



The City Link

Official News and Information
from the City of Billings

Billings Pride:
City-wide

Summer 2008

Local and State Bus and Paratransit Van Rodeo

Ten Transit Operators from the City of Billings took part in the 15th Annual MET Bus and Paratransit Rodeo on June 8 at the ARFF/Airfield Maintenance Building Grounds.

The event consisted of obstacle courses designed to duplicate everyday driving situations. The event was intended to promote safety by encouraging and rewarding professional driving skills.

The competition was divided into two divisions 1. Full-size Bus and 2. Paratransit Vans. The order of finish in the big bus division was: 1st Place - Roland Weidner; 2nd Place - James Hunt; and, 3rd Place - Carey Pope.

The competition was keen as last years big bus winner, Steve Leichner, did not place, even after he finished fifth in the nation at the National Rodeo in New Orleans! For the Paratransit van competition the finish was: 1st Place - Tiny Hoff; 2nd Place - Darrell Walker; and, 3rd Place - Ruth Godwin.

These individuals represented the MET and City of Billings in

the state competition that was also held in Billings at the airport on June 28. There were 28 drivers from around the state competing in the two divisions.

A total of 42 judges braved the heat to man the various obstacle stations. Billings faired well as Darrell Walker from the MET finished 1st in the Van Division and will receive an all-expenses paid trip from the State of Montana to the National competition in Providence, Rhode Island. Also in the Van competition, Tiny Hoff from Billings finished 2nd in the Rookie Division and 3rd overall.

A driver from Great Falls won the Full-size Bus competition and finishing best for Billings was Carey Pope tying for third place. 65 people attended the competition and the Barbeque/Awards Ceremony which was held on the Belknap Water Treatment Plant lawn under beautiful Montana skies. A big thank you goes out to all the competitors, judges, family members and Airport/Transit and PW staff for making these special events possible!



State 2008 Rodeo Contestants



National 2008 Rodeo Winners - Steve Leichner and Ruth Godwin

► Inside this issue:

Summer Activities Offered through PRPL Department	2
From Our Readers	2
National Dispatchers Week	3
We Want to Hear From You	3
Mayor and City Council City of Billings	3
News From Public Works	4

Downtown Quiet Zones	4
New Police Substation Opens at Fire Station 7	4
News From the Library	5
City of Billings Solid Waste Division	6
Non-Emergency Crime Report Form Now Available	6
Public Works Now Accepting Credit Cards Payments	6
Seasonal BLM Tankers Base Operation at Airport	7
King Ave. W. Roundabout	8

Visit the City's Website: <http://www.ci.billings.mt.us>

Summer Activities Offered Through the City of Billings' Parks, Recreation and Public Lands Department

Swimming Pool Passes

Location: For Rose Pool or South Pool

Dates: Season Passes

Swimming Classes

Location: Rose Pool

Dates: Week Long Sessions for June 16 - Aug. 8

Aquanuts Day Camp

Location: Rose Pool

Dates: July 14 – July 18

H2O Fat Burning/ Toning/

Cardio Sport Class

Location: Rose Pool

Dates: June 16 – August 14

Magic City Summer Camp

Location: North Park and various locations around Billings

Dates: Week Long Sessions from June 9 – Aug. 22

Pioneer Park Playhouse

Location: Pioneer Park and various locations around Billings

Dates: Week Long Sessions from June 9 – Aug. 22

Soccer Touch Summer Camp

Location: Rose Park

Dates: Week Long Sessions from June 9 – Aug. 21

Audubon Nature Camp

Location: Audubon Conservation Education Center

Dates: June 23 – 27 and July 14 – 18

Mustangs Baseball Camp

Location: Dehler Park

Dates: Aug. 11 and 13

Sports Specific Training

Camp

Location: Billings Outlaws SportsPlex

Dates: June 28 – Aug. 1

City Cagers Youth Basketball Camp

Location: Castle Rock Middle School

Dates: July 21 – July 25

Skate Camp

Location: Skatepark (N. 27th St & 1st Ave. S.)

