



Our Town

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

City of Kalama

September 2021

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Follow us!

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MASK UPDATE

As of August 23, 2021, a statewide updated mask order went into effect requiring face masks for everyone over 5 years of age in most public, indoor settings regardless of vaccination status. To follow this order, Mayor Reuter has asked all City personnel to cooperate and wear face coverings while in public buildings and near others. We request that you wear a mask while in any City public building while this mandate is in effect as well. Thank you!



UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOPS

There are 2 upcoming City Council workshops in September as follows:

- September 2nd, 2021 @ 6pm: 2022 Capital Projects
- September 16th, 2021 @ 6pm: 2022 Utility Rates

SUMMER SEWER AVERAGE



For all Kalama water users connected to sewer: the **summer sewer average will END in the middle of September** (the September meter reading is scheduled for September 20th/21st). After the September meter reading, sewer will be billed according to your exact water consumption. (Please note- every drop of water will have a sewer charge associated with it.) For questions regarding utility billing, contact (360) 673-4554.

SUBMIT YOUR TOURISM APPLICATIONS!

The Tourism Advisory Committee will be accepting applications between September 1st and October 1st, 2021 (deadline is 5pm) for tourism funding for events scheduled for 2022. Please submit completed tourism funding applications to apclerk@cityofkalama.com. The application is available online at www.cityofkalama.com. You may also request a copy via email, pick up a copy at City Hall, or call 360-673-4908 for more information.

CITY OFFICES CLOSED- SEPTEMBER 6TH

Please note City offices and the Kalama Public Library will be closed on Monday, September 6th in observance of Labor Day.

OUTDOOR STORYTIME

Outdoor Storytime at Toteff Park will be on Wednesday mornings at 10:00am beginning September 8th. Join us for stories, songs, rhymes, movement, and fun! Ideal for ages 2-5, but everyone is welcome! Dress for the outdoors and join us at the Toteff Park Gazebo! Sponsored by the Kalama Public Library. **See you on September 8th! (Kids! What should we name our Storytime Caterpillar friend?)**



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

Permitting
 360-673-5211

Building & Planning
 360-673-4555

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- Fri 12pm-5pm,
 Saturdays 9am-2pm

Kalama Community
 Building
 360-673-4562



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK
www.cityofkalama.com

Police Website
www.kalamapolice.com

Library Website
www.kalamalibrary.com



September Events

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, September 1 st	First day of School- Kalama
Thursdays, September 2 nd - September 30 th	Kalama Farmers & Artists Market 11am-3pm (North Kalama library parking lot)
Thursdays, September 2 nd - September 30 th	FOLK book sale inside the Council Chambers 11am-3pm (open during the Farmers market)
Wednesday evenings September 1 st and 8 th	Concerts at the Westin Amphitheater @ 6pm
Thursday nights, September 2 nd and 9 th	Movies in the Amphitheater (Put on by McMenamins)
Saturday, September 18 th	Poultry & Small Animal Market 10am-4pm (Located near Double D's)
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, the Kalama Fair website at www.kalamafair.com, or the Port of Kalama's website at www.portofkalama.com.

HAVE YOU CHECKED OUT THE LIBRARY MURAL?

Envision Kalama gifted the community with a mural on the south wall of the library building. Artists from the Portland Street Art Alliance gave life to this mural. It has many hidden iconic items from well-known stories (otherwise known as "easter eggs"). Have you had a chance to check it out?



FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

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.



HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED?

We get this question from time to time, so we figured we'd address it this month in a "Have You Ever Wondered?" themed article.... Have you ever wondered—*There's no speed limit sign on my street, or I've driven a mile or so in the city and haven't seen a speed sign.... What's the speed limit?* That's actually a really good question, and you might not know if you've never asked the question. The short answer is 25 mph, unless otherwise posted. Specifically, "*... it is unlawful for the operator of any motor vehicle to operate the same at a speed in excess of twenty-five miles per hour upon the streets of the city, other than school zones. It is further unlawful for the operator of any motor vehicle to operate the same upon the state highways and state frontage roads within the city limits at a speed in excess of that established and fixed by the Washington State Highway Commission.*"

Our officers exercise a great deal of discretion, grace, and "enforcement through education" when it comes to speed enforcement. MOST speed enforcement takes place in school zones where speed limits are clearly posted or in an area where a motorist would have had to speed past a posted speed limit sign. Even then, the majority of Kalama traffic stops end in verbal warnings. At the end of the day, we all want safe roadways for motorists and pedestrians. If you ever have any questions on this topic or any others, please feel free to contact the Kalama Police Department at chief@kalamapolice.com or 360-673-2165.



STATE UTILITY MORATORIUM

The State Utility Moratorium has been extended to September 30, 2021 and will not be extended again. While it prohibited utility services from being disconnected for non-payment, it did not relieve customers from the obligation to pay for the utility services. Once lifted, the City will continue to work with customers provided they communicate and act in good faith to resolve any past due balances. Failure to communicate or adhere to any agreement made will result in further actions such as additional fees, disconnection of service, or other legal remedies. We urge all customers to contact us as soon as possible but no later than September 30, 2021, or services may be disconnected, or liens filed on property for which a bill is outstanding and has been for 3 months or more.

The City can set up a payment plan for the past due balance that will spread the payments out for a period of 3 months up to a maximum of 18 months depending on the amount of the outstanding balance, the average monthly bill, and reasonable amount the customer feels they can pay. Late fees are waived during the period covered by the payment plan, provided timely payments are made. If you are a renter, the landlord will need to approve the payment plan prior to finalization.

During the pandemic, the federal and state governments have offered programs to help citizens pay for rent and utilities. We urge customers to apply. There are still funds available; see below for a list of local programs that may be able to extend assistance to you or your business.

Residential: Lower Columbia CAP – 1526
Commerce, Longview WA – 360-425-3430
website: <https://www.lowercolumbiacap.org/> -
Offering Rental & Utility Assistance

Business: Cowlitz Economic Development
Council - PO Box 1278, 1452 Hudson St, Suite
208, Longview, WA 98632 360-423-9921 -

www.cowlitzedc.com, www.facebook.com/CowlitzEDC



UNTOUCHABLES CAR SHOW

Thank you to all that orchestrated, volunteered, and participated in the 2021 Untouchables Car Show on August 15th! This annual event was a great success and is one of the largest events in Kalama. A special thank you goes out to the Untouchables Car Club, the Chamber of Commerce, the Kalama Police Department, and the Public Works crew. Check out these pictures!



WHEN DO WE MEET?

Kalama City Council
1st and 3rd Thursdays -
7:00 p.m.

**Kalama Planning
Commission**

2nd Thursday - 6:00 p.m.

Civil Service Commission

4th Thursday - 5:30 p.m. – As
needed

Kalama Library Board

Bimonthly beginning in
January on the 20th

Wednesday - 5:15 p.m.

MEETING LOCATION

*Hybrid meetings, physical
location: 320 N 1st St, Kalama

POLICE OR FIRE EMERGENCIES – CALL 911

PUBLIC WORKS - AFTER-HOURS EMERGENCY NUMBER (360) 703-0168 – OR CALL 911

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

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

Pay online 24/7 at www.cityofkalama.com

