rivers and streams and a better environment for a thriving Missoula.

This message has been brought to you by the Storm Water Division of Public Works.

Contact us

Emergency/Information Line: 406.552.6700

Mail: P.O. Box 5388, Missoula, MT 59806-5388

Customer Service: waterscs@ci.missoula.mt.us

Office hours

1345 W. Broadway, Missoula, MT 59802

Walk-in: 7:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. M–F

Office: 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. M–F

Many easy ways to pay your water bill

By Phone: 866.790.8218 • Direct Debit (free) • Online • By Mail • In Person



www.ci.missoula.mt.us/water