



# Our Town

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

City of Kalama

June 2022

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### TEXT US!

Did you know you can now text the City for **answers to questions**, to **report issues**, or to "opt in" to **receive City text notifications**? Introducing TextMyGov! Visit [www.cityofkalama.com](http://www.cityofkalama.com) to utilize this service—no app required. Look for the green icon on our City website (homepage).

TextMyGov™



### SUMMER SEWER NOTICE

Attention Kalama water users connected to sewer: **summer sewer averaging is NOW in effect until the middle of September!** For questions, contact the utility department at 360-673-4554. Now is the time to water your garden, turn on your sprinklers, and do some pressure washing!



### LIBRARY UPDATE

The library is open! Information on current programs and events can be found on Facebook and at [www.kalamalibrary.com](http://www.kalamalibrary.com).

#### June events:

- Chair Yoga for adults continues, Thursdays @ 11 am in the City Council Chamber
  - "Welcome to Medicare" (informational program) on Saturday, June 11<sup>th</sup> @ 11am
- Don't forget: Discover Passes and Wi-Fi hot spots are available for check-out at the library too!

### SUMMER READING!

**Beyond the Beaten Path - Into the Great Outdoors!** Kids will have a great time this summer hiking, building campfires, mapping, tenting, and exploring the great outdoors right in our own backyard! Join the Kalama Library and our Volunteers from **June 22<sup>nd</sup> to July 27<sup>th</sup>**! The fun starts at the Port of Kalama Interpretive Center on Wednesday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10:00am with the First People who lived in the Great Outdoors. Come and register for Summer Reading and get started on a fabulous adventure! All kids/parents

are welcome! Watch the Library website for more information:

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

### READ BEYOND THE BEATEN PATH



iREAD  
BY LIBRARIANS FOR LIBRARIANS

**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)

## CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE

Let's talk about **housing in Kalama**. People have mixed feelings about development and growth. Often, we fear that more homes and a resulting larger population will compromise the charm and character of Kalama, but a larger population better supports our business community and increases economic vitality. There has been increasing demand for housing in Kalama over the last 10 years as more people discover the amenities our small city has to offer.

### **How do we balance providing housing to meet the demand while protecting our identity as a community?**

Much of this protection comes from the land use rules established in Kalama's zoning and development code. The Planning Commission serves as an advisory body that crafts, reviews, and updates the language of the zoning and development code to be presented to the City Council for final adoption as part of the Kalama Municipal Code (KMC).

The Planning Commission also provides preliminary review and recommendations to the City Council for subdivision and other development applications based on the rules adopted in the KMC. This is called preliminary subdivision (plat) review.

The Lofts at Kalama (TLK) is a significant multifamily housing subdivision which came before the Planning Commission most recently and spent multiple meetings in public hearing to capture the concerns raised regarding this new development concept for Kalama. After the public hearing, the Planning Commission weighed the testimony and the application against the KMC on the sections governing subdivision development to make a recommendation to City Council for adoption or rejection of the design concept. Often, Planning Commission implements conditions of approval to ensure community concerns are addressed, but an applicant's property rights are preserved. An example of a condition of approval might be: *"We recommend approval of the application for 25 units, but as a condition of approval, the developer will build a 7,000 square foot park with playground equipment and dedicate it to the city."*

The subdivision chapter of the KMC provides guidance for what is required in a development application. The code also gives the Planning Commission the authority to ask for public improvements to accommodate the development's impact. Some of the standards are firm rules in the code and some of the standards are discretionary. In the example of the park, above, recreational areas proportionate to the increased density of the development are to be provided and paid for by developers (a firm rule from the code), but the size of the park and what it must contain is discretionary and the Planning Commission gets to set that recommendation.

~ Adam Smee, City Administrator







## CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2022!

Make sure to wish our local graduates a big congratulations this month for their achievement! We look forward to seeing what their next steps are and who these wonderful individuals will grow up to be! Congrats Senior class of 2022!

