

ELK RIDGE BUGLE

MARCH 2010



MEETINGS

City Council

Mar. 9 & 23, 6 pm

No Planning Commission meeting in March

CONTACT INFORMATION

City Office

80 East Park Dr.
Elk Ridge, UT 84651

Phone

801.423.2300

FAX

801.423.1441

Email

staff@elkridgecity.org

Office Hours

9 am to 3 pm | M-F
(closed 2 pm on Thursdays)

STAFF

Building Official

Corbett Stephens

Planner

Shawn Eliot

Recorder

Jan Davis

Treasurer

Linda Cooper

Deputy Recorder

Janine Nilsson

Clerk

Annebel Meredith

Fire Chief

Seth Waite

Planning Comm. Coordinator

Marissa Bassir

Public Works

Wayne Frandsen

THANK YOU

We are very grateful and appreciate all of the volunteers and donations that continue to come to the city. The citizens are *Catching the Spirit of Elk Ridge* in a big way. It is so rewarding to see so many people working together for a common goal and the good of the city. Even the *Daily Herald* was impressed and ran an article in the February 24th edition in the Our Towns section (<http://www.heraldextra.com/news/local/south/elk-ridge>). Thank you so much for your contributions.

See THANK YOU on Page 2

CATCH THE SPIRIT OF ELK RIDGE

It has been so much fun working with the citizens that have helped give the city office a facelift. So much work has been done to make this happen—the council room ceiling, walls, and floor have been resurfaced; lobby walls patched and painted; tile laid in the council room and lobby; fine art displayed in the lobby; and the storage room constructed. The carpet, art, many materials, and most of the labor were donated. Thanks so much to all of those who contributed. We are also especially grateful for the cash donations we are receiving with the water bills; each one goes toward the necessary project purchases.

See SPIRIT on Page 2

Automatic Withdrawal for Water Bill Available

If you would like to have the city withdraw your monthly payment for water, garbage, and sewer directly from your bank account, please call the city office for details.

Sign Up for Notices of Meetings and Other Events

If you would like to be notified by email when there are meeting notices, newsletters, calendar items, or events, you can sign up on the city website at www.elkridgecity.org near the bottom of the main page.

THANK YOU

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You will be pleased to know that the initial phase of the facelift (lobby, council room, and storage room) is nearly complete. Please stop by and see the transformation. Most of the expense associated with this project was donated; only a fraction of it was purchased. We did pay a discounted rate for hanging some of the drywall, laying the carpet, and some of the materials. The building official, city planner, and most of the council members joined together to lay the lobby floor tile the evening of February 19. They did a great job! We are confident that you will be pleased with the project results.

Enclosed with this *Bugle*, you should find an updated flyer listing the progress on current projects and some additional ones. We encourage everyone to continue to lead out by example, join with us, and *Catch the Spirit of Elk Ridge*.

Ken Lutes, Mayor

Elk Ridge Fire and Rescue

With spring coming on and Easter right around the corner, we are proud to announce the second annual Elk Ridge Fire and Rescue **Easter Egg Hunt**. This event will be held Friday, April 2, 2010 at 6:30 pm at the City Park. Everyone is invited, and it will end when all the Easter eggs are found. There will be age group areas and all ages can participate.

This event is one of a couple of fund raising activities that the Fire Department is planning this year, and all funds are being used to help with equipment and training for our EMTs and Fire Fighters. Donations are welcome and, if made prior to the event, will be announced that evening. Donations can be dropped off at the city office and just need to be addressed to the Fire Department. Bring your families and come support this fun event and the emergency services for our great city. Watch for more information, reminders, posters, and flyers over the next several weeks.

With summer quickly approaching and the spring open burn, please remember that a permit is required to burn in Elk Ridge City. The open burn will be announced and permits made available at the city office or through the Fire Department. Please help us have another safe year with compliance to the guidelines for the open burn and any open fires in our city.

Seth Waite, Fire Chief, ERFD

SPIRIT

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We are thankful for the positive attitude and excitement these volunteers (nearly 40) have shown as they give of their time and resources. Volunteering has a positive impact on our community and makes a big difference. Every day we have been contacted by someone else who wants to join in and help improve our city.

The citizens of Elk Ridge are the greatest asset we have, and it is a pleasure working with those who care so much about their community. You are definitely *Catching the Spirit of Elk Ridge*. Thank You!

The influence of a beautiful character is contagious, and may revolutionize a whole town.

—Collier Graham

Erin Clawson, Council Member



Robin Clawson



Jamie Towse



Left to right: Weston Youd, Shawn Eliot



Left to right: Corbett Stephens, A.J. and Marielen Christensen, Jack Waterman, Erin Clawson

Plan Now for 2010 Utah County Fair

Spring is coming along with the opportunity to start new projects and plant new gardens. Now is the time to plan on participating in the 2010 Utah County Fair! This year's fair will be held August 18 through 21 at the Spanish Fork Fairgrounds.

Caucus Meetings

Utah political parties will hold precinct caucuses on March 23rd. See your political leaders for details.

Mailbox

The mailbox near the city office was damaged. The Post Office is in the process of replacing it. We are sorry for the inconvenience this has caused.

Office Hours

In order to better serve the citizens with minimal staff, the office will be open from 9 am to 3 pm each non-holiday weekday, except Thursday, when the office will close at 2 pm for staff meetings.

CODES AND ORDINANCES GOVERNING OUR CITY

On our new city website there are summaries of portions of the city code that we get the most questions about. You can find these summaries on the main page of the website at www.elkridgecity.org. If you have a question about codes, please call the city. In this issue of the city newsletter, we are highlighting our fencing code.

