



Our Town

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

City of Kalama

August 2021

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CITY HALL PARKING LOT & NEW ON-STREET PARKING

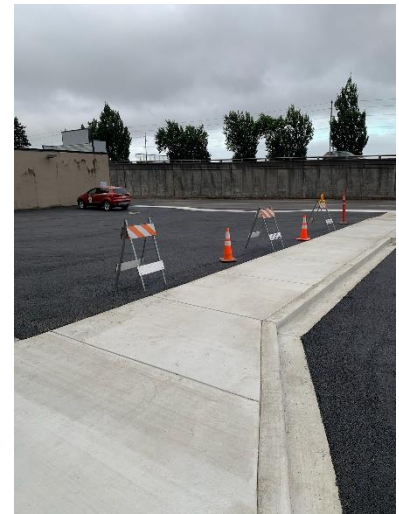
The City is happy to announce the parking lot behind the City Hall building should be substantially complete by the time of this mailing, and the extension of sidewalk along NE Frontage Rd is nearly finished as well. There are also 7, angled, on-street parking spots that have been added to the downtown area along Fir Street as a result of this project. Thank you Clark & Sons Excavating, Inc. for your diligent work. The project is wrapping up; striping and ADA ramp railing will be done soon! We appreciate the understanding of the nearby residents and businesses. Thank you for your patience throughout the duration of this project.



1 Before curb, sidewalk, & ADA ramp



2 After curb, sidewalk, & ADA ramp



3 View of back parking lot

FOLK BOOK SALE

F.O.L.K. (Friends of the Library of Kalama) will be holding book sales in the Council Chambers starting Thursday, August 5th, 11am-3pm during the Farmer's and Artists market.

THANK YOU FOR A SUCCESSFUL SUMMER READING PROGRAM!

Volunteer Ruthie Tippin headed up the Summer Reading program which was a success with seven weeks of adventure—including kite flying, puppy dogs, jungle safaris, ocean voyages, and a trip to the Animal Fair! Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers and community members that participated in this program! For upcoming library events check out www.kalamalibrary.com or the Kalama Public Library's Facebook page.



**Law
Enforcement
Legislative
Update**

**Follow us on
Facebook &
Instagram**

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



UPCOMING SUMMER EVENTS LIST

Thursdays, starting July 15 th - September 30 th	Kalama Farmers & Artists Market 11am-3pm (North Kalama library parking lot)
August 6 th , 7 th , & 8 th	Kalama Heritage Festival
August 13 th , 14 th , & 15 th	All City Garage Sales (sign up forms @ Double D's, \$10 to participate)
Sunday, August 15 th	Untouchables Car Show, 1 st Street in downtown Kalama
Saturday, August 21 st	Amphitheater Brewfest
Wednesday evenings, starting July 7 th – September 8 th	Concerts at the Westin Amphitheater @ 6pm
Thursday nights, starting July 8 th – September 9 th	Movies in the Amphitheater (Put on by McMenamins)
Saturday, September 18 th	Kalama 1 st Street Pub Crawl 12:00pm-10:00pm (\$15 admission)

For detailed event information, please see the City's Facebook Page, the Kalama Chamber of Commerce website at www.kalamachamber.com/events-1, the City website at www.cityofkalama.com, or the Port of Kalama's website at www.portofkalama.com.

SUMMER SEWER

For all Kalama water users connected to sewer: **summer sewer is STILL in effect.** Summer sewer will END in the middle of September (the September meter reading is scheduled for September 20th/21st). For questions regarding utility billing, contact (360) 673-4554.



WELCOME NEW ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN: JEANNE KURZENHAUSER

The library recently welcomed new librarian Jeanne Kurzenhauser to the team. Director Elaine Bystrom has only great things to say about Jeanne and is very excited to have extra hands "on deck", especially with the newly extended library hours.



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK
www.cityofkalama.com

Police Website
www.kalamapolice.com

Library Website
www.kalamalibrary.com



TALL GRASS?

Tall grass and unkept brush pose a fire hazard during these hot, summer days. As a reminder, please make sure not to allow your grass to get too tall. The burn ban from June 25, 2021, is still in effect. See <https://www.cowlitzfd5.org> for updates. If you have a tall grass complaints/fire hazard risk for a property inside City limits, please call city hall at 360-673-4555.

