

**FROM THE PUBLIC WORKS
DEPARTMENT**

Public Works would like to remind residents that they can make a difference when it comes to preventing flooding. Homeowners who have open ditches in front of their property, need to check to see that nothing is blocking in the culverts under driveways that could cause a ditch to backup and possibly overflow. A rake and/or shovel can be used to clear stormwater drain grates very quickly, and prevent a minor problem from becoming a larger issue.

If we have a snow event, please be prepared! Please consider your safety and the safety of others if you need to drive in the snow. Public Works will make every reasonable effort to keep the streets open and passable. Our main priority will be for emergency vehicles. We apologize ahead of time if we push snow into your driveway even after you have already cleared it. Snow plow operators do not place snow in driveways on purpose. There is no practical way for the snow plow operator to cut off the windrow of snow when crossing a driveway. One thing you can do to reduce the amount of snow that is plowed in front of your driveway is to place as much of the snow as possible to the right side of your driveway as you face the street.

Storm events of any kind can be a real burden on the elderly, especially if power is lost, we have damaging winds, flooding, or other problems, be sure to

check on your neighbors. As always, you may contact Public Works at 452-775-5440 or at bpworks@ci.brier.wa.us. After hours, call 911.

WINTER WEATHER:

What to Expect and How to Help:

The City is making every effort to prepare for storms, and as citizens, you can too. Here are a few examples of what you can do to help:

- Remove debris such as leaves and packed snow from storm drains.
- Remove vehicles from the streets for the street sweeper and/or snow plows to get by.
- Cover and wrap hose bibs on the exterior of your house to prevent pipes freezing.
- Property owners remember: it is your responsibility to clear driveways and sidewalks in front of your property. Many of our children still walk to school or bus stops in bad weather. You can help keep them safe by clearing a path for them.
- Be safe and drive carefully! Use extreme caution while driving in inclement weather of any kind. Allow plenty of time to get to your destination and always yield to service vehicles such as plows, sanders, and buses.

STREET LIGHTS

Is there a street light out in front of your house or on your block? If so, you are requested to call the Public Works Department and give them the address of the streetlight, and the ID number located on each fixture. This information will be beneficial in writing a correction notice for the P.U.D. to get the light fixed. 425-775-5440

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 8AM -5PM M-F

- Dial 911 - After Hours and on Weekends and Holidays

BATTERY RECYCLING

According to the U.S. EPA, Americans throw away more than 3,000,000,000,000 (that's TRILLION) batteries each year. The AA, C and D batteries alone make up 20% of the household hazardous waste in our landfills, where they can be crushed leaching heavy metals and corrosive acids into our soil, water and air. However, nearly all batteries can be recycled if handled correctly.

You can recycle batteries at the Southwest Recycling and Transfer

Station located at 21311 61st Place West Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043. They are open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and then on Saturday and Sunday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. They recycle the batteries listed below: Dry cell: AA, AAA, C, D, 9V; NiCad; lithium and rechargeable batteries.

SEWER BILLING LATE FEES

Sewer and/or Stormwater bills are sent out bi-monthly and are due upon receipt. However we have a built in grace period, we charge a late fee if payment does not arrive prior to the penalty after date listed on the bill which is approximately 45 days after the bills are mailed. Payments are considered late if they do not arrive by 4:30PM on the last "business" day of each odd month. A late payment fee of 10% of the unpaid balance will be applied to the account and is non-revocable. Failure to receive a bill does not exempt the customer from late payment penalties. The late payment charge is applicable to all customers. If you have questions about late fees please call City Hall at 425-775-5440.

SNO-ISLE / BRIER LIBRARY

Brier Library is now on Facebook. Connect with us at www.facebook.com/brierlibrary to receive library updates, reading suggestions, program information for all ages, and a little bookish fun!

The Friends of the Brier Library is a non-profit organization that raises funds to support programs at your library. Join the Friends and give back to your community and the library. Friends of the Library annual membership fees are only \$5 for an individual, \$15 for a

family, \$25 for an organization, or a lifetime membership for \$100. Find out more about the library and programs, by calling 425-483-1468 or visit www.sno-isle.org.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Holiday-Winter Safety Tips:

The Brier Police Department wishes you a safe, happy and peaceful holiday season.

- Please keep pets warm and safe in the cold weather.
- Make sure your vehicle is in good condition for winter driving.
- The holiday season is a great time to get to know your neighbors. Neighbors watching out for neighbors helps keep an eye out for suspicious activity and make communities safer.
- Lock your vehicle and hide valuables, preferably in the trunk or locked compartment. Stay alert to your surroundings and take a moment to glance around for possible suspicious persons, vehicles, and/or situations.
- When in crowded places, be alert for potential thieves. Don't overload yourself with packages. Be wary of strangers approaching you for any reason. The holiday season is notorious for "con-artists" who may attempt to distract you with the intention of taking your money or belongings. As an added precaution, make sure you have a record of all your credit card numbers in a secure place at home.
- Recognize that there is safety in numbers and arrange to shop with friends and relatives instead of going out alone. Make sure everyone remains vigilant and looks out for each other.

- Be extra cautious about locking windows, sliders, and doors when leaving for any length of time. We suggest keeping all entrance points into your house secured while you're at home as well. Never keep gifts or valuable objects in plain view from any window. If a person knocks at your door and you don't recognize them, don't feel obligated to open your door. Teach your children that by no means will they open the door to anyone prior to your knowledge and authorization.

WILDLIFE HABITAT CORNER

Salmon, Clean Water and Us

One way to make a difference for salmon starts right here at home. Brier is in the Swamp Creek Watershed, but what does that mean? A watershed is the land area where rainfall drains into creeks, streams and rivers, eventually flowing to Lake Washington and Puget Sound. The rain that falls on lawns and streets picks up chemicals from these surfaces and flows into storm drains. Volunteers have been applying "Drains to Stream" metal discs to Brier's storm drains as a reminder that they are intended for rain water *only*. "Drains to Stream" discs can only be placed where there is a sidewalk curb. Storm drains located in the middle of the street, driveways or lawns also drain *unfiltered* into the watershed but they *won't* have a metal disc indicating that they also "Drain to Streams". We need everyone's help to keep pollutants out of storm drains and waterways so please remember only rain water should enter our street storm drains. *Thank you!*

CONCERN FOR NEIGHBORS

FOOD BANK

There is a collection barrel located in our City Hall lobby. Please help support our neighbors in need by dropping off non-perishable items. We will keep the barrel year round to help support our neighbors in need.

HOLLY HOUSE DONATION BOX

We have a box in our lobby that helps families in need during the holidays. Please consider donating new pajamas, socks and underwear for those less fortunate. The need is especially high for teens. For more information visit their website at www.hollyhouseforkids.org.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Upcoming events,

Mark Your Calendars

2019 Tree Lighting – Saturday, December 7th. Santa arrives at 6:00 pm - Brier Park.

2020 Traditional Egg Hunt - Saturday, April 11th - 10:00 am start - ages 3 to 10 - Brier Park.

2020 Music in the Park – July – date to be announced for a Wednesday evening – music starts at 5:15 pm in Brier Park.

2020 SeaScare – Wednesday, August 12th – parade starts at 7 pm. Details and to sign up at www.seascare.com.