

The Echo



April 2013

Published by the City of Echo

PO Box 9/20 S Bonanza-(541)376-8411

ARBOR DAY PROGRAMS

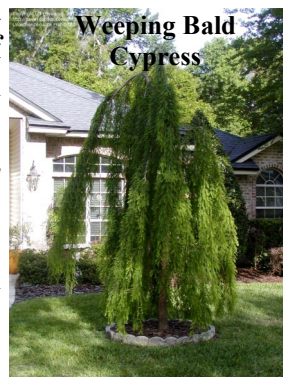
Arbor Day 2013—April 18

1. **Tree Fair/Arbor Day Celebration-City Park (city hall if weather is bad) 12:35 pm.** Come help us celebrate Arbor Day. Balloons, cookies & punch; tree trivia awards; door prizes. .
2. **Tree Give Away.** The City will award a tree and shrub as door prizes during the Arbor Day Celebration.
3. **Bulbs for Beauty.** To commemorate Arbor Day & America in Bloom, the city will give away flowering bulbs such as glads, & dahlias (the city flower). The remaining bulbs will be at city hall on Monday for residents who are interested in a first come first serve give away.
4. **City Hall Displays:** Arbor Day posters, informational flyers on trees and tree care and Library tree related materials are on display all month at city hall & the library.
5. **Books for the School:** Each elementary class will receive a tree book for their classroom library again this year.
6. **NEW HOME OWNER TREES:** Each new homeowner (owner occupied, not rentals) who purchased a home between 2011 and Feb. 2013 will be eligible to receive a tree. The trees will arrive in late April to May.
7. **50/50 program:** Residents can purchase a tree half price (usually \$14 to \$20). One per resident.

Arbor Day 10 yrs ago



Among the trees on order for 50/50 & New Homeowners Programs are: Hydrangea Tardiva; Pyramidal Hornbeam (same as new Main St. Trees), Spring Showers Flowering Current (2 blooming at Fort Henrietta Park right now & one is in photo at the top), Gold Dust Sweet Gum, Vanessa Persian Parrotia (center of city park), Purple Fountain Beech, Bald Cypress, Weeping Bald Cyprus, Radiant Fl. Crab apple; Oklahoma Red Bud.



APRIL CLEAN-UP WEEK

Sanitary Disposal, Inc. will host the annual Spring Clean-up week from April 1 through 7, 2013 at the Sanitary Disposal Transfer Station . During this week, cash customers using the Transfer Station will receive up to a \$13.50 discount off of each load.

This means, loads measuring up to 2.5 cubic yards with a maximum weight of 454.5 lbs can be disposed of free of charge. This includes all acceptable solid waste with the exception of tires. Tires will be charged at the regular rate.

The transfer station is located two miles north of Hermiston on Hwy 395 across from the Lift Company, Inc. It is open weekdays from 8 am to 5 pm and weekends from 9 am to 5 pm

America in Bloom

Donations received in March toward America in Bloom are listed below. Please



consider making a donation to beautify our community.

Anonymous \$10

Diane Berry \$50

Fran & Jack Fitzhugh \$20

This brings out total to date to \$230.

The last page will include Ideas for beautification projects again this month as well as a list of high impact, low care plants..

Share Your Ideas

If you have a great garden or beautification project or idea to share, please share send it to us at ecpl@centurytel.net or drop the information by city hall.

Tree Corner

"The best time to plant a tree is twenty years ago. The second best time is now."-Anonymous

The Oregon Forestry Website has a section on Featured Trees. You can find information and photos of trees such as the Black Gum, Ginkgo & Douglas Fir. ,<http://www.oregon.gov/odf/urbanforests/pages/ucftrees.aspx>. You can also find the City of Echo's Tree Guide on our website at <http://www.oregon.gov/odf/urbanforests/pages/ucftrees.aspx>.

History of Arbor Day: J. Sterling Morton a journalist and editor, promoted tree planting in his paper. In 1872 he proposed to the Nebraska State Agriculture Board establishing a holiday called Arbor Day. The first Arbor Day was in April 1875 and It was estimated that more than one million trees were planted on the first Arbor Day. In March 1885 the governor made it a legal holiday on Morton's Birthday, April 22. Other states began to observe Arbor Day in the 1870s and by 1882 schools across the country were celebrating Arbor Day.

Tree City USA: is a national program developed by the National Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with state forestry departments.

According to National Arbor Day Foundation: *"a community's public image is enhanced by being a Tree City USA...it makes the commu-*

nity a better place to live and helps attract and keep or conduct business....the Tree City USA signs at community entrances tell visitors that the city or town cares about its environment. It also is an indication to prospective businesses that the quality of life may be better because of trees. It has even been known to be a factor in where meetings or conferences have been held."



- There are more than 3400 communities that are currently a Tree City USA.
- There are more than 500 communities that received a Growth Award.
- Over 135 million people live in a Tree City USA.

Water Bills

If your water bills seems high this month, it is because it includes winter over-ages. The November-March bills are charged at the minimum of 3000 per month per unit at the minimum charge. If you used over 15,000 gallons of water over the winter, your bill will be higher than last months.

Enclosed is the 2012 Consumer Confidence Report. EPA & the state health division require that this report be sent to residents.

Kopacz Nursery & Florist



"Helping Make Echo More Beautiful"

Kopacz Nursery sponsors Echo's Beautification Program each year; Providing plants, labor & green house space for floral displays & donates annuals for public areas.

- Beautiful Bouquets
- Gift Center
- Blooming & Houseplants
- Visit us on Facebook

541-567-3278
465 W. Theater Ln. Hermiston



Community Visioning

The City of Echo is hosting a community visioning workshop on Tues. April 16 from 5:30 to 8:30 pm at city hall. The workshop is a hands-on visualization process supported by a professional artist/illustrator. After the workshop the artist will provide composite renderings of the integrated visions. Please contact Diane Berry at ecpl@centurytel.net or 541-376-8411 ASAP as space is limited to 30 people.

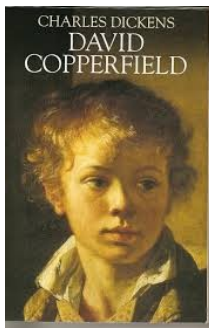
Cleanup Days

The annual School Cleanup will be Thursday, May 9 and the Kiwanis Cleanup will be Friday, May 10. If you are disabled or elderly and need assistance with debris removal or a special cleanup effort contact city hall and provide details of your needs and problems. 541-376-8411.



Library News

The Echo Library is approaching its 100th year, so it was interesting to find a 1914 *Echo* Enterprise editorial titled *"Our Library is a Thing To Make Use Of"*. Despite the passage of time of the sentiments ring true today. In 1914 the library operated as a county library branch and was open for 6 hours per week. There were 200 books compared to our 15,000+ items today. The editor wrote that after talking to a resident who didn't know who David Copperfield was, he sent him to the library. *"This actual occurrence caused us to determine right there and then that we would tell the whole town to go to the library and browse around amongst the books there, for it is quite probable there are books to be found there which are as well worthy of reading as Copperfield or any other of the well known masterpieces which every man, woman and child should read..which can make for better men and women through broadening our views, developing our mentality, and fitting us*



to better appreciate the things the world has in store for us as the great thinkers of the past have discovered to us ... The library today remains a place the community "can make use of" and it still is free.

March Donations

Thanks to our loyal patrons for your donations to the library.

Bonnie Baggerly	6 books
Bonnie Berry	5 books
Suzie Davie	23 books
Author Michael Frederick	2 books
Beth Gehrke	31 books
Leann Gaunt	7 books
Janice Schulze	1 book
Colleen Williams	9 books

Best Low Care Plants

Here are some low maintenance but attractive plants for your garden or landscape: Peony, Lamb's Ears, Ajuga, Smoke Tree, Sedums, Variegated Ribbon Grass, Cone Flower, Barberry, Blue Fescue, Hardy Geranium (cranesbill), Endless Summer Hydrangea, Dianthus, Daylily, Hosta, Rudbeckia, Coneflowers, Coral bells, Russian Sage, Siberian Iris, Lilies, Scabiosa, Yarrow, Liatris, Oriental Poppy, Bleeding Heart, Columbine, Blanket Flower, Coreopsis, Perennial Salvia, Veronica, Lamium.





Consumer Confidence Report

March 28, 2013

PO Box 9/20 S. Bonanza
Echo, OR 97826
(541)376-8411 Fax 541-376-8218
ecpl@centurytel.net

City of Echo Water System

Diane Berry, contact person

The City of Echo provides reliable drinking water for residents. This report provides information about the water YOU drink. Each public water system is required to provide its customers with a consumer confidence report on the quality of tap water by July 1 for the previous year. This document provides information on the City of Echo Water System for 2012. If you have any questions after reviewing this report, please feel free to contact us at city hall or by calling the above number.

Notes for Immuno-Compromised Individuals: Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as those with cancer, who are undergoing chemotherapy, someone who has undergone organ transplants, those with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). A source assessment will be available after it is completed by the State of Oregon.

Opportunities for public participation: Residents are always welcome to attend city council meetings, which are normally **the third Thursday** of each month. Council meeting agendas are posted at city hall and the post office.

Sources of Drinking Water: The City of Echo draws its drinking water from the deep basalt ground water wells that are 400 feet to 1320 feet deep. These are city owned and operated wells, known as wells (#3, #4, & #5). Water from these sources is pumped to the city's 350,000 gallon reservoir located on the northeast edge of the golf course. Water from Wells 4 and 5 mix in the reservoir to provide the day-to-day water supply. Well #3 is used for backup because of its lower capacity and sulfur smell. The water supply gravity flows to town. There is a booster station, which increases pressure for areas too close in elevation to the reservoir for adequate and safe gravity flow. This booster pump also supplements the pressure in the event of opened water hydrants or to fight fires.

The City of Echo routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The table in this report will show the results of our monitoring for the period from January 1 to December 31, 2012 or in the case of semi-annual tests, the last testing date. Drinking water, including bottled water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses any health effects. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Key to Table/Definitions

AL Action Level-The concentration of a contaminant, which if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements

MCL Maximum Contaminant Level-The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to MCLGs feasible using the best available technology.

MCLG Maximum Contaminant Level Goal-The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

MRDL Maximum Residual Disinfectant-The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

MRDLG Maximum Residual Disinfectant Goal-The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contamination.

ppb Parts per billion or micrograms per liter. Equal to approximately 1 drop in a 22,000 gallon swimming pool

ppm Parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/l).

TT Treatment Technique-is a required process intended to reduce

WATER QUALITY MONITORING RESULTS

The table on the following page shows the results of the City's water quality analyses for drinking water when a contaminant was found. Every regulated contaminant that was detected is reported below.

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measure	MCLG	MCL	Likely sources of contaminants
Microbiological Contaminants:						
Total Coliform						
Bacteria	N	0		0	presence of coliform in 5% of monthly samples	Naturally present in environment
E.Coli	N	0		0		
The city pulled 12 routine tests for total coliform samples during 2012 and 0 tested positive for Coliform. No E. Coli Bacteria showed up in any of the tests. The city is now classified as a chlorinating system. Total Fecal Coliform--none of the samples had fecal coliform.						
Inorganic Contaminants:						
Arsenic	N	1.5	ppb	0	10	erosion of natural deposits, run off from glass & electronic production waste
Nitrate (as N)	N	ND	ppb	10,000	10,000	Runoff from fertilizer use, leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate-Nitrite	N	290	ppb	10,000	10,000	Runoff from fertilizer use, leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Barium	N	30.5	ppb	2000	2000	Discharge of drilling waste; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits;
Fluoride	N	929	ppb	4000	4000	Erosion of natural deposits; is an additive which promotes strong teeth,

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measure	MCLG	MCL	Likely sources of contaminants
Selenium	N	.0558	ppb	5.0	5.0	Selenium is a metal found in natural deposits such as ores containing other elements.
Sodium	N	52.4	ppm	none	established	Naturally occurring in our soils; may cause problems for heart patients or those with high blood pressure; check w/your physician;
Lead	N	0.6	ppb	15.5	15.5	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Copper	N	14.9	ppb	1350	1350	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

Violation History: 2012-none

The City's Source Water Assessment is available for review upon request at city hall. Based on the assessment the water system's susceptibility to contamination is low to moderate.

Microbiological Contaminants:--Total coliforms. Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful bacteria may be present.

--Arsenic. Some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the MCL, over many years could experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory system and may have an increased risk of getting cancer. This was the only inorganic chemical/ compound found in the 2011 testing.

--Barium. Some people who drink water containing barium in excess of the MCL over many years could experience an increase in their blood pressure. Test Results above are from 2011.

--Fluoride. Some people who drink water-containing Fluoride in excess of the MCL over many years could get bone disease, including pain and tenderness of the bones. Children may get mottled teeth. Test Results above are from 2011.

--Nitrate. Infants below the age of six months who drink water-containing nitrate in excess of the MCL could become seriously ill and, if untreated, may die. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blue-baby syndrome. The city tests for Nitrates yearly and the results above are from 2012. No nitrates were detected in 2012.

--Selenium. Some people who drink water containing selenium well in excess of the maximum contaminant level (MCL) for many years could experience hair or fingernail losses, numbness in fingers or toes, or problems with their circulation. Results from 2011.

--Lead/Copper. The city is required to report the results of the 90th percentile household tested for Lead. This test was last performed in August 2009. None of the households tested for lead or copper exceeded the Action Level (AL). In most of the households tested showed no Lead or Copper was detected. If present elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The City of Echo is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing the tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead

The contaminants listed above are the ones that had detectable amounts that showed up in the most recent testing round. We test for many more contaminants, but if not shown here the test result was "Not Detected." Such tests include Radiation (Gross Alpha) , Radium & Uranium; Volatile Organic Chemicals (VOCs), Synthetic Organic Chemicals (SOCs) and Inorganic Chemicals.

MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, the average person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL for a lifetime to have a one-in-a million chance of having the described health effects.

Potential Contaminants: The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

Microbiological Contaminants: such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.

Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.

Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.

Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations urban storm water runoff and septic systems.

Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Chlorine: The City of Echo did not routinely chlorinate water until June 2008. While chlorine is safe to drink, many people are sensitive to the smell & taste. Here are some things you can do: 1. Fill a pitcher or bottle with water and keep it loosely capped and after a few hours the chlorine will dissipate. 2. Keep your pitcher in the refrigerator. This will allow the chlorine to dissipate and provide a cool glass of water. 3. You can also dissipate chlorine by pouring the water back and forth between two glasses. This aeration process helps dissipate the chlorine.

Discolored water: cloudy water--usually an indication of air bubbles trapped in the water which will dissolve in a short time. The water is safe to drink. If the cloudiness settles into a white particulate in the bottom of your glass or cup, your water heater may have a faulty dip tube. Rusty water

-old iron or galvanized pipes inside your home can cause brown, red or yellow discoloration and a metallic taste. While EPA considers this water still safe to drink, it may not taste good. Running your water for a short time can help clear the rust from your pipes. The rusty water can stain your laundry. If a hydrant is opened in town, this can cause the iron and manganese (naturally occurring) in your pipes to be disturbed. These chemicals tend to settle in the bottom half of the round pipe until disturbed, but when disturbed by flushing or opened hydrants they are stirred up and mix with water travelling through the pipes. Periodically draining your water heater will also remove some of the chemical build up.

Water Conservation-Outdoors

Irrigate late at night or early in the morning to maximize the amount of water going into the soil and reduce the amount lost to evaporation or blown away in the wind.

Soil tends to absorb water more slowly than most irrigation systems apply it, especially if you have clay soil or live on a slope. If you irrigate for short cycles you can maximize the water that soaks into your lawn and minimize run off. Runoff not only wastes water, but can contribute to pollution by carrying fertilizers and pesticides into the rivers and streams.

Find out how much water your irrigation system or sprinkler is applying by placing straight-sided cans in your lawn. Then run the water for 15 minutes. Measure the water in each can and average it. Multiply this number by four to convert to inches per hour. Once you know the rate per hour you can run your irrigation long enough to satisfy the needs of your landscape. One inch per week is a rough average, but more water is needed in summer than spring. Plants remove more water from the soil and the evaporation rate increases as daylight hours increase along with temperatures.



Save water by washing your car on your lawn. This not only waters your lawn, but keeps soaps out of the surface water. Be sure and keep a shut-off nozzle on your hose while washing your car.

Don't use a hose to clean your sidewalk or driveway. Using a broom is as effective and conserves water. Use Xeriscape plantings to limit water demand.

Water Conservation-Indoors

Shower for one minute less than normal and you will save about 700 gallons per month. You will not only save water, but power, as you will heat less water.

Fix water leaks. Even a small drip from a faucet can add over 1,500 gallons per month to your water consumption. Toilets can leak hundreds of gallons per day. A faucet that drips once per second wastes 1,225 gallons per year.

Don't use your toilet as a trash can. Toilets are the largest indoor water consumers (about 27% of all indoor use). Modern toilets use no more than 1.6 gallons per flush and can drop the consumption to 18% of your indoor use. So if you have an old toilet, you may want to replace it. The City is pursuing a Composter program to limit flushing of household garbage and foods down toilets. Contact City Hall to inquire about this program.

Run your dishwasher or washing machine only when you have a full load. Newer water efficient washing machines can save over 30 gallons per load.

MORE GARDEN IDEAS FROM PINTEREST