DROUGHT EMERGENCY

Public Works Director Kelly Rasmussen says, "Please try to conserve water". Washington State Department of Ecology declared a drought emergency on July 14th, 2021, due to record-breaking heat waves that have affected water supplies throughout the state of Washington. For more details and information regarding this emergency declaration see <https://ecology.wa.gov/About-us/Get-to-know-us/News/2021/2021-Drought-Declaration>.



STREET STRIPING IN AUGUST

If you see a cone in the road, drive around it not over it. The Public Works crew will be striping city sidewalks and streets throughout the month of August.

UPDATE: NEW LAW ENFORCEMENT LEGISLATION

The Kalama Police Department has shared (on social media) how new police reforms will change police response, but we realize not everyone is on Facebook. For this newsletter we feel the issue is best summarized in excerpts from statements attributable to the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC) Executive Director, Steven Strachan:

The role of law enforcement is changing; however, public safety for all in our local communities has been and continues to be our number one priority. Recent legislatively mandated police reforms in Washington State reflect changing societal expectations and focus on reducing police interactions and decreasing potential uses of force by law enforcement. In practice, the reforms will require law enforcement to evaluate responses to non-criminal calls and the role of law enforcement filling every gap in public services. Calls for service that involve law enforcement will be even more measured and deliberate to reduce the potential of interactions requiring use of force, and to follow the new laws, which went into effect July 25.

Washington's law enforcement agencies are not de-policing. Adapting, reforming, and reimagining the public service of law enforcement is common to responsible and responsive organizations. It is also challenging. As a result of the changes required by law from the 2021 legislative session, law enforcement's response to certain calls, and tactics while at the scene, will be significantly different from past practices. As these changes are implemented, it is essential for communities to engage with their respective law enforcement agencies constructively to understand and adapt to both intended and perhaps unintended changes to service capacity, delivery, and outcomes. Some of these legislative changes include:

- Use of force law changes may significantly reduce the types of calls to which law enforcement will respond, especially if they do not involve a crime or may be better directed to other resources.

- Pursuit policies are now strictly limited, and pursuits are categorically prohibited for most criminal offenses. There is a concern that this could increase reckless driving, traffic fatalities, and the apprehension of fewer suspects.
- Nearly all juvenile contacts must be made through legal counsel. This will impact all investigations involving juveniles.
- There have been significant changes in enforcement and prosecution of drug crimes due to the state Supreme Court decision (Blake vs Washington State) and legislation enacted following the Court’s decision.

On the whole, WASPC anticipates that the policing reforms may have the positive impact of reducing the number of violent interactions between law enforcement and the public. However, we owe it to the public we serve to be candid and share that we are deeply concerned that some policing reforms may have unintended outcomes that result in increased levels of confusion, frustration, victimization, and increased crime within our communities. Much of Washington’s law enforcement reforms rely heavily on the transfer of current and historical services to non-law enforcement parties and service providers, such as behavioral health providers and homeless services. Washington’s law enforcement agencies welcome the helpful participation and expertise of other appropriately prepared service providers.

Our community deserves the highest level of public safety. We are committed to working together in good faith to sustain high quality public safety services and to continuously earn the public’s trust and respect. Every agency has the duty to provide the best service under changing circumstances, and we are committed to work toward this goal together.

**STAY UPDATED!
FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA**



We understand not everyone has social media, but we’ve found that the quickest way to get current information to our community is through our Facebook and Instagram pages, as well as our City website. To get the most current information, follow our accounts: on Facebook’s public pages— City of Kalama, Kalama Public Library, Kalama Police Department, on Instagram— @cityofkalama, and on the City website at www.cityofkalama.com.

<p>WHEN DO WE MEET?</p> <p><u>Kalama City Council</u> 1st and 3rd Thursdays - 7:00 p.m.</p> <p><u>Kalama Planning Commission</u> 2nd Thursday - 6:00 p.m.</p> <p><u>Civil Service Commission</u> 4th Thursday - 5:30 p.m. – As needed</p> <p><u>Kalama Library Board</u> Bimonthly beginning in January on the 20th Wednesday - 5:15 p.m.</p> <p><u>MEETING LOCATION</u> *Hybrid meetings, physical location: 320 N 1st St, Kalama</p>	<p>POLICE OR FIRE EMERGENCIES – CALL 911</p> <p>PUBLIC WORKS - AFTER-HOURS EMERGENCY NUMBER (360) 703-0168 – OR CALL 911</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. & 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 & Industries..... (360) 575-6923 Utilities Locate (Call Before You Dig!) 811 or (800) 424-5555 Waste Control..... (360) 425-4302</p>
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