



Jeremy Keene
Public Works Director

Public health and safety is a regular theme at Public Works, and we work every day to help ensure the safety of our residents and employees. We are deeply concerned about the recent crash on Higgins Ave. involving a bicyclist and a large SUV - as we are with all preventable crashes on Missoula streets.

Our Transportation Safety Team meets weekly to review transportation concerns, complaints, and requests, including incidents like the one on Higgins. This working group gathers information on traffic volumes, vehicle speeds, crash history, and existing site conditions to identify the underlying risks and causes. We work closely with our partners at the Montana Department of Transportation, who have jurisdiction over Higgins Ave. and many other routes in the city, to review the facts and determine what safety improvements may be needed.

Public Works is working hard to make our streets and transportation systems safer. But our success largely depends on you. Please slow down and watch out for bicyclists and pedestrians. Follow the rules of the road when you ride or drive. No one wants to have a crash or injury. I'm proud to live in a community where we care about each other. We can all make a difference in keeping our streets safe.

As always, we welcome your feedback. Please feel free to reach out at keenej@ci.missoula.mt.us

Garden City Compost News

As temperatures rise, are you looking to have a healthier lawn?

Our lawn topdress is a natural fertilizer that will enhance your soil's biology, help keep thatch under control, and increase the beneficial microorganisms in your yard. With levels of nitrogen, phosphorous, and potassium up to 2.04, 0.94, and 0.81 respectively, you will see a healthier, more productive lawn. By increasing organics, your lawn will have increased water retention as well.

Our lawn topdress is available year round but now is a great time for application. Screened down to 3/16 inch, you can spread it yourself and rake it in, rent a spreader locally, or have a landscaping crew come down and spread it for you. We recommend an application rate of at least ¼ inch. At this rate, every 1,000 square feet would take 0.75 cubic yards.



Lawn topdress helped improve the overall health of this lawn by increasing natural nutrients.

Our class A compost, lawn topdress, and enriched topsoil are buy 9, get 1 free!

We load products 8 a.m. – 4 p.m., Mon. – Sat. For more details, please visit our website at www.ci.missoula.mt.us/2089/Garden-City-Compost, or call us at 552-6619. We are located at 1125 Clark Fork Lane, just off Mullan Road. We hope to see you soon!



Montana Conservation Corps members collecting storm water samples at a bioretention basin off Grant Creek.

Green Infrastructure: Putting Nature to Work

Did you know that the number one pollutant of surface water in Missoula AND across the United States is storm water runoff? The Storm Water Utility focuses on protecting Missoula's waterways and complying with the Clean Water Act.

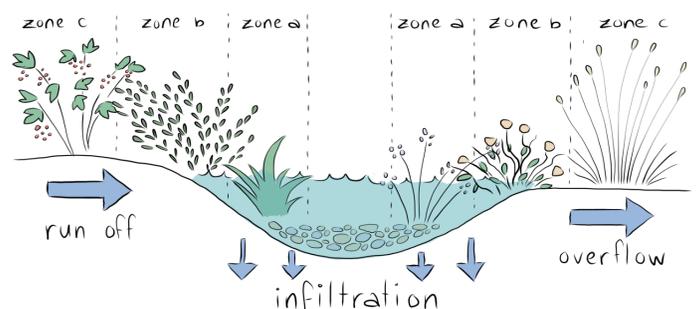
Common pollutants in runoff are sediment, nitrogen, lead, phosphorus, and even water temperature, all of which impair the water's ability to sustain aquatic life and threaten the waterway's overall health. The best way to improve water quality is to introduce more green infrastructure, such as small rain gardens, native plants, pervious pavement, and bioretention basins.

The Storm Water Utility encourages citizens, developers, and our own City of Missoula projects to increase green infrastructure that helps reduce the amount of harmful pollutants which make it to our beautiful creeks and rivers as well as our aquifer.

Visit our website at www.ci.missoula.mt.us/2678/Green-Infrastructure for information on how you can *create your own* green infrastructure and do your part to reduce storm water pollution! Follow our adventures for clean water on Instagram @missoulacitypublicworks.

