



City of Maupin Newsletter

By Mayor Lynn Ewing

May 1, 2020

We are still operating under the “Stay Home. Stay Safe.” orders while working with state and county officials on how and when to re-open. As **information** becomes available, it is being posted on the **City’s Facebook page**. If you have Facebook, please pass the information on to your friends who do not. If you do not have Facebook, you may want to set up an account and “Like” the City of Maupin to keep up. <https://www.facebook.com/City-of-Maupin-Oregon-135772286912061>

As we VERY SLOWLY Re-Open City and business facilities, things will be very different. We have been working closely with the Wasco County Emergency Management team, the County Commissioners, North Central Public Health and MCMC as required by the State and Federal re-opening guidelines. Currently the Health Department and MCMC either have everything they need or are very close. Wasco County nearly has a plan complete to submit to the state.

Please comply with any requirements spelled out by any open business such as staying 6 feet apart, wearing a mask (if asked), and limiting the number of people as well as your own time in the business. Businesses must follow State Guidelines or they will be closed, so do your part to keep them safe and open. If you have any concerns about your own health, please call the business and ask for curbside or home delivery to avoid going out in public. You could even ask a trusted friend to pick up your mail to avoid going inside the post office.

We have asked to be able to open **Maupin City Park** May 15 to self-contained RVs only. Campers will need to use their own sanitation and shower facilities rather than the public facilities. If all goes well, we can begin to allow tent camping a week or a few weeks later. We also have asked to open **City Hall and the Library** in a very limited fashion on May 18. Limited visitors and face coverings will be required. If you need to meet with a particular staff person or the Mayor, please make an appointment.

The Chamber has not cancelled **Maupin Daze**, but anything that does occur on May 15 will have to involve social distancing and safe practices. Any assemblage of large groups will put an end to the minor festivities. At this writing, the Garden Club is working out details to possibly continue with the plant sale.

Deschutes River Boater Passes and campsites along the river are tentatively scheduled to open May 20. Fishing is already allowed along the river and we have asked BLM to open restrooms and re-instate garbage pickup as soon as possible. They plan to have some staff at the BLM station on Bakeoven by May 10. In the meantime, both County Sheriff deputies and State Police troopers are patrolling the area and either asking campers to leave or citing them for violations.

We are planning our **Maupin Spring Cleanup for Saturday**, May 30. You can get free yard debris bags at the Civic Center or at the old City Hall. We will also have a dumpster for metal only (no refrigerators) and a dumpster and a garbage truck for items too big to fit in your trashcan (think couches, chairs, etc.). Please practice social distancing and wear a face covering when you are interacting with others at this event. If you need something picked up from your home, please contact City Hall to make arrangements.

Any **City Meetings** (Council or Planning Commission) that take place during this time will be held online using Zoom software (<https://zoom.us/>). Please call City Hall if you need help with this. This can also be used for free as a way to communicate with friends and family as a group.

We are currently assisting with food box distribution from the **Columbia Gorge Food Bank** by providing the Community Building at the City Park every Friday afternoon. The City is also assisting by trying to find a more permanent alternate location and have it narrowed down to just a couple of locations. Watch the South Wasco Happenings page on Facebook for details.

The **U.S. Census** is still underway. You can complete it from home (Takes only a few minutes) and make sure you are counted. The Census will be used for 10 years to determine House & Senate District boundaries and the information is needed for many grants for local projects. <https://2020census.gov/>

One Community Health (541-296-4610) in The Dalles and **Mid-Columbia Medical Center** (541-296-9151) will now test anyone who works with the public or anyone who works with at-risk populations for **COVID-19**. Please call ahead or contact your primary care provider for an appointment. Testing is not available at this time at Deschutes Rim Clinic.

