

**From The Mayor**

With the summer just beginning first and foremost, I'd like to wish each and every one of you a safe and healthy season.

The city continues to effectively manage its financial resources during one of the most difficult economic times in several generations. Implementation of sound financial policies while maintaining current levels of service, strong financial reserves and the commitment to live within our means is a positive reflection upon our city and staff.

While the City will continue to face financial challenges caused by the economic downturn, these financial policies and decisions have kept the City moving forward.

Today in Brier, we are continuing to build a community that preserves our quality of life supporting the reasons we enjoy living here.

Even though general state shared government revenues to cities continue to decline, we have worked to effectively manage our general government expenditures with a specific focus on controlled spending. Operating revenues continue to decline although we have been successful receiving State, County and some Federal funds from our grant requests. This year we will use State grant monies to replace and make restoration repairs to our Scriber Creek foot bridge and general street overlays on Brier road and a portion of 228th Street. A grant from Snohomish County will

also make improvements to Locust Creek Park possible, as we continue to maintain municipal services. I will continue to actively pursue and obtain state and federal funding to upgrade our city's streets, sidewalks and parks.

The Council and I, along with our dedicated employees, are all continuing to work together maintaining our goals of civic improvements and quality services at a reasonable cost. Staff members in all departments continue to be our best asset that results in quality service for all of us.

The City of Brier is very fortunate to have continual volunteer support from our citizens who serve on our boards and commissions. These individuals provide leadership and support for our general government, parks and library. I would like to thank all of our volunteers including the scouting organizations who continue to process service projects in our community.

**Police Department**  
**National Night Out**

The 30th Annual National Night Out is scheduled for Tuesday, August 6th. National Night Out is a symbolic, nationwide crime prevention event that reflects the day in and day out cooperation of our citizens and police.

We invite the community to celebrate with us at Brier Park from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM. Free hot dogs, pop and chips.

Block BBQ's are traditionally held the night before; please notify the police department if you are planning a block BBQ and they will do their best to attend.

### **Public Works Department**

Brier continues to actively seek out funding opportunities and we are happy to report we have received 90% funding from the Washington State Transportation Board to process asphalt overlays on portions of Brier Road. It is through these efforts we work to maintain our city streets.

### **Signage**

#### **It's Garage Sale Season!**

Are you planning to have a garage or yard sale? City rules allow each home to have up to three (3) garage or yard sales per year. If you do have a sale, please do not post your signs advertising the sale on city street signs. It is a violation of Brier Municipal Code to attach any type of signage (yard sale, home for rent, etc) on any traffic sign posts or utility poles. Please refrain from doing this. Inexpensive 1 x 2's can be purchased at most hardware stores, and don't forget to remove them once your garage sale is over!

\*\* We encourage all citizens to take the time to review the Brier Municipal Codes. You may review the codes at City Hall during normal business hours or easily access the codes online at <http://www.codepublishing.com/wa/brier/> in addition the Brier Library maintains a copy.

### **Community Development**

\*\* Summer is on its way and this is a great time to be outdoors and spend some time working in your yard. A well maintained yard can increase the attractiveness of your home as well as your neighborhood. Be considerate of your neighbor by removing weeds and other invasive plants that can spread throughout the neighborhood. It is also neighborly to remove trash, inoperable vehicles, and other debris from your yard. Vegetation abutting a sidewalk and/or road should be no taller than 3 feet for the safety of motorists and pedestrians.

\*\* If you have a supply of tools for maintaining your yard, you may need a little extra space to store these items. You may build accessory buildings, such as storage sheds and detached garages, as long as they do not occupy more than 10 percent of your lot. Accessory buildings that are 120 square feet or smaller, and are no more than one story in height, may be built without a building permit. However, these unpermitted buildings must still meet building code criteria, property line setback requirements, sensitive area buffers and setbacks, and steep slope setbacks. Call the City at 425.775.5440 for assistance in determining the appropriate buffer and setbacks.

In addition to not building within sensitive areas such as streams, creeks, wetlands, and steep slopes, these areas are protected from other forms of encroachment. It is illegal to trim or remove vegetation within a sensitive area or its buffer or setback without obtaining permission from the City or under

qualified instruction such as provided by the Snohomish Conservation Commission. It is also illegal to dump vegetation, trash and other debris in a sensitive area or its setback or buffer.

### **National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Requirements**

The Federal Government through the Clean Water Act and the Washington State Department of Ecology, requires ongoing maintenance of all our stormwater conveyance systems. This includes private as well as public storm water control systems built in association with Short Plats and Subdivisions. Public Works will be sending notices to property owners of the State mandated requirements for scheduled cleaning and maintenance of the underground systems. Only property owners with privately owned storm water systems will receive the notice.

We realize this can be a burden for some property owners but please be aware these requirements come from the Department of Ecology and they leave it to the local governments to implement and make sure that citizens adhere to the requirements.

### **Parks & Events**

**KidScare** - Friday before SeaScare  
August 9 Brier Library - Noon

**SeaScare** - Brier Road - August 14th -  
7:00 pm.

Complete details are available at  
<http://ci.brier.wa.us/cityhall/events.htm>.

### **Reporting Spills**

Department of Ecology spill hotlines  
- DOE Spill Line: (360) 407-6300

- Oil Spills: 1-800-OILS-911  
- City of Brier: (425) 775-5440 -  
During Normal Business Hours  
- Dial 911 - After Hours and on  
Weekends and Holidays

### **Puget Sound Starts Here**

Through everyday activities, we are releasing harmful and toxic chemicals into stormwater runoff that eventually enters Puget Sound. These chemicals are the number one contributor to the decline in Puget Sound health. The following are some easy things you can do to help clean up Puget Sound:

#### **Vehicle Operations**

Check for leaks. Use substitute for copper brake pads. Ask for steel tire weights instead of lead.

#### **Fertilizers & Herbicides**

Pull and smother weeds instead of spraying. Use native plants.

#### **Car Washing**

Use commercial car washes. Wash on pervious surfaces such as a lawn.

#### **Pet Waste**

What is left on the lawn will be washed into Puget Sound. Scoop your poop and put it in the trash.

#### **Household Products/Chemicals**

Choose least-toxic alternatives for household cleaners. Use more elbow grease, fewer chemicals.

#### **Septic Systems**

Maintain your septic system. Do not overuse or abuse its abilities (toilet paper only). Fix failing septic systems.

**Fireworks Rules For The 4<sup>th</sup> Of July**

Fireworks are not allowed in City Parks. Only consumer fireworks permitted by the State of Washington RCW 70.77 can be discharged within the city limits. **Remember:** It is illegal to discharge or possess bottle rockets, salutes, m-80's, m-100's, firecrackers and sky rockets. These illegal devices cause 90% of all firework related fires in Washington State. **The use or discharge of consumer fireworks is restricted to the fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) day of July each year during the hours of nine a.m. through eleven-fifty-nine (11:59) p.m.**

**Animals**

Please be considerate as animals routinely become frightened by the noise of fireworks during the holiday celebrations and flee from their residences. To report lost or found pets please contact the Brier Police Department during business hours at 425-775-5452 and 911 after business hours.

**Passport Services**

The City of Brier provides full Passport Services. You may apply for your passport at Brier City Hall, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 8:30 AM and 4:00 PM. Passport Photo Service is also available making the endeavor a one stop service. For further information please contact Brier City Hall at 425-775-5440.