



# Our Town

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

City of Kalama

January 2022

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## RECYCLING & YARD DEBRIS SERVICE IN KALAMA?



The City is considering contracting for additional curbside services with our current garbage provider – Waste Connections dba Waste Control. In addition to the weekly curbside garbage service, the City is looking at options for curbside recycling and yard debris removal.

### Conditions of recycling & yard debris services:

- **All City residents would pay** for the service, whether they utilize it or not.
- Each City residence would have 3 separate carts.
- Recycling & yard debris carts would be **picked up every other week**.
- The recycling and yard debris carts are each 95-gallon carts.
- Recycling: No glass. Cans, paper, and plastics (bottles, jugs, tubs) are acceptable.
- Yard debris: Items must fit in container, limbs no larger than 4 inches in diameter, no sod, no dirt, no large rock.

### What will it cost?

Ten Year Contract Options				10%	3.6%	
	Waste Control	Overhead	Base Fee	Utility Tax	State Tax	Sum
Bi-Weekly Recycling	\$ 5.00	\$ 0.88	\$ 5.88	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5.88
Bi-Weekly Yard Debris	\$ 6.60	\$ 1.16	\$ 7.76	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7.76
						\$ 13.65

The City will do the billing for services, just like it currently does, for garbage removal. There is a 15% franchise fee (listed as the "overhead" amount). Please note these numbers are estimates and are based on a ten-year contract with Waste Connections.

- A **Public Hearing** regarding this topic will be held January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022 @ 7:00pm, City Council Chambers with virtual access via Zoom. Submit public testimony to [cityclerk@cityofkalama.com](mailto:cityclerk@cityofkalama.com).

## LIBRARY & CITY OFFICE CLOSURES

The Kalama Public Library will be closed Saturday, January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022 (New Years Day) and Monday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022 (Martin Luther King Jr. Day). City offices will be closed on January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022 as well.

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

Finance – Accounts  
Payable  
360-673- 4555

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 (call City  
Hall)  
360-673-4908



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK  
[www.cityofkalama.com](http://www.cityofkalama.com)

Police Website  
[www.kalamapolice.com](http://www.kalamapolice.com)

Library Website  
[www.kalamalibrary.com](http://www.kalamalibrary.com)

## UTILITY RATE INCREASES

The new year is here, and the new utility rates for water, sewer, and stormwater are effective with the readings for January 2022 per the Council's passing of Ordinances 1467, 1468, 1469. The overall utility increase is from 3.12% to 3.75% (depending upon water usage). An average bill for 600 cubic feet of water will increase by \$6.81, while an average bill for 1000 cubic feet of water will increase by \$7.70. The City Council also increased the low-income discount for water and sewer which, for usage of 600 cubic feet, saves \$1.10 from the increase. The City Council recognizes the City's high sewer rates and adopted a hybrid rate which increases the sewer consumption charges by only \$0.10 per hundred cubic feet. The increases are required to meet the inflationary costs of providing services, maintaining the system and improvements to replace aging infrastructure, and to meet future demands and growth.

## NEW BOARD/COMMISSION MEMBERS & COUNCIL MEMBER

Welcome new, serving members and thank you for your involvement! We are looking forward to a successful 2022.

- **Mayor - Mike Reuter** (re-elected) 1/1/2022- 12/31/2025
- **City Council Position No. 1- Jon Stanfill** (re-elected) 1/1/2022- 12/31/2025
- **City Council Position No. 2- Scott Moon** (elected) 1/1/2022-12/31/2025
- **Planning Commission- Nick Kamerath** (appointed) 1/1/2022-1/2/2026
- **Planning Commission – Craig Frkovich** (reappointed) 1/1/2022-1/2/2026
- **Library Board – Robert Schimelpfenig** (reappointed) 1/1/2022-1/2/2027
- **Tourism Advisory Committee- Sheryl Scarborough** (fill vacant position) 12/16/2021-12/31/2022

## PET LICENSE RENEWALS



Residents inside City limits: It's time to renew your pet license(s). We have sent out renewal notices and license fees are due on or before February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Please note penalties will be issued on February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022, and the license fee(s) will double if unpaid. Please provide an updated certificate of rabies vaccination to: [records@kalamapolice.com](mailto:records@kalamapolice.com). Questions? Contact the police department office at 360-673-2165.

## FATS, OILS, & GREASE

The holidays are a good time to remind you of the proper way to dispose of oils, fats, and grease. Butter, gravy, cooking oil, and salad dressing all fall into the category of a fat, oil, or grease. As a liquid, they look harmless so many people dispose of these substances down the drain. When they cool, however, they become thick and sticky, adhering to the pipes of your sewer system and potentially causing clogs, backups, and sewer overflows. Here are some tips to help:

- 1. Wipe.** Remove grease from pots, pans, and dishes with a scraper or paper towel and discard it in the trash.
- 2. Pour.** Discard cooled cooking oil or grease in a secure container. Use a metal can, such as a coffee or soup can. Never pour it down the drain or garbage disposal.
- 3. Trash.** Put all cooled, discarded cooking oil or grease in the trash.



## LIBRARY CARDS

Library cards for patrons outside Kalama City limits are increasing (from \$35) to \$40 per year as of January 1, 2022.



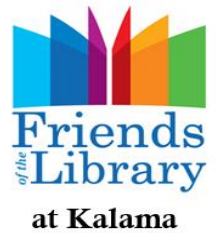
**Storytime** starts off the New Year on **January 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>** at the Kalama Community building at 10:30am! *This season, we will meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of the month.* Join us for Stories, Songs, Rhymes, Movement... Fun! Ideal for ages 2-5, but everyone is welcome! We can't wait to see you on January 5<sup>th</sup>!

## FOLK UPDATE

**It's time to Fire It Up!** Join us at the Kalama Public Library as we start our Winter Reading Challenge - Fire it Up! - for Adults and Children from **January 18<sup>th</sup> through February 22<sup>nd</sup>**. Check out a book and enjoy reading during the winter chill and win a Grand Prize! If you don't have a Library Card, now's the time to get one for you and your family. Each week, prizes will be given for adults/children who enter the names of the books they've read. A Grand Prize for an adult and child will be chosen on February 22<sup>nd</sup>. How many library books can you read? How many adventures can you take this winter?



**Start the New Year at a FOLK Book Sale!** Join us on January 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am to 4:00pm in the City Council Chambers at the Kalama Public Library.



Saturday, January 1st	Happy New Year 2022
Friday & Saturday, January 14 <sup>th</sup> – 15 <sup>th</sup>	FOLK book sale
Monday, January 17 <sup>th</sup>	City Offices & Library closed in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day

For detailed event information, please see the City's Facebook Page, the Kalama Chamber of Commerce website at [www.kalamachamber.com/events-1](http://www.kalamachamber.com/events-1), the City website at [www.cityofkalama.com](http://www.cityofkalama.com), the Kalama Fair website at [www.kalamafair.com](http://www.kalamafair.com), or the Port of Kalama's website at [www.portofkalama.com](http://www.portofkalama.com).

## “CHRISTMAS IN KALAMA”

The holiday festivities in downtown Kalama were a big hit in December, despite the rainy weather. Instead of the annual Festival of Lighted Boats, the Chamber of Commerce put on a “Parade of Lighted Floats” and Holiday Shopping Event. AMALAK’s “Christmas in Kalama Drive Through” event was lots of fun too! Santa and Mrs. Clause showed up, and even the Grinch made an appearance! Other December events included the “Winter Ale Fest” hosted by Amalak with Willie Dick’s and One55Elm which featured many local breweries, artists and crafts, the annual Walk and Knock food drive, and the Polar Express event at the Port of Kalama’s Interpretive Center where families were welcomed to view the movie “The Polar Express” and enjoy free hot beverages and treats. Thank you volunteers and committees for playing a big role in these events! Your hard work does not go unnoticed, and Kalama is lucky to have you.



### WHEN DO WE MEET?

**Kalama City Council**  
1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays -  
7:00 p.m.

**Kalama Planning Commission**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday - 6:00 p.m.

**Civil Service Commission**  
4<sup>th</sup> Thursday - 5:30 p.m. – As  
needed

**Kalama Library Board**  
Bi-monthly beginning in  
January on the 19<sup>th</sup>  
Wednesday - 5:15 p.m.

### MEETING LOCATION

\*Hybrid meetings; physical  
location: 320 N 1<sup>st</sup> 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](http://www.cityofkalama.com)

