



CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE:

- The City has worked with the Methodist Church in Ashland to provide a **cooling center** as needed between the hours of 12 and 8 p.m. when we reach thresholds as outlined in the Severe Weather Resolution.
- The **City Recorder's Office** has successfully shredded 400 boxes of archived records and cleared out one storage unit the City currently rents to house these records that have expired retention requirements.
- **Childcare grant money** is being processed and distributed as decided by the *Childcare Ad Hoc Committee* to the following organizations:
 - YMCA \$50,000
 - Avery Street \$30,000
 - Mountain Star \$20,000
- City TLT (Transient Lodging Tax) funds have helped launch a **daily shuttle to bring PCT (Pacific Crest Trail) hikers** into town. This shuttle will run through mid-October as part of a pilot program to see if this is an effective tool for increasing tourism (particularly in August!). Participating businesses include Ashland Mountain Adventure, Columbia Hotel, Skout, Sunday Afternoons and the Running Store.
- An **event calendar app** is on its way! **Storytown** has been selected to develop, host and manage an event calendar app to showcase local events and pull in visitors. This project is paid for through TLT funds, with an anticipated app launch in September.
- The two **public parking lots on Water Street have been changed from a no-limit to a 4-hour limit**. This change aligns with parking rules in other downtown lots and helps ensure consistent turnover, making more parking spaces available for visitors and supporting downtown businesses throughout the day.
- The **City's EOC (Emergency Operation Center) was stood up for the following:**
 - June 14, SOU (Southern Oregon University) Commencement
 - July 4 festivities
Both events went smoothly.
- **Jackson Alerts** were sent out for the following in July 2025:
 - **Advisory Power Outages** in Southeast Ashland.
 - **Advisory for Tolman Creek Road water main break.**
 - **Advisories for lightning fires...**
 - **Pompadour Fire**
 - **Neil Creek Fire** (Interagency coordination with JaCo Emergency Management. City Wildfire Hotline and AM 1700 were utilized.)
- **Public Outreach for Emergency Preparedness:**
 - **Ashland Senior Center presentation.**
 - **CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) drill / hands-on evacuation exercise.**



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- **SOU Wildfire Resilience Panel / Strategic planning forum.**



Emergency Coordinator Kelly Burns, far right, at the SOU Wildfire forum

- **Better Prepared Wildfire Series EVACUATION Workshop** with community partners, *Ashland.news*, *Ashland Climate Collaborative* and *Ashland Together*. Over 400 in attendance. [Watch a recording.](#)
- *Ashland Climate Collaborative* article on, “**Lessons Learned from the Almeda Fire.**” This story has been repurposed in other places. [Read it!](#)
- **KSKQ interview on Emergency Preparedness.** [Listen In!](#)
- On August 16, **the City will present emergency preparedness information to 27 Ukrainian families** who have relocated to the Rogue Valley. (Emergency Coordinator **Kelly Burns** will be presenting with Community Education Coordinator **Sara Jones**.)
- The City is installing **Indoor and Outdoor AQI (Air Quality Index) monitors in 10 City facilities**. The monitors will eventually display readings on a map that can be viewed online.
- The NEW Ashland **City e-Newsletter** brings it all straight to your inbox. [Sign up Now for City e-News!](#)
- The City provides **archives of public meeting broadcasts**. You can also watch recordings of educational programs provided by the City, including **OLLI (Osher Lifelong Learning Institute) classes—Civics 101 and Show Me the Money!**—and the **Better Prepared Wildfire Series**. Take this opportunity to learn more about how local government works and being prepared for wildfire season!
 - Ashlandoregon.gov/WatchMeeting
 - ashlandoregon.gov/OLLI (Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Southern Oregon University)
 - ashlandoregon.gov/BetterPreparedSeries
- **Office Hours at City Hall:**
 - **Councilor Jeff Dahle** – 3rd Monday of each month from 2 to 3:30 p.m.
 - **Councilor Bob Kaplan** – 1st Monday of each month from 1 to 2:30 p.m.
 - **Councilor Gina DuQuenne** – 1st Thursday of each month from Noon to 1:30 p.m.
 - **City Manager Sabrina Cotta** – Thursday each week from 8:30 to 10 a.m.
Office hours exclude holidays.



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- **Coffee & Conversation** gatherings are underway and will continue for the calendar year. This is an opportunity for residents to connect with elected officials and staff. The meetings are informal with no set agenda. Events are scheduled as follows:
 - August 12, 5 to 6:30 p.m. at Hunter Park
 - September 10, 3:30 to 5 p.m. at Enders Shelter
 - October 14, 1 to 2:30 p.m. at North Mountain Park Pavilion
- **Are you signed up for emergency alerts with JACKSON ALERTS?** The City partners with Jackson County under one alert messaging system called JACKSON ALERTS. Sign up your whole family by visiting [ashlandoregon.gov /Alerts](https://ashlandoregon.gov/Alerts).

ELECTRIC:

- Electric has successfully **worked with Pacific Power to fix a breaker issue that was causing us some nuisance outages on the Southern end of town.**
- For the first time in several years the Electric Department will be **fully staffed with Line Installers!**
- All three **EV rebates are back!** Stack state, federal and Ashland incentives—up to \$13,500 in savings. Buy or lease by September 30, 2025, and help Ashland meet its climate goals! [Learn More](#).

FINANCE:

- Utility Billing
 - In-person office hours on Tuesdays and Fridays at the new location, 2245 Ashland Street.
 - New payment drop box at 2245 Ashland Street.
 - Utility Assistance Programs are underway, [Learn More](#).
 - A request for proposal for new Utility Billing software is in the works.

FIRE:

- Sign up for **non-emergency notifications about controlled burns and wildfire smoke.** Join our Watershed group by texting **WATERSHED** to **888777**.
- As of July 31, the **fire danger for Ashland remains HIGH.** Restrictions on gas-powered equipment are still in effect. Please review the current guidelines and do your part to help keep our community safe! [View Restrictions](#).
- **Smoke Preparedness Workshops** on August 9 and 16 at RVML (Rogue Valley Metaphysical Library). Learn more and register at RVML.org, or call 541.552.2218.
- **CERT Training** in late September, early October. Sign up and learn more at ashlandcert.org.



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PARKS & RECREATION:

- The Daniel Meyer Pool will close to the public for the season on Sunday August 24. Full schedule for August includes lap swim, recreational swim, swim lessons, water polo and more! Learn more at ashlandoregon.gov/swim.
- Information on **Public Meetings in August:**
 - East Main Street Park Update Open House, August 14, 5 to 6 p.m. at the Ashland Senior Center, 1699 Homes Avenue. [Learn more.](#)
 - Winburn Way Public Meeting, August 27, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at The Grove, 1195 East Main Street.
- Local nonprofits host **FREE Community Concerts** at the Lithia Park Butler Memorial Bandshell from 6 to 9 p.m.:
 - August 18, **The Lucky Strokes** with opener **The Wreckless Strangers**, sponsored by Epic Ashland.
 - September 15, **The Rumble** with opener **Les Greene & the Swazeys**, sponsored by Epic Ashland.
 - September 22, **Sean Hayes**, sponsored by Ashland Folk Collaborative.

POLICE:

- The Police Department is **partnering with an online addiction recovery service called Boulder Care.** They offer telemedicine/counseling/recovery services. The Boulder Care local representative plans to do some outreach on the City's Night Lawn. In an effort to make this accessible to those on the lawn, PD has asked the City IT Department to explore boosting the guest Wi-Fi access from the Municipal Court building, so it better penetrates the lawn and parking area. PD is also checking with AT&T to see if they can donate basic smart phones to remove that as an obstacle toward reaching out for help.

PUBLIC WORKS:

- GIS has updated the [CIP dashboard online](#).
- **Construction of the new Water Treatment Plant** is underway. Learn more at ashlandoregon.gov/WaterPlant.

WHAT'S COMING UP?

- **Ashland City Band Concerts—Every Thursday evening this summer through August 14 at the Lithia Park Bandshell.** The City Band plays a mix of original works, orchestral transcriptions, marches and musicals, often featuring guest soloists! With roots dating back to 1876, the 70-member band continues its tradition of weekly concerts each summer. Seating is limited. Bring a chair or blanket. The free concerts start at 7 p.m., with pre-concert music kicking off at 6:15 p.m.
- **Silent Disco in Lithia Park, 1st & 3rd Fridays thru October.** Come experience music in a whole new way! Silent Disco has wireless headphones which lets you choose between multiple channels of Live DJs in an immersive and unforgettable experience for the whole family! Celebrate the diversity and uniqueness of Ashland with Silent Disco in the Park! First & Third Fridays | May through October | 6 to 11 p.m. | \$10 for headphones.