Dates: Week Long Sessions from June 23 – Aug. 8

Kids Martial Arts Day Camp

Location: Either at 1920 Central Ave or 1442 Main Street

Dates: Week Long Sessions from June 16 – Aug. 15

Martial Arts Classes

(Both Adult and Youth)

Location: Parks Martial Arts

Dates: 6 Week Long Sessions from June 2 – Aug. 21

Rock Climbing Class

Location: Steep World 208 N 13th Street

Dates: Week Long Sessions from June 9 – Aug. 15

Youth Golf Lessons

Location: Par 3

Dates: Four Lessons per Session From July 8 – Aug. 1

Tennis Lessons

(Both Youth and Adult Sessions) (for more information, visit the PRPL website or contact Billings Tennis Association)

Ice Skating Lessons

Location: Centennial Ice Arena

Dates: 2 Week Long Classes from July 14 – Aug. 15

Fly Fishing Class

Location: Billings Community Center

Dates: 2 Week Long Sessions from June 17 – Aug. 30

Kayak Classes

Location: South Pool

Dates: July 22 – Aug. 14

Canoeing Classes

Location: Riverfront Park

Dates: July 21 – July 23

Outdoor Adventure Hikes

(for more information see our website or contact Billings Parks and Recreation)

Belly Dancing Classes

Location: Billings Community Center

Dates: 8 Week Long Sessions from July 22 – Sept. 9

Zumba Dance Classes

Location: North Park Center

Dates: 6 Week Long Sessions June 19 – July 24

Pilates Class

Location: Zimmerman Center (Pioneer Park)

Dates: 7 Week Long Sessions

from July 7 – Aug. 23

Cardio and Toning Class

Location: Zimmerman Center (Pioneer Park)

Dates: 7 Week Long Sessions from July 12 – Aug. 23

Yoga Class

Location: Billings Community Center

Dates: Restarts in Fall

Cartooning

Location: Billings Community Center

Dates: 3 Week Long Sessions from June 12 – July 24

Acrylic Painting

Location: Billings Community Center

Dates: 3 Week long Sessions from June 13 – July 25

Creative Arts & Crafts

Location: Billings Community Center

Dates: 3 Week Long Sessions from June 16 – July 24

Drawing

Location: Billings Community Center

Dates: 3 Week Long Sessions from June 16 – July 24

Clay Creations

Location: Billings Community Center

Dates: 3 Week long Sessions from June 13 – July 25

Community Playgroup

Location: Pioneer Park

Dates: June 3 – Aug. 21

Hershey Youth Track Meet – Held in May

Senior Citizen Programs – Contact the Billings Community Center 406-657-3050 Shelter and Center Rentals (for more information, please see below)

For more information, visit the Parks and Recreation website at www.prpl.info, stop by the office located at 390 North 23rd Street, or telephone the office at 406-657-8371. Phone registrations are not available.

From Our Readers

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Comments and Questions from Ruby Cull of Billings:

The newsletter is very comprehensive, interesting, informative and appreciated! Is there someone from the Parks Department who would be able to help the elderly with tree and shrub trimming? Spraying? Thank you.

Answer:

Please contact the Parks, Recreation and Public Lands office for more information regarding assistance with tree/shrub trimming/spraying. Thank you.

- Address: 390 North 23rd Street, Billings, MT 59101
- Phone: (406) 657-8371
- Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8 am – 5 pm, except holidays.

Comments from an anonymous reader:

I really like the Questions from the Readers, Service Directory, Library Info, honors given to City workers and updates on projects around the City. I would like to continue seeing more of the same in upcoming newsletters. Thanks!

Answer:

We are glad you like our publication and will do our best to continue to provide this important communication tool in the future. Thanks for writing in!

Comments and Questions from an anonymous reader:

What do I like most about the newsletter? All of it. I'd like to see a couple of pages of "From the Readers."

