



August 2015

Issues Brief

City of Yakima e-Newsletter

Franklin Pool Season Extended Through September 20th

With long-term weather forecasts indicating that the heat the Yakima area has been experiencing all summer may continue for at least another month, Yakima Parks & Recreation officials have decided to extend the Franklin Pool season through September 20th. The outdoor pool's season was to have ended on August 23rd.

From Monday, August 24th through Saturday, September 19th, Franklin Pool will be open Monday through Friday from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm and 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm on Saturdays and Sundays. Normal admission prices will apply.

We decided that people need to have an option for staying cool if the hot weather continues as it is predicted to, said Yakima Parks & Recreation Manager Ken Wilkinson. Extending the Franklin Pool season will give people that opportunity.

The 2015 Franklin Pool season will be one of the longest on record. The pool also opened about a week early this year because of spiking temperatures.

As it has for the past eight years, the Franklin Pool season will end this year with the annual *Paws In the Pool* event. This year's *Paws in the Pool* will take place on Sunday, September 20th from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm. Dogs and their owners will be invited to end the 2015 Franklin Pool season on a high note by splashing and playing in the pool.

Admission to the *Paws In the Pool* event is free for dogs, but owners do have to buy a general admission ticket, which costs \$2.00 for kids, \$3.75 for adults, and \$2.25 for senior citizens. A family pass, which can be used for up to two adults and as many as four kids, costs \$13.00.

Staff from the Humane Society of Central Washington will also be on hand at this year's *Paws In the Pool* event to provide information to pet owners and to accept donations of money and/or supplies, including pet food, towels, laundry soap, bleach, and kitty litter.

More information about the September 20th *Paws In the Pool* event will be included in the September 2015 City of Yakima Issues Brief e-Newsletter.



Franklin Pool's 2015 season has been extended through September 20th because above normal temperatures are expected to continue. The pool's season was set to end on August 23rd.



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Yakima Wastewater Treatment Plant Achieves Perfect Performance

The Yakima Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant has been recognized by the Washington State Department of Ecology (DOE) for having achieved full compliance with all clean water requirements during 2014. The City of Yakima-owned plant processes wastewater from homes, businesses, and industrial facilities in Yakima, Union Gap, Terrace Heights, and Moxee.

The Yakima plant is one of 127 facilities in the state to receive the DOE's 2014 Wastewater Treatment Plant Outstanding Performance Award. The award signifies that the Yakima plant had perfect compliance with strict federal standards that ensure waterways are not being polluted. The federal standards are enforced by the DOE.

The Yakima Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant processes wastewater through multiple stages including grit removal, clarifiers, digesters, aeration basins, and ultraviolet disinfection. Once the water has been treated to meet the federal standards, it is returned to the Yakima River.

The talents of our professional operators are critical to successful plant operations and protecting the health of Washington's waterways, said DOE's Water Quality Program Manager Heather Bartlett. It is an honor to recognize their contributions with this award.



The Yakima Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant has won the 2014 DOE Outstanding Performance Award.

The DOE's Wastewater Treatment Plant Outstanding Performance Award program was created in 1995 to serve as an incentive for facilities to work toward full compliance with the federal standards, which are part of the Clean Water Act. In the awards program's first year, only 14 of the wastewater treatment plants in Washington State achieved perfect compliance. In 2014, more than a third of the plants (127) met the mark.



The Yakima plant processes wastewater from homes and businesses in Yakima, Union Gap, Terrace Heights, and Moxee.

To receive the DOE's Wastewater Treatment Plant Outstanding Performance Award, a facility must be in full compliance with effluent (water discharged into the river) limits, monitoring and reporting requirements, spill prevention planning, pretreatment standards, and overall operational demands of its National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for an entire year.

The DOE appreciates the extraordinary efforts of the plant operators in Washington State, said Bartlett.



The final free, family-friendly Downtown Summer Nights concert will be on August 20th on 4th Street from 5 pm to 9 pm. Come join Ellensburg's Uphill Both Ways, Yakima's own These Guitars Say Sorry, and headliner Blake Nobel for a night of fun and great music!



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