

# PROVIDENCE CITY NEWSLETTER

## Upcoming Events

### City Council

1st & 3rd Wednesdays except July,  
November and December

*February 5 cancelled*

*February 19<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00PM*

### Planning Commission

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays except July,  
November and December

*Wednesday, February 12<sup>th</sup> and*

*February 26<sup>nd</sup> @ 6:00PM*

### Justice Court

From 4:00PM - 6:00PM

*Every Monday, except holidays*

## Contact Information

Providence City Offices  
164 North Gateway Drive  
(435) 752-9441

### \*\* After-Hours Emergencies \*\*

Fire or police emergencies - 911  
Animal control 435-753-7555  
(Cache County non-emergency  
dispatch)

City related issues 752-9441; after  
hours message will have an on-call  
number to call a city employee who  
will respond.

### Direct line to the Mayor

(435) 760-8989 cell

[johnd@providence.utah.gov](mailto:johnd@providence.utah.gov)

## The Mayor's Memo

### Public Health

If you follow the national and world news, there has been a daily drumbeat of stories about the coronavirus outbreak originating in China. Starting in December, the news stories have kept rolling in. It seems the number and significance of the stories increase each day. The headlines have been daunting:

- Number of people in Chinese cities on lockdown total 35 million (Jan 22<sup>nd</sup>)
- Airlines cancel or restrict flights to China
- Stock market drops over coronavirus fears

I don't think we should think we can view from a distance and treat this issue lightly. It will never happen here, is not a prudent position. Public health capabilities could get overwhelmed with a fast spreading disease.

**Bear River Health Department** has a web page with regular updates on the Coronavirus: <https://brhd.org/coronavirus-update/>

**The Utah Health Department** does as well: <https://health.utah.gov/coronavirus> and has a link, **Get the Latest Information** which states: *Department has activated its Incident Command System in order to ensure effective communication and coordination with all involved agencies.*

*While there are currently no confirmed cases in*

*Utah, the UDOH will actively track potential cases as they occur in Utah and will reach out to local health departments and clinicians for assistance to determine the scope of this outbreak and provide technical assistance as necessary.*

**The Centers for Disease Control** has a daily update at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/> **There are now 28 countries listed with confirmed cases.**

### Prevention

Like any other illness or disease, the key is prevention. Every time I read the headlines, I am reminded of my parents telling us, "Dinner is ready, go wash your hands." The same with after we used the restroom. A vaccine may or may not be effective.

### Public Safety

Cache County Sheriff Chad Jensen has identified available grant funds from the US Department of Justice that possibly could be used to hire additional deputies. Providence City may be the beneficiary in that we would have an 600 additional deputy hours. Currently our contract with the Sheriff is for 1500 hours as a cost of \$75,000 a year. The local match for the additional hours would be around \$7,000. Does that sound like a bargain?

Looking at FBI statistics for Western US states and using the averages for municipal governments, we have an outstanding deal with our Sheriff.

John Drew, Providence City Mayor

## CITIZENS ACADEMY

### CACHE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE & LOGAN CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Cache County Sheriff's Office, in partnership with Logan City Police Department is hosting a Citizens Academy which will begin on March 5, 2020. Classes will be held every Thursday evening throughout March, with a final class on April 9. Then, on April 16, 2020 we will conclude with a graduation dinner for all attendees.

This Academy is designed to familiarize residents with the daily operations of Law Enforcement. Topics discussed will cover all law enforcement capabilities in Cache Valley. We will also go over the organization and functions of each division in our office, as well as what a day in the life of a Law Enforcement Officer looks like.

Participants will have the opportunity to ride-along with deputies on patrol, take a tour of Dispatch and the Cache County Jail and participate in shoot scenarios at the gun range.

If you are interested in attending the Citizens Academy, please contact our Executive Assistant, Cami Miller at [cmiller@cachesherriff.org](mailto:cmiller@cachesherriff.org) or call her at (435) 755-1178, by February 14, 2020.

—John Drew, Mayor

## City Office Administration



Skarlet Bankhead  
Administrative

### ***Business and Dog License Renewal***

Business license renewals were due January 1; Late fees apply February 1. Home business: \$25 license fee, \$12.50 late fee, total due \$37.50. Commercial business: \$50 license fee, \$25 late fee, total due \$75.