Answer:

Thus far, all questions and comments that have been submitted to the City Link have been either answered personally by City staff or printed in this publication. Therefore, additional space has not yet been needed.

Comments and Questions from an anonymous reader:

I like that the newsletter is informative and enjoyable to read. I want to know why society is not allowed to shoot wild cats. They overpopulate, take over the alleys and make all kinds of noise. I want them all dead. No one wants to help. What alternatives can I use to kill them that are legal? Thank you.

Answer:

Loose stray cats are a violation of City Ordinance. If you are having problems with loose cats within the City limits, please contact the Billings Animal Shelter at (406) 657-8226. The Animal Shelter has humane live traps for loan. Traps can also be purchased at local hardware stores. Animal Control Officers will respond and collect any animals you have confined. Irresponsible pet ownership is a people problem not an animal problem. If an owner can be located he/she can be held responsible, and can be issued citations for animal violations. Holding those responsible for the problem has a far better chance of solving the issue than harming animals that have no clue they are doing anything wrong. Do not violate Cruelty to Animals laws or Discharging of Firearms laws when there is a legal solution.

National Dispatchers Week

Since a Congressional proclamation in 1991, public safety agencies nationwide have dedicated the second week of April to recognize the pivotal role played by telecommunicators, dispatchers, communications operators, radio control personnel, and others who utilize telephones, radios, computers and technical skills to provide support to Law Enforcement, Fire Services, Emergency Medical Services and other governmental field personnel.

This week is devoted to honoring the thousands of men and women who respond to emergency calls, dispatch emergency professionals and equipment, and render life-saving assistance to the citizens of the United States. The importance of recognizing and celebrating the hard work of these dedicated professionals at every level is immeasurable. Thank you to everyone who stands behind the commitment and devotion these men and women provide to ensure the safety and security for the citizens of Yellowstone County.

This year, Dispatcher's week was April 14-18 and the City of Billings' staff had a great time! It was a theme week with various contests: Ugly Sweater Day, Mismatch Monday etc. A pie bake-off was also held with guest judges: Jim Kraft of the Department of Emergency Services (DES); John Staley, Interim Fire Chief at that time; Jay Bell, Yellowstone County Under Sheriff; and Ardi Baker, a retired Dispatcher. Stacie Clayton took first place with an awesome Strawberry Pee-ka Boo pie (she made the recipe up herself). Her prize was a one-night stay at the Boothill Inn, \$50 in downtown bucks and two movie tickets (all donated).

Generous donations were received from the Billings Fire Department, the Billings Police Department Association, YCSO Association, Teamsters Local 190, AMR and numerous businesses around town. Without their support, none of this would have been possible. Thank you!



Judges for the pie baking contest (L-R): Ardi Baker, Jim Kraft, Jay Bell and John Staley

We Want To Hear From You



Please provide us with input for our next newsletter.

What did you like most about the newsletter?

What would you like to see in upcoming newsletters?

Mail or e-mail your comments to us at:

citylink@ci.billings.mt.us

The City Link

P.O. Box 1178

Billings, MT 59103

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL CITY OF BILLINGS

Mayor Ron Tussing
tussingr@ci.billings.mt.us
657-8296

WARD 1
Peggie Gaghen
gaghenp@ci.billings.mt.us
259-2926

Jim Ronquillo
jimronquillo@aol.com
252-5353

WARD 2
Denis Pitman
Pitmand@ci.billings.mt.us
670-7430

Joy Stevens
joy@iwks.net
259-5247

WARD 3
Vince Ruegamer
vr@bresnan.net
259-1109

Chris "Shoots" Veis
veiss@ci.billings.mt.us
655-8942

WARD 4
Jani McCall
janimccall@msn.com
670-3084

Ed Ulledalen
edulledalen@yahoo.com
248-1478

WARD 5
Richard (Dick) Clark
twode@bresnan.net
656-1086

Mark Astle
astlem@ci.billings.mt.us
656-1086

Council
Fax: 657-8390

City of Billings
Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 1178
Billings, MT 59103

Street Address:
210 North 27th St.
Billings, MT 59101

News From Public Works

W.O. 05-20 ARONSON AVENUE

A major summer construction project involves an extension of Aronson from near its current terminus to Alkali Creek Road.

