



City of Poulsbo

City of Poulsbo July E-Newsletter

Please visit our website for the latest information and resources related to COVID-19.

Visit our Website

The City of Poulsbo will be closed on Friday, July 3, 2020 in observance of Independence Day.

Keep Strong, Poulsbo!

A message from Mayor Erickson

Since our last newsletter, Kitsap County has applied to move to Phase 3 of the Governor's Safe Start Plan. As this newsletter is being written, we still have not received approval for the application. While we wait, I have been working with City staff to prepare for opening City Hall once we are approved for Phase 3.

With more people going back to work and businesses opening, there has been an increase in COVID-19 infections during the month of June over the month of May in Kitsap County and the rest of Washington State. Secretary of Health John Wiesman signed a public health order [requiring facial coverings when in public spaces](#) effective last Friday, June 26.



In addition to facial coverings, we need to remember to physically distance ourselves from others, continue washing our hands, and if we are sick, we need to stay home. And most importantly, we must be compassionate with each other. In Poulsbo, we all understand our responsibilities and trust our citizens.

Over the past month, the City has been assisting local businesses with the supply of facial coverings and hand sanitizer, delivering these supplies to over 70 different Poulsbo businesses. To learn more about this effort, visit <http://poulsbobusinessrecovery.com/>.

At the July 1, 2020 Poulsbo City Council meeting, I am looking for City Council approval on three proposals in response to COVID-19. The first proposal is the Poulsbo Cares Small Business Grant for Poulsbo businesses who can demonstrate a loss due to COVID-19. The next proposal is called the "Summer Fair", which would allow businesses to voluntarily use sidewalks or other public spaces to expand their business footprint to provide more space for customers to shop or eat. The final proposal is to modify Fjord Drive into a one-way street going southbound between Hostmark and 6th Ave to allow more space for pedestrians and bikes. All three proposals would be funded with Poulsbo's allocation of the State's CARES Act funding.

Ending on a sad but respectful note: our Police Chief Dan Schoonmaker announced his retirement. He will be leaving us on August 31. The City has signed a contract with the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs to organize and manage a recruitment process to hire our new Chief. We hope to have our hiring process completed by mid-October. Dan Schoonmaker is a great Chief of Police and he will be missed by everyone at the City of Poulsbo.

To everyone, keep strong, Poulsbo! Stay united in stopping the spread of COVID-19, continue to help your neighbors who are in need, and have a safe Fourth of July celebration this weekend.

-Mayor Becky Erickson

Celebrate Safely, Kitsap!

A press release from the Kitsap County Fire Chiefs Association

Celebrate Safely, Kitsap!

"Stay safe, stay healthy, and stay home" is the best advice for this Fourth of July, say fire officials.

In the wake of canceled public events and fireworks shows, local fire officials are urging Kitsap County residents to make safe choices as they look for alternate ways to mark the coming Fourth of July holiday.

Kitsap County Fire Marshal David Lynam says, "The pandemic has impacted so many aspects of our lives, including how we honor the anniversary of our nation's birth. With no professional fireworks shows available, we're concerned about more consumer fireworks use and the associated increases in fires and injuries." The same advice that's been offered throughout the COVID-19 events applies to the Fourth of July, too, notes Lynam. "Stay safe, stay healthy, and stay home."

Consumer fireworks cause nearly 20,000 fires annually in the United States, according to the National Fire Protection Association. The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission's latest annual report on fireworks says that these products caused over 9,000 emergency room visits in 2018. The region's trauma and burn center - Harborview Medical Center - reported treating dozens for fireworks injuries in 2019. Both nationally and regionally, children are the age group most impacted by fireworks.

Adding to fire officials' concerns are weather forecasts suggesting that local fire danger may increase with rising temperatures and little rainfall predicted around the Fourth of July holiday. Escaped controlled fires are the leading cause of wildland fires except around the Fourth of July when fireworks spark the majority of these incidents.

Fireworks rules vary between cities and unincorporated areas as well as on local tribes' reservations. To verify the rules that apply, see the [Kitsap County Fire Marshal's website](#). **The reduce the impact of non-emergency calls into Kitsap 911, persons concerned about fireworks use who aren't reporting immediate threats to life or property can call a special line - 360-307-5811 - between 8:00 a.m. on July 1 through 5:00 a.m. on July 6.**

The National Fire Protection Association has a [list of alternatives](#) to fireworks that include glow sticks, silly string, and noisemakers. "Get creative," suggests Lynam. "Consider activities that celebrate our nation and its founding principles without endangering yourself or others."