All 2019 dog licenses in Providence City expired on December 31. Late fees apply on February 1. Spayed/neutered: \$15 license fee, \$10 late fee, total due \$25; Unaltered: \$25 license fee, \$10 late fee, total due \$35. Along with your renewal, please provide a proof of rabies vaccination.

### ***Holiday Decorations at the Cemetery***

Please remove any holiday decorations (other than Valentines decorations) that you have placed at the cemetery. Please keep in mind that holiday decorations should be removed within seven (7) days after the holiday. Thank you in advance for your help.

### ***Youth Baseball and Softball***

Registration for youth baseball and softball begins February 3 and runs through April 24. Register online at [providence.sportsites.com/player](http://providence.sportsites.com/player) or at the Providence City Office, 164 North Gateway Drive, Monday - Friday 8:00 am— 5:00 pm. Please contact us if you have any questions, 435-752-9441

### ***Competitive Youth Baseball***

Registration for Competitive Youth Baseball is open now through March 9. Teams can register online at [providence.sportsites.com/player](http://providence.sportsites.com/player) or at the Providence City Office, 164 North Gateway Drive, Monday - Friday 8:00 am— 5:00 pm. Please contact us if you have any questions, 435-752-9441.

### ***Fun in the Sun Director Position Open***

Providence City is now accepting applications for our Fun in the Sun Director. Applications are available on our website, <http://www.providencecity.com/jobs-available.htm>.

### ***Scorekeeper and Umpire Positions Open***

Providence City is now accepting applications for umpires and scorekeepers. Applications are available on our website, <http://www.providencecity.com/jobs-available.htm>.

### ***Volunteers Welcome***

The City has many activities and events planned for 2020. Volunteers are welcome and sincerely appreciated in making these activities events successful. Activities and events include: youth baseball and softball, tennis, pickleball, Fun-in-the-Sun, 100-Mile Club, Exercise Club, children's kickball, adult kickball, flag football, city celebration and car show, holiday lighting contest, and the annual tree lighting. If you would like to volunteer to help with any of these activities, please email us at: [volunteerprovidencecity@gmail.com](mailto:volunteerprovidencecity@gmail.com)

— Skarlet Bankhead, Administrative Services Administrator

## ***Message from Public Works***

For customers with underground sprinkling systems, the state plumbing code requires a **backflow preventer** on all underground sprinkling systems.

A backflow preventer is a device that prevents impurities or contaminants from being drawn into the drinking water system. Many sprinkling systems already have the proper backflow preventer installed and only need to be tested annually. Others may not meet state and local regulations and may need to be replaced with the proper backflow preventer.

The regulations also require a state certified backflow technician test the backflow preventer annually. After the test has been completed, please submit the results to the City so that we can update our records. For a list of local technicians, please contact the Public Works department at 435-753-0313.

— Rob Stapley, Public Works Director

### **Please Make Note: Winter Parking Hours are Still in Effect**

Winter parking hours go into effect 24 hours after the first snowstorm that requires the City to plow the streets in November; or December 1, whichever is earlier. Vehicles or equipment cannot be parked in the City right-of-way from 12:00 AM (midnight) to 6:00 AM. If there is no curb, vehicles or equipment must be a minimum of eight-feet (8') from the asphalt. The City will not be liable for any damage occurring to any vehicle or equipment parked on any street or right-of-way, during street and right-of-way maintenance.

# What is Going on with Recycling?

We have heard from a number of residents who have asked what is going on, why the changes to recycling and, what is causing these changes.

Logan/Cache County has had a mandatory recycling program since 2006 where all items to be recycled go in to one blue bin (also known as “single stream” recycling).



*In May of 2019, Logan City notified residents that only plastics labeled 01 and 02 could be recycled. Those labeled 3 thru 7 (or unlabeled plastic) could not be recycled and needed to go in the regular trash bin.*



*In July of 2019, the large bins for cardboard at various drop-off sites throughout Cache Valley were removed. Now there are cardboard bins at the landfill only.*



The “three chasing arrows” icon is probably the most well-recognized recycling symbol. But just because a product has the universal recycling symbol on it doesn't necessarily mean you should toss it in the recycle bin.

