

## Our City

There is no rhyme or reason to it really, well actually that's not true, there have been extensive studies conducted on how the weather affects people; specifically our moods. The lack of rhyme or reason stems from the fact that it seems to affect each of us differently. Sally, and lots of folks like her, hates the short days of winter; she's not overly fond of the cold either. For me it's the blessed wind. It puts me right on edge in the spring, I don't know why. I don't mind it so much in the fall because it makes hopper fishing exciting; but in the winter it and the cold keep the faint of heart off the river but in the spring it just aggravates me. And, I have had a gut full of it lately. Nothing can be done about it and you would think after nearly 60 years I would be used to it. Not!

So, as I took my Small Stream Ecology class fishing last Thursday in steady 30 mph winds, my mood was less than as cheerful as it should have been. When I received word of the truck and elevator fire at the Thresher Wheat elevators on Oregon Trail my mood darkened still. Like the wind there was nothing I could do about it other than hope for the best. A special thank you to the volunteer firefighters who were able to respond to the call and the police officers who backed them up. Your call to service does not go unrecognized. I would also like to thank Robyn Adkins and the Ranch for donating lunch to the firefighters and police officers who responded to the fire; it was very gracious. It takes a community to be sure.

I am sure the Rocky Mountain Bow Fishing carp tournament entrants and the Society of Creative Anachronism (SCA) folks at Willow Bay Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday appreciated the wind and rain too. As dry as the spring has been I was thankful for the rain. When I ventured out to Willow Bay on Saturday afternoon the over 200 bow fishing folks were just convening the post-fishing meeting and the SCA folks seemed to be having a community gathering in the middle of their tent compound. The wind was actually calm, the sun was out and the temperature had warmed to nearly 60 degrees.

The wind keeps our Parks and Golf personnel busy cleaning up debris, limbs and leaves all while making golf more of a challenge than normal for folks. It completely throws off irrigation patterns making efficient watering nearly impossible for all of us. Efforts continue to update and replace irrigation parts in our parks and on the golf course to making the systems as effective as possible without replacing everything.

The warmer weather and longer days, not the wind, is probably attributable to the recent increase in vandalism and curfew violations. Parents, your children are your responsibility, you will be called to come collect them if they are found out and about after 10:00 pm for those children 16 and under, or midnight for those 16 and 17 years of age.

The wind, thank goodness, does not generally stop construction and that's a good thing. I have received multiple positive comments on the new sidewalk that now completes the route around both City parks. We are hopeful that it gets you out more and that you find time to enjoy the area. Superintendent Fehringer will be installing the reflective area later this spring which if you recall was made possible by a generous donation in memory of Ruth E. Richards, from Bob & Judy Schow this past January. If you continue north up Bannock from the Park you will run into more construction kitty-corner from the Middle School. New storm drains, curb, gutter

and sidewalks are being placed there. You will also notice the absence of the huge Cottonwood trees that were once there, but growing completely out into the City and street right-of-way.

I am hopeful that the calmer days of late spring, and summer are near and that the wind will finally give us a bit of reprieve, but that is about all I can do about it. I imagine many of you will be traveling this next weekend, Memorial Day Weekend, do so safely please. Remember also the significance of Memorial Day, it is one day that should give us all pause and reflection. Because of the sacrifices of others we continue to live in the land of the free and home of the brave. America, the very best place to live!

Until next week...