



# THE GATEWAY



## Mayors Message

I am happy to report that Wilkeson has received several grants and seen many improvements in 2011. Wilkeson completed several pending grant projects, one time only project driven revenues from at least the last two previous years. For example, Wilkeson closed out several FEMA grants that assisted the town's 2009 flood recovery, including the Utility Crossing Bank Stabilization project to cover our exposed sewer line. To assure adequate water source for years to come, the town developed an additional water source - 3 new pumps were drilled in our watershed and paid by a grant from Washington State Department of Ecology. The pumps hook-up costs were funded by the town's Utility funds. The Albert Street Improvement Project, completed this year, was from the State's CDBG safe streets program and paid for updating utility lines, a new sidewalk, and resurfacing the road on half of Albert Street from Church Street to Roosevelt Park.

Another large project in 2011 was the Energy Efficiency Community Block Grant (EECBG) project for the sewer plant and town hall. This EECBG was for the sewer plant's new Variable Speed Controls on two large actuators. The project also included the conversion of the Town Hall HVAC system from oil burning to heat pumps. Both projects is projected to reduce our town's power bill as well as updated an very old electrical system in town hall. The majority of the project costs were paid by Federal ARRA funds and Puget Sound Energy Cost Share Program, with the rest coming from the town's general fund and a generous donation from Wilkeson Historical Society.

In 2012, two new grant projects will continue: the State mandated Shoreline Management Plan, fully funded by the Department of Ecology and conducted by the Watershed Company, Inc; and the Rural Town Center and Corridor Grant project (discussed below) towns in Washington State, Wilkeson's revenue resources are declining, yet our town's expenses are either staying the same or on the rise. Wilkeson's council has buckled down for our 2012 budget and made cuts to compensate for our expected reduced revenue. Reserves should be monitored and developed to set aside funds for replacement costs and growth. Next year, Council will take a good look at our budget quarterly to make sure we are on the right track. We believe the only solution to the sustainability problem is to permanently close the gap between revenues and expenses, *and* to build up our reserves.

I look forward to working with the council to build more stability for Wilkeson in 2012, to help plan Wilkeson's downtown core and financial future. If there are any questions, please call me at 360-829-0790 or email me at [mayor@townofwilkeson.com](mailto:mayor@townofwilkeson.com).

*Donna Hoyerhais, Mayor*



Drawing of possible future design – actual town concept to be determined by the public this spring

The Town of Wilkeson is the recipient of a Rural Town Center Grant. This has enabled the Town to partner with SheaCarrJewell, an engineering and planning firm, to develop a corridor plan for Church Street through the town center. The plan will identify utility and infrastructure challenges, safety deficiencies, opportunities for public spaces and economic development, and develop specific recommendations for sidewalk, trail, parking and traffic circulation improvements. Community involvement is critical to the success of this process, so ***please be watching for announcements and further communication to be a part of this major planning effort for the future of Wilkeson!***

