

ROCKFORD NEWS

August, 2015

COME ONE, COME ALL!

The Rockford Historical Society is putting together a cookbook featuring recipe from our area. Send us a family favorite with a short explanation of it's history and your recipe may be included.

Send recipes to
garden_peggy@yahoo
or call

509-291-3077

For more
information.

Please respond by
August 24th

Carrie's Comments:

Great news!! We were very excited to learn that the 2016-2017 State of Washington Capital Budget included money to help us with our sewer lagoon project! Our 9th District Legislators took our plea to heart and fought for funding for our Town! We have been given \$1.2 MILLION DOLLARS! This will offset the loan that we had previously been granted – and will be in addition to the grant that we already have in place. This is fantastic news for all of us living in and paying utility bills in Rockford!

The council has agreed to proceed with caution in regard to reducing the utility bill at this time. We believe the wisest approach is to wait until we know exactly what may happen with bids and project cost overruns. And some funds must remain allocated for Maintenance & Operations of the new sewer treatment facility. However, the council made a commitment to the citizens of this town to lower the Sewer Loan Repayment charge if additional funding was obtained. I believe they will be true to their word, and once the project is complete will make the final decision about these charges.

Many, **many** thanks to Rockford's amazing citizens who took the time to write to our legislators requesting this *proviso* money. I don't believe we would have been successful in our efforts without your requests. Please consider following up with a thank you note to the same legislators.

Legislators Email Addresses:

joe.schmick@leg.wa.gov

mark.schoesler@leg.wa.gov

MAYOR

Carrie Roecks
291-3329

COUNCIL MEMBER'S

Micki Harnois
291-3621

Robert Tollefson
291-3000

Dave Thompson
291-3229

Clint Stevenson
291-3722

EMERGENCY WATER PLAN

At the August 5, 2015 meeting, the council will consider adopting a Water Shortage Response Plan. This plan will address how the Town will handle getting water to you in the event of an emergency. This could be a fire, an earthquake, or flood, or many other unknown situations. The greatest immediate threat is drought.

The governor has officially declared the state of Washington in a drought, and according to the National Drought Mitigation Center, currently 98% of the state is classified "severe drought." We should all be taking measures to conserve water. And Rockford is no exception.

VOLUNTARY REDUCTION IN USAGE

We can all help protect our water supply. **The best way to reduce the strain to our water system is to use less water.** The biggest residential use of water is outdoors: lawn watering, gardening and landscaping. According to the Department of Health, most landscapes can be healthy with 25 to 40 percent less water than they typically get. Please see the included insert about ways to reduce water usage in Rockford during this drought.

We are currently asking for some voluntary reduction in usage, but council may be required to impose some watering restrictions later. Please do not water during the heat of the day because so much water is lost due to evaporation. Late evening or very early morning is recommended, but try not to water outdoors between 6:00-8:00 am, as that is when the water demand in Rockford is at its highest.