



# Our Town

Kalama honors its legacy of community pride, rich heritage and natural beauty while embracing growth and economic prosperity.

City of Kalama

June 2021

## In This Issue:

Beekeeping

Summer Reading Program

Yoga Classes

Summer Sewer Averaging

## BEEKEEPING IN CITY LIMITS

The Cowlitz Beekeepers Association (CBA) has requested the Council allow beekeeping within Kalama City limits. Dictionary definition: **“beekeeping, [bee-kee-ping] noun 1. The rearing and breeding of honeybees; apiculture.”** The Council wants input from Kalama citizens before a decision is made. Here is some beekeeping information provided by Bill Holmes, President of the CBA:



### Become an Informed Honeybee Aware Citizen

1. Having bees next door will not increase the number of bees in the neighborhood. Honeybees travel great distances to collect food. They routinely visit flowers up to 3 miles from their hive. Bees also tend to cruise at altitudes of 30 feet and higher, well above the space that people occupy. Flowers have a finite amount of nectar and pollen, so regardless of where a hive is located, bees will only visit someone's yard when the flowers are inviting them with nectar and pollen.
2. Honeybees are typically gentle insects. Honeybees only sting when provoked, and most stocks that suburban beekeepers keep have been bred for gentleness. Honeybees die when they sting, so they only use their stinger when needed. This can happen if they are swatted, stepped on, or if their hive is disturbed.
3. Wasps and Yellow Jackets are not honeybees. Lots of people call any striped insect that flies a “bee” while most people get stung by yellowjackets. The honeybee's stinger is barbed like a fishhook, causing bees to die when they sting. A yellowjacket's stinger, on the other hand, is smooth allowing them to sting repeatedly and often. Honeybees are fuzzy (covered in hair) and brown, while yellowjackets are practically hairless, look smooth and shiny, and are yellow and black in color. Honeybees are vegetarians. They eat pollen for protein and amino acids, and nectar for carbohydrates. Honeybees are found on flowers and will also forage for water and sap which they make into a sort of glue called propolis. Yellow jackets and hornets are scavengers or hunters of other insects and are attracted to sugary sodas and some picnic foods such as fish, chicken, and hot dogs.
4. The most important thing honeybees do is pollinate. Honeybee pollination accounts for about \$15 billion in added crop value in United States. Eighty percent of the pollination of the fruits, vegetables and seed crops in the U.S. is accomplished by honeybees. Yards will look better, and vegetable gardens will produce higher yields where honeybees are abundant.
5. Honeybees are struggling. Annual losses of honeybees in the United States have been over 40% for the last 15 years. Much of that is due to an introduced mite, but also from poor nutrition, disease, pesticides, and habitat loss. Beekeepers work hard to recover from these tragic losses by building back populations in the spring.
6. Are there killer bees established in Washington or Oregon? No. Africanized honeybees have been migrating from South America since 1957 and reached Texas in 1990. They are currently established across the southern US and into central California. Their expansion north has nearly stopped. Many experts do not believe they can survive our colder and longer winters.

**Contact Us**  
**EMERGENCY/AFTER HOURS**

**Police – 911**

**Public Works**  
**360-703-0168 or 911**

**CITY HALL HOURS-**  
**Monday-Friday:**  
**9AM-5PM**

**Utility Billing- Payments**  
**360- 673-4554**

**Building & Planning**  
**360-673-5211**

**Finance – Accounts Payable**  
**360-673- 4908**

**Clerk/Treasurer**  
**360-673-4561**

**City Administrator**  
**360-673-3265**

**Kalama Police Office**  
**360-673-2165**  
**Hours M-F 9am-4:30pm**

**Kalama Public Works**  
**360-673-3706**

**Kalama Library**  
**360-673-4568**  
**Current Hours of Op:**  
**Mon, Wed, Fri 12pm-3pm**

**Kalama Community Building**  
**360-673-4562**

  
**LIKE US ON FACEBOOK**  
**www.cityofkalama.com**

**Police Website**  
**www.kalamapolice.com**

**Library Website**  
**www.kalamalibrary.com**

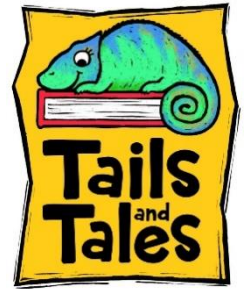
**Why Residential Beekeeping is Important:**

Many people around the world keep colonies of honeybees in residential areas as a hobby, and to increase backyard garden fruit and seed set. Consequently, honeybees are found everywhere, from the roofs and terraces of public buildings in high-density city cores to suburban backyards. Urban bees survive better, produce more honey, and are healthier than rural bees. Urban bees have access to greater biodiversity, resulting in a more varied diet and stronger immune systems. Honeybees play an important role in the residential community by providing pollination for properties up to three miles away. Mr. Holmes provides details on practicing nuisance-free beekeeping and includes some ideas for helping our honeybees. Visit our webpage at: [www.cityofkalama.com/Home/Components/News/News/3731/1276](http://www.cityofkalama.com/Home/Components/News/News/3731/1276) You will also find a few linked documents including information about tunnel nests for native bees, mason bees, details about other bee species that could be found in your garden, and even concepts for building a backyard bee habitat.

**KALAMA LIBRARY SUMMER READING PROGRAM!**

**June 16 – July 28, 2021**

Seven weeks of adventure with kite flying, puppy dogs, jungle safaris, ocean voyages, and a trip to the Animal Fair! Don't miss the fun each week as we share stories, play games, make crafts, and discover who can read the most books, create the best bookmarks, and have the most fun! Join us on Wednesday June 16<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 to 2:00 at the Library for Summer Reading Kickoff! Check out [www.kalamalibrary.com](http://www.kalamalibrary.com) for more information!



**PARKS & RECREATION: YOGA**

Yoga instructor Ann Miller is excited to start her morning yoga classes on June 14<sup>th</sup>! Classes will be held at the Kalama community building on Mondays and Thursdays @ 9:00am. Cost is \$50 for a "punch card" (available at City Hall or online) which covers 10 classes. Students need to bring 2 blocks and an 8ft strap (there will be some available for purchase at time of class).

**SUMMER SEWER AVERAGE**

For all Kalama water users connected to sewer: **summer sewer is NOW in effect!** Go ahead and use your sprinklers and water your plants without the stress of a "surprise" bill!



<p><b>WHEN DO WE MEET?</b></p> <p><b><u>Kalama City Council</u></b>  <b>1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays - 7:00 p.m.</b></p> <p><b><u>Kalama Planning Commission</u></b>  <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday - 6:00 p.m.</b></p> <p><b><u>Civil Service Commission</u></b>  <b>4<sup>th</sup> Thursday - 5:30 p.m. – As needed</b></p> <p><b><u>Kalama Library Board</u></b>  <b>Bimonthly beginning in January on the 20<sup>th</sup></b>  <b>Wednesday - 5:15 p.m.</b></p> <p><b><u>MEETING LOCATION</u></b>  <b>*Hybrid meetings, physical location: 320 N 1<sup>st</sup> St, Kalama</b></p>	<p><b>POLICE OR FIRE EMERGENCIES – CALL 911</b></p> <p><b>PUBLIC WORKS - AFTER-HOURS EMERGENCY NUMBER (360) 703-0168 – OR CALL 911</b></p> <p>Kalama Police Office Non-Emergency...(360)-673-2165          Kalama City Offices..... (360)-673-4562          City of Kalama Fax..... (360) 673-4560          Comcast..... (888) 226-2278          Cowlitz County Assessor..... (360) 577-3010          Cowlitz County Bldg. &amp; Planning..... (360) 577-3052          Cowlitz Public Utilities District..... (360) 423-2210          Fire District #5 Office Non-Emergency... (360) 673-2222          Kalama Post Office..... (360) 673-3567          Kalama Telephone Company..... (360) 673-2755          Labor &amp; Industries..... (360) 575-6923          Utilities Locate (Call Before You Dig!) 811 or (800) 424-5555          Waste Control..... (360) 425-4302</p>
--	---

**ENROLL IN PAPERLESS BILLING. ONLINE BILL PAY AVAILABLE – ALSO AUTOPAY**

**Pay online 24/7 at [www.cityofkalama.com](http://www.cityofkalama.com)**

