



