



The City of Covington

UPDATE



COVINGTON AQUATIC CENTER NEWS-SPLASH

INTERESTED IN WORKING AT COVINGTON AQUATIC CENTER?

Working as a lifeguard or instructor at the Covington Aquatic Center is a great job, especially for the young person or stay at home parent looking for part-time employment. Qualified applicants at minimum must possess current certifications in American Red Cross Lifeguard Training and First Aid, American Red Cross CPR/AED for Lifeguards and the Northwest Lifeguard Test. To teach swim lessons, water exercise and other classes, applicants must also be certified as an American Red Cross Water Safety Instructor. Such certifications are obtained by taking and passing training classes offered at your local swimming pool, including Covington Aquatic Center. The best candidates have a passion for aquatics, are safety conscious and enjoy working with children and the public. Individuals interested in applying must submit a City of Covington employment application, after which qualified applicants may be asked to demonstrate in-water skills and meet for an interview. Typically, hiring occurs during the springtime, but applications are accepted and kept on file year-round.

AWARD WINNING AQUATIC VOLUNTEER ACADEMY OPEN FOR REGISTRATION!!!

For one to 15 year olds, this is the perfect way to get involved at the Covington Aquatic Center. This course uses a combination of the American Red Cross Guard-Start and instructor aide training to teach water safety, drowning prevention and basic swim instruction skills. For those individuals aspiring to be lifeguards and swim instructors some day, this is an excellent first step. Successful graduates from the Aquatic Volunteer Academy are prepared to begin volunteering at the aquatic center, a great way to give back to the community and gain valuable experience helping professional lifeguards and swim instructors. The next course runs Monday, Feb. 21– Friday, Feb. 25 from 1-6 p.m. each day.

For more information about the Covington Aquatic Center and programs listed above, visit www.CovingtonWA.gov/cac, call 425-413-POOL(7665) or visit us at 18230 SE 240th St, Covington WA 98042 (next to Tahoma High School)

LIFEGUARD TRAINING CLASS BEGINS FEBRUARY 19 – REGISTER TODAY!

Did you know that all lifeguards at beaches and pools must be certified? If you are interested in working as a lifeguard, then this class is for you. Participants that successfully complete this course earn certifications in American Red Cross Lifeguarding, First Aid and CPR-AED training. The class meets Saturday, Feb. 19 from 10 a.m.-noon; and Monday, Feb. 21 – Friday, Feb 25, 8 a.m.-3 p.m. each day.



A community newsletter produced by the City of Covington for residents and businesses.

February 2011 *City of Covington: Unmatched Quality of Life*

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Jeff Wagner

Council Members
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Marlla Mhoon, James A. Scott,
Wayne Snoey

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WHAT IS PUBLIC WORKS AND WHY SHOULD I CARE?

Public Works builds and takes care of a great many things that you rely on every day, including the streets, parks, storm water facilities, sidewalks, traffic signals, water, sewer, solid waste and recycling, and emergency response. Public Works is generally like a sports official, they aren't noticed until something goes wrong and generally we like it that way. There are a great many people who quietly take care of the city's infrastructure so you can use it as you wish. While the City of Covington does not provide all of these services, we do partner and coordinate with those who do to assure you can confidently utilize infrastructure services.

The Covington Public Works Department takes great pride in serving this community in the best way possible. The Department is divided into three divisions who work together to assure all of the facets are supported. They include Engineering, Operations and Maintenance and the Administration Division.

The Engineering Division oversees the Capital Investment Program (CIP) such as the following projects: SE 272nd Street from SE Wax Road to Jenkins Creek and the recently completed 180th Avenue SE and SE Wax Road roundabout project. They are also responsible for the Storm Water Management Program, traffic operations, Internet Technology and GIS Mapping. The Engineering Division is staffed by five people with support from consultants.

The Operations and Maintenance Division focuses on keeping the entire infrastructure clean and operating

correctly, this includes streets, signs, parks, surface water and fleet maintenance. The staff of five is supported by various contractors and volunteers.

The Administration Division is responsible to support all of the other divisions in record keeping, correspondence and other needed tasks. They are also responsible for coordinating recycling events, groundbreaking ceremonies, ribbon cutting ceremonies, volunteer clean-up events, website updates for the department, producing the emergency plans, leading the way in implementation of emergency plans during events and provides the background to FEMA to recover funds after an emergency. This division includes the Public Works Director and the Office Supervisor.

There are many other Public Works service providers that affect you daily, including the Covington Water District, Soos Creek Water and Sewer District and Water District 111, to name a few. Also, many private providers such as Puget Sound Energy and Allied Waste Services have just as big an impact and are coordination points for Public Works.