Create Your Own Rain Garden

You can help by creating a rain garden.



Rules of the Road

Let's help keep all street and transportation system users safe by remembering and following these rules of the road:

MOTORISTS:

- 1) **Always** pass people on bikes with at least **3 feet** of space
- 2) **Look** for people on bikes coming from behind when slowing down to make a right turn
- 3) **Look** both ways when exiting driveways and side streets, as some people ride bikes on the sidewalks
- 4) **Look** over your left shoulder when opening your driver side car door to avoid hitting a bicyclist

BICYCLISTS:

- 1) **Always** ride with the direction of traffic
- 2) **Obey** all traffic signs and signals
- 3) **Use** lights at night
- 4) **Yield** to pedestrians and pass with caution
- 5) **Use** hand signals when changing lanes and making turns

Street Maintenance Work in Full Swing

Street Maintenance Division crews perform the tasks necessary to improve and preserve street pavement conditions:

- **Chip sealing**—liquid asphalt and rock chip are applied to seal out water and provide better traction.
- **Crack sealing**—patching material is applied to cracks to prevent further water damage to streets
- **Pothole filling**—patching material is used to fill in potholes, which prevents vehicle damage as well as further water damage to streets.
- **Milling and overlaying**—a few inches of old asphalt is milled off the street and a new layer is installed.
- **Installing dry well sumps**—installing them where water tends to collect keeps water off the street surface helps to increase asphalt longevity.

For more information, please visit our website at <http://www.ci.missoula.mt.us/498/Street-Maintenance>.



A steel wheel roller is used to compact newly applied asphalt.

Water Line Loan Program

Missoula Water is offering low-interest loans to water customers who need to repair or replace their service lines or internal plumbing, install a meter and meter pit, or connect to the municipal water system.

For more information, visit Missoula Water's website at www.ci.missoula.mt.us/1983/Missoula-Water or email us at wllp@ci.missoula.mt.us.

Missoula City Cemetery

Our staff invites the public to explore the beautiful and historic cemetery. Missoula City Cemetery (established in 1884) is one of the oldest operating cemeteries in the Missoula Valley and is recognized for its beauty, tranquility, and pristine grounds.

Our historic grounds provide the final resting place for more than 21,000 people. Please call 552-6067 or stop by our office to meet our caring staff who look forward to assisting with your needs.



See our new Niche Wall Plaza.

Infrastructure Improvement Projects Continue

As we enjoy the summer's sunshine, rest assured the City's taking advantage of the warm weather to complete our public infrastructure projects. Missoula Water will complete the following projects in 2020:

- 3rd Street Water Main Replacement
- E. Pine Water Main Replacement
- Worden & Howell Water Main Replacement
- W. Pine Water Main Replacement
- Lincoln Hills Upper Water Tank Replacement
- Upper Prospect Water Tank Replacement

For more information on these and other City projects, visit www.ci.missoula.mt.us/2649/Projects.

Contact Us

Please note that many Public Works divisions are operating with reduced staffing and many other employees are working remotely to comply COVID-19 directives. We are still here to serve you and are available Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Check our website for updates at <http://ci.missoula.mt.us/403/Public-Works>.

Missoula Water—Emergencies: 552-6700

Customer Service: email watercs@ci.missoula.mt.us

Pay your water bill online: www.ci.missoula.mt.us/1351/Pay

In person: Drop boxes at 435 Ryman St. & 1345 W. Broadway

By mail: P.O. Box 5388, Missoula, MT 59806

By phone: 866-790-7218

Wastewater—552-6600

Pay your sewer bill online: www.ci.missoula.mt.us/1351/Pay

In person: Drop boxes at 435 Ryman St. & 1345 W. Broadway

By mail: P.O. Box 5388, Missoula, MT 59806

By phone: 406-552-6125

Garden City Compost—552-6619

Missoula City Cemetery—552-6070

Storm Water—552-6744

Street Maintenance—552-6360

Public Works Department Administration

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Brian Hensel, Deputy Public Works Director—Streets: 552-6360