

ALPINE NEWSLINE

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Mayor's Message

by Mayor Troy Stout



One of the most gut wrenching sights to see out of your window is fire racing up our mountains and threatening our homes. As a community, we need to be "fire wise" in order to avoid potential disaster in our neighborhoods, and to preserve our beautiful hillsides & open spaces. We have been so fortunate to have not lost a single home to wildfire, thanks to quick and comprehensive action by our fire fighters.

With the extremely dry winter, we will see a dangerous summer that carries the threat of fire, perhaps worse than last year. Two major fires swept our eastern slope in 2017, but fortunately a third was stopped on the north slope before it did much damage. We will do everything we can to prevent wildfires in the coming months.

Preventing wildfires in Alpine will require diligence, creativity, preparation and some sacrifices. We'll need to evaluate the benefit vs. risk equation of certain activities that increase the danger. For example, is the use of fireworks an "entitlement" or a privilege that isn't always appropriate under certain conditions? I realize the controversial nature of this discussion, but it's time we take a hard look at what's really important to the community. We can control our actions, but we cannot always control the result of those actions.

The use of motorized vehicles on sensitive lands is also part of the discussion, as is target shooting on public land immediately adjacent to our heavily used open spaces. We have scheduled public hearings on these matters, which I hope will be well attended. Your voice is important.

We are currently partnering with the Division of Natural Resources (DNR) to abate some areas of cheat grass, which often serves as early fuel for fires. Native grasses will be reintroduced, which remain green longer into the season. This will serve a dual purpose, taking fuel away from fire, while providing more natural feed for our deer to lure them out of our yards and into open spaces. That, combined with our plan to provide water sources higher up on the mountain should help mitigate the resident deer issue.

Back on the topic of fire prevention, we'll need to get creative and perhaps try some less orthodox measures. Don't be surprised if you see a few goats in the hills, with an appetite for cheat grass! I'd love to hear from you with ideas on how to make a difference.

Hopefully we will all be mindful of fire prevention this year, and adopt ways of thinking permanently to avoid repeating our long history of loss to wildfire. It will require effort and commitment from all of us.

TEXT TO 911

The Utah County Dispatch is pleased to announce that residents anywhere in the county can now text "911" on their cell phones and connect with a dispatcher.

EASTER EGG HUNT

The Alpine Youth Council will hold the annual Easter Egg Hunt.

**Saturday, March 31st
9:00 AM sharp!
Creekside Park**



DOGS IN PARKS

Alpine City has put up five (5) Dog Waste Stations in parks throughout the city. Please use them and clean up after your dog!

Owners of dogs in parks which are not on a leash are subject to a dog-at-large citation.

Have you noticed this small vine with tiny, delicate yellow flowers? by Bradley Reneer

It thrives in empty lots and dry fields. You may have encountered it along trails, and sprouting out of cracks in driveways and sidewalks. Carefully flip it over and you will find well camouflaged surprises.



This is Tribulus terrestris, or Puncturevine, and is the origin of those devious little stickers that are the bane of bicycle tires and bare feet. It is also known as Goathead, Bullhead, and Devil’s-thorn. It is designated by the Utah Noxious Weed as a Class 3 noxious weed. The stickers, which are seeds, are easily spread by shoes and tires. You can help your neighbors and all of Alpine by noticing and removing these nasty little biological monsters whenever you spot them.

The seeds can remain viable for up to seven years so when removing these plants try to collect all the seeds. If you aren’t sure you got all of them just take off your shoes and walk around. I guarantee you’ll find any stragglers.

Storm Water

The weather has been playing tricks on us this year so I wanted to send out some information that should help us with our water quality here in Alpine City. I wanted to talk about pesticides and fertilizer for cleaner water.

Any water that enters a storm drain does not get treated like the sewer system. Instead, it flows directly into Utah lake via one of three creeks (Fort Creek, Hog Hollow and Dry Creek). This untreated water can harm aquatic life and habitats, contaminate drinking water supplies and recreational waterways, and lessen aesthetic value.

Here are some tips to help keep our waterways looking their best. Apply pesticides and fertilizers in dry weather without a lot of wind. Try to apply insecticides during breeding months. Use dry methods to clean up after a spill (i.e. – don’t spray it off, sweep it up). Mix and load sprayers where any spilled product will not be washed down a storm drain. Keep fertilizer off paved areas and sidewalks. Do not over apply pesticides and fertilizers. By incorporating these methods we can all help in keeping our water protected and clean.

Jason Struchen
Alpine City SWPPP Inspector

Submission of Information to the Newsline
Due: 15th of the month
Email to Charmayne Warnock at
cwarnock@alpinecity.org

Alpine Nature Center



We need Volunteers for Planting Day!!

The Department of Natural Resources is planting shrubs in Lambert Park on April 7th at 9:00 am and we need everyone to come and help. The planting will occur on the southwest side of the park near the church. We need to be certain to have at least 50 people there. Bring gloves, shovels, and other planting tools if you have them. Also, bring your own water and lunch. Thank you and we look forward to working with you to improve the wildlife habitat around Alpine.

Please RSVP to alpinenaturecenter@gmail.com so we are certain to have at least 50 people.

****We will also need many volunteers to “adopt” the plants through the summer months and water them until the plants are established. Thank you and see you on April 7th.**

WHAT: Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day

BRIEF: Utah County residents with household hazardous waste items such as old gasoline, paint, fluorescent light bulbs, batteries and unused medications will be offered safe disposal of these items at a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day on Saturday, April 14th, 2018 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The collection will take place in the west parking lot of the Provo Towne Centre Mall in Provo. For details, including a list of what will or will not be collected, please visit <http://www.utahcountyonline.org/dept/Health/HHW/> or call 801-225-8538 (north county) or 801-489-3027 (south county).

WHEN: Saturday, April 14th, 2018 - 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

WHERE: Provo Towne Centre Mall, west parking lot.

Utah Valley Job Fair
Coming March 21, 2018

The Utah Valley Job Fair will be held on Wednesday March 21st, 2018 from 12:00 PM – 3:00 PM at the Utah Valley Convention Center in Provo and is FREE for job seekers.