Throughout this year we will bring to you all of the ways Public Works (both the City of Covington and others) impacts your quality of life.

We welcome questions and comments on all subjects feel free to contact:

Public Works Director Glenn Akramoff at gakramoff@ci.covington.wa.us or (253) 638-1110.

Please join us each month.



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JENKINS CREEK BRIDGE UPDATE



On Sunday, December 12, 2010, the footbridge in Jenkins Creek Park collapsed after heavy rains and increased water flow in the creek. The entire bridge has been removed by a contractor. For your safety, please do not attempt to cross the creek or build makeshift crossings. While the city looks for options to temporarily and eventually permanently replace the bridge, we would like to remind all park users that the upper entrance to Jenkins Creek Park will remain open for public use.

UTILITY TAX REBATE

Forms are now available to file for a utility tax rebate from the city. Low income seniors and/or low income disabled persons may be eligible for a utility tax rebate. You can find the forms on the city website at www.CovingtonWA.gov/documentcenter or request them by calling the city at (253) 638-1110.



FREE TAX PREP KEEP MORE OF WHAT YOU WORK FOR!

TAX HELP

Once again qualified volunteers will provide free tax preparation services for Covington residents who make less than \$50,000.

Tax preparation in a quiet setting will occur at Covington City Hall, 16720 SE 271st Street, Suite 100 on Mondays from 5-9 p.m. between March 7 and April 11. Appointments are required so please contact Victoria at **253-638-1110 x2237** to schedule yours.

IS YOUR PET LICENSED?

For convenience, Covington residents can now purchase or renew their pet licenses by check or cash at Covington City Hall during regular business hours on Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m.. Credit card purchases can still be made online at the King County website.

The City of Covington has been a partner with King County Animal Control for animal services including pet licensing. Pet licensing is required by law and also comes with some great benefits for you and your pet. A pet license ensures quick return of your pet if lost or loose. If found by animal control, your pet will also enjoy a free ride home the first time it is found and your pet will get to stay at the shelter longer while animal control attempts to reunite your pet with you. There is also a Vacation Pet Alert Program and some of your license fees support shelter operations, animal cruelty investigations and more.

For questions about purchasing pet licenses at Covington City Hall please contact the City at (253) 638-1110.



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HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION OPENINGS

The City of Covington is accepting applications to fill two upcoming openings on the Human Services Commission. The Commission currently meets at City Hall the second Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Both positions are three-year terms beginning April 1, 2011.

One position is open only to a person living or working inside the Covington city limits. The other position is open to a person living or working in Covington or living outside city limits (but within a three mile radius). Candidates must be 19 years of age or older.

Applications are available at Covington City Hall, on the City's website, or by contacting Deputy City Clerk Joan Michaud at jmichaud@ci.covington.wa.us. Questions regarding the Human Services Commission may be directed to Personnel and Human Services Analyst Victoria Throm at vthrom@ci.covington.wa.us.

Completed applications will be accepted until 5 p.m., Wednesday, February 16, 2011. Interviews with Council are tentatively scheduled before the regular City Council meeting on Tuesday, March 8, 2011. An interview schedule will be established and applicants will be notified appropriately.

SWEETHEART SWIM

Grab your sweetheart and head to the Covington Aquatic Center on Valentine's Day, Monday, Feb. 14 to get a sweet deal! During regular open swims, enjoy 2-for-1 pricing! Pricing is eligible for lap swims scheduled from 5:30-7 a.m. and 7-8 p.m. and open swim from noon-1 p.m.



CITY LAUNCHES NEW WEBSITE

If you visit the city's website often, you may have noticed a dramatic change to the look and feel of the site. After four and a half months of hard work, the City launched its new website on February 1. The main goal of the new site is to provide users with the information they need faster and more efficiently than in the past. We appreciate your patience during this



time of transition and ask you to let us know if you encounter any problems or can't find something you are looking for by contacting Community Relations Coordinator Karla Slate at (253) 638-1110 ext. 2234 or via email at k slate@ci.covington.wa.us.

FEBRUARY

- 02/08 – City Council Regular Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 02/10 – Human Services Commission Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- 02/10 – Arts Commission Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- 02/14 – Sweetheart Swim at Covington Aquatic Center
- 02/16 – Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting, 6 p.m.
- 02/17 – Planning Commission Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- 02/21 – HOLIDAY – City offices closed
- 02/22 – City Council Regular Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 02/24 – Economic Development Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

For More Information on Any of These Events,
Please Contact Karla Slate at (253) 638-1110 x2234
or k slate@ci.covington.wa.us