



Since 1889



City of Milton-Freewater 2020 Spring Newsletter

PO Box 6 - 722 S. Main Street, Milton-Freewater, OR 97862

www.mfcity.com



City of Milton-Freewater Mayor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, on February 7, 2020, our community saw unprecedented amounts of high water flow due to increased snowmelt; and

WHEREAS, 3,000 city residents along the levee were evacuated;

WHEREAS, the City's Emergency Operations Plan was put into place with Incident Command being set up in the Albee Room and three shelters being put into place;

WHEREAS, a local disaster was declared by the City of Milton-Freewater;

WHEREAS, Governor Kate Brown declared a State of Emergency in Umatilla County;

WHEREAS, we desire to formally express appreciation and gratitude to ALL those that unselfishly volunteered and stepped up to help protect the life and property of our community;

WHEREAS, the Milton-Freewater Water Control District, City of Milton-Freewater crews, John Wells of Anderson Perry & Associates, Don Jackson Excavation, CD Thacker Excavation, Eastern Oregon Contracting, Central Washington Asphalt, Humbert Asphalt, Konen Rock Products, Nelson Construction, A. Key Excavating, Doug's Septic, Milton-Freewater Unified School District, Brian Wolcott-Walla Walla Basin Watershed Council, Representatives of the US Army Corps of Engineers, Church of the Latter Day Saints, the hundreds of volunteers filling sandbags and the ladies that made the hamburgers and hot dogs for the workers are only a few of those that we know to thank;

WHEREAS, it is a testament of our partnership with local businesses and community members that work together for the protection and betterment of our community that makes us proud;

Now, Therefore, I, Lewis S. Key, Mayor of the City of Milton-Freewater, Oregon, by the authority vested in me, do hereby proclaim the City's appreciation for all those who had a helping hand on February 7th that helped protect and continue to work to restore those properties and livelihoods of those affected by the flooding event.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this 9th day of March, in our Lord two thousand twenty.

Lewis S. Key, Mayor

2020 CENSUS

The 2020 Census is more than a count of our population; it is a chance to shape the coming years in our community. We ask you to participate in the 2020 Census and help shape the future for Milton-Freewater. Starting in mid-March, residents across the United States will begin receiving invitations to respond and complete the 2020 Census questionnaire. Our Constitution requires that our country conduct a count of its population once every 10 years.

By April 1st, 2020, every residence will have received a request to participate in the 2020 Census and you will be asked to respond by phone, mail, or online. With the data collected from the 2020 Census surveys, billions of dollars in federal funding can go toward hospitals, fire departments, schools, roads, and can impact programs like Medicaid, Head Start, and block grants for community mental health services.

The City has been working to develop a Parks and Recreation Master Plan over the past year. The plan will be available for public review in the near future. The plan will include an overview of the City and its demographics, a summary of community engagement efforts, description of existing parks and recreation system and a framework for enhancing parks and recreation facilities in the future. Please visit the Parks and Recreation Master Plan page on the City's website to learn more:

<https://www.mfcity.com/community/page/master-plan>

Or you can contact Steven Patten, 541-938-8274, steven.patten@milton-freewater-or.gov



Changes to the Utility Bill Assistance Program

The City Makes Improvements to an Already Great Program

The City's Energy Assistance Program has had some changes made to it that the City feels will make it even better. First, we have a new name for the program. The new name is the **Utility Bill Assistance Program**. The name change was made because now our Assistance Funds may be used for the entire utility bill instead of just the electric portion of the bill. The second change is an increase of assistance a customer may receive from \$150 a year to \$250 a year.

Our most exciting change is that we have a new agent to qualify customers for this program, the Milton-Freewater Ministerial Association (MFMA). In the past, the City has used the Salvation Army as our agent to qualify customers for our program. For 18 years Salvation Army served the City extremely well and we thank them for their service to the community. City staff felt that having an agent that was more local would serve our customers faster and better. This new partnership means that customers in crisis can apply for assistance and never have to leave town. We are forever grateful that the MFMA has agreed to partner with us to make this program even more successful.

The Utility Bill Assistance Program is funded by donations from our customers, fund raising by our local Community Bank and for the last two years a 'Walk For Warmth' fundraiser sponsored by the Key Club at Mac-Hi. All donations received are then matched dollar for dollar by the Electric Department. All donations to this program are only used for customers within the City's electric service area. This is the true meaning of neighbors helping neighbors.

