

Show Low News



Monthly

September 2005

www.ci.show-low.az.us

City responds to providing basic services

As Show Low's population and development continue to flourish, so, too, do the needs of our citizens. To stay a step ahead of the growing demand for services, the City is responding in innovative and proactive ways. Work proceeds behind the scenes to meet the basic needs we often take for granted, such as drinking water, sewer service and street maintenance. This month, learn about recent, ongoing and proposed projects in which the City is involved.

Water

◆ Last month, we reported that the City acquired S Lake, guaranteeing the City's future water supply. As that assurance, two new wells are being added to the City's water system. Water from well no. 11 will be pumped to a storage tank on Whipple Road. Water from well no. 12, purchased from The Pines Property Owners' Association, will be piped to a storage tank in Torreon. Each well pumps approximately 600 gallons per minute, enough water to serve over 1,500 homes.

◆ This winter, the City will erect a new million-gallon water storage tank adjacent to Whipple Road. Currently, two tanks are on-site, one holding 300,000 gallons and another containing one million gallons. The new tank will replace the 300,000-gallon tank. Made of steel with a porcelain coating, it will cost about \$500,000. This new tank will help ensure that the City is never without potable water.

Sewer

◆ The oldest sewer lines in the City were installed 40 to 50 years ago. Like everything else we use, things begin to fall apart. Some of the older pipes are made of clay, which have cracked and broken over time. Some sewer lines are too small and cannot handle the amount of sewage, also known as wastewater, flowing through them. The cost to maintain the system and replace old

and undersized lines increases every year. To battle rising prices and still meet demand, the Show Low City Council recently made the difficult decision to raise sewer rates. A \$5 increase in the base rate is reflected in this month's billing. At the new sewer rate, an average household will now spend about 76¢ a day for sewer service.

◆ For the first time in 20 years, the City cleaned its sewer treatment plant of sludge. Sludge is the inorganic matter produced after wastewater is treated. The project, which cost \$130,000, is



four to five feet of sludge, resulting in a more efficient treatment plant. The project began in June and will be completed by the end of September.

◆ Construction of the Show Low Creek trunk line project was completed recently. This major sewer line serves the City's southern portion, from Show Low Creek bridge south to The Home Depot, Wal-Mart Supercenter and Navapache Regional Medical Center. As a result of rapid development, the old system could not handle the demand placed on it. Sewer was originally

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Grant funds available to downtown business owners

Show Low Main Street was recently awarded Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding in partnership with the City of Show Low. The funds will provide matching grant to downtown business and commercial property owners wanting to improve their building's exteriors.

The maximum grant amount is \$5,000, with business and commercial property owners supplying a dollar-for-dollar match. Applicants must show proof of financial capacity to provide their match to the grant.

The property to be redeveloped should be located within the City of Show Low downtown redevelopment area. The downtown district encompasses several area blocks, including Show Low Creek, the Deuce of Clubs and White Mountain Road.

Rehabilitation and/or facade improvements must occur under the time and financial constraints of the program. Applicants are required to allow property inspections throughout the project.

For application information, contact Show Low Main Street at 537-8181.

