



City of Yakima e-Newsletter

ISSUES BRIEF

December 2022 - Vol. XII, Issue 12, Number 124

Yakima Transit offers Luminaria lift



photos courtesy
Yakima Area
Arboretum

Yakima Transit will provide free shuttle bus service to the Yakima Area Arboretum's 2022 Luminaria Candle-Lit Walk event on Friday, Dec. 9th and Saturday, Dec. 10th.

Shuttles will run from 5:30 pm to 10:30 pm both nights. The Luminaria Walk is 6 to 10 pm.

Yakima Transit shuttle buses will run continuously both nights, Dec. 9th and 10th, from the **Kiwanis Park Playfields, 1501 E. Maple Street.**

NOTE: Luminaria parking will no longer be available at the U-Haul lot across from the Arboretum.

The Arboretum entrance will close starting at 5 pm both nights. Only Yakima Transit shuttles and vehicles with official handicap parking placards will be permitted.

Yakima Transit typically provides over 6,000 passenger trips during the 2-day event.

The Arboretum's annual Luminaria Walk is a signature event for the organization. It features a loop trail through the Arboretum's landscape lit by the light of more than 1,000 candles.

While walking the trail, visitors will enjoy groves of trees strung with twinkling lights.

Visit <https://www.ahtrees.org/> for more about the Yakima Area Arboretum as well as the Luminaria event.

Call 509-575-6175 or visit <https://yakimatransit.org/> for more about Yakima Transit routes and the free Luminaria shuttle.

City extends yard waste collection through Dec. 12

The City of Yakima is extending its yard waste collection service through Monday, December 12th. The service was originally scheduled to end November 30th.

“Due to the unusual warmer weather this year, much of the foliage has yet to drop,” said Public Works Director Scott Schafer. “As a result, we are extending the yard waste service for another two weeks. Dec. 12th is the final day.”

Customers are asked to have their green yard waste cart available 6:00 am on the curb or alley on the day of scheduled pick-up.



There is a charge for the service, limited to collecting grass clippings, leaves and small branches.

Branches should be cut into lengths of 3 feet or less and not exceed 3 inches in diameter. All yard waste must fit in the cart with the lid closed.

City of Yakima Refuse Division trucks can pick up yard waste carts weighing up to 150 pounds.

Items unacceptable for yard waste pick-up include garbage, plastic bags, food scraps, animal waste, ashes and sod, building materials and tree trunks or large branches. These are not accepted by the County landfill as yard waste, and are considered contaminants.

Visit the Refuse Division's yard waste collection website at [Yard Waste Collection | Refuse Division \(yakimawa.gov\)](https://www.yakimawa.gov/yard-waste-collection) or call 509-575-6005 for details.

Briefly

City announces holiday closures

All City of Yakima facilities will be closed on Monday, Dec. 26th, and Jan. 2nd, in observance of the Christmas and New Year's Day holidays.

Since Christmas and New Year's Day fall on a Sunday, there will be no interruption for garbage collection service.

Harman Center hosting toy drive

A Toys for Tots Drive is underway at the Harman Center, 101 N. 65th Ave. New, unwrapped toys are accepted through Dec. 14.

The center closes Dec. 24-26 and Dec. 31-Jan. 2 for the holidays.

See a pothole? Report a pothole!

With over 400 miles of streets to maintain, we need your help reporting potholes.

You can report potholes using the City's "Yak Back" feature at <https://www.yakimawa.gov/yak-back/>

Another option is calling the Street Repair Hotline at (509) 576-6713.

Tree-mendous Teamwork



City of Yakima Public Works, Nelson Crane and Downtown Association of Yakima worked together to deliver and install the Community Christmas Tree at Millennium Plaza on Nov. 22nd. The tree-lighting ceremony is Sunday, Dec. 4th.

Clean City Program continues progress



Abating/cleaning 726 incidents of graffiti, clearing over 47 tons of garbage and removing 286 grocery carts are some of the City of Yakima Clean City Program activities during the third quarter of 2022.

The Yakima City Council received an update in its agenda packet for the meeting on Nov. 15th. Click [Coversheet \(novusagenda.com\)](http://novusagenda.com) for an update covering July through September 2022.

The program's main objectives include:

- Address visual blight
- Address unscheduled collection of waste and litter from public areas/thoroughfares
- Clean up homeless encampments
- Support Yakima Police Department officers in unlawful camping enforcement
- Provide coordination with neighborhoods for clean-up events
- Engage community partners & volunteers

The City of Yakima developed "Clean City" as a program in 2019.

The Clean City Program, under the direction of the City of Yakima Public Works Department, coordinates the efforts of several City departments and community partners.

They include:

City of Yakima Public Works:

- Public Works Administration
- Refuse Division
- Streets & Traffic Division
- Parks & Recreation Division

City of Yakima Codes Division

City of Yakima Legal Department

Yakima Police Department

Click [Public Works \(yakimawa.gov/\)](http://yakimawa.gov/) for more information about the City of Yakima Public Works Department.

City Council action summary - Nov. 2022

Yakima City Council action during meetings in November included:

- Reinstating the ad-hoc Committee for the Martin Luther King Jr. Aquatic Center
- Approving the 2023-24 Biennial Budget
- Amending and adopting 2023 State and Federal legislative priorities
- Discussing City partnerships
- Adding Coolidge Road from 72nd Avenue to 84th Avenue to the Transportation Improvement Plan
- Using green paint to mark bicycle lanes
- Approving an agreement with the Rotary Clubs of Yakima for the design, installation and use of lighting at public recreation facilities
- Approving ordinances pertaining to Ad Valorem taxes to be levied for collection in Fiscal Year 2023

Complete minutes and agendas from council meetings are available at [Agendas and Minutes | City Council \(yakimawa.gov\)](https://www.yakimawa.gov/Agendas-and-Minutes-City-Council)

Downtown Decor



The City of Yakima's street crews were busy in November placing holiday decorations throughout the downtown area in preparation for festivities this month.

follow the City of Yakima on social media:



watch City meetings any time, on demand:



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

Questions? Suggestions?

Contact Community Outreach Specialist John Fannin at 509-249-6858 or John.Fannin@yakimawa.gov.

City Directory

Airport:	575-6149
Animal Control:	575-6038
City Clerk:	575-6000
City Manager:	575-6000
Codes/Licenses:	575-6126
* Fire:	575-6060
Human Resources:	575-6090
Municipal Court:	575-3050
Parks:	575-6020
Planning:	575-6183
* Police:	575-6200
Purchasing	575.6093
Refuse:	575-6005
Streets:	575-6005
Transit:	575-6175
Utilities:	575-6080
Wastewater:	575-6077
Water/Irrig:	575-6154
YCTV/YPAC:	575-6092

* NON-EMERGENCY. Call 911 in an emergency.