Please help us welcome Christy Todd to our team as the new City Administrator to the City of Black Diamond!

Ms. Todd earned her B.A. from the University of Washington and then received her Law Degree from Creighton University School of Law. Christy has a management and legal background, and worked for several years for the City of Maple Valley as City Attorney and Interim City Manager. She has worked for cities since 2002, serving the cities of Tumwater, and Maple Valley and the Town of Ruston as City Attorney.

Please, stop by and say hello to Ms. Todd and welcome her to the City of Black Diamond.

Spring Recycling Event Approaching...

Spring may not be here yet, but our spring recycling event is quickly approaching. This annual event allows residents of Black Diamond to recycle waste materials that they have been accumulating over the long winter months with grant money provided by King County and the Department of Ecology. Items accepted include:

- Motor oil and filters
- Antifreeze
- Lead acid batteries
- Alkaline batteries
- Tires
- Bulky wood
- And other items (A minor fee may apply for certain items)

Get a jump start on your spring cleaning and join us for this annual event, being held on April 5, 2014, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Black Diamond Police Department parking lot (25510 Lawson Street). We expect...
Got Drugs? April 26, 2014 - 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

For the third time, the Black Diamond Police Department will be participating in the ‘The National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day.’ In the last three years, we have taken in over 275 lbs. of prescription medications. This program aims to provide a safe, convenient, and responsible means of disposing of prescription drugs, while also educating the general public about the potential for abuse of medications. If you or anyone you know have old or unused prescription drugs, bring them to the police department and we will safely dispose of them for you.

THE PROBLEM: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has classified prescription drug abuse as an epidemic. While there has been a marked decrease in the use of some illegal drugs like cocaine, data from the National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) show that nearly one-third of people aged 12 and over who used drugs for the first time in 2009 began by using a prescription drug non-medically.

According to the recent Monitoring the Future study – the Nation's largest survey of drug use among young people – prescription drugs are the second-most abused category of drugs after marijuana. In addition, the latest National Survey on Drug Use and Health shows that over 70 percent of people who abused prescription pain relievers got them from friends or relatives, while approximately 5 percent got them from a drug dealer or over the Internet.

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

★ Follow disposal guidelines: No matter who you are, you can help address this issue in your home. By following the guidelines, you reduce the risk of unintentional diversion or harm.

★ Talk to your kids: It's important that our children learn about the use and abuse of prescription drugs. For tips on having conversations with kids, you can visit http://medicineabuseproject.org

★ Participate in the take-back program: On April 26th, bring in your old and/or unused prescription drugs. There is no cost.

Check out our Emergency Management page on the website at www.ci.blackdiamond.wa.us/emerg_manag there you will find tons of resources to help you plan and prepare to help you and your loved ones get through a disaster.

Police Department >>> Welcome new Officer, Megan Ross!

Officer Megan Ross was sworn in on February 12, 2014 as Black Diamond’s newest police officer during a ceremony held in the Black Diamond Municipal Court chambers. Her oath of office was given by Judge Melanie Dane. She is currently in the second phase of field training and is expected to be patrolling on her own in April.

Ross was born and raised in the Olympia area where she graduated from Capital High School. Ross continued her education by attending St. Martins University where she earned her master’s degree in criminal justice, and a bachelor’s degree in education. Ross comes to the department after leaving her previous position as a 5th grade teacher at Mill Pond Elementary in Yelm.

While Ross loved working with children in the classroom setting, it was law enforcement that she was drawn to. The City of Black Diamond welcomes Officer Ross and asks when you see her on the streets you welcome her as well.
that a lot of folks will be bringing tree limbs from the recent wind storms that we’ve been experiencing. Because of this, the City’s contractor will be providing chipping services at the event. Make sure that the items for chipping are 6” in diameter or smaller. Otherwise, these materials are considered bulky wood and cannot be chipped at the event, but will be accepted for further processing by others at a different facility. These materials include logs, clean wood, plywood, pallets and other untreated and unpainted wood. Please lay a tarp under these materials for ease of removal from your vehicle. Please, no flatbeds or dump trucks loaded with materials will be accepted at the event, as space is limited.

There are certain household and hazardous wastes that will not be accepted at the event. Please see the flyer for this event at the City’s website at www.ci.blackdiamond.wa.us, under “In the Spotlight,” for additional information and alternative resources available who can accept these materials.

We hope to see you there!

Fire Department >>> CPR Can SAVE Lives...

Did you hear about the woman that saved a five month old baby’s life on a Miami expressway?

This past February, Pamela Rauseo performed CPR on her nephew when he stopped breathing and started turning blue. She continued CPR until a police officer arrived to assist. When Miami Fire Rescue took the baby to the hospital he was in stable condition. (To read the story on KOMO News - view it here).

