



Fall, 2021

GRANITE FALLS WASHINGTON

GATEWAY TO THE MOUNTAIN LOOP

VOTE FOR LOCAL CANDIDATES NOVEMBER 2

Democracy begins at the local level, and this year's election spotlights candidates vying for three City Council seats and three seats on the Granite Falls School Board. Below is from the sample ballot issued by Snohomish County:

City/Town Nonpartisan Office City of Granite Falls Council Position 1 Regular 4 year term - Vote for 1 <input type="radio"/> Steven A. Glenn <input type="radio"/> Deanna Jones <input type="radio"/> Write-In	Granite Falls School District No. 332 Director District 1 Regular 4 year term - Vote for 1 <input type="radio"/> Thomas Cahill Giblin, Jr. <input type="radio"/> Jennifer Adams <input type="radio"/> Write-In
City of Granite Falls Council Position 2 Regular 4 year term - Vote for 1 <input type="radio"/> David Griggs <input type="radio"/> Scott Morrison <input type="radio"/> Write-In	Granite Falls School District No. 332 Director District 3 Regular 4 year term - Vote for 1 <input type="radio"/> Karley Kincaid <input type="radio"/> Jeff Balentine <input type="radio"/> Write-In
City of Granite Falls Council Position 3 Regular 4 year term - Vote for 1 <input type="radio"/> Tom Fitzgerald <input type="radio"/> Write-In	Granite Falls School District No. 332 Director District 5 Regular 4 year term - Vote for 1 <input type="radio"/> Carl G. Cary <input type="radio"/> Heidi M. Johnson-Sandall <input type="radio"/> Write-In

It's easy for citizens to make their voices heard with mail-in ballots. Snohomish County mailed pamphlets and ballots in mid-October, and no postage is needed to return your ballot. Are you running late? A ballot box drop-off is at the Granite Falls Public Library, 815 E. Galena Street.

WATER BILL MORATORIUM ENDS

PAST DUE

The recent end to the Governor's moratorium on water bills means past due accounts will begin accruing late charges. Families in serious arrears should contact City Hall as soon as possible to discuss options. Limited assistance is available.



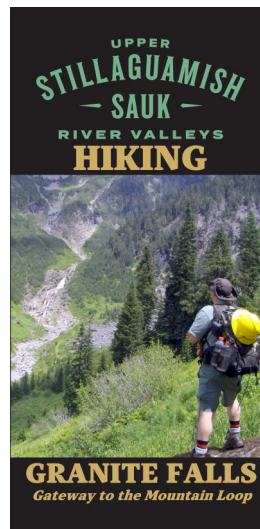
GRANITE FALLS 20 YEARS FROM NOW

The Granite Falls City Council and Planning Commission is starting their periodic review and update of the 20 Year Comprehensive Plan for controlled and sustainable city growth. The City completed the current plan in 2015 after three years of public workshops and meetings with citizens and elected officials. The Plan covers natural resources, land use, housing, capital facilities and utilities, transportation, economic development, and recreation.

The Plan is available to review online at the City's website by clicking on the Documents tab, then Planning and Development. In addition, citizens are encouraged to submit written comments to City Hall. The City Council also plans to hold public hearings before an updated 2025 plan is approved.

www.GraniteFallsWA.gov

LOOKING FOR YOUR GREAT PHOTOS!

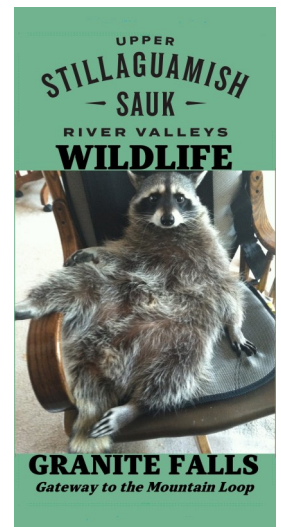


The City applied for a special grant from the County Lodging Tax Advisory Committee to pay for the printing and installation of new banners. The City invites you to submit your colorful high-resolution action photos in one or more of the following categories:

Granite Falls—Eating, Shopping, Living, Playing, Learning
Surrounding Area—Hiking, Fishing, Camping, Glamping, Driving, Exploring, Remembering (History)

The banners shown are samples. If the City is awarded the grant and chooses your photo, you receive bragging rights! Submissions should be emailed to Granite Falls Planning Committee Chair Fred Cruger at abbot1912@aol.com by November 15, 2021. Please make sure you have permission from any people shown in your photo.

The Planning Committee designed the new banners to fit the existing frames seen on light posts around town.



HOW YOUR WASTEWATER IS TREATED IN GRANITE FALLS

Thanks to modern indoor plumbing, most of us don't think about what happens beyond the flush. But private matters multiplied by over fifteen hundred homes in the City become more than a sanitation issue if left untreated. Local rivers, lakes, wildlife, and humans all benefit from clean, treated water. The Granite Falls Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) crew works diligently to make that happen.

Raw sewage and other wastewater go through ten steps before a remaining stream of clean water is released back into the rivers. Then, the WWTP turns the solid waste byproduct is turned into rich compost, which the City offers free to anyone. The plant crew will even deliver free of charge within 10 miles.

The WWTP conducts tests on solid and liquid wastes daily, weekly, monthly and annually to include holidays and weekends. Because our WWTP staff strictly follows each step, there is rarely a need to make adjustments based on test results.

How can you help? NEVER put fats, oils, grease or leftover food down your drain. The only things you should flush down your toilet are human waste and toilet paper. Even the so-called 'flushable' products can clog and damage your plumbing in addition to the City's sewer system.

In 1981 the City designed the current plant for future city growth. Forty years later, the plant is reaching capacity, and last year the City Council placed a moratorium on new construction in city limits. Another issue is the lack of parts for (example) the forty-year-old lift station at the facility. As a result, the City must build a modern, updated wastewater treatment plant in the coming years. The Granite Falls City Council has approved special grant funds to pay for the redesign.



Plenty of free compost is available year-round at the Granite Falls Wastewater Treatment Plant. Call Lyle or Darrin at 360-691-7432.

NEED A MASK?

Stop by City Hall during regular business hours and ask for a free reusable and washable mask. For the first time in over a century, last year's flu season was nearly non-existent as most Americans took precautions against COVID by frequent hand washing, wearing masks, and maintaining a social distance from others. In addition, the Snohomish County Health District recommends every eligible person receive a free COVID vaccination and a flu shot.



CONTACT US

Granite Falls City Hall
215 S. Granite Avenue
PO Box 1440
Granite Falls, WA 98252
360-691-6441 telephone
360-691-6734 fax



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

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

Visit our website

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 Catherine Anderson *(appointed to serve until 2021 general election is certified.)*

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
- For non-emergency dispatch call 425-407-3999