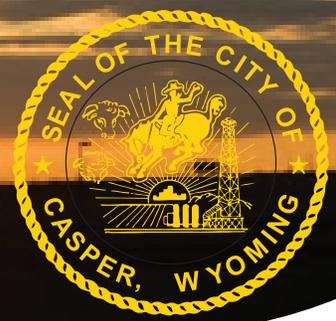


city of CASPER

VOLUME 2.3

SUMMER 2013



NEWSLETTER

All About Mulching!

Throwing yard waste in the garbage takes up valuable space in the City landfill. Instead of throwing your waste away, consider mulching. Studies have shown that keeping grass clippings on your lawn serves as a natural fertilizer, and can keep your grass healthy. Clippings enter the soil and decompose very quickly. Decomposition produces nitrogen, which acts as a natural fertilizer. Consider purchasing a mulching mower, or converting your current mower to create your own mulch. Mulching mowers use a special enclosed deck to slice up your grass clippings and dried leaves into finer pieces before depositing them back into the turf. Further, Wyoming has dry and often sandy soil, but mulching can help retain moisture and regulate

soil temperature. The root systems of most plants grow best when the soil temperature is between 65 degrees and 85 degrees. During hot weather, mulched soil remains cooler than soil with no organic mulch. The mulch serves as a blanket, protecting the underlying soil from the sun. This also means you won't have to water as often, which saves you time and money, and reduces the impact on the environment.

Another option for your grass clippings if you don't want to mulch is composting. The City of Casper

Solid Waste Facility provides a FREE composting option. The compost yard will take most yard waste at no cost to you and is open 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday. They will take: grass clippings, leaves, shrubbery, tree branches, garden clippings, hay, straw, manure, sod, vines, smaller root balls, logs, and more.

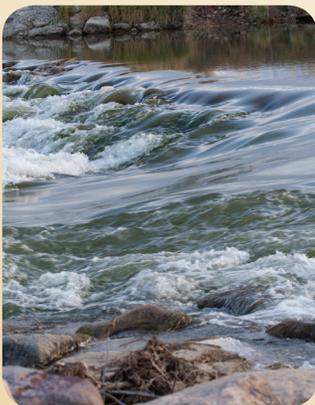
To learn more about mulching and composting, visit the City of Casper's website at www.casperwy.gov, or call the City of Casper Solid Waste Division at 235-8246.



Platte River Revival

The North Platte River is one of Casper's most valuable assets. By restoring the river, the City of Casper hopes to increase livability, community pride, recreation, tourism, and economic development.

The restoration began in early 2007 with a community-wide cleanup of the river and its banks within city limits. The massive undertaking was, and is, a public-private partnership with federal and state agencies, as well as local businesses and organizations with the City of Casper leading the project.



The project has been named the Platte River Revival, as the goal is to not only clean up

the debris, but also make the river a destination for residents and tourists.

Volunteers have been essential to the project, and at least 2,539 volunteers have made a huge difference. They have removed litter and debris, hauled Russian olive trees, drawn water samples for analysis, and planted native trees. Volunteer Day 2013 is scheduled for September 21, so keep your calendars open!

While Volunteer Day is invaluable to the river, more is needed for its successful restoration. A master plan has been created, and was presented to Council on June 25th at the Council Work Session. The plan focuses on how to handle bank erosion and sedimentation, all of which currently make the habitat difficult for

fish and other wildlife.

Although there will be years of work before the revival is complete, a major step was approved by Council in the recently passed fiscal year 2014 budget. The budget included \$500,000 for the first segment of the restoration, which will occur from Poplar Street to the railroad bridge. The restoration of this section will reduce pressure on the riverbank and thereby reduce erosion. It will also create riffles for viable aquatic habitat. The total cost of construction for the first segment will be approximately \$692,000, with the remaining funds being sought from grants and private donations.

To learn more and get involved, visit the City of Casper's website at www.casperwy.gov, or call the City of Casper Public Services Department at 235-8283.