What would you have done in this situation?

Ms. Rauseo saved this boy’s life with three steps!

- She noticed the baby was not breathing and was turning blue.
- She called 9-1-1 to get help.
- She started CPR!!!!

We encourage everyone to learn CPR. Black Diamond has First Aid / CPR classes which are posted on our Facebook page www.facebook.com/kcfd44 or our website at www.kcfd44.org

You can also visit www.handsonlycpr.org to learn hands only CPR.
Police Department >>> Why It’s Important to Secure Your Load ...

It will soon be springtime and many people begin cleaning out their clutter and garbage. Please consider the following when loading your vehicles.

Road debris accidents and highway litter are all too common. Across North America road litter, either dumped intentionally by motorists or accidental fall-outs from unsecured loads, causes 25,000 accidents every year. Road debris is responsible for nearly 100 or more fatalities annually. Road litter poses a serious hazard here in Washington too. On average, there are 350 accidents involving road debris on state highways each year. (Source: Washington State Department of Transportation)

**It’s the law**

“No vehicle shall be driven or moved on any public highway unless such vehicle is loaded as to prevent any of its load from dropping, sifting, leaking, or otherwise escaping.” (Source: RCW 36.61.655) State law specifically refers to “unsecured” loads.

**It costs money**

The fine for transporting an unsecured load in $216 if an item falls out of or off your vehicle and causes bodily injury. Drivers are charged with a gross misdemeanor, which carries a penalty up to $5,000 and may include jail time. If the item causes property damage, you will be facing a misdemeanor. The fine for littering something as small as a piece of paper is $103 and go up to $5,000 for bigger items such as mattress or other pieces of furniture. A lit cigarette fine is $1025 or more if it starts a fire. Covering and securing your load keeps our state highways clean and money in your pocket.

**Tips for Securing Your Load**

*Tie It Down.* Large or heavy items should be firmly secured with solid straps, rope, bungee cords, or netting. Tie large items directly to your vehicle. Small string is not adequate – tie down materials must be able to withstand the wind loads of 70 mph on the freeway. A lot of people are not aware that at 70 mph, that wind is providing about a 20-pound-per-square-foot push on those loads, which can dislodge those loads and push them right off your vehicle. Don’t use restraints if they are frayed, cut or damaged in any way.

*Cover It Up.* For loose, lighter items such as tree clippings, a sturdy plastic or canvas tarp or netting can be used to keep items in place. Tie the tarp securely, or it might become road debris as well.

*Lighter Goes Lower.* Put lighter weight things at the bottom of the load and make sure they are secure. Evenly distribute the load to prevent it from sliding.

*Reminder, Lifeline Applications Will Be Mailed Out Soon...*

Those senior citizens or citizens with a permanent disability that are currently on the Lifeline program should be receiving a renewal application in the mail in late April - early May 2014. Deadline for renewal is May 31st. Please keep a look out in your mail for your application.

If you are new to the City and are a Senior or a resident with a permanent disability and you need assistance with your utility bill, stop by City Hall to pick up an application and see if you qualify.
I’ve heard that the City of Black Diamond regulates the removal of trees. Is that True?

Yes, Black Diamond staff has been directed, via Ordinance, to regulate the removal and replacement of trees on private and public property throughout the City limits.

The City adopted its first Tree Preservation Ordinance with the passage of Ordinance #08-866 in 2008. It was further refined with a subsequent update in 2011 and the passage of Ordinance #11-961. These laws have been codified within Chapter 19.30 of the Black Diamond Municipal Code. Both the code and the relevant Ordinances are available to anyone on the City’s website at www.ci.blackdiamond.wa.us. Please contact City staff if there are any problems finding these materials and we can help you get to them, or stop by the Community Development Building and ask for Natural Resources staff as they can give relevant materials on these regulations and/or answer any questions you may have about the program.

In summation, this code section establishes criterion, unless exempted by the chapter, requiring property owners to obtain a tree cutting permit prior to the removal of any significant tree, at any time of “land alteration, whether pursuant to a permit for clearing, grading, land alteration, land disturbance, building construction or land development, or an existing developed site.” Again, depending on your circumstances, you may or may not be required to obtain a permit in order to remove a significant tree and it’s always best to contact City staff as they help answer any questions that you may have on this issue. Staff has streamlined this process so that your questions will be answered and permits issued (if required) quickly. We want to help you, please give us a call (360) 886-5700 or send us an email (anix@ci.blackdiamond.wa.us).

Did you know that Black Diamond has a re-vegetation/tree planting program available to its Citizens?

