

We provide professional, efficient services to create a lifetime positive difference for our Community.

West Mount Vernon Bridge

Many residents ask the Mayor and Council about the unkempt appearance of the West Mount Vernon bridge. The steel bridge on SR 536 (Division Street) over the Skagit River needs to be cleaned and painted in order to protect its structure and improve its appearance, but such a project is more difficult and costly than it might seem. For example, regulation requires containments be installed around the frame while work is being done in order to protect the fish and wildlife in the river.



The State of Washington owns and maintains the bridge and currently expects the project to cost about **\$5.2 million**. That is more than our Waterfront Phase 2 cost to construct! Unfortunately, Washington State Department of Transportation's difficult transportation budget constraints have meant that the actual work is not expected for several more years (2023). In the meantime, we will pay close attention to the status of the project and help assure that any opportunity to expedite the schedule will be considered. As a City, we must also prioritize transportation projects with the limited dollars in our budget. Several residents have a shared vision of a pedestrian bridge or lighting the West Mount Vernon bridge. It is wonderful to have a vision as we strive to maintain what we have and improve our transportation system. Grant funding for visionary projects has been difficult to identify, however we strive to be creative at City Hall, and will take advantage of any opportunity to improve our City!

Re-topping the Biofilter Beds at the Wastewater Treatment Plant

The operators at the wastewater treatment plant recently topped the biofilter beds with 400 yards of cedar chips and shavings (photo below). The biofilter beds are used as odor control at the wastewater treatment plant. All of the air from the major process is piped back to the biofilter beds. The air is then filtered through the media, reducing the odors that are emitted to the environment. By topping the beds with new cedar chips and shavings we are able to increase the efficiency of the beds and also extend their useful life. The beds have been on line for 8 years and are scheduled to be rebuilt in 2016.

Mayor's Coffee Hour

Friday, June 19, 10:00 - 11:00 am

Big Fir South Clubhouse, 1965 Fraser Avenue
(entrance on Blackburn Road, 1/2 block east of
LaVenture Road)

Saturday, June 27, 10:00 - 11:00 am

Bakerview Park, 3101 E. Fir Street
(come to the 10x10 tent near the Concession Stand)



Bio Filter Beds at the Wastewater Treatment Plant

Open House on Comprehensive Plan Vision

Tuesday, June 23, 6-7:30pm
Hillcrest Lodge, 1717 S. 13th Street

The City of Mount Vernon is holding an open house for the public to give input on what Mount Vernon should be like in 20 years. Information gathered at the open house will be used to develop the vision for the Comprehensive Plan.

See the Movie, Read the Book

Saturday, June 27, 2pm
Lincoln Theatre, 712 S. 1st Street

The Mount Vernon City Library and the Mount Vernon Elks Club #1604 are pleased to present a free showing of *Despicable Me 2* at the Lincoln Theatre.

Kids attending the movie will also receive a free *Despicable Me 2* book (while supplies last). A free BBQ and Ice Cream Social will follow. Funding for the event has been generously provided by the Mount Vernon Elks Club #1604 through an Elks Beacon Grant.

Fabulous 4th of July

July 4, 6-10pm
Edgewater Park
600 Behrens Millet Road

Entertainment for the whole family! Bring your own food and BBQ or try one of the tasty food vendors at our annual festival. Music from local bands starts around 6pm, with the headliner starting at 9pm and a spectacular fireworks show at dark. You won't want to miss the great music and enjoy the best seats in the house for the fireworks!!

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2015 Mayor's Wellness Challenge

Join me and the residents of Mount Vernon for the 4th annual Mayor's Wellness Challenge. This year's theme "**31 Minutes for 31 Days**" will focus on being active for 31 minutes each day in August, with a special prize for all those who complete the Challenge.



There will also be free wellness activities every Wednesday and Saturday in August, including a Little Mountain hike, Bike to Farms tour, "Walk and Roll" on the Kulshan Trail, and weekly events at the Skagit Valley Hospital Farmers Market. Registration is now open – visit www.mountvernonwa.gov and click on the Mayor's Wellness Challenge logo to sign up. All registrants will receive a packet listing additional free activities, prize information and motivation to keep you active all month long!

Be Safe and Legal with Fireworks in Mount Vernon

Purchase only legal fireworks. Legal Fireworks are available at fireworks stands in Mount Vernon. They may *only* be discharged in the City limits on JULY 4th BETWEEN 12 NOON AND 12 MIDNIGHT! Firecrackers, chasers, rockets, missiles, and mortars are **illegal** in the City of Mount Vernon. Many fireworks may be purchased on tribal lands that are **illegal to** possess or discharge on non-tribal land. Fireworks may not be discharged within 300 feet of any forest lands or parks within the City.

Be Prepared:

- You must be 16 to purchase fireworks.
- Purchase only legal fireworks.
- Keep pets indoors.
- Always have a hose or fire extinguisher ready to use.

Be Safe:

- Only adults should light fireworks.
- Do not throw or hold fireworks.
- Protect your eyes.
- Never re-light a dud.

Be Responsible:

- Soak used fireworks in water.
- Clean up used fireworks.
- Keep matches, lighters, and fireworks away from children.
- Alcohol and fireworks don't mix!

Celebrate at Edgewater Park

Join other area residents for a public display of fireworks at Edgewater Park! Enjoy live music on the stage starting at 6pm. Bring a picnic dinner or buy food from vendors at the park. Please no personal fireworks or alcohol at the festivities. Come celebrate the 4th of July, and leave the pyrotechnics to the professionals.

