



# ISSUES BRIEF

April 2020 - Vol. X, Issue 4, Number 93

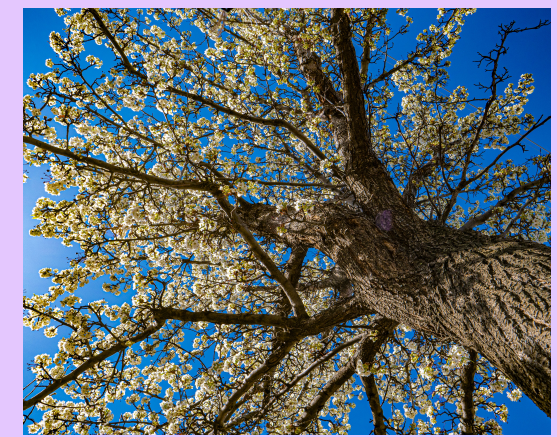
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## "We are a community of character, compassion and faith"

### Mayor Byers shares City's response to COVID-19

"The city is taking all necessary steps to continue to provide vital public services," Yakima Mayor Patricia Byers said in a video message she shared last month in response to COVID-19.

She also calls on Yakima residents to take precautions and do their part in following the guidance of health officials, such as social distancing.

"We are a community of character, compassion and faith," Mayor Byers said. "Let us continue in that vein."

The City's response to COVID-19 includes:

- The City has created a dedicated webpage at [www.yakimawa.gov/covid19](http://www.yakimawa.gov/covid19) with updates and links to county, state, national and world health agencies.
- All City facilities are closed until further notice. The City continues to provide services.
- We encourage you to use our online services. They include the City's Online Permit Center and utility services webpages available at [yakimawa.gov](http://yakimawa.gov).
- All City board, commission, and committee meetings are canceled until further notice.
- The Dog Park at Randall Park is closed to reduce social gatherings and the possible spread of COVID-19.

### COVID-19 precautions:

- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash and wash your hands.
- Clean and disinfect objects and surfaces.
- Stay at home and away from others if you are sick.



*In addition to maintaining social distancing of at least six feet, the Yakima Health District offers the above recommendations to stay in compliance with guidelines and restrictions now in place due to COVID-19.*

- The Yakima Police Department encourages you to utilize the online and telephone reporting systems as much as possible. YPD has created online tutorial videos in English and Spanish.
- When responding to EMS aid calls, Yakima Fire Department crews are wearing personal protective equipment, including N95 masks and gowns.
- The golf season at Fisher Park has been postponed indefinitely.
- All Yakima Transit buses continue to operate as normally scheduled.
- Bus passes and tickets can be purchased at the Transit Center, calling 575-6175 (passes will be mailed if ordered via telephone) or at Wray's Grocery Stores in Yakima.
- To protect passengers and drivers, Yakima Transit continues daily disinfection procedures in all its vehicles and facilities.

The mayor's message and links to the above information are available at [yakimawa.gov/covid19](http://yakimawa.gov/covid19)

## Yakima community expressing support for first responders

During this time of COVID-19 the Yakima community is supporting first responders such as Yakima firefighters.