I bet you didn’t know that the City sponsors a re-vegetation program that will help you (when financial resources allow) purchase up to five, native trees for your property, based on revenue generated from tree cutting activities throughout the City. The only commitment that we ask you to make is that you help these young trees establish within the first couple years of planting. Further details about this program can also be found on the City’s website at www.ci.blackdiamond.wa.us, on the Natural Resources section of the webpage, under the heading Documents.

Securing Your Load (continued from page 4)…

Don’t Overload. Keep material level with truck bed or trailer unless tied down, netted or tarped. Materials below the truck bed should also be secured if there’s any chance of them blowing out or falling from the vehicle.

Double-Check. Double check your load to make sure it is secure at the back and on the sides and top. Remember that loads can move and settle during a journey, allowing restraints to loosen. If possible, recheck restraints shortly after beginning your trip.

Make Sure It’s Roadworthy. Ensure both the vehicle and trailer are in good mechanical condition and roadworthy. Make sure your vehicle is rated to tow the load. Drive to the conditions: your load will make your vehicle less maneuverable and it will take longer to stop.

Ask Yourself: Is there any chance of debris falling or blowing out of my vehicle? Would I feel safe if I were driving behind MY vehicle? What would happen to MY load if I had to brake suddenly or if I hit a bump?
Monthly meetings for City Council are held the first and third Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. Town Hall Meetings are held the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. Planning Commission meetings are held on the first Tuesday after the first Council meeting at 7 p.m. of each month (unless otherwise noted). Please contact the Clerks office for more information (360)886-5700 or check out the City Clerks webpage at www.ci.blackdiamond.wa.us/Depts/Clerk to view meeting materials.

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS
25510 LAWSON STREET
MAR 6 - 7 p.m.
MAR 13 (Town Hall Meeting)
MAR 20 - 7 p.m.
APR 3 - 7 p.m.
APR 10 (Town Hall Meeting)
APR 17 - 7 p.m.

PLANNING COMMISSION
25510 LAWSON STREET
MAR 11 - 7 p.m.
APR 8 - 7 p.m.

FINANCE/BUDGET COMMITTEE
24301 ROBERTS DRIVE
MAR 13 and MAR 27 - 3 p.m.
APR 10 and APR 24 - 3 p.m.

PARKS/CEMETERY COMMITTEE
24301 ROBERTS DRIVE
MAR 20 - 10 a.m.
APR 18 - 10 a.m.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
24301 ROBERTS DRIVE
MAR 7 - 12 p.m.
APR 4 - 12 p.m.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
24301 ROBERTS DRIVE
MAR 14 - 10:30 a.m.
APR 7 - 10:30 a.m.

PLANNING/COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMITTEE
24301 ROBERTS DRIVE
MAR 5 - 1:30 p.m.
APR 2 - 1:30 p.m.

ALL COUNCIL/COMMISSION MEETINGS ARE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED. ALL COMMITTEE MEETINGS ARE TENTATIVE AND HELD IN THE PUBLIC WORKS CONFERENCE ROOM UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED ON THE AGENDA. CHECK WEBSITE FOR ANY CHANGES.

CITY HALL
P.O. Box 599
24301 Roberts Drive
(360) 886-5700
(253) 631-0351
Fax: (360) 886-2592

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT/
NATURAL RESOURCES/
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
P.O. Box 599
24301 Roberts Drive
(360) 886-5700
(253) 631-0351
Fax: (360) 886-2592

POLICE DEPARTMENT
P.O. Box 309
25510 Lawson Street
(253) 631-1012
Non-Emergency No: (360) 886-0022
Fax: (360) 886-2901

MUNICIPAL COURT*
P.O. Box 599
25510 Lawson Street
(360) 886-7784
Fax: (360) 886-5354

*OFFICE HOURS MONDAY—THURSDAY 8:30 a.m. — 5 p.m.
*OPEN EVERY 2ND AND 4TH FRIDAY FOR 1/2 DAY 8:30 a.m. — NOON

FIRE DEPT. DISTRICT #44
(253) 735-0284

PUBLIC WORKS
P.O. Box 599
24301 Roberts Drive
(360) 886-5700
(253) 631-0351
Fax: (360) 886-2592

UTILITY AFTER HOURS EMERGENCY PAGER (253) 333-5555

Departments >>>
♦ City Administrator,
  Christy Todd
♦ City Clerk/HR Manager,
  Brenda L. Martinez, CMC
♦ Community Development,
  Stacey Welsh
♦ Economic Development,
  Andrew Williamson
♦ Finance,
  Mayene Miller
♦ Natural Resources/Parks,
  Aaron Nix
♦ Police,
  Jamey Kiblinger
♦ Public Works,
  Seth Boettcher, PE