City Hall Closures



To help stop the spread of COVID-19, the City of Poulsbo customer service counters in City Hall have been closed since March 23, 2020 until Phase 3 of the Governor's Safe Start Plan. The Public Works office, Parks & Recreation office, Police Administration office, and Municipal Court office counters are currently closed, as well as restrooms in some City parks. City staff are still working and available by email or phone. To learn more on how to reach us, [click here](#).

Poulsbo Cares



The Poulsbo Cares volunteer effort is slowing down after an incredibly busy spring. With the community's help, we have:

Delivered meals, groceries and medicine to over 50 home-bound individuals-- some once or twice, some on an ongoing basis (well over 150 individuals, including the remarkable efforts of Empact Northwest).

Worked with the team at Gateway to **prepare community meals**, every day, since

the beginning of April (over 4,000 meals served).

Worked with the Pousbo Chamber to provide and deliver masks and sanitizer to 70 Pousbo businesses.

Worked with Fishline to identify people in the community in need of food donations.

Given particular attention to residents of Hostmark Apartments, many at heightened risk of COVID-19 infection. Volunteers have delivered food, helped with errands, and helped residents prepare for this summer's building renovation.

Local heroes: Gateway Fellowship has been operating a day shelter for the past few months to give people who are homeless and transient a place to eat, rest, and shower while other facilities are closed because of COVID-19. Its last day of operations was June 30. The shelter was staffed by a three-person team: Marice, the shelter supervisor, Crystal, and Sandy. These three put themselves at considerable risk to make the shelter operational, and they created a kind and welcoming place here in Pousbo for many marginalized and vulnerable people. The City is grateful to Gateway, and particularly these employees, for their kindness and their service.

Homebound individuals who would like help with shopping or errands are encouraged to call the City's HELP line at 360-517-5037. The phone is staffed Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Community meals are available 5 days a week from 11:30 a.m. to noon. Pick up at Gateway Fellowship.

Please contact Kim Hendrickson at the City's Department of Housing, Health and Human Services if you have questions about Pousbo Cares or would like to assist. kimberlyh@cityofpousbo.com.

Finn Hill Shared Use Path Project Update

The City is working in partnership with Kitsap County to install a shared use path along Finn Hill and Rhododendron between Olhava Way and Vinland Elementary school. This work is anticipated to take the majority of the summer with completion in September 2020. The project includes landscaping, curb and gutter, stormwater infrastructure, a 14' wide shared use path, walls, an elevated boardwalk, as well as other improvements to the area.

The contractor, Strickland and Sons, is back to work following a short work stoppage to allow utility companies to complete their required work. Currently the contractor is working to install stormwater infrastructure along Finn Hill road and Rhododendron. Expect delays this summer on Finn Hill road and Rhododendron as the construction is restricting traffic to two-way traffic with one-lane closed while the contractor is working.

Thank you for your patience as we work to construct this important project.



and Recreation in Phase 3

Once we are in Phase 3, we plan to open again to serve the residents and visitors of Poulsbo and North Kitsap. The health and safety of our staff and patrons are our top priority. We have put together guidelines and protocols for participants and visitors to the Recreation Center, and we ask that you read them and understand that in the new normal of COVID-19, we have made some operational changes.

Staff reviewed the summer catalog closely and had to make decisions on holding programs based on a variety of factors, including the ability to social distance, facilities available, instructor availability, funding, and more. Staff has put together a variety of fun and educational opportunities!

General guidance and protocols at the Recreation Center beginning in Phase 3:

- Wash hands or use hand gel upon entering and before exiting the building or facility.
- Adults will be required to wear masks in the building.
- Youth under 18 are encouraged to wear masks.
- The number of participants may be limited to accommodate the occupancy requirements set forth in the governor's phased plan protocols and the facility's capacity limitations.
- Students/participants will be met at either the front door or the basketball court door and escorted into the building. This information will be included in your "reminder" email that is sent out prior to the start of each program.
- If you are waiting for a child or family member that is in a program, we ask that you wait in your car or outside.
- Temperatures will be taken for both youth and adults in programs in buildings. A participant with a temperature of 100.4 or higher will be sent home. No refunds will be given.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze; throw used tissues in the trash. If you don't have a tissue, cough or sneeze into your elbow, not your hands.
- Please review these guidelines before coming to class.
- Please acknowledge the personal space of staff and other people in the building.

Enjoy the programs and have fun!

City of Poulsbo Parks and Recreation website:

<https://cityofpoulsbo.com/parks-recreation/> and register using this link: <https://secure.rec1.com/WA/poulsbo-parks-recreation/catalog>

Questions about facility rentals can be sent to: parksrec@cityofpoulsbo.com or by calling 360-779-9898.

Mary McCluskey, Director
Poulsbo Parks and Recreation

RETURNING TO PROGRAMS

This has been a very difficult time for both children and adults. Children especially may have had a hard time responding to the changes around them and may act out or cry. Please be sure that your child is ready and understands that things may be a little different in the program. Talk with your child before class and encourage them to listen to the teacher and follow their lead.

If you or your child is exhibiting a fever of 100.4 or higher, respiratory symptoms or is not feeling well, please stay home or in the car. A participant with a temperature of 100.4 or higher will be sent home. Participants must be fever free for 72 hours before returning to programs.

If you or your child has been in close contact with someone who has confirmed or suspected Covid 19 in the last 14 days, you and your family members will not be allowed to participate in programs.

If you have any further questions, please ask your instructor or email the Recreation Center at parksrec@cityofpoulsbo.com or call 360.779.9898.

Job Openings

The City of Poulsbo is currently hiring for the following positions: Accounting Clerk, Police Officer (Entry Level) and Police Chief. Click [here](#) to learn more details about the open positions.

2020 Census Update

On Monday, the state of Washington hit an important census milestone when it reached the final self-response rate from 2010.

As of June 29, 67.2% of all households in the state have answered the census. This is a remarkable achievement and we could not have done it without all of our partners around the state. Washington becomes only the second state in the country to reach this milestone (Michigan was the first).

In addition to our state response rate, 17 counties have also reached this important milestone – that's about 44% of the state.

We still have work to do; we still need to count about 32.8% of households in the state to reach 100%. Many of these households represent some of the hardest-to-count populations of people. Please help us encourage them to self-respond now before census workers start going door-to-door in mid-August as part of the follow-up operation.

It is easy for people to self-respond now:

1. Online at www.2020census.gov
2. Call toll-free 844.330.2020 (English) or 844.469.2020 (Spanish) from 4:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.
3. Return paper form (if you received one)

Reminder - Preventing Legionella in Building Water Systems and Facilities Shut Down During COVID-19 Outbreak

As businesses and buildings start to reopen the City of Poulsbo would like to remind people to take some precautions when it comes to the health and safety of their workers.

Please read the following [Department of Health Guidance Documents](#).

This guidance is for recreation facilities: <https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/Pubs/333-247.pdf>



IT'S TIME FOR

SUMMER FUN!

We know you are eager to get out and have some fun. Thank you to everyone that took our summer activity survey. We've used your input and new safety protocols to revise our summer activities. There's something for everyone, from preschoolers through seniors!

For a pdf version of our updated activity guide, visit <https://cityofpoulsbo.com/parks-recreation-class-activity-brochure/>.

Our online catalog and online registration is available at CityofPoulsbo.com/Register.

Parks & Recreation
19540 Front St NE
Poulsbo, WA 98370
360-779-9898

City of Poulsbo - Request for Proposal – 2021 Lodging Tax Funding Grants

The City of Poulsbo is accepting applications for the City of Poulsbo's 2021 Lodging Tax Funding Grants. Eligible activities and projects as defined by RCW 67.28.1816 include Tourism, Tourism Promotion and Tourism related facilities as detailed in RCW 67.28.080 (5,6,7) . Applications are reviewed by Poulsbo's Lodging Tax Advisory Committee.

Applications are due back to the City by **Monday, August 3 at 4:00 pm.**

For more information including the Request for Proposal and a fillable application form please visit the City's website at:

<https://cityofpoulsbo.com/parks-recreation-lodging-tax-grant-program/>

If you have any questions please contact Mary McCluskey, Parks and Recreation
mmcluskey@cityofpoulsbo.com 360-779-9898

