

# OLD TOWN NEWS

CITY EVENTS, CITY COUNCIL, DEPARTMENTS, COMMITTEES,  
& MUNICIPAL CODE INFORMATION

Spring 2024  
VOLUME 47, ISSUE 1

UNION GAP  
1883



Por favor llame 248-0432 para obtener información en español



**SUNDAY APRIL 28**  
**10AM - 3PM**



1948 GMC

1972 Rally Nova

## CENTRAL WASHINGTON AG MUSEUM IN UNION GAP, WA ONE OF THE REGIONS LARGEST OUTDOOR SPRING CAR SHOWS!

**ALL CARS, TRUCKS,  
MOTORCYCLES AND  
MORE...  
ARE WELCOME  
TO ENTER!**

**PRE-REGISTRATION - \$20**  
**REGISTER BY APRIL 14, 2024**

The first 200 registrations  
receive a goodie bag and a  
dash plaque!

**AFTER APRIL 14 - \$30**

Registration forms available at  
[centralwaagmuseum.org](http://centralwaagmuseum.org)  
under the "events" tab.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

Call: (509) 457-8735

or Email us at:

[info@centralwaagmuseum.org](mailto:info@centralwaagmuseum.org)

### FREE ADMISSION

Free Admission for Spectators

### PRIZES

- DOOR PRIZES
- TROPHIES
- 50/50 DRAWING
- THEME BASKET DRAWINGS

### FOOD VENDORS

Delicious Food Available On-site

### FREE MUSEUM

#### MUSEUM EXHIBITS OPEN

Tractors, Farm Yard Equipment,  
Northern Pacific Railroad Boxcar,  
Magness Tool Collection,  
Letterpress Museum,  
Keys 1908 Homestead,  
Amos Cabin, and more!

- FAMILY ACTIVITIES
- DEMONSTRATIONS
- FREE AUDIO TOUR

**Book Your Room at a Union Gap Hotel!**



509.248.9700



509.902.8000



509.248.8880



[visituniongap.com](http://visituniongap.com)



# UNION GAP LIBRARY & COMMUNITY CENTER

Exciting News: The Union Gap Library & Community Center Project is nearing completion. One of the things the city is waiting on is a back-ordered electrical panel. Please stay tuned for an announcement on the grand opening date.



## CENTRAL WASHINGTON AGRICULTURAL MUSEUM

The Central Washington Agricultural Museum is already hard at work planning **Old Town Days**. This highly anticipated annual event will take place on June 16 and 17 of this year.

The 2024 event will include all the fun things you know and love, including a pancake feed, Civil War reenactment, historical guest speakers, and live exhibit demonstrations.

An event of this magnitude takes a lot of planning, and we are looking for community volunteers to help make this event the best that it can be. We have something for everyone no matter what your interest. From educating visitors about cabins and homesteads to demonstrating our apple packing line, we have something fun for you to do.

We have a full calendar of fun events before **Old Town Days** (including field trips!) and we are always in need of volunteers for those events as well. Our Season Opening event is happening on Saturday, April 6th and we are looking for groups and individuals that would like to help us get the grounds ready for the big day. If you would like to be part of a clean-up team or volunteer for a field trip or event, please email: [cwam.ed.coordinator@gmail.com](mailto:cwam.ed.coordinator@gmail.com) for more information.

Make sure you like and watch our Facebook page for planning meetings and event announcements.



## Baroness Wars

A MEDIEVAL FAIR & ARCHERY EVENT  
FULLBRIGHT PARK ♦ UNION GAP, WA  
APRIL 19-21, 2024



## Job Alerts:

The City of Union Gap will be hiring in the coming months. Please check our website for more information.

## Get Involved:

The City of Union has an opening for the Planning Commission and several openings on our Park Board. Please visit our city website for an application.

## Food Bank:

Remember to support our local Catholic Charities/St. Vincent Center Food Bank. They accept donations year-round.





# Union Gap Police Department



**PLEASE HELP US WELCOME** Officer Beneza Nunez and Dylan Eagy to our Department. **THEY ARE EXCITED TO START SERVING THE CITIZENS OF UNION GAP.**



**CONGRATULATIONS TO** Paul Sanders. Detective Sanders was promoted to Sergeant.



Let's **CONGRATULATE** Sergeant Hector Rivera on his retirement, after 29 years in law enforcement, 26 of those years were spent with the City of Union Gap.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Spring Blooms in the Yakima Valley** – March & April
- Central WA Ag Museum Annual Season Opening** – April 6
- Yakima River Canyon Marathon & Half** – April 6
- Baroness Wars Medieval & Archery Fair** – April 19-21
- Dozer Days - Where Kids Drive!** – April 20-21
- Old Steel Car Show** – April 28
- Spring Barrel Tasting** – Book Your Room Now For Late April
- Master Gardener Plant Sale** – May 3-5
- Mother's Day Market at Spring Creek Homestead** – May 11
- Asparagus Mania** – late April-June
- 44th Annual Clear Lake Memorial Run** – June 9
- Father's Day 3.2K at the Central WA AG Museum** – June 15
- Old Town Days & Civil War Reenactment** – June 15-16
- Hard Core Runners Grey Rock Trail Run** – July 13
- Mini Take the State 2024** – July 21
- Public Skate Sessions** (on-going) at Skateland in Union Gap
- Escape Room Adventures** (on-going)  
Escape The Maddness in Union Gap
- Vintage Loop Shopping** at Gap Treasures, Granny's Attic, Farmgirl Pickings, and That 70's Shoppe



## IS YOUR DOG LICENSED?

Section 6.04.110 of the Union Gap Municipal Code states the following:

All dogs three (3) months of age or older are required to be licensed under this chapter.

- Tags.** The police department shall issue animal licenses consisting of a metal tag with a number corresponding to the number of the application to the applicant. The applicant is required to cause the tag to be attached or fixed to the animal. The tag is not transferable. The absence of the license tag on a dog's collar shall be prima facie evidence that said dog has not been legally licensed.
- Fees.** The following fees shall be paid for licenses required under this chapter:
  - Spayed or neutered dogs that have current vaccinations and with a veterinarian's certificate: ten dollars (\$10.00) annually.
  - Un-spayed, unneutered, or unvaccinated dogs, or dogs not current on vaccinations: thirty dollars (\$30.00) annually.
  - Licenses shall be valid from January 1st to the following December 31st. For other than first time owners of a specific dog, licenses purchased after April 30th of any year shall be subject to an additional fee of fifteen dollars (\$15.00) for each license.

A complete copy of the municipal code can be accessed on the city website @ [www.uniongapwa.gov](http://www.uniongapwa.gov).

For further information contact the Union Gap Police Department @ **509-248-0430**

# WORK ZONE SAFETY

A reminder to all...anytime you are on the roadway as a driver, a passenger OR you are performing construction in a work zone – everyone must be attentive and not distracted. Work crews AND the driving public are all at risk in construction work zones. Remember, individuals on the road are spouses, parents, children, siblings, friends, **human beings** – and everyone deserves to **ARRIVE ALIVE** at their destination.

## We ask all drivers in work zones to:

- Slow down – drive the posted speeds, they are there for your safety.
- Be kind – our workers are out there helping to keep you safe and improve the roadways.
- Pay attention – both to workers directing you and surrounding traffic; put your phone down when behind the wheel.
- Stay calm – expect delays, leave early or take an alternate route if possible; no meeting or appointment is worth risking someone's life.



## WORK ZONE SAFETY FACTS

### TOP 3 REASONS

for work zone collisions:

FOLLOWING TOO CLOSE,  
EXCESSIVE SPEED, &  
DISTRACTED DRIVING



### WASHINGTON AVERAGES

**478**  
roadway work zone  
injuries each year



### 2X THE FINE!

Traffic fines are double  
in work zones



### 95%

of people hurt  
in work zone  
collisions are...

...MOTORISTS  
their  
PASSENGERS  
or passing  
PEDESTRIANS



### Nationally, there's a work zone crash... EVERY 5.4 MINUTES



[wsdot.wa.gov/about/events-programs/give-em-brake](https://wsdot.wa.gov/about/events-programs/give-em-brake)

Each year about 670 people are killed nationally in roadway work zones.  
In 2022, Washington had six fatal work zone crashes on state roads.

## FREE "Spring Clean-Up" - CITY OF UNION GAP

On Saturday, May 11 2024, from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm, the City of Union Gap and Basin Disposal will be sponsoring the Annual "Spring Clean-Up" program. There will be **four (4) disposal sites**, set-up throughout the City, for residents to dispose of their yard waste.

The site locations are as follows:

- Fire Station parking lot @ 107 West Ahtanum Road
- Ray's Wholesale Meats parking lot @ 2112 South 3rd Avenue
- Cahalan Park parking lot @ 2100 South 18th Street
- Loudon Park parking area @ 3607 4th Street

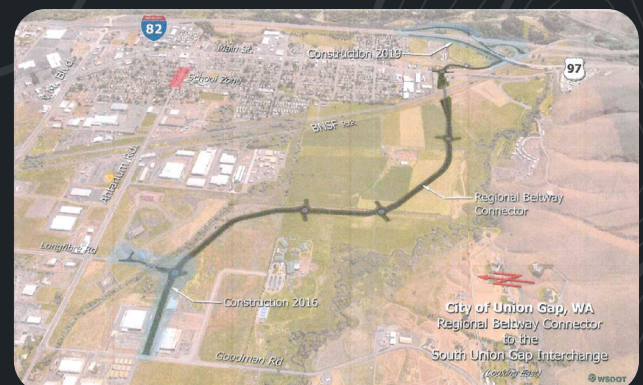
This **FREE** service is for Union Gap residents only. The disposal sites are for **yard waste only**; if your waste is bagged, you will be asked to remove the bags prior to dumping into the disposal containers. The City is unable to assist in bagging yard waste. However, we would like to encourage disabled residents and senior citizens to contact us for assistance in **hauling** your bagged yard waste to the disposal sites.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact:

**Public Works & Community Development Administration Office**  
**(509) 225-3524**

## REGIONAL BELTWAY PROJECT

The Regional Beltway Project is moving into its final phase.  
For more information about the project go to  
**[uniongapwa.gov](https://uniongapwa.gov)**





# LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY PLAN

The city now has a "translate" tool on the website for individuals with limited English proficiency. Go to the city website @ [www.uniongapwa.gov](http://www.uniongapwa.gov). Click on the orange "translate" button in the upper right-hand corner of the home page. It will give you the option to click on an American or Spanish flag. When you press the Spanish flag, the text on our website will turn to Spanish.

Last fall, the city council approved a Language Access Plan to address how city staff will respond to requests made by individuals with limited English proficiency. The city acknowledges the need to provide our limited English-speaking residents with access to vital records and programs and we are in the process of translating our vital documents.



[uniongapwa.gov](http://uniongapwa.gov)



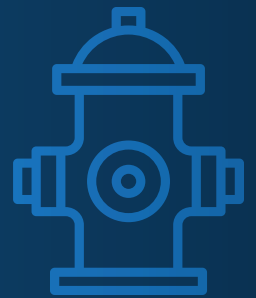
## Spring is on the Way...

While preparing your yard for the spring & summer seasons, please be mindful of the following. While fertilizers and sprays promote healthy plants and beautiful yards they are also full of chemicals that are not only harmful to yourself; but also to the Storm Water Quality Management Program (SWQMP). Stormwater drains should be kept clear of lawn clippings, leaves and garbage to help keep them clear and limiting the chances of flooding in your yards and/or home.

Stormwater drains are not processed like a sewer system – drain flows directly into our riverbeds and local streams without a sanitization process. By limiting the amount of fertilizer used, you can contribute to a safer environment for all. A great alternative to fertilizer is lawn mulch - one lawn mulching session is equivalent to one treatment of store bought fertilizer. With your help we can work together to create a healthier environment. Remember, we are the solution to stormwater pollution!

## CITY OF UNION GAP HYDRANT FLUSHING PROGRAM - 2024

During the warmer months, the City will be conducting our annual hydrant flushing program. The program includes flushing a low dose of chlorine into the system and systematically flushing the lines to remove/clean the water lines. We will let you know when the dates have been determined - please check out the next newsletter for more information.

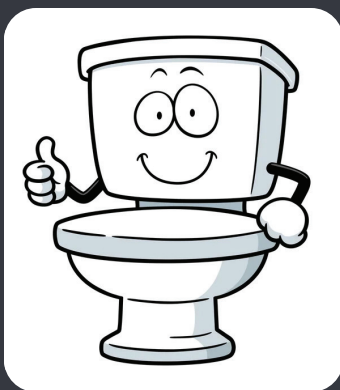


## CAREFUL WHAT YOU FLUSH!

Your wastewater discharge is collected in a lift station; the lift station is then pumped to a transfer facility. We have experienced plugged lines in some areas – please help us avoid unnecessary wastewater discharge issues.

Possibly the biggest "no-no" to pour down the drains would be **used motor oil**. It is actually illegal in most municipalities, because of how much environmental damage it does and how easily it can contaminate an area's soil and water table. If you change your own oil in your car, **NEVER** pour used motor oil down a drain in your house, garage, sewer, storm drain in the street, manhole on a sidewalk, alley, street or on the ground. The basic rule for pouring motor oil is that it cannot be poured into anything at all. Please check with a local retailer that sells oil products on ways to recycle.

**The only things you should ever flush down the toilet are: toilet paper and bodily waste.** Items marketed as "disposable" are to be disposed of in the garbage can with the rest of your solid waste. Please do not flush any disposable items; this includes disposable mop pads, mop heads, diapers, facial wipes, etc. If you have any questions, please call Public Works & Community Development Department at 509.225.3524.



## WHO TO CALL FOR ASSISTANCE?

**EMERGENCY - 24 HOURS A DAY / 7 DAYS A WEEK:** All life threatening emergencies - dial 911

**AFTER NORMAL BUSINESS HOURS, WEEK-ENDS AND HOLIDAYS:** All non-life threatening emergencies (i.e. water line breaks / sewer back-ups) - dial 509.248.0430\*

**DURING NORMAL BUSINESS HOURS:** All issues that can wait until normal business hours - dial the appropriate number listed on the back of this newsletter.

\*After normal business hours, week-ends, and holidays the Police Department transfers their business line to SUNCOMM Communications - the 911 call center for Yakima County and dispatch for the Union Gap and Yakima Police Departments. If you do not get an answer right away, there is a good chance 911 is handling calls on their emergency lines and are unable to get to the non-emergency lines as quickly as normal.

CITY OF UNION GAP  
102 W. AHTANUM ROAD  
P.O. BOX 3008  
UNION GAP, WA  
98903-0008

PRSR STD  
US POSTAGE PAID  
YAKIMA, WA  
PERMIT #100

Postal Customer—ECRWSS

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### WEBSITES

Published on a quarterly basis to  
keep citizens informed

City Business: [uniongapwa.gov](http://uniongapwa.gov)  
Union Gap Tourism: [visituniongap.com](http://visituniongap.com)  
Xpress Bill Pay: [xpressbillpay.com](http://xpressbillpay.com)

### PHONE DIRECTORY

#### 102 W. AHTANUM ROAD

City Hall	(509) 248-0432
Fire	(509) 575-6060
Park Reservations	(509) 248-0432
Treasurer / Clerk	(509) 248-0432
Utility Billing	(509) 248-0434
Newsletter	(509) 248-9202

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Building / Planning	(509) 575-3638
Code Enforcement	(509) 248-0430
Public Works	(509) 225-3524

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Police	(509) 248-0430
Crime Prevention	(509) 457-5927
Animal Control	(509) 248-0430

#### 1000 AHTANUM ROAD

Senior Citizen Center	(509) 248-2668
Activities/Barn Rentals	(509) 248-0432

#### TOURISM & TRANSIT

Tourism Promoter	(509) 575-8770
Union Gap Transit	(509) 574-8000
UG Transit TTY	(509) 574-8000

### MAYOR & COUNCIL

#### COUNCIL MEMBERS

Position #1

**John Hodkinson** ~ (509) 424-0993

Position #2

**Greg Sewell** ~ (509) 952-9733

Position #3

**Roger Wentz** ~ (509) 930-7023

Position #4

**Jack Galloway** ~ (509) 452-2966

Position #5

**Maira Gonzalez** ~ (509) 248-0432

Position #6

**Julie Schilling** ~ (509) 453-2446 Ext. 3

Position #7

**Sandy Dailey** ~ (509) 248-6351

#### MAYOR & DEPUTY MAYOR

Mayor

**John Hodkinson** ~ (509) 424-0993

Deputy Mayor

**Roger Wentz** ~ (509) 930-7023

### CITY STAFF

*City Manager*

**Sharon Bounds**  
(509) 494-6562

*Director of Public Works &  
Community Development*

**Dennis Henne**  
(509) 225-3524

*Director of Finance &  
Administration*

**Karen Clifton**  
(509) 248-0432

*Police Chief*

**Greg Cobb**  
(509) 248-0430

*City Attorney*

**Jessica Foltz**