The project will include approximately 3,000 feet of street construction, which includes curb and gutter, storm drains, water lines, sanitary sewer lines, a 10-foot wide multi-use path on one side and a 5-foot sidewalk on the other side, landscaping, a 55-foot long tri-deck bridge over the BBWA Canal, and a 200-foot long clear span steel girder bridge over Alkali Creek. The street section will be a two-lane road with on-street bicycle lanes.

The contractor has completed the installation of the bridge over the BBWA. They are currently working on finishing up the installation of the water main, sewer line and storm drain. There will be ongoing

construction on the Alkali Creek Bridge installation and the road construction thru the remainder of the summer and into the fall. The project is anticipated to be completed by the first part of November.

W.O. 03-07 ALKALI CREEK MULTI-USE PATH, MAIN STREET TUNNEL

The City will be adding another segment to the city-wide trail system in the near future. In addition to building approximately 610 feet of concrete path, a tunnel almost 200 feet long and 15 feet in diameter will be constructed to provide a safer and easier means for pedestrians and bikers to cross Main Street by going under Main and avoiding extreme vehicle traffic. The project location is near the crossing point

of Alkali Creek and Main Street. The path will be accessed from the sidewalk on the west side of Main, will wind downward to the tunnel, and terminate at the west edge of Earl Guss Park. Ultimately, this segment of path will allow the existing paths along Alkali Creek, through Sword's Park, and by MetraPark to be tied together, thus greatly enhancing the City's network of trails.

The project was scheduled to be bid July 1, with construction targeted to begin the end of July and finished by November (weather permitting). The construction estimate is \$886,000, which includes new grading, drainage, lighting, signing, and planting along the path and tunnel route. The majority of funding is being provided by CTEP (Community Transportation Enhancement Program) with assistance from some local contributions, namely BikeNet and St. Vincent's Healthcare.

Downtown Quiet Zones

Billings business leaders would like a quieter downtown, one possibly without the sound of train whistles.

The Downtown Billings Partnership has asked the City of Billings to determine the possibility of eliminating the need for the trains to blow their whistles as they crossed 27th Street, 28th Street, and 29th Street in Downtown Billings.

City staff found many communities across the nation were already in the process of eliminating the use of the train's whistles. The areas that trains are allowed to pass without blowing their whistles are known as Quiet Zones.

The City's first concern for building a Quiet Zone is the safety of the public. In order for the Quiet Zone to be approved by the City, it must first be determined that the Quiet Zone did not increase the potential harm to the citizens. City staff contacted the other communities that were in the process of creating Quiet Zones and found a procedure had been outlined by a federal government agency.

The Federal Railroad Authority has strict rules about what can be tolerated when creating a Quiet Zone. The City must install certain improvements to the railroad crossings to increase the safety of the crossings before the whistles can be eliminated. The increase in safety due to the installed improvements must out-weigh the decrease in safety due to removing the whistles. When this happens, a Quiet Zone will be approved by the FRA.

The City was originally skeptical at the thought of quieting the trains as they pass through Downtown Billings. After the correct steps were taken, the City found that the original skepticism was a false perception. When construction of the Billings Quiet Zone is complete, the improvements will improve safety, increase efficiency, and enhance the experience for all residents and visitors to Downtown Billings.

New Police Substation Opens at Fire Station 7

A new Police Department Substation (PD3) opened as a collaborative effort between the Billings Fire Department and the Billings Police Department.

