

**From The Mayor**

More good news for our city parks; we are in the process of adding another 5 acre parcel of natural park and open space to our list of Brier parks. We were able to secure grant funding from the Snohomish County Conservation Futures Program for the purchase of another five acre park near Poplar and Hickory. I look forward to working together as we plan and implement improvements that will make this site another wonderful place for all of us to visit and enjoy. Phase 1 of the Locust Creek Park improvements were completed early this year, outside grant funds also supported these improvements. I hope you can make a visit to this site as we work together to connect our parks and open spaces with walking trails and loops. We also completed the reconstruction of the Brierwood pedestrian bridge that was damaged in the flooding of 2007. A State public works grant was obtained with the help of State Representative Derek Stanford. Without Representative Stanford's assistance this would have been a very difficult and costly project for Brier to undertake.

The city received grant funding from the State Transportation Improvement Board to facilitate the Brier Road overlay that was completed this spring.

I'd also like to thank Chief Don Lane for his service to our city, Chief Lane after 35 years of police work within the State of Washington retired at the end of April. Please welcome Interim Chief, Mike Catlett to the post of Chief. Chief Catlett

was appointed Interim Chief the 1<sup>st</sup> of May. I look forward to working with Chief Catlett and encourage you to stop by city hall to get to know him.

Another long time employee, Mickie Halverson is also retiring after 30+ years of service to the City of Brier at the end of June. Mickie began her police clerk career with Brier in 1984. Lets all wish Mickie well in her future endeavors. 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 as a planning and civil service commissions, park & recreation and library boards. I would like to thank all of our volunteers including the scouting organizations who continue to work to make Brier a great place to live.

**Public Works Department**

This is a reminder that all brush and tree limbs that overhang or protrude into the sidewalk in front of private property must be cut back and cannot be less than 8 ft above the sidewalk.

This is the season for landscape work so residents need to be aware of the Brier

Municipal Code (BMC) does not allow landscape material, bark, topsoil, fill dirt etc. to be stockpiled in the street, for any reason or length of time.

Another issue that we see this time of year is hired landscapers performing work in the city and blowing debris from lawn mowing and gardening onto the street. This is also not allowed per the BMC.

Public Works recently sent out letters to home owners who live within short plats in Brier. The reason for the letter is to remind these home owners that it is the responsibility of all property owners in their short plat to clean and maintain the storm water system in their short plats according to our NPDES storm water permit and regulations issued by the Department of Ecology.

\*\* 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 Comprehensive Plan Update**

The Brier Comprehensive Plan is the City's guide to growth and development over the next 20 years. It includes the visions, goals, objectives and policies on which major decisions are made in land use, housing, capital facilities, utilities, transportation, parks and recreation and other areas. The plan may undergo minor updates on an annual basis based on the needs and requests of the city and its

residents. However, the State requires the plan to undergo a major update on average of every 7 years. The city's next major update must be completed by June 30, 2015. With any major comprehensive plan update, the city needs to ask itself "Who are you? Is that who you want to continue to be?"

Throughout the next year, the Planning Commission will be holding several meetings to discuss the comprehensive plan update. The public is encouraged to participate by attending Planning Commission meetings, and/or providing written comments to staff. Planning Commission meetings are held the 3rd Wednesday of each month. Always check the website at this link

[http://ci.brier.wa.us/PC\\_Agendas\\_Minutes/index.html](http://ci.brier.wa.us/PC_Agendas_Minutes/index.html) or call city staff in case a meeting has been cancelled. Planning staff can be contacted at [ngaudette@ci.brier.wa.us](mailto:ngaudette@ci.brier.wa.us) or by phone at 425-775-5440. The current version of the comprehensive plan is found at this website link

<http://ci.brier.wa.us/compplan/index.html>

### **New rules on Commercial Vehicles**

The City has adopted a ban on commercial vehicles in residential zones. The City Council adopted a ban on commercial vehicles with a gross vehicle weight of 10,000 pounds from parking on public and private properties within a residential zone. The ban also extends to commercially used off road construction equipment; such as track hoes bull dozers, and trailers for transportation of such equipment.

Off street parking/storage of RVs, utility trailers, and motor vehicles are being regulated to designated area on

residential property and eliminates unpaved yard parking. The rules further states that any vehicles meeting the criteria for outdoor vehicle storage shall be maintained and in safe condition. For further information you may access the Brier Municipal Code at <http://www.codepublishing.com/wa/brier/> or visit City Hall and ask for Off Street Parking Title 17.48.

### **Puget Sound Starts Here**

Through everyday activities, we are releasing harmful and toxic chemicals into stormwater runoff that eventually enters Puget Sound.

**Vehicle Operations** - Check for leaks.

**Fertilizers & Herbicides** - Pull and smother weeds instead of spraying. Use native plants.

**Car Washing** - Use commercial car washes. Wash your car on your lawn.

**Pet Waste** - What is left on the lawn will be washed into Puget Sound.

**Household Products/Chemicals** - Choose least-toxic household cleaners and use more elbow grease.

**Septic Systems** - Maintain your septic system. (toilet paper only) Fix failing septic systems.

### **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

### **Rare Bumble Bee in Brier**

Brier is home to a rare bumble bee, *Bombus occidentalis*. Once very common, the western bumble bee has experienced serious decline throughout its range. It is recognized by its white tail end and black face. Sightings have occurred in Brier in 2012 and 2013. Residents can photograph this bee if seen and contact the Xerces Society at [www.Xerces.org](http://www.Xerces.org).

To help attract the western bumble bee, plant native flowers and shrubs. Visit [www.wnps.org](http://www.wnps.org) for a list of native plants. Restrict use of pesticides and leave a corner of your garden undisturbed and free of mulch and excess watering.

To learn more look on-line for an article featuring a Brier pollinator garden in: Pacific Horticulture, Summer 2013. For more information contact Julie at 425-774-6998.

### **Parks & Events**

**KidScare** - Friday before SeaScare  
 August 8th Brier Library - Noon

**SeaScare** - Brier Road - August 13th -  
 7:00 pm. Complete details are available  
<http://ci.brier.wa.us/cityhall/events.htm>.

### **Fireworks Rules For The 4th 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 (4th) 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, Tuesday & Wednesday from 9AM to 12PM and Thursday from 1PM to 4PM. 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.

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

The 31st Annual National Night Out is scheduled for Tuesday, August 5th. 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 8:00 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.