What Do the Fence Regulations Mean to You?

The fence code regulations are meant to regulate the height of fencing so as to 1) not have excessive fence heights in neighborhoods, 2) preserve a visual line of sight (for safety) for vehicles on streets, approaching intersections, or backing out of driveways, and 3) to keep the street side of neighborhoods open and inviting.

How High Can I Build a Fence in My Backyard?

You can build a fence up to 8 feet tall anywhere behind a line drawn perpendicular from each front side corner of your home to the side property line.

How about My Front Yard?

A fence can only be up to 3 feet tall in the front yard between a home and the sidewalk or street.

Are There Different Rules for a Corner Lot?

Yes. The front yard of a corner lot has the same rules as any lot, but the side yard facing a street has different rules. You can have a fence 8 feet tall behind a line drawn perpendicular from each front corner of your home to the side street. The fence can extend to the road right of way, which is generally 9 feet behind a curb (if on a main road, 10 feet). If you do not have a curb or you are unsure where to place your fence, please call the city.

What if My Backyard Abuts a Street?

Follow the same rules as a corner lot side yard.

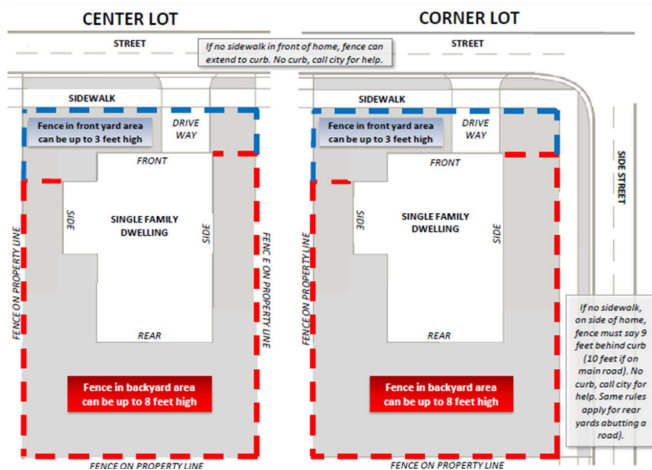
What Types of Materials Can I Use to Build a Fence?

The design and construction of fencing should be consistent with the nature, type, and aesthetics of other such improvements within the surrounding area. Retaining walls and hedges grouped together to create a wall are considered fences and must comply to the height rules above.

So What Are All the Rules?

You can view the complete city code at the city office or go to the city website at www.elkridgecity.org and look under Quick Links and City Code: City Code 10-12-13 Fencing, Walls, and Hedges Regulations.

Shawn Eliot, City Planner



Left to right: Wayne Frandsen, Corbett Stephens

Nuisance Code Update

In October 2009, the city council passed a new nuisance code that clarified the nuisance process and more specifically defined nuisances. In applying the new code, it was evident that there were some concerns about it. Portions of the code needed clarifying. In December, the city council held a public meeting to discuss the issues. After hearing citizen concerns, the city council has made three adjustments to the code:

Parking or Storage—Trailers, Boats, Recreational Vehicles: The council decision is that parking or storage of multiple trailers, boats, all terrain vehicles, or recreational vehicles between the front or side of a residence and a street is prohibited. The council compromised to allow storage of 1 such item in the front or side yard adjacent to a street, provided that the item is stored on an area improved for parking (gravel, asphalt, or cement). They clarified that storing these vehicles within the street public right-of-way is prohibited (9 feet behind a curb or up to 20 feet behind the road asphalt in areas without curb). They also clarified that generally up to 2 weeks is allowed to load/unload, clean, or repair these vehicles in the front or side yard area between a home and a street. The council still encourages you to store such items to the side of your home when you can.

Parking or Storage—Distressed Vehicles: The council decision is that parking or storing distressed vehicles (inoperative, unregistered, abandoned, wrecked or dismantled vehicles, or vehicle parts) outside of an enclosed structure or fenced area, on a street, on a vacant lot or parcel, or in view from a street is not allowed. These items need to be stored behind a screened fence or in a structure. If you desire to store these items on vacant land, you can create a fenced area or build a shed (requires a conditional use permit) to enclose such items.

Storage of Materials—General: This change was in regard to the storing of piles of dirt, sand, gravel, concrete, or other similar materials on a lot, on a street, or on a vacant lot or parcel. You can only store these items for up to 1 week.

We hope that these changes demonstrate that we listened to all sides of the issues and tried to be fair. Please understand that the reason the city council approved this code is largely in response to citizens requesting that we enforce the nuisance code. Our goal as a community is that we look around and take notice of what we can do to make our city safe, beautiful, and orderly.

Shawn Eliot, City Planner

Scouting for Food Drive

On the morning of Saturday, March 27, the scouts will collect non-perishable food items in their neighborhoods. Leave your food out on your doorstep before 8 am, and they will pick it up. All donations will go to the Community Action Food Bank in Provo.



Derrek and Sandy Johnson

Emergency Operations Center

This month's message has to do with the Constitution of the United States and how we can support this great, God-inspired document from becoming obsolete. This is very important and is a vital part of your preparedness.



Please call me at 801.465.8137 to find out what you can do.

Spence Sheets, Elk Ridge City Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management Director

Immunizations

The Utah County Health Department offers immunizations at 151 S. University Ave, Provo and in the Payson City Center, 439 West Utah Ave, which is open afternoon/evening hours by appointment only.

Please call 801.851.7025, or visit www.UtahCountyHealth.org/immunizations.