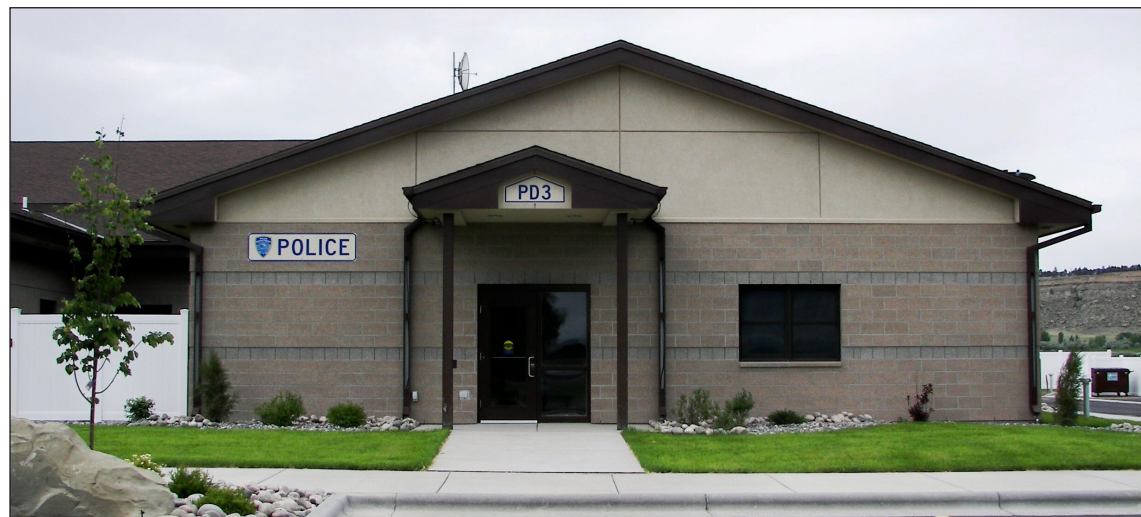
Fire Station 7 on Billings' far West Side was built with Safety Levy money and with the understanding that it could co-locate public safety entities.

Additionally, this is the first step in decentralizing the Police Department and establishing substations or precincts. The location of PD3 is such that officers assigned to the West End can have a location to conduct their business without having to drive the five or more miles back to Police

headquarters at City Hall. Additionally, West End residents do not have to make that drive either.

When the substation is fully staffed, it will be open for walk-in traffic, primarily during the day.

The Police Department has also offered use of the PD3 facility to the Sheriff's Office for the same reasons. So far, officers have been using the facility a great deal. This means that the officers are on their beat more often and in a better position to respond more quickly. In the public safety world, response time is everything. If another station is built, especially in the Heights, another substation will be requested.



New PD3 on Billings' West End

NEWS FROM THE



Montana Repertory Theater Comes to the Library

The Montana Repertory Theater from the University of Montana, a group that performs annually at the Parmly Billings Library, will present *The Diaries of Adam and Eve* at the Library on Thursday, Sept. 25, beginning at 7 p.m. This humorous production is based on works by Mark Twain. The Montana Repertory Theater is made up of students and alumni from the University of Montana and is known for the high quality of its performances and for the willingness to perform throughout the State at libraries, cultural centers, and schools. This performance will be funded by the Friends of the Library.



Library to Participate in The Big Read

The Library, working with the Writer's Voice of the Billings YMCA, has been the recipient of a \$10,000 grant from The Big Read project. The Big Read is affiliated with the National Endowment for the Arts and is a program designed to promote and foster reading in communities throughout the country. This year's project will focus on Jack London's *Call of the Wild*, and during October and November, the Library will participate by sponsoring a number of book discussion groups and other programs that focus on both the book and the themes that are part of the book.

For more information, you can check the Library's web page at www.billings.lib.mt.us or contact the Library this fall to learn more about The Big Read activities.

