

## December 2013 Newsletter

Staying Connected with the Citizens of Orem

### Mayor's Message



Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Orem City Council, it is my pleasure to send you our warmest Christmas wishes. We hope that you and your family will enjoy a happy and safe holiday season and a healthy and prosperous new year.

As the year draws to a close, I am finishing my term of service as Orem's Mayor. The last two years and three months have been an incredible experience for me, my wife Tana, and my family. My time as Mayor has reinforced what I have always known—Orem is the best community! It has been my honor to meet so many wonderful residents, to learn about important projects, to support good causes, and to serve with other dedicated leaders and the devoted city staff. I thank the members of the Orem City Council for their friendship and service to this community. On behalf of the entire City of Orem, I thank Councilmembers Karen McCandless and Mary Street for their hard work and commitment to the residents of Orem. I know that these amazing women will continue to be leaders in our community, and I wish them the very best as they focus their efforts on new projects.

Orem is a community with a rich past and a very bright future. Tana and I are grateful for this fine city where we have raised our family and the opportunities that we all have here. I hope that we will reflect upon our many blessings and move forward in a positive direction. Orem has great residents of all ages, and we can learn from each other and grow together. We are a service-minded community, and when we work together, we can accomplish great things.

Thank you for input, advice, and support. I have appreciated hearing from you and enjoyed working with you.

Merry Christmas,  
Mayor Jim Evans

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### Upcoming Events

**Dec 10:** City Council Meeting, City Center, 6 p.m.

**Jan 14:** City Council Meeting, City Center, 6 p.m.

*Please see the City Holiday Closures section for information on when departments will be closed.*

### Christmas

# Snow Removal Guidelines

The City of Orem's goal is to provide an expedient and efficient snow removal operation during winter snowstorms. City road crews continue to strive towards a high level of service for its citizens during these hazardous road conditions. Depending on the size of the storm, hazardous road conditions may remain for several hours. For example, a higher magnitude storm can take as much as 48 hours to clear roads for safe commuting and transportation once the storm has subsided. To help expedite clearing roadways from snow and icy conditions, the City of Orem is asking for your help.

## How Can You Help?

You can assist our snow removal operators in several ways:

- Always park your vehicle off the street. Vehicles left in the roadway create unnecessary obstacles for snow removal operators to work around and can slow the process of properly clearing the road.
- Travel at a safe distance from snowplows at all times to avoid damage to your car. Do not try to pass these vehicles.
- Please be patient if you are required to wait behind a piece of snow removal equipment.
- Make certain that your speed is reasonable for conditions.
- Never allow children to play near the roadway.
- Exercise extreme care and caution when driving in adverse and inclement weather. Your safety and the safety of other motorists and pedestrians is the highest priority!
- Limit and restrict travel unless absolutely necessary during severe weather.
- Do not attempt to stop a snow removal vehicle or obstruct its path.
- Keep obstructions such as portable basketball hoops, trashcans, and toys off the street and sidewalks at all times during snow removal.
- Please Buckle Up For Safety and enjoy Orem's Winter Wonderland!



## Keep in mind

City streets are assigned a level of priority primarily based on traffic volume along with other factors that include steep hills, emergency services, schools, and commercial, industrial, or residential areas. Throughout a storm event, City streets deemed high priority must be kept open and during heavier periods of snowfall, snow removal on lower priority streets may be delayed. To find out more about street priorities and other snow removal information, please visit our [snow](#)

# Decorating Contest



From November 15th to January 1st, the Orem Beautification Commission will be looking for the best decorated homes in Orem. If you would like to nominate a home for this award, please [email Beautification Commission Chairman Aaron Orullian](#).

## Library Closure

From January 13–20, the Orem Public Library will be closed for facility maintenance and Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. No services will be available inside the Library building, but [online resources](#) will be available.

If you have questions about online resources such as homework help, ebooks, or audiobooks, please visit with a Library staff member before the closure. Thank you for your patience as we address needed maintenance issues.

## Stay Connected



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## City Holiday Closures

City departments will be closed for the holidays on the following days and hours:

Tuesday, December 24 Christmas Eve	Wednesday, December 25 (Christmas Day)	Thursday, December 26
City Center: CLOSED Library: CLOSED Senior Center: CLOSED Fitness Center: Open until noon	City Center: CLOSED Library: CLOSED Senior Center: CLOSED Fitness Center: CLOSED	City Center: CLOSED Library: CLOSED Senior Center: CLOSED Fitness Center: Regular hours

Tuesday, December 31 New Year's Eve	Wednesday January 1 New Year's Day
City Center: Open Library: Open until 6 p.m. Senior Center: Open until 2 p.m. Fitness Center: Open until noon	City Center: CLOSED Library: CLOSED Senior Center: CLOSED Fitness Center: CLOSED

## Prevent Frozen Pipes

Take these precautionary steps to help protect your home from damage caused by frozen pipes:

- Disconnect all outside hoses.
- Make sure sprinkler systems are shut off and properly drained.
- Insulate plumbing near open, uninsulated exterior walls such as in a basement.
- Insulate exterior hose faucets.
- Leave a cold water faucet running slightly inside the house. A continuous stream, about half the diameter of a pencil, will keep water flowing through pipes and prevent most freezing.



