



# AMITY GRAPEVINE

August 1, 2023

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## Message from Mayor Rachel King

Hello Amity, and welcome to the month of August.

I want to address last month's water issues and the necessary boil notice that was put in place. I fully recognize that this incident was inconvenient, frustrating, and worrisome for our community. While at time of writing I don't know many details of "what exactly went wrong", I can say that a combination of water intake, pump, and reservoir malfunctions; occurring simultaneously, left Amity in a precarious and vulnerable spot. I am extremely grateful that during this crisis the City of Amity was well supported by neighboring local governments, our water association, and partners from the County and State. While rightfully upset, citizens were gracious, understanding, and did their best to help spread the news of City updates and health and safety information regarding the Boil Water Notice.

The bottom line is that our current water infrastructure system is aged, outdated, and on its last leg. For these very reasons the City of Amity, over the last many years, has initiated an approximately 12-million-dollar improvement plan to include adequate pumps, intake, upgraded piping, and a renovated and up to date water treatment facility. This construction is **happening now** and has been fully funded through CDBG grant funds and USDA loans and grants. Water rate increases over the past two years have been necessary to make this happen, but the costs have been accounted for and this **does not** mean we need any more major increases to fund the work already underway. These upgrades and improvements should be completed in the upcoming year, 2024. Until then Public Works will continue their diligent work to keep our current system monitored, functioning, and in the best state of repair possible. We are not immune to emergencies, but every effort is being made to minimize service disruptions and uphold the responsibility of providing clean and safe drinking water to the community.

Although there is much more I could write about this month, I would also like to send congratulations and thank you to Amity Fire District and volunteers for their wildly successful pancake breakfast. Despite extra challenges and unanticipated considerations, they did a fabulous job of hosting an incredible number of people for a hearty breakfast and car show in the City Park. This event is one that Amity is fondly known for, and once again AFD put on a great event!

## Amity Info Corner:

**Emergency Notifications** – In July, The City of Amity experienced a complete loss of water in the City's water system that resulted in no water flow Saturday (7/22) and a Boil Water Notice until Tuesday at approximately 10:00am when we received test results that indicated the water was safe to drink. To ensure that you are receiving those emergency alerts in a direct and timely fashion, please update your utility billing contact information by calling City Hall. You can also sign up for the Yamhill County Emergency Alert Program at <https://www.co.yamhill.or.us/content/emergency-alert-program-frequently-asked-questions>.

**Contacting YCSO**- If you have an emergency, please dial 911. The Yamhill County Non-Emergency phone number is (503) 434-6500 and is also connected to YCOM. This number can be used to report non-emergent situations such as noise complaints, abandoned vehicles, crimes NOT in progress and/or that did NOT just occur, or to request follow up on a prior report. Amity Substation also has its own direct line (503) 835-8606, which goes to voicemail, that our Deputies monitor. Again, in the event of an emergency dial 911.

# From your Library:

**August 2** Angel Ocasio Comedy

**August 17** Reading Trackers DUE!

**Saturday, August 19 at APL** Serendipity Ice Cream and PRIZES!

Questions? Call APL at (503) 835-8181

## Council Vacancy:

The City is still looking to fill position #6 (term expires Dec. 2026).

Anyone interested in making a difference in their community are encouraged to apply. Council meetings are held once a month on the first Wednesday of the month and work sessions are held third Wednesday of the month. To qualify, you must be a registered voter and have lived within the city limits for at least one year immediately preceding appointed.

If you are interested, please obtain an application from City Hall. The positions will remain open until filled.

## Friends of the Amity Library School Supply Drive:

*The Friends of the Amity Library (FOL) is currently hosting a **School Supply Drive through August 21st** to collect school supplies for the elementary, middle, and high schools.*

Posters throughout town, on the City's webpage, and at the collection sites, list the supplies needed. Collection sites include City Hall, First Federal Amity Branch, and of course, the Library; sites are open to accept your donations during their regular business hours. The FOL supports learning!

**We encourage you to support this effort** and provide local children with the supplies they need to help towards their academic success this year.

## Events/Closures

**National Night Out-** August 1, 2023 at Amity City Park, 6pm – 8pm

**Council Meeting-** August 2, 2023 at 7pm

Zoom Info:

Meeting ID: 852 6089 5749

Passcode: 797491

**Planning Meeting-** August 14, 2023 at 6:30pm

Zoom Info:

Meeting ID: 884 0839 3376

Passcode: **003974**

**Council Work Session-** August 16, 2023 at 5pm

**Council Meeting-** September 6, 2023 at 7pm

**City Offices Closed-** Labor Day September 4,

[www.cityofamityoregon.org](http://www.cityofamityoregon.org)

Phone 503.835.3711

**Amity City Council:**

Melissa Bojorquez, April Dyche, Sandy McArthur, Caleb Shields, Alice Thompson and Mayor Rachel King.

## BURN BAN:

Yamhill County is currently in a burn ban. This prohibits all backyard and open burning including branches, yard debris, etc. Please call (503) 472-3344 to check current burn advisories each time before burning. This number connects to a recorded message for our area, and information is updated daily as needed. Burn bans do not include small outdoor cooking or warming fires less than 3 ft in diameter and less than 2ft in height, permanent or portable fire pits, or barbeque grills.

## August Blood Drive:

The City of Amity and the American Red Cross are hosting a Blood drive on August 24th, 11am-4pm at Amity City Hall. Please sign up for an appointment by visiting [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) and searching our 97101-area code.