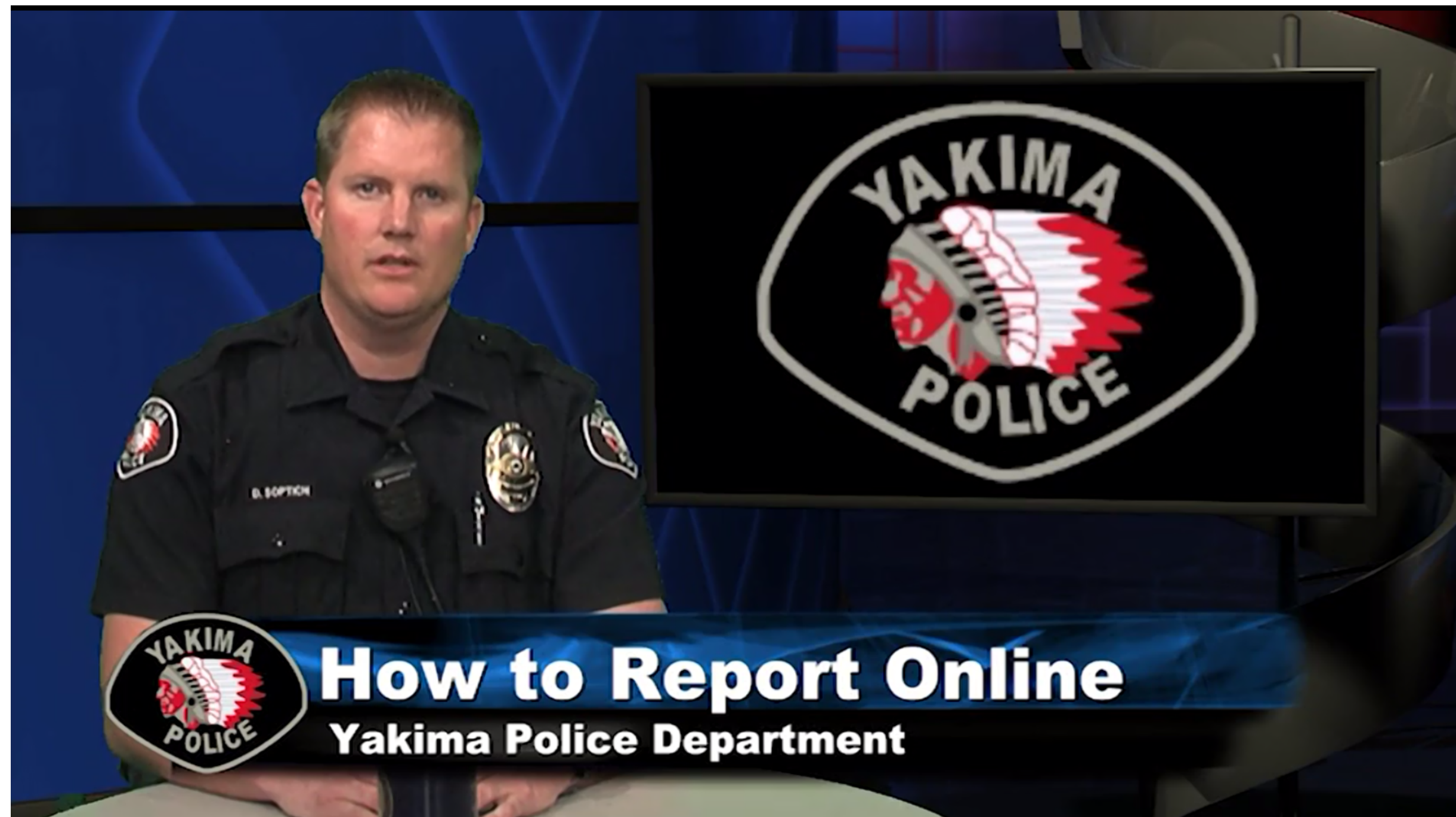
At right, Yakima Fire Dept. Captain Alex Langbell displays a sample of the lunch that was provided to him and all on-duty firefighters by the previous owner of Pho King Crab with the help of the current owner.

Baxter Construction recently disinfected YFD fire stations and apparatus as well as YPD equipment at no charge.

Businesses and individuals in the area have also donated gloves and masks to support first responders.



## Yakima Police offer tutorials for online reporting



### *Videos available in English and Spanish*

In response to COVID-19, the Yakima Police Department (YPD) encourages you to use the online and telephone reporting systems as much as possible.

To that end, YPD has created online tutorial videos in English and Spanish. You can view them at <https://www.youtube.com/c/CityofYakimaWA> and on Y-PAC.

The videos share how to create and submit a police report online at [Yakimapolice.org](http://Yakimapolice.org).

Yakima police officers continue to respond to in-progress calls, but encourage the public to use the online and telephone reporting systems as much as possible for non-priority calls.

A non-priority call is defined as a crime that is not in-progress and police response is unlikely to result in the immediate apprehension of an offender.

YPD reminds the public to stay home and stay healthy.