# Christmas Tree Collection Sites

Please dispose of live Christmas trees by transporting them to an established tree collection site (listed below). Designated dumpsters or drop sites are located at each of these locations, which will be available for use starting Monday, December 30, 2013, and running through January 18, 2014. Please remove all tree decorations and place your tree in the dumpster or at the designated drop-off site as indicated by the posted signs.



Flocked trees and household rubbish are not accepted and must be disposed of at the North Utah County Transfer Station located at 2000 West 200 South, Lindon. **These sites are for Christmas Trees Only.**

Please do not leave your tree at an unmarked location or leave it on your city street. Schools, churches, or other private dumpsters are not approved drop-off locations. Your cooperation is appreciated!

## Northwest Quadrant

- Bonneville Park Parking Lot, 1500 North 800 West \*
- IHC Soccer Fields Parking Lot, 600 West 400 North \*

## Northeast Quadrant

- Windsor Park Parking Lot, 1250 North 100 West \*
- City Park Parking Lot, 200 East 100 North \*
- Cascade Park Parking Lot, 200 North 925 East \*
- Sharon Park Parking Lot, 500 North 275 East +
- Northridge Park Parking Lot, 1750 North 165 East \*
- Foothill Park Parking Lot, 1010 North 1200 East +

## Southwest Quadrant

- Community Park Parking Lot, 600 West 300 South \*
- Westmore Park Parking Lot, 1050 South Main +
- Nielsen's Grove South Parking Lot, 375 West 2000 South \*
- Springwater Park Parking Lot, 945 South Artesian Road +
- Lakeside Park Parking Lot, 400 South Vineyard Way +

## Southeast Quadrant

- Scera Park East Parking Lot, 550 South 400 East \*
- Scera Pool Parking Lot, 600 South State Street +
- Hillcrest Park Parking Lot, 1400 South 700 East +
- Cherry Hill Park Parking Lot, 1800 South 220 East +

\* Dumpster locations    + Drop site

## Give to Charities, Not to Panhandlers

Like other communities throughout the country, Orem has panhandlers. Many have expressed concern about these individuals holding signs asking for help at intersections and other locations. Protected by free speech, the activity of panhandling cannot be banned altogether. However, there are laws in place to protect the safety of both the public and those who are panhandling. For example, panhandlers may not engage in aggressive solicitation, block pedestrian traffic, or enter roadways to receive donations ([Orem City Code 9-2-14](#)).

As community residents, we play an important role in helping to address the problem of panhandling in Orem. Panhandlers thrive in areas where they are receiving money. We all want to be generous, particularly during the holiday season; however, donating to panhandlers is not a positive, lasting way to help the poor in our community.

Without question, Orem has homeless and hungry individuals and families, and your donations of money, food, or time can go a long way towards helping people in need. Instead of giving to panhandlers, please consider giving funds to reputable charities, churches, or homeless trust funds. The agencies below work directly with the City of Orem and other cities in Utah County to address the needs of homeless and low-income individuals and families. Please contact them to find out ways you can help the poor in our community. Your help is greatly appreciated.

### **Community Action Services and Food Bank**

(801) 373-8200

[www.communityactionprovo.org](http://www.communityactionprovo.org)

### **Food and Care Coalition**

(801) 373-1825

[www.foodandcare.org](http://www.foodandcare.org)

## Need Critical Home Repairs?

Through the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the City of Orem has housing rehabilitation funds available to income-qualified households.

## Emergency Repair Grant

Emergency Repair Grants may pay to repair critical damage or to eliminate specific and immediate hazards to health, safety and/or sanitation – available to low-income homeowners.



## Accessibility Grant

Accessibility Grants may pay to make ADA-related improvements to a home. Projects such as wheelchair ramps, handrails, accessible toilets, and showers are eligible for this program – available to low- and moderate-income homeowners.

## Housing Rehabilitation Loan

The loan program is available for homeowner-occupied homes. A homeowner who is income-qualified may borrow up to \$15,000 at an interest rate of 3% to make various qualifying improvements. The loan may be repaid over 10 years. A homeowner who is over 62 may qualify for a 0% deferred loan (no interest or payments while the borrower owns and lives in the home) – available to low- and moderate-income homeowners who are approved.

For an application or more information about the program, including current income guidelines, please call (801) 229-7171 or visit our [community services page](#).

City of Orem | (801) 229-7000 | [communications@orem.org](mailto:communications@orem.org) | <http://www.orem.org>  
56 North State Street  
Orem, UT 84057

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