High Plains Book Awards Finalists

The Parmly Billings Library Board has established the High Plains Book Awards. These Awards have been established to recognize regional authors and/or literary works which examine and reflect life on the High Plains, including Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming, Nebraska, Colorado and Kansas, as well as Alberta, Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

The 2008 Award Finalists are:

Best First Book

Migration Patterns: Stories by Gary Schanbacher
Turpentine by Spring Warren
Where the Rivers Run North by Sam Morton

Best Nonfiction Book

Boxing for Cuba by Guillermo Vincente Vidal
Charles M Russell: A Catalogue Raisonne, B Byron Price, Editor
Gall: Lakota War Chief by Robert W. Larson
One Woman's Montana, by Kathe LeSage
This Common Secret: My Journey as an Abortion Doctor by Susan Wicklund

Best Fiction Book

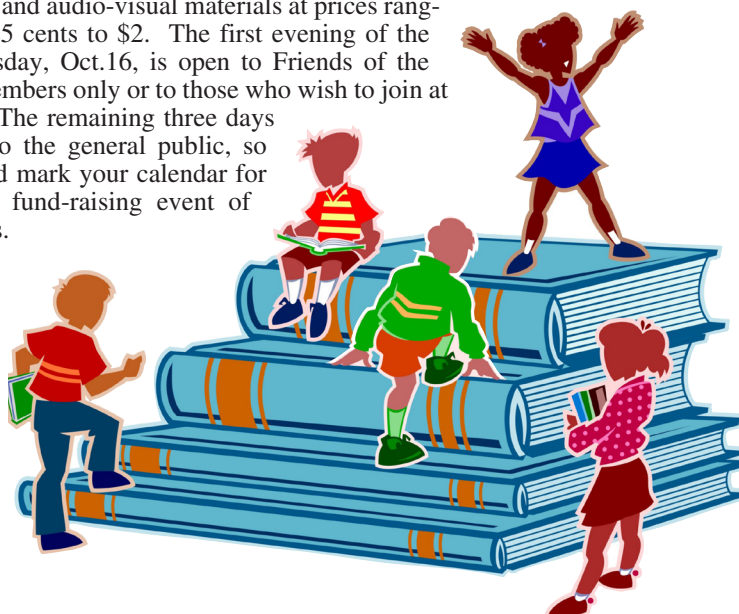
A Feast of Longing by Sarah Klassen
Shallow Grave by Lori Armstrong
The Watershed Years by Russell Rowland

Winners in each of these categories will be announced at the Book Awards Banquet on Friday, October 17th.



Friends of the Library Book Sale

The Friends of the Library will once again sponsor their fall Book Sale from Oct. 16 to 19 at the Library. This is the major fund-raising activity for the Friends and always proves to be a great way for readers to stock up by choosing from an excellent selection of books, magazines and audio-visual materials at prices ranging from 25 cents to \$2. The first evening of the sale, Thursday, Oct. 16, is open to Friends of the Library members only or to those who wish to join at the door. The remaining three days are open to the general public, so be sure and mark your calendar for this major fund-raising event of the Friends.



City of Billings Solid Waste Division

Solid Waste, a division of the Public Works Department, provides commercial and residential garbage service for Billings. Residential service is assessed on the property taxes in the amount of \$79 per year for weekly collection, or about \$1.52 a week.

In the areas that have alleys, 300-gallon barrels are provided by the City to be shared by two to three households. Where alleys don't exist, each household is provided with a 90-gallon barrel on wheels. The residents push the barrels out for collection on their day of service.

The office receives phone calls every day concerning different aspects of collection services. Therefore, staff thought it might be helpful to provide some guidelines for the residents of Billings regarding garbage collection.

General Information

- Trash is collected from the public right-of-ways. Staff cannot come on to private property to remove items even with the permission of the homeowner.
- Because of the risk of injury, items weighing more than 75 pounds cannot be collected by the solid waste workers.
- City ordinance states that refuse resulting from contracted work, be it tree trimmings, hot water heaters or carpeting, is required to be disposed of by the contractor, not the City.
- The Solid Waste Division has held an annual Toxic Waste Roundup for the past 11 years, at which time residents are allowed to bring items from their homes to dispose of at no charge. The roundup is held the first Saturday following Memorial Day Week end. Oil-based paint, stains, batteries, pesticides, herbicides and other toxic materials

are collected at that time. Mark your calendars!