What has happened in the world of recycling?

## *Recycling is a Business*

Most people think that the plastic and paper thrown into those special blue bins gets sorted by some obscure government entity and automatically becomes an environmentally friendly product. But that's not how it works. Recycling is a business and Logan City collects and has to find someone to buy the material for it to be recycled.

## *Where does the Blue Bin Material Go?*

For decades, more than 70% of the world's recycling was processed in China. It has been two year since China upset recycling programs around the world by essentially shutting down what had been the industry's biggest market. Now certain recyclables, including mixed paper—magazines, office paper, junk mail—and most plastics must meet mostly unattainable contamination standards.

The result is very little is now shipped to China. Other countries initially agreed to accept the material, but were quickly overwhelmed as they did not have the processing facilities.

Waste-management companies across the country are telling towns, cities, and counties that there is no longer a market for their recycling. Municipalities have two choices: pay much higher rates to get rid of recycled material, or throw it all away.

Local governments and recycling processors are scrambling to find new markets. Communities have curtailed collections or halted their recycling programs entirely, which means that many residents are simply tossing plastic and paper into the trash.

## *Recycling Cardboard*

About two years ago, the price paid for cardboard was \$50 to \$75 a baled ton. That revenue paid for handling and processing the material. Today, that price is ZERO, or it has to be paid to be hauled away. Why the price drop? There are limited processing facilities here in the US, so an immense supply of the scrap material has accumulated.

## *Recycling Plastics*

As of January 2018, China's policy banned the import of most plastics headed for recycling processors. The move was an effort to halt a deluge of contaminated materials that was overwhelming Chinese processing facilities and leaving the country with an environmental problem.

China's plastic imports have since plummeted by 99 percent, leading to a major global shift in where and how materials tossed in the recycling bin are being processed. China's imports of mixed paper have also dropped by a third. Recycled aluminum and glass are less affected by the ban.

To adjust, recyclers began shipping some of this plastic to other developing countries, but most don't have the capacity to deal with the 7 million tons of plastic waste that is shipped overseas annually. The result? The United States is left with a whole bunch of plastic waste and nowhere to send it to have it recycled.

## *Not All Plastics Are Created Equal*

There are about 20 different categories of plastic material, and some blends that are hybrids. Most all possess their own characteristics, some easily recyclable, many not. Some can be melted down; others shredded mechanically or chemically broken down. They end up as pellets the size of small marbles. These are used to turn the material into products.

Recycled plastic is about three times as expensive as virgin which is brand-new plastic made straight from oil and gas out of the ground. There's not a lot of money to be made from recycling to begin with, and it's tough for recycled plastic to compete with virgin plastic

## *Solutions*

The recycling crisis triggered by China's ban could have an upside if it leads to better solutions for managing waste by expanding processing capacities, boosting efforts to make products more easily recyclable and more options for processing. Incineration is an option to fuel waste to energy plants. New technologies take low quality plastics and transform the waste in to products such as biodiesel.

Small town and rural recycling operations have been hit the hardest. While most continue to operate, rising costs and falling incomes are forcing some to shut down. Others have stopped accepting all plastics, and others have suspended curbside pickup. Residents in municipalities like these now must travel to collection points if they want to recycle. Inevitably, some people just toss their recyclables in the trash instead.

Most larger cities have been able to either find alternative markets or improve and expand their municipal operations to process higher-quality and more marketable materials. But many have had to make changes, including dropping some harder-to-recycle materials from their programs. Residents were told to discard those items with their regular trash.

Some options are beginning to emerge. Several US materials recovery facilities are expanding operations, upgrading equipment, and adding workers to improve sorting and reduce contamination so that the materials are acceptable, expanding domestic processing, that's the good news. But you don't build a new facility overnight.

What is the solution? Some think government should intervene and mandate. I think that private industry will ultimately develop cost-effective solutions working with local government.

—John Drew, Mayor

## Mountain Crest/Ridgeline Young Artist Cup 2020

Would you enjoy a night of beautiful music? Are you looking for a cultural event for your church group? Or perhaps you need an idea for date night? We invite you to come watch some of the finest talent Cache Valley's youth have to offer.

Come to the Mountain Crest/Ridgeline **Young Artist Cup** music competition 2020! This is a FREE EVENT! Refreshments served! Cash prizes for the top finishers!

- ✦ March 25<sup>th</sup> / Vocal and String Performances
- ✦ March 26<sup>th</sup> / Piano & Organ and Brass/Wind/Percussion Performances

Ridgeline High School Auditorium, 7:00 PM both evenings

For more details, please visit our website:  
[www.youngartistcup.wordpress.com](http://www.youngartistcup.wordpress.com)



The Center for Creativity, Innovation and Discovery  
An innovative, non-traditional K- 8th Grade Public Charter School

**Now accepting applications for the 2020-2021 School Year**  
**Lottery open enrollment period Jan. 21st, 2020 - Feb. 11th, 2020.**  
**Personal School Tours available upon request - please call to schedule!**

### Mission Statement

The Center for Creativity, Innovation and Discovery is a student-centered K-8 charter school that provides challenging, place-based, integrative STEM curriculum. CCID uses research-supported instructional strategies, a positive learning environment and collaborative student-community partnerships to foster a passion and curiosity for the STEM disciplines.

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|  <p><b>CREATIVITY</b></p> <p>The essential part of creativity is not being afraid to fail.</p> <p><small>Edwin H. Land</small></p> |  <p><b>INNOVATION</b></p> <p>Creativity is thinking up new things. Innovation is doing new things.</p> <p><small>Theodore Levitt</small></p> |  <p><b>DISCOVERY</b></p> <p>Discovery consists of looking at the same things as everyone else and seeing something different.</p> <p><small>Albert Szenti-Gyorgyi</small></p> |
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**Make it Real - Make it Relevant - Make it Rigorous**

170 West Spring Creek Parkway, Providence, UT 84332  
Please visit [www.ccidschool.org](http://www.ccidschool.org) to apply  
Or call 435-258-7097 for questions and tours

## Logan City Council Votes to Ban Plastic Shopping Bags

On December 3, 2019 the Logan City Council voted to prohibit the distribution of disposable plastic bags by retailers. The ordinance stated that the effective date of the ban is April 22, 2020. The ordinance also stated that the City Code Inspector has authority to enforce the provisions of this code in which violations would be subject to monetary penalties.

This ordinance is intended to address the **plastic bag litter problem and not to consider recycling plastic shopping bags**. It does not apply to other Cache Valley cities. The ordinance language states that there are alternatives to plastic bags that are readily available.

The Logan City Council also passed a resolution in support of the adoption of a county-wide plastic management plan. The plastic management plan would require each retailer to develop a plastic reduction plan to either eliminate the distribution of free single use plastic bags to consumers, or charge a \$.10 fee per bag.

At this time, the Logan Council stated it intends to rescind the bag ban at some future date, and substitute with the County-wide plan, when in place. Recently, the Logan Council has decided to move to July the effective date to give the County Solid Waste Committee more time to propose a plan that the County Council approves.

As you can imagine, there is a lot of controversy on this issue. Plastic shopping bags are difficult to recycle, and cause issues with sorting/recycling equipment. Retailers object to Logan having one set of rules and another for the rest of Cache Valley. Consumers don't like the inconvenience, and not all can adapt to using recyclable bags.

The issue is still being discussed by the Cache County Solid Waste Advisory Board which may recommend the County Council adopt a county-wide plan and persuade Logan City to rescind their ordinance in place of the county plan.

If you recall when plastic bags were introduced, one purpose was to eliminate the use of paper bags and save trees. Now we may go back to paper bags, which are more expensive than plastic. The retailers' costs will go up which will be passed on to the consumer.

Most supermarkets and some retailers have recycling bins for plastic shopping bags which can be recycled and given a second life as "plastic lumber" that can be used to make benches, playground equipment, and even new shopping bags.

—John Drew, Mayor

## CACHE COUNTY RECYCLING

**PLEASE RECYCLE**  
in the blue mixed recycling container



**PLEASE DO NOT RECYCLE**  
in the blue mixed recycling container

