DIRTY GUTTERS...CAN YOU HELP?

If you walk outside your home and glance at the curb and gutter in front of your home, what do you see? If you see a lot of leaves, mud and other debris, will you join in a community effort to clean the gutters out?

Every fall, gutters fill with leaves and it is impossible for City crews to clean all of them. In fact, crews may clean a street today and more leaves fall tomorrow.

This means that heavy rain or fast snow melts will push debris to eventually back up somewhere, maybe even in front of your home. When this happens, water can jump the curb and flood into yards and basements. Please help to keep the streets and gutters clean from debris.

DEAR MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

From Left to Right, Back Row: Rod Dart, Keir Scoubes, Jens Nielson, Richard Davis
Front Row: Mayor Wayne Andersen, Steve Leifson

A DISCUSSION ON BUILDING PERMITS

Spanish Fork City wants your construction project to be a success and will help you avoid potential problems that could cost you time and money.

When you apply for a Building Permit, you will be asked some basic questions, be advised of any requirements and, if necessary, be referred to other departments for their approval.

Throughout the process, Spanish Fork City will provide you with the resources and information needed for compliance with the applicable codes.

When you submit an application, you will document the “Who, What, When, Where and How” of the job, along with any sketches or plans required for the proposed work.

In a brief amount of time, the City’s Building Inspectors will review your plans and determine if your project is in compliance with City requirements. If your plans meet the requirements, a Building Permit can be issued. If not, our staff will work with you to resolve any problems.

Once an application is approved, a fee, based on valuation of the job, is collected to cover the cost of the application, the review and the inspection process. Once the permit is issued, the project can begin.

Please help to keep the streets and gutters clean from debris.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Festival of Lights—Every night thru New Years Evening.

Dec 6—City Council Meeting 6 pm. Live on Ch. 17.
Dec 6—Christmas Box Angel Candle Ceremony
Dec 7—Planning Commission Mtg 6 pm. Live on Ch. 17.
Dec 12 & 13— Recycling Pick-up
Dec 20— City Council Meeting 6 pm. Live on Ch. 17
Dec 23 & 26—City offices closed to observe the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day holidays
Dec 24—Tabitha’s Way Christmas Dinner for those in need
Dec 26 & 27 Normal Trash and Recycling Pick-up

Please complete the form and return it with your utility bill. You can also send comments to the City from the City’s website. Thank you for your comments.
MORE ON BUILDING PERMITS

...obtained, you now have legal permission to start construction.

Inspections will be required to insure the work conforms to the permit, local codes and plans. Again, you will have access to the expertise of the code official to help you with questions or concerns regarding the project and to ward off potentially costly mistakes. The code official will let you know approximately how many inspections may be needed for your project. One day notice is required when scheduling inspectors.

The Building Inspector will provide documentation when construction is complete and code compliance is determined. It takes everyone in a community to keep our homes, schools, offices, stores and other buildings safe for public use. Your safe construction practices help protect you, your family, your friends and your investment.

For more information about building codes and local requirements, contact the Building Inspection Division at (801)804-4540.

GO A LITTLE GREEN THIS CHRISTMAS, SIGN UP FOR PAPERLESS BILLING

Do you want to eliminate a little paper? Do you want an electronic record of your utility bill? The City’s online billing partner now offers a paperless billing option and you can sign up by following 5 simple steps:

1. Go to www.xpressbillpay.com
2. Login or Create an Account
3. Click 'Paperless Billing'
4. Click the box next to your account
5. Click Update

You’re now set up to receive your Utility Bill and City Newsletter by email and will no longer receive a paper bill in the mail.

AN EXPLANATION OF A SPACE HEATERS IMPACT ON YOUR ELECTRIC BILL

With the arrival of winter and colder temperatures, residents may consider using portable electric heaters for comfort and convenience. This article reviews the electrical cost of operating these appliances.

There are typically three types of portable electric heaters; convection, radiant and conduction. Each is defined by the method used to transfer heat. Convection heaters typically use a fan to move the air that is heated into the living space. Radiant types use reflectors to move heat directly to the object to be heated without necessarily heating the air. Conduction heaters are like heating pads.

Convection heaters are usually rated at 1500 watts on high with optional lower settings. Radiant heaters are typically designed between 400 and 1000 watts. Conduction heaters mostly operate at less than 100 watts.

To calculate the power consumed by any device, determine the watts rating (found on the nameplate of the device). Divide the watts by 1000 to get kilowatts. Use this number times the number of hours the device is operated to get kilowatt-hours. This is the usage number on which your electric bill is calculated.

The average cost per kilowatt-hour is between $0.09 and $0.105 per kilowatt-hour for residential customers.

Here is an illustrative example:

A residential customer is using a convection heater of 1500 watts to heat a small unheated basement room. The heater runs about 10 hours a day. What is the cost to heat that room for a month?

Heater rating=1500 watts
1500 watts ÷ 1000 = 1.5 kilowatts
1.5 kilowatts x 10 hours = 15 kilowatt hours
15 kilowatt-hours x $.09 = $1.35
15 kilowatt-hours x $.105 = $1.58
$1.35 x 30 days = $40.50
$1.58 x 30 days = $47.40

Please carefully consider the impact the use of electric heating devices will have on your electric bill.

SFHS FFA CHRISTMAS ANGEL PROJECT

The Spanish Fork FFA is sponsoring its annual Christmas Angel program that provides an entire Christmas for families in need.

Donations can be made at Spanish Fork High School during school hours, or after hours to the home of FFA Secretary, Mikkel, at 621 East 200 South. Call 801-471-4616 with questions.

YOUTHEATRE PRESENT CHRISTMAS PLAY

The Youtheatre is in final rehearsals for “The Best Christmas Pageant Ever.” Catch the holiday spirit with the mischievous and lovable Herdman kids in this classic play, directed by Karma Christensen.

Three performances:
Thursday, December 1 at 7:00 pm
Friday, December 2 at 7:00 pm
Saturday, December 3 at 2:00 pm

The cost is $3 per person. All performances will be at the Spanish Fork Junior High.

DECEMBER RECREATION CALENDAR

Register for youth programs online at reconline.spanishfork.org.

1—Youth Basketball Team Selection: Boys 7th & 8th grades
Girls 5th & 6th grades

3—Youth Basketball Coach’s Meetings
3rd & 4th Boys & Girls Basketball at 9 am at Parks & Rec. Meeting Room


10—Nebo Jr. Wrestling Tournament Grades K-6 at SFHS Gym

January 1, 2012—Last night of Festival of Lights, 6-10 pm at Canyon View Park

Visit the Parks and Recreation web pages for complete activities listing.

Office hours: Monday thru Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. Phone: 801-804-4600.