



Winter, 2020

# GRANITE FALLS WASHINGTON

## GATEWAY TO THE MOUNTAIN LOOP

### PROTECT YOUR PLUMBING AND OUR SEWER SYSTEM

As we enter the new year, don't forget to keep your drains clear of clogs to ensure your sewer lines are working properly. Fats, oils, and grease are just a few of the things that can result in costly repairs to your plumbing, as well as the City's sewer system.

Here's a handy guide on what to avoid putting down the drain:



If you compost, then you already know the value of producing rich, dark garden soil from your food scraps.

### NEW CIVIC CENTER IN ACTION

The 2019 Community Holiday Tree Lighting included a Craft Festival in the new Civic Center. Also in December, the City Council approved a Facility Use Policy for the building. For more information, you can contact our Facilities Use Scheduler at 360-691-6441, extension 1011.



Photos courtesy of Jennifer Whited

### PUBLIC WORKS—NEWS AND UPDATES

#### Projects

The City completed the Frank Mason parking lot project. The project included paving, striping for parking stalls, landscaping and an entrance gate. One of the parking stalls is ADA compliant, with a loading zone. It was funded in part by Snohomish County.

The 2019 sidewalk improvement project is also complete. Additional parking was created along the 100 block of Cascade Avenue, and the 100 block of South Alder Avenue. Pedestrian safety was improved at the Alder Avenue/Stanley Street intersection, and connected sidewalk sections along West Stanley Street. These improvements in particular, were designed to improve safety for youth from the Granite Falls Middle School, Crossroads High School, and the Boys and Girls Club. We thank the Washington State Transportation Improvement Board for their portion of the funding.

At our Wastewater Treatment Plant, Award Construction finished the effluent piping project. This project replaced undersized piping on the discharge line, which improves hydraulic flows and eliminates potential system issues associated with high flows during the wet weather season.

#### Water

Beginning this month, your water meter will be read on a monthly basis. Please visit our homepage at [www.GraniteFallsWA.gov](http://www.GraniteFallsWA.gov) for more information.

## EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT ON DARIN JACKSON

At the local schools, the kids call him “the water guy.” Granite Falls City employee Darin Jackson is a familiar face at the schools and businesses in town, as he ensures safe drinking water.

But that’s only one of his tasks, according to Operations Supervisor Charles White.

*Darin like many City employees wears multiple hats when it comes to responsibilities. He started with the City of Granite Falls painting crosswalks, reading water meters, mowing parks, and making repairs to the water system. He later transitioned to the City's Wastewater Treatment Plant to fill the role of a Maintenance Worker II, performing and assisting in the day to day operations. Today you can find him delivering compost to homes throughout the City, locating the City's infrastructure, and collecting water samples.*

Darin loves living on his 11 acre spread on Robe Menzel with his girlfriend Laura Pound and their pets. Along with grown son Zach and 2 grandkids (Leyna, 8 and Wesley, 5) they ride the family’s resident horses when they’re not snowmobiling or riding ATVs.

Darin graduated from Kennewick High School in 1986 and moved to this area to work as a labor union foreman on high rise buildings and bridges in Seattle. He prefers working for the City of Granite Falls, and loves working and playing outdoors in nature.

He believes in giving back, and embraces the community spirit our town is known for. Recently, he organized a volunteer party of other employees to surprise City Clerk Darla Reese at home. The group power-washed her house, removed roof moss, washed windows, and mowed the lawn.

White adds, *Darin’s dedication and flexibility to the City over the last 17 years paints a vivid picture of a valued employee who takes pride in calling Granite Falls home.*



# got compost?

Need compost? We deliver! The City of Granite Falls waste treatment plant generates rich compost that your lawn, plants, trees, and shrubs will love. We are happy to deliver a load to you at no charge, within a 10-mile radius of the City.

Call Lyle or Darin at 360-691-7432 to make arrangements.



## CONTACT US

Granite Falls City Hall  
215 S. Granite Avenue  
PO Box 1440  
Granite Falls, WA 98252



***Stop by to register to vote, pick up community information, a map of Granite Falls, pay your water bill, or just say hello!***

360-691-6441 telephone  
360-691-6734 fax

- Open 8:30am—5:00pm Mondays—Thursdays
- Open 8:30am—noon Fridays
- Closed on legal holidays

**Visit our website**

**[www.GraniteFallsWA.gov](http://www.GraniteFallsWA.gov)**

## GRANITE FALLS CITY COUNCIL

The City Council meets the first and third Wednesdays of each month at 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers at City Hall. City Council work sessions are the second Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm.

- Mayor Matt Hartman *term expires 2024*
- Councilmember Tom FitzGerald *term expires 2021*
- Councilmember Steven Glenn *term expires 2021*
- Councilmember Erin Hogan *term expires 2024*
- Councilmember Bruce Straughn *term expires 2021*

## GRANITE FALLS PLANNING COMMISSION

The Planning Commission meets the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

Seat 1 – Julie Cory-Wyman  
Seat 2 – Ronald Stephenson  
Seat 3 – Frederick Cruger (Chair)  
Seat 4 – Removed by Ordinance  
Seat 5 – Monica Hoersting  
Seat 6 – Scott Morrison

• **For after hours water or sewer emergencies call Public Works at 425-583-1781 or call 9-1-1**

• **For police or fire emergencies call 9-1-1**