## NOTICE:

### Town of Wilkeson to Increase Water Fees by 10% Beginning April 1st

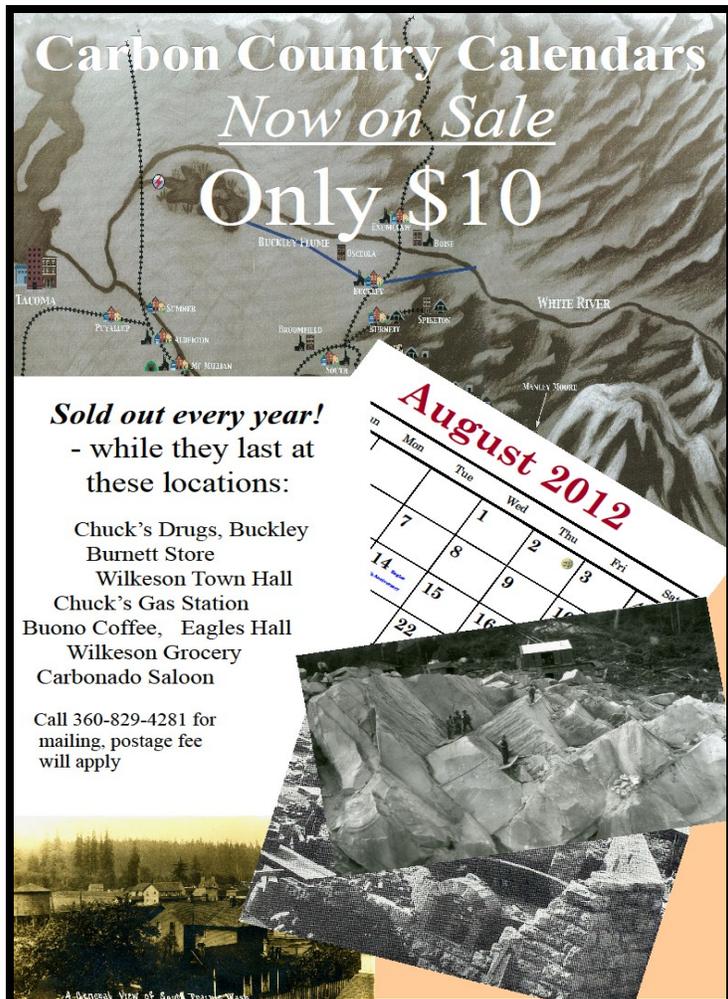
Last fall, Council approved a study and passed an ordinance to increase our water utility fees by 10%. These funds would be set aside for needed improvements in the watershed.

## Winterized House Checklist

- Close cut-off valves and open all exterior faucets. For pipes prone to freezing, leave nearby faucet dripping on coldest nights. Unhook all outside hoses from house.
- Be prepared with back-up heat sources such as firewood or generator (do not run in the house).
- Don't use kerosene heaters in an enclosed space.
- Don't heat up the car in the garage with the garage door closed.
- Close the chimney damper when not in use.
- Have snowmelt and a snow shovel on hand.
- Check that all storm windows and windows are closed and latched.

## Town Hall Information

Town Hall Offices: (360) 829-0790  
Town Website: townofwilkeson.com  
Hours of Operation: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Mon.-Thur.  
Utilities Bills Due: 25th of the month  
Council Meetings: 2nd/4th Wed. 7:30 PM  
Plan. Comm. Meetings: 3rd Wed. 6:00 PM



**Carbon Country Calendars**  
*Now on Sale*  
**Only \$10**

**Sold out every year!**  
- while they last at these locations:

Chuck's Drugs, Buckley  
Burnett Store  
Wilkeson Town Hall  
Chuck's Gas Station  
Buono Coffee, Eagles Hall  
Wilkeson Grocery  
Carbonado Saloon

Call 360-829-4281 for mailing, postage fee will apply

**August 2012**

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11	12
14	15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26	27

A General View of South Puget Sound



## Wilkeson 3rd Annual Christmas Contest

### WINNERS!

#### Best-Lights and Theme

**First Place Prize**  
Abbotts - 604 Cedar Street  
\$100 cash and 2012 Carbon Country Calendar  
Sponsored by Wilkeson Historical Society

**Second Prize**  
Yates - 414 Long Street  
Dinner Certificate and 2012 Carbon Country Calendar  
Sponsored by The Wilkeson Eagles, Aerie 1409

**Honorable Mention**  
Anderson - 512 Church Street  
A Wilkeson Centennial Throw  
Sponsored by Wilkeson Historical Society

**Most Decorated Downtown Building**  
Carbon Glacier Distillery  
(Church Street from Davis Street to Railroad)  
Wilkeson's Annual Christmas Spirit Trophy

**SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!!**

## Tree Lighting Success

The Wilkeson 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Christmas Tree Lighting & Contest event at Town hall sponsored by the Wilkeson Historical Society was a great success with over 65 kids participating in craft activities, caroling, and pictures with Santa Claus. Special thanks to Mayor Donna Hogerhuis, Linda Yousman, Karen Osgoodby, Sereh Haubrich, Jordan Haubrich, Marsha Derby, Sherrian McGowen, Dan Hogerhuis, Dave Yousman, the Wilkelles (Sue Hallin & Carol Sellers) and Leon, Sela Hogerhuis, Karen Osgoodby, and all those who baked the delicious cookies.