We have closed on the offer for **the old Maupin City Hall and Library**. Urban Patterns wants to create a 21st Century office and entrepreneurial workspace to take advantage of our highspeed broadband accessibility. An alternative to working at home or renting an expensive office space, co-working and shared office spaces are becoming much more common. U.P. has developed several in Portland and would like to expand to Maupin. <https://hbr.org/2015/05/why-people-thrive-in-coworking-spaces>

Although it is not a City project, the DRAC will provide some economic benefit and an all-weather walking/running surface to the community. The **Deschutes River Athletic Complex** will be one more asset drawing people to our community and will provide a long-needed facility for our students. Contact Rob, Susie, or Holly Miles to contribute or be involved. Donations are already coming in. The **Oregon National Guard Army Corps of Engineers has moved their involvement from April to August 2-12, 2020** as they are busy with other tasks at this time.

If you are still using something other than GorgeNet or LSNetworks for your Internet and phone, you would probably save some money by switching. The bandwidth also creates ways to save on your television bills as well as provide a connection for tele-medicine sessions with your medical provider. During the COVID-19 shutdown, **GorgeNet is doing free installs.**

GorgeNet <http://www.gorge.net/maupin/> 888-508-2363

LS Networks <https://www.lsnetworks.net/> 971.361.9765

PLANT A VICTORY GARDEN! A movement is in the works for people to plant a Victory Garden just as families did during World War II. Check with the OSU Extension Service <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/gardening> and knowledgeable neighbors to learn what to plant and when. A great family activity, fresh food for your table, and a feeling of accomplishment are all benefits of this project.

The City has a position opening for City Recorder. DeOra Patton, who has held the position as long as most of us remember has decided to retire this summer. She has offered to assist a new person in getting up to speed on helping to run our city. The opening and details will soon be posted on the city website. Contact City Manager Kevin Lewis if you have other questions. maupincitymanager@gmail.com

The City is working with the school and the parents of the graduating SWC **Class of 2020** to get banners to put on the light poles downtown honoring each graduate. Should be ready to go up in the next few weeks. Feel free to contact the school to donate to this project.

FOR SMALL BUSINESSES If you need financial assistance or help meeting the re-opening criteria, please contact some of these resources. Start at MCEDD: <https://www.mcedd.org/ready/> We also have a new Director at the Small Business Development Center at CGCC: Gregory Price, 541-506-6120, gprice@cgcc.edu Website: <https://bizcenter.org/centers/columbia-gorge-sbdc/connect-with-us/> Another statewide resource for our restaurants and motels: Oregon Restaurant and Lodging Association <https://www.oregonrla.org/> Much of their information would apply to any small business. Finally, Michael Held is our local contact for Business Oregon Michael.Held@oregon.gov

The **budget process** for the city will begin this month. The first budget meeting will be held **May 14**. We are still in need of a budget committee member. Contact City Hall if you are interested.

The **Planning Commission** has spent considerable time developing rules that would allow **Vacation Rentals** in homes currently located within a commercial district. The City Council will now consider the proposal at our next Council Meeting

If you would like a digital copy of the city newsletter, please email any of us at City Hall. It will make it easier to use all of those links!

<p>Phone Numbers & Email Addresses</p> <p>Mayor Lynn Ewing Office: 541-395-2811 Cell: 541-993-5956 City Hall 541-395-2698 maupinmayor@gmail.com Visit our City of Maupin Website @ www.cityofmaupin.org</p>	<p>Meeting Schedules</p> <p>Planning Commission @ 6:00 pm Budget Committee @ 6:30 pm Council Meeting @ 6:30 pm</p> <p>Under shutdown conditions, meetings are being held using remote software (Zoom) that allows participation via phone or computer.</p>	<p>5/12/2020 5/14/2020 5/27/2020</p>	<p><i>We are a safe, progressive community that cares for all our citizens and visitors while protecting our natural resources and maintaining our rural heritage."</i></p>
	<p>Public Meetings Law Sessions ORS192.640(2)</p>	<p>Executive ORS192.640</p>	