Calendar of Events

Family Aquatic Center & Recreation: 532-4140

Public Library: 532-4070

- 09/05 Labor Day** (City offices closed, except Aquatic Center)
- 09/06 7 p.m.**, Council Chambers
City Council Regular Meeting
- 09/07 3:30 p.m.**, City Campus field
Punt, Pass & Kick (boys & girls, ages 8-15)
- 09/08 10 a.m.**, Public Library (public welcome)
Show Low Library Friends monthly meeting
- 09/09 Start Smart Basketball** registration (ages 3-5)
- 09/13 7 p.m.**, Council Chambers
Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting
- 09/14 1:30 p.m.**, Public Library (book: Bless Me, Ultima)
Arizona Humanities Book Discussion Group
- 09/14 2:45 p.m.**, Aquatic Center
Youth craft class (grades 2-5)
- 09/15 7 p.m.**, Council Chambers
Show Low Historical Society meeting (guest speaker Dr. Mike Lawson, NPC Department Head/Archaeology: "Smithsonian Artifacts from the White Mountains")
- 09/16 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.**, Holiday Inn Express in Show Low
City Council Retreat
- 09/16 9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.**, Public Library, Historical Museum, Festival Marketplace
White Mountain Storytelling Festival, with storytellers, workshops, "campfire stories" & music (for information, check www.ci.show-low.az.us/departments/library)
- 09/17 9 a.m. – 9 p.m.**, Public Library & Festival Marketplace
White Mountain Storytelling Festival, with storytellers & youth activities
- 09/18 9 a.m.**, Greenhouse Nursery
Old West Chapel (cowboy church), part of the **White Mountain Storytelling Festival**
- 09/19 7 p.m.**, Council Chambers
City Council Special Meeting (reschedule of 09/20 Regular Meeting)
- 09/24 FREE Concert in the Park**, City Park
4 p.m., **Local Legends Show Off**, featuring favorite local opening bands (show was postponed from July 30)
- 09/26** Registration begins for **Fall Swimming Lessons**
- 09/27 7 p.m.**, Council Chambers
Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting
- 09/29 3:30 p.m.**, Public Library (favorite adventure book)
Teens' Book Discussion (ages 12+)



Check out City 4 TV & www.ci.show-low.az.us for more information

City provides basic services...continued from cover page

pumped to the wastewater treatment plant through a force main and lift station. A lift station uses electricity to "force" the sewer through the system. At a cost of \$2 million, the six-inch diameter force main was converted to a 30-inch diameter gravity line. A gravity system is the least expensive, most reliable way to move sewer to the treatment plants since power outages can no longer affect its delivery.

◆ A project to replace the force main from the treatment plant on 6th Street to the constructed wetlands on SR77 will begin in early 2006. The force main will be upsized from a ten-inch line to an 18-inch line. In this case, a force main is required because the wastewater is flowing uphill. The underground line runs mainly across U.S. Forest Service land north of Show Low.

Roads

◆ The City recently completed slurry-sealing 85% of the streets south of the Deuce of Clubs. Slurry seal is a surface treatment placed over the asphalt to seal water out and create a wear surface, which extends the life of a road by ten to 15 years. To do all the roads in Show Low takes three years. The next two years are used to rebuild roads that have failed completely. Every road receives a new slurry surface every sixth year. Next year, City streets north of the Deuce of Clubs will be treated.

◆ About 25,000 cubic yards of RAP, or recycled asphalt, received from the Arizona Department of Transportation will be used to surface the remaining dirt roads maintained by the City. About two-and-a-half miles of dirt roads, including 16th Avenue north of Old Linden Road, Central Avenue north of Paloma and Joe Tank Road, will be surfaced. Additionally, six miles of shoulders on both sides of Penrod Road will be widened for safety using the RAP and imported dirt. The project should begin November 2005.

◆ In July, Congress committed \$1 million in federal grant funds to the City for the Scott Ranch Road project. The estimated \$3.7 million project will extend Scott Ranch Road (the main entrance to The Home Depot) east to Penrod Road. When completed, the road will provide another access to and from the east side of town. The project's first phase will include identifying the road's proposed alignment; conducting an environmental study (abiological, botanical, archaeological and cultural clearance required by the federal government); acquiring the necessary rights-of-way; and constructing the portion from Scott Ranch Road to Show Low Lake Road. Construction of the first phase is anticipated to begin when funds are available. The second phase will include designing and constructing a bridge across Show Low Creek, in an area north of Show Low Lake, and continuing the extension to Penrod Road.

Airport

◆ Thanks to federal and state grant funds, improvements at the Show Low Regional Airport continue. In addition to upgrading the runways and taxiways, the City installed two above-ground fuel tanks at the airport. Each tank holds 10,000 gallons of either jet fuel or AvGas and will be operational in early September. Pilots can now refuel, day or night, at their convenience.