After a year of taking subscribers, the curb-side recycling program is set to begin on June 1. If you haven’t signed up yet, go to the City’s homepage or call 801.804.4501.

How will it work?
This will be a curbside service, just like your regular garbage service. You will be provided a 95-gallon, blue Recycle Can sometime in the month of May. When this can is delivered by Allied Waste, you will also receive a list of materials that you will be able to recycle. Cans will be emptied every other week and this may be on a day other than your regular garbage pickup day. The pickup will also be on a single-side of the street, so some residents will need to wheel their cart across the street. The specific details for your street will be included with your can when it is delivered in May, along with contact information for Allied Waste.

How much will this cost?
The fee for this service will be $6.00 per month and will be added to your utility bill. This fee may be adjusted due to increased gas prices.

When can I begin using my can?
As soon as it is delivered, you can begin filling it. Please remember, however, that pickup will not commence until the week of June 1. If you wish to cancel a 2nd black garbage can, please contact the Utility Office and request that cancelled.
Electric Safety Outside the Home

May is National Electrical Safety month and we want to provide tips on how to keep your home safe inside and out. There is so much to share that safety tips will be given in the next few newsletters. We will provide you with basic electrical education and helpful tips for energy savings.

In this first article, we will start with a few safety items on the outside of your home, just in time for everyone to get out of the house for much anticipated Spring cleanings. After you read this, if you have any questions about Electrical Safety, contact the Electric Department at 801.804.4431.

Electric Meter, Meter base & Main Breaker
There is an electrical meter and other associated equipment on the side or back of your home. This is your electrical service and it is typically comprised of a meter base, meter, main breaker and other wiring and parts. This is the point of service from the City to your home. The power comes to your home, either from overhead or underground wires, and enters your home at meter base. The electrical wires pass through the meter base and into your electrical panels located inside your home. When passing through the meter base a few important things happen: (1) electric use is metered and changes ownership—the City owns up to one side of the meter and you own the service from the other side—(2) the service wire passes through a main breaker or disconnect that shuts the power off to the entire home.

It is important to know where the service is in case of emergency or to shut off power to safely work on the home’s electrical system. In case of a fire, the Fire Department will first look for your service location so they can shut the power off, enabling them to safely spray water onto the home. The City electrical crews also need access to your service location to read meters or perform other maintenance duties. We need your help to make sure the service and meter area are accessible at all times. Please take a few minutes to check around your meter base and other associated conduits, either overhead or underground. Check the following:

• Is it all securely attached to the home?
• Is there anything out of place, damaged or missing parts?
• Is your service and meter base enclosed, fenced, or located under carports or inside sheds or garages. In other words, inaccessible from the outside?
• Do you have a main breaker or disconnect?

It is important for the City crews, including emergency personnel, to have immediate access to your meter service so they can quickly locate main breakers or disconnects. If your home does not have a main breaker, it may be time to upgrade your service.

Overhead power lines

Overhead power line safety is very important to remember so here are a few tips when working outdoors. Before starting any job outside that may require the use of a ladder, take a minute to look up and around. Are there any lines up there? Are they power lines? It is always best to know what is around you before climbing onto a ladder and risking electrocution. If you are using a ladder try to use a wood or fiberglass ladder. Carry ladders down by your side, not with the end up. Or, use two people to carry a ladder, one on either end. Always keep yourself and the ladder at least 10 feet away from power lines. The best safety practice around overhead power lines is to keep clear and stay away.

If you are trimming trees take special notice of power lines. Sometimes trees don’t fall the direction you plan. Also, be careful when trimming branches. Make sure you are not close to the power lines and make sure the branches don’t fall into the lines. DO NOT take chances with power lines. Call a professional tree trimmer or contact the City with questions. We try to keep the trees trimmed out of our power lines, but we may miss a few. Call us if you think trees in your yard are in the power lines. If you are planting new trees make sure not to plant under the power lines, unless you are sure the variety of tree you are planting will not grow into the lines. Trees are not just a safety issue, they can also cause outages when they grow into power lines.

Finally, remember that if you ever see any downed power lines to stay away, keep others away, and call the City immediately or dial 911. Never try to move or touch the power lines. You never know if they are energized or not. It is better to error on the side of caution and stay away.

Underground Power Lines

Underground power lines present their own safety issues. You can always look up and see overhead power lines, but you can’t see underground power lines. Spring and summer are prime seasons to install new sprinkler systems or fences in your yard. But before you start to dig make sure you call Blue Stakes. It’s easy and it’s the safest way to find out where the power lines are buried.

Typically, buried lines are at least 2 feet in depth and more often the power lines are 4 to 6 feet underground. Never take a chances though, always call Blue Stakes before you dig. It’s the law, and you are responsible for damages if you don’t call. The Blue Stakes number is 1-800-662-4111; by calling this number, all utility companies will be notified, and they will mark any applicable underground systems.

Underground power lines emerge from the ground and terminate into green electrical cabinets. You or your neighbor probably has a few of these cabinets or boxes in the corner of your yard. We need your help to make sure these cabinets or boxes are in proper working order. Check the boxes in your yard to make sure that they are securely locked or that they aren’t damaged or broken. If you see anything wrong, give us a call. We also need a safe and clear area around the cabinets in order to work on them. Please remember not to plant trees, shrubs or otherwise block the cabinets, making it difficult and unsafe for electric crews to access or work on the cabinets or cables inside. Most of the electrical cabinets will have warning stickers on them describing the clearances needed to safely access the box.

If you have any questions about any of the safety information presented here, please call the Electric Department at 801.804.4431. Safety is our top priority.

Singin’ in the Rain—Red Carpet Gala

Fundraising Event – May 1, 6-9pm
Join the Spanish Fork Community Theater and the cast of Singin’ in the Rain for an evening of food, fun, and fantastic items to auction. Have you ever wanted a helicopter ride, or a spa treatment, a pedicure or a golf package? How about a 2 night stay in a Park City condo?

The Gala will be an event to remember and the entire community is invited. Bring your checkbook and support the arts in our community. All donations can be tax deductible and help to support the production of Singin’ in the Rain.

The event is a Red Carpet Gala, and formal wear, 1920’s style costumes, or whatever you feel comfortable wearing are encouraged!! Come meet the cast of Singin’ in the Rain and sample delicious delicacies from wonderful businesses in Spanish Fork. There will be a live auction as well as a silent auction.

Join us Friday, May 1, from 6 to 9pm at the Booth Performing Arts Center. Costumes are available for rent. More information at www.sfctonline.org

EMS Open House

May 2
The SF Ambulance Department is hosting an open house to the public. A number of health checks will be available such as cholesterol, blood pressure, glucose and more, plus a rock wall, the burn safety house and other activities. Plan to explore an ambulance and learn what these great volunteers do. Lunch will also be available and many prizes will be given out.

Utah County Fair Time

Now is the time to begin planning and perfecting projects for the Utah County Fair. Check out the website for Open Class entry information, which include gardeners, quilters, Dutch Oven enthusiasts, photographers, cooks and canners. For the first time, the Utah County Fair hosts a Dutch Oven cookoff, judged by the Dutch Oven National Champion. Find us at www.co.utah.ut.us/Dept/CountyFair/index.asp

Help Needed for Meals on Wheels Program

Meals-on-Wheels needs volunteer drivers in Spanish Fork, one day a week, for one hour, in a five mile delivery radius. Volunteer drivers deliver the meals to elderly, ill, frail, or disabled seniors in their homes. If you are interested in delivering Meals-on-Wheels, please contact Liz Merrell at 229-3821 or emerrell@mountainland.org