Community Improvements

Mike Sedar Pool

Mike Sedar Pool, located at 25th and Poplar, will be under construction this summer and is expected to be completed in May, 2014. Your Optional One Cent Tax was fundamental to this renovation, which was appropriated after City Council determined that this pool was the most dilapidated. The project was approved for One Cent #14 funds totaling \$1.3 million and \$500,000 from general funds. The design plans for the new pool include elements like: a lazy river, a zero depth entry pool, and a multi-purpose pool, with optional features like slides and a splash pad. Three Hundred and fifty-six people, mostly residents of Casper, were surveyed to gather input on design elements. For a look at the preliminary design, visit the City Council Agenda page and click on the agenda for June 11th.

As a reminder, the Casper Family Aquatic Center is open all year long! Happy Swimming!

Youth Crisis Center

Another Optional One Cent Tax project intended to improve our community is the new Youth Crisis Center (YCC). The YCC is Casper's emergency children's shelter and group home and serves over 700 children every year. The City of Casper contributed \$350,000 from the One Cent fund toward the building project. Additional funding was provided by Natrona County, the State of Wyoming, fundraising by YCC, outside agencies, and the sale of the previous property. YCC provides shelter, food, counseling, transportation to and from school, 24 hour supervision, and an alternative to jail for adolescents requiring minimal court intervention. The new building will house six more residents than the two buildings operated by YCC could previously, and all residents will now be housed in the same building. This will save the center money on staffing, utilities, and other costs. The new building is also designed to separate populations of individuals, so that a child in an emergency situation is separated from one who is there for court ordered reasons. Executive Director Stacy Nelson said construction should be completed the first or second week of September.

Cable Channel 3

Casper City Council has approved a contract with Wolf Gang of Wyoming, LLC, to provide public access television programming. Dennis Rollins, producer of the award winning series "Wyoming Portraits," will be producing shows featured on Channel 3. These shows will serve to keep our citizens informed and entertained, and increase understanding of how Casper functions. Council meetings will be broadcast regularly on the channel as well as programming like Classic Arts Showcase. A full schedule has yet to be decided; however, initial programming is expected to begin August 1st.



Heads up! **City News & Tips**

Licensing

Pet licensing for ALL cats and dogs is required by Natrona County, and can be done through Metro Animal Control (Metro), located on 2392 E. Metro Road, or by your vet. Metro is open Monday – Saturday (10 AM - 6 PM), and Sunday (Noon to 4 PM).

In order to license your pet, they must have a current rabies vaccination. The fee for an unaltered (non-spayed or neutered) pet is

\$25.00, and \$5.00 for an altered animal. Have questions? Contact Metro at (307) 235-8398, find them online at www.casperwy.gov or scan the QR code.



Yard to Yard Program

Remember to ask the scale house clerk at the City of Casper's Solid Waste Facility about the Yard to Yard Program (Formerly the Pound for Pound Program). The clerk will give you a certificate for free compost or mulch equal to the volume amount of compost your waste will create. Call 235-8246 for more information, visit www.casperwy.gov, or scan the QR code.

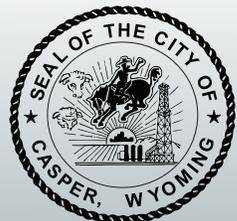


Trash pickup

Extra collection is the first and third or second and fourth trash day of the month; a table is provided below. Special extra collection rules apply to Thursday customers. Find all the information you need about trash, extra pickup days, yard waste removal, recycling, e-waste, and hazardous waste disposal by scanning the QR code, or go to www.casperwy.gov.



Regular Trash Day	1st & 3rd Day	2nd & 4th Day
Monday	North of 12th St.	South of 12th St.
Tuesday	North of 12th St.	South of 12th St.
Wednesday	North of 12th St.	South of 12th St.
Thursday	North of 25th St. & Meadowlark Hills	South of 25th St.
Friday	South of CY Ave.	Paradise Valley and River West



Contact us:
200 N. David Street
Casper, WY 82601
(307) 235-8224
<http://www.casper-wy.gov/>



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