- Used oil and anti-freeze are accepted at both the landfill and the Solid Waste Division Office, 4848 Midland Road, for year-round recycling.
- The Solid Waste Division accepts old household refrigerators and freezers at the landfill for a \$10 charge. The charge is for the recovery of the Freon by certified persons in the Division, which is required by federal and state regulations.
- The landfill is available for Billings and Yellowstone county residents to use at no charge for loads brought in vehicles no larger than a ¾ ton pickup. There is a charge for commercial use of the landfill, for residents of other counties that the landfill serves and for residents of the City of Laurel. Hours are 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. seven days a week from March through November. It closes on Sunday from December through February.
- The Solid Waste Division observes the major holidays which include New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day. Your collection may be delayed by one day during those weeks. Watch for ads in the newspaper.
- Commercial containers should never be used by residential customers. They pay commercial rates for their service and this act would be considered a theft of services.

Alley Service

- Use the alley barrel for primarily household trash.

- Top the barrel off with yard waste or larger items the day before collection.
- Keep the alley clean from your property to the middle of the alley.
- Place items too large for the barrel on your side of the alley for alley cleaning.
- Extra is cleaned from the alleys approximately every third week.
- Only residential trash should be placed in residential barrels.
- Lawn services or tree trimming companies must haul their own refuse.
- Branches need to be prepared in four-foot lengths and bundled for pickup.
- Long items causing the lid to stand up can cause a mess when the barrel is emptied.
- To help prevent litter, we suggest you bag your trash.
- Residents should not move barrels from where the City has placed them or turn them.

Curb Service

- Collection service begins at 7 a.m. and barrels and any extra materials should be placed outside by that time.
- The barrel should be placed with the lid opening toward the street.
- Reasonable amounts of extra material will be collected on the same day as the barrel.
- Extra barrels should be no larger than 30 gallon and should have outside handles.
- Extra material should be placed at least three to four feet away from the 90 gallon barrel.
- Branches need to be prepared in four-foot lengths and bundled for pickup.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE (FOR THE NEXT FEW MONTHS)

Holiday Date of Observance

Labor Day

Monday, September 1
(Collection delayed one day)

Columbus Day

Monday, October 13
(Staff will be working)

Veteran's Day

Tuesday, November 11
(Staff will be working)

Thanksgiving Day

Thursday, November 27
(Collection delayed one day)

Christmas Day

Thursday, December 25
(Collection delayed one day)

- Overfilling the barrel can cause a mess when the truck empties it.
- Placing the barrel away from obstacles (mailboxes, vehicles, etc.) is required.
- The truck must be able to reach the barrel from the street.
- Barrels cannot be stored at the curb and should be removed after being emptied.
- To help prevent litter, we suggest you bag your trash.

Non-Emergency Crime Report Form Now Available

The Billings Police Department now offers a convenient, on-line, non-emergency, crime report form.

This form can be used to file police reports when there are no suspects, witnesses or evidence.

The form may be used to report thefts, criminal mischief, graffiti and gas drive offs. Users can simply go to the City website www.cibillings.mt.us and select "Online services," then "Online Forms," and then scroll to the Police section and select the Billings Police Online Non-Emergency Crime Reporting Form (CO#08-_____) document.

Remember, if your situation is in progress or you are having an emergency, do not use the form -- call 911.

Public Works Now Accepting Credit Card Payments

The Billings Department of Public Works is now accepting credit card payments by phone and online.

To pay your water and/or wastewater bill, please call (406) 657-8322 or visit the City's website at www.ci.billings.mt.us, click "Online Services", then "Online Payments."

Customers who have not created an account will need to register. Follow the instructions and call the above number if you have questions.

Registered customers will also be able to view consumption and payment information, billing history and amount due.

Seasonal BLM Tanker Base Operations at Airport

Have you ever wondered what all the extra activity and temporary buildings at the east end of the Airport are each summer?

Each year the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the City of Billings Logan International Airport work together on a seasonal firefighting operation. The BLM is a current year-round tenant at the Airport. Annually, the BLM conducts large-scale fire supply staging and tanker base operations at the Airport to mobilize regional firefighting services during the summer fire season. This seasonal operation includes the addition of temporary mobile structures, tents, aircraft, ground support equipment, and supplies to accommodate the rotation of firefighting personnel. The operation is set up on the east end of the Airport near the BLM's current leased area in the Airport Business Park.

The City Code regarding "Parking for Camping Purposes" prohibits parking for camping in anything other than an authorized campground, except for a 10-hour rest period in a parking lot in which the owner permits it. The Code also allows the City Council to temporarily suspend this regulation for a special event such as the BLM's expanded seasonal firefighting operation.

As a result, each year the City Council approves a temporary suspension of the City's RV and camper parking ordinance for the BLM's seasonal fire mobilization operation for July – October to allow this seasonal activity. The BLM has conducted this expanded operation at the Airport for many years and has coordinated closely with the Airport to continue to provide this vital component of the region's seasonal firefighting operations.

Fire Cache Statistics

- Operation set up to support 750 firefighters in 2007. In 2006, the operation supported 3,762 firefighters and in 2005, over 10,000 firefighters were supported.
- The cache supplies 2 – 13 semi-trailer loads of supplies.



Single Engine Air Tanker (SEAT) operated by BLM

- No Type 1 fires (i.e. the largest) were supported in 2007; three Type 2 fires and 9 Type 3 fires were supported, along with 27 initial attacks.
- 11,000 Personnel hours and 63,000 miles were logged in 2007.
- Carry a cache inventory valued at approximately \$2.7 Million.
- Responsible for 217,200 square mile area (approximately the size of Texas) that covers eastern Montana, ND, northern WY, and northwestern SD.
- When needed additional personnel can be mobilized in 2-3 days and additional materials/supplies can be restocked in a day.
- Annual budget approximately \$962,000. Estimated that this money circulates through the local economy

2.5 times providing a \$2.4 Million benefit to the local economy.

** Information provided by BLM Fire Cache Operation.*

Tanker Base Statistics

- In 2007, 233,390 gallons of retardant were used in 206 missions by 21 aircraft.
- By comparison, in 2006, 1,231,425 gallons of retardant was used in approximately 600+ missions by approximately 40-plus aircraft.

** Information provided by BLM Tanker Base Operation.*

AUTO LOANS

Rates as low as **4.00% APR***

No Application Fee • Fast Approvals

Contact an auto loan expert today!

*Rate accurate as of publication date and subject to credit approval. APR may vary. Maximum APR is 18%. Other fees may apply. Limited time offer.

**BILLINGS FEDERAL
CREDIT UNION**
Expect a difference.

248-1127
www.billingsfcu.org

**760 Wicks Lane • 2522 4th Ave. N
32nd & King Ave. W**



KING AVE W Roundabout



How to **Safely Navigate** a Roundabout

Choose Appropriate Lane Before Entering

When approaching the roundabout, look to signs and striping to choose the appropriate lane.

Yield to Circulating Traffic

Enter the roundabout when there is a safe gap in traffic.

Yield to pedestrians in the crosswalk at the entrance and exit.

Stay in Your Lane

After entering the roundabout, stay in your lane.

From the outer lane, you can make a right turn or proceed through the roundabout.

Through, left and U-turns are all permissible in the innermost lane of the roundabout.

Emergency Vehicles

Always yield to emergency vehicles. Pull over to the right allowing emergency vehicles to pass before entering the roundabout. If already in the roundabout, continue to your exit, then pull over to the right lane to allow emergency vehicles to pass.

NEVER STOP IN THE ROUNDABOUT.