Our Utility Bill Assistance Program is designed for 'customers in crisis' (health issues, death in the family, extended unemployment, natural disasters, excessive house or auto repair cost, domestic violence and other such circumstances). This program is not an entitlement program but rather help through an unexpected life event.

For more information on the Utility Bill Assistance Program, please contact the City Finance Department at City Hall or by phone at 541-938-5531.



Milton-Freewater Municipal Golf Course

301 Catherine Avenue, Milton-Freewater, OR 97862

George Gillette - Club Pro/Manager

PH: 541-938-7284

Starting March 1st!

HOURS: March thru August 2020

Monday - Thursday 7:00 A.M. to Dusk; Friday, Saturday, and Sunday 6:00 A.M. to Dusk

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday first come, first served.

Tee times are required on Friday, Saturday, Sunday and holidays.

Tee times can be reserved for any given weekend starting the Wednesday before the given weekend.



TWILIGHT SPECIAL – Monday, Tuesday & Thursday evenings after 4:00 p.m.

Valid for unlimited play. Inquire at the Clubhouse – 541-938-7284.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON STUDENT SPECIAL – June, July & August

from 12 Noon to 5:00 p.m. for **\$6.75**

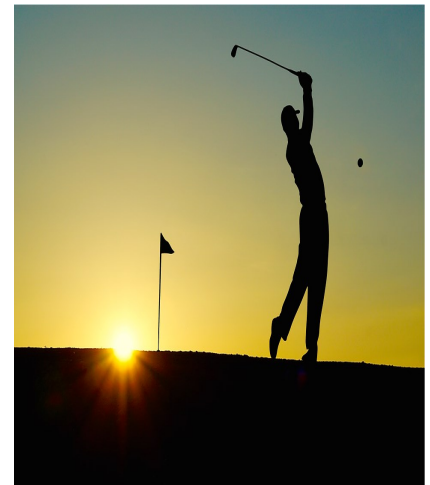
Punch Cards = discounted rounds of play!

START YOUR WEEKEND OUT WITH A ROUND OF GOLF!

SATURDAY MORNING SPECIAL – 7 a.m. to 10 a.m.

15% off daily greens fees

Season Passes, Monthly Passes, Punch Cards – AVAILABLE NOW!



For City Refuse customers, this year's Spring Clean up event will be April 17 & April 18, 2020.

You will be receiving your refuse ticket in your utility bills beginning the week of March 16.

Please remember to bring you ticket as well as current utility bill to the event.

Please see the city website www.mfcity.com for additional information and restrictions.

City of Milton-Freewater
PO Box 6
Milton-Freewater, OR 97862

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City Council

Lewis S. Key, Mayor

John Lyon, Ward 1

Bradley J. Humbert, Ward 2

Jose Garcia, Ward 3

Verl Pressnall, At Large/Position 1

Steve Irving, At Large/Position 2

Edwin E. Chesnut, (*Council
President*) At Large/Position 3

City Manager

Linda Hall

Meetings and Closures

April 2020

- 6th—Planning Commission Meeting—7pm—Albee Room—City Library
- 13th—City Council Meeting—7pm—Albee Room—City Library

May 2020

- 4th—Planning Commission Meeting—7 pm—Albee Room—City Library
- 11th—City Council Meeting—7 pm—Albee Room—City Library
- 25th—Memorial Day—Observed—City Offices Closed

June 2020

- 1st—Planning Commission Meeting—7 pm—Albee Room—City Library
- 8th—City Council Meeting—7 pm—Albee Room—City Library

Library Board Meetings typically held the last Thursday of the month, 4pm in the Monahan room. Please check with the library by calling 541-938-8247.

Recreation Committee meetings typically held the first Tuesday of the month at 5pm in the Monahan Room. Please check with Public Works by calling 541-938-8270.

Please check the city's website calendar for any changes/cancellations to the schedule at www.mfcity.com

All meetings are open to the public. The locations of the meetings are handicapped accessible. Please call City Hall at 541-938-5531, if you will need any special accommodations or an interpreter to attend or to participate in the meetings.