## FIREWORKS INFO

The City allows fireworks to be discharged within City limits during certain times of the year. Please exercise safety this 4<sup>th</sup> of July season. Here is the **fireworks discharge schedule**:

June 28 <sup>th</sup>	12:00pm (noon) – 11pm
June 29 <sup>th</sup> – July 4 <sup>th</sup>	9:00am – 11pm
July 5 <sup>th</sup>	9:00am – 9:00pm
December 31 <sup>st</sup>	6:00pm – 1:00am (on January 1 <sup>st</sup> )

Note: This schedule is taken from the Kalamazoo Municipal Code, 9.16.030, section B.

## THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS

Thank you to the volunteers that braved the May rains for the Annual Shirley Lowman Memorial Cleanup Day! Thank you to the Steelscape employees for their donation and the City Public Works crew for their assistance as well! The post office was weeded, the pedestrian overpass had fresh bark spread, and volunteers picked up trash at the Todd Road exit.



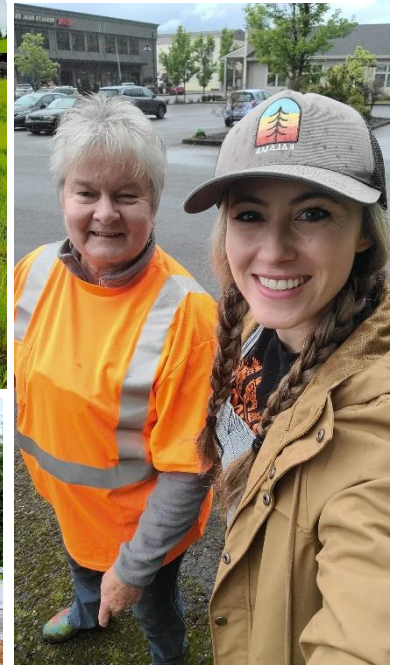
*Pictured (above): Councilmember Jon Stanfill with a bucket of pulled weeds at the Post Office.*



*Pictured (left): Volunteer Craig Pooley on litter duty.*



*Pictured (left): Volunteer Bridget Pooley with a full bag of collected litter near Todd Road.*



*Pictured (above): Chamber President Rosemary Siipola (left) and Treasurer Taryn Nelson (right) helping downtown.*



Monday, June 6 <sup>th</sup>	Blood Drive (Community Building)
Friday, June 10 <sup>th</sup>	Kalama High School Commencement
Thursday, June 16 <sup>th</sup>	Last day of school (early release)
Thursday, June 16 <sup>th</sup>	After School Craft Day (Put on by Amalak @ the Community Building)
Sunday, June 19 <sup>th</sup>	Father's Day Brunch (put on by Kalama Lions @ the Community Building)
Tuesday, June 21 <sup>st</sup>	Chamber of Commerce Awards event (6-8pm @ Port's Interpretive Center)
Thursday, June 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Summer Reading Program begins
Sat & Sun, June 25 <sup>th</sup> & 26 <sup>th</sup>	Big Smoke in Little Kalama (@ Haydu Park)
Monday, July 4 <sup>th</sup>	Independence 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).

<p><b>WHEN DO WE MEET?</b></p> <p><b><u>Kalama City Council</u></b> 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays - 7:00 p.m.</p> <p><b><u>Kalama Planning Commission</u></b> 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday - 6:00 p.m.</p> <p><b><u>Civil Service Commission</u></b> 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday - 5:30 p.m. - As needed</p> <p><b><u>Kalama Library Board</u></b> Bi-monthly beginning in January on the 19<sup>th</sup> Wednesday - 5:15 p.m.</p> <p><b><u>MEETING LOCATION</u></b> *Hybrid meetings; physical location: 320 N 1<sup>st</sup> St, Kalama</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!) <b>811</b> or (800) 424-5555 Waste Control..... (360) 425-4302</p>
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