# SPRING BLOSSOMS IN YAKIMA

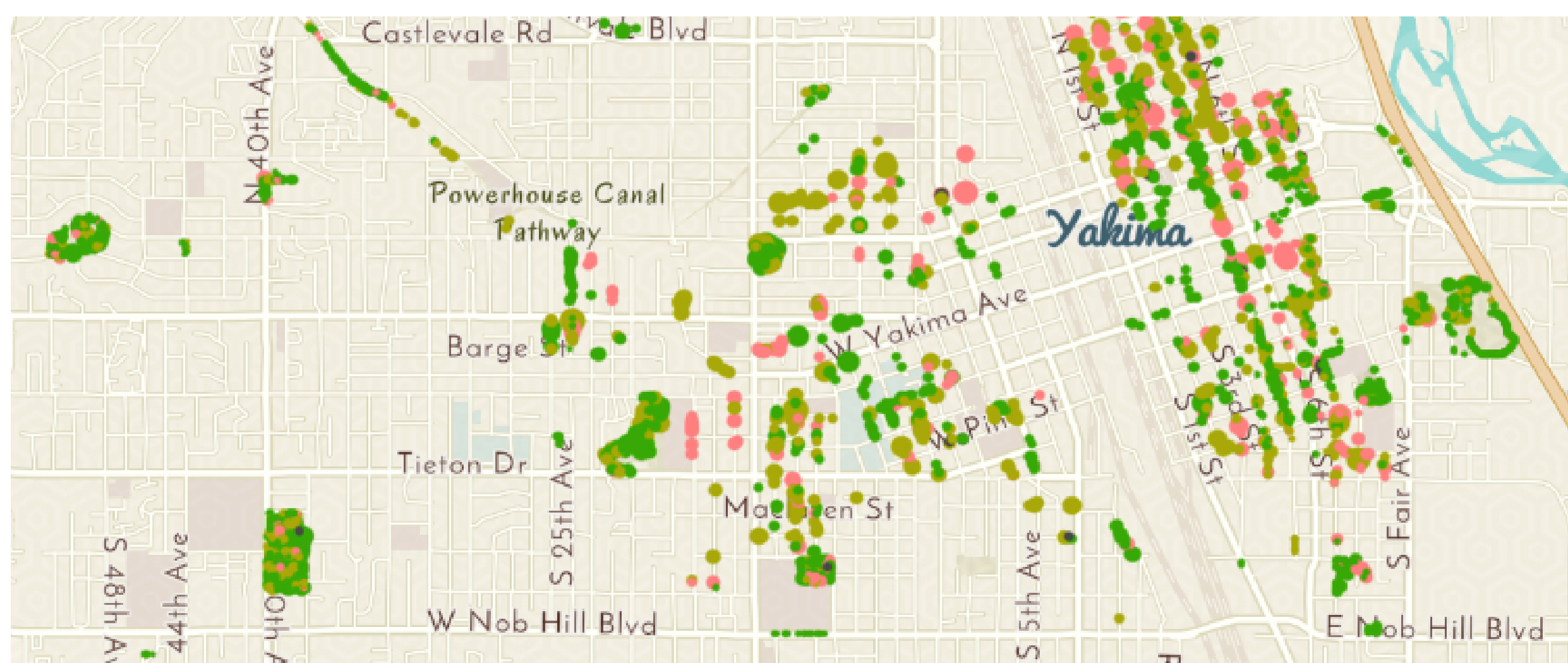


March brought spring and new life to Yakima in the form of brilliant blossoms throughout the City.

## City of Yakima offers tree inventory map



Above: Trees line Kissel Park along Mead Avenue. Above right, trees show their blossoms along a section of Yakima Avenue. Below: A screenshot from a City map showing tree inventory.



### National Arbor Day is Friday, April 24th

How many trees are in the City of Yakima? What types of trees? Where are they located?

Those questions and many more can be answered thanks to a City tree inventory map created by the City of Yakima Information Technology Services Division.

Visit [Yakimawa.gov](http://Yakimawa.gov) for links to online tree inventory maps suitable for both desktop and mobile platforms. They are timely maps, given that Arbor Day will be celebrated this month on Friday, April 24th.

Yakima was named a Tree City USA community in 2017.

# Connect with the City of Yakima

|                         |                 |                     |                 |
|-------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Airport:</b>         | <b>575-6149</b> | <b>Parks</b>        | <b>575-6020</b> |
| <b>Animal Control:</b>  | <b>575-6038</b> | <b>Planning:</b>    | <b>575-6183</b> |
| <b>City Clerk:</b>      | <b>575-6000</b> | <b>* Police:</b>    | <b>575-6200</b> |
| <b>City Manager:</b>    | <b>575-6000</b> | <b>Refuse:</b>      | <b>575-6005</b> |
| <b>Codes/Licenses:</b>  | <b>575-6126</b> | <b>Streets:</b>     | <b>575-6005</b> |
| <b>Engineering:</b>     | <b>575-6111</b> | <b>Transit:</b>     | <b>575-6175</b> |
| <b>* Fire:</b>          | <b>575-6060</b> | <b>Utilities:</b>   | <b>575-6080</b> |
| <b>Human Resources:</b> | <b>575-6090</b> | <b>Wastewater:</b>  | <b>575-6077</b> |
| <b>Legal</b>            | <b>575-6030</b> | <b>Water/Irrig:</b> | <b>575-6154</b> |
| <b>Municipal Court:</b> | <b>575-3050</b> | <b>YCTV/YPAC:</b>   | <b>575-6092</b> |

**\* NON-EMERGENCY only. Call 911 in an emergency.**



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<https://www.facebook.com/cityofyakimafb/>



<https://twitter.com/CityofYakima>



<https://www.instagram.com/cityofyakima/>



<https://www.youtube.com/c/CityofYakimaWA>

The City of Yakima *Issues Brief e-Newsletter* is published monthly by the City's Community Relations Office.

Questions? Suggestions?

Contact Community Relations Specialist John Fannin at 249-6858 or [John.Fannin@yakimawa.gov](mailto:John.Fannin@yakimawa.gov)

## Issues Brief production note

The April 2020 *Issues Brief* is only available online due to coronavirus-related closures of public buildings and facilities, such as Yakima City Hall, the Harman Center and the Yakima Central Library.

You can click on each story in this *Issues Brief* for links to additional, related information that is available on the City of Yakima website at [yakimawa.gov](http://yakimawa.gov).

Print copies of *Issues Brief* will resume when stay-at-home orders are lifted and public buildings are again open to the community.

**In the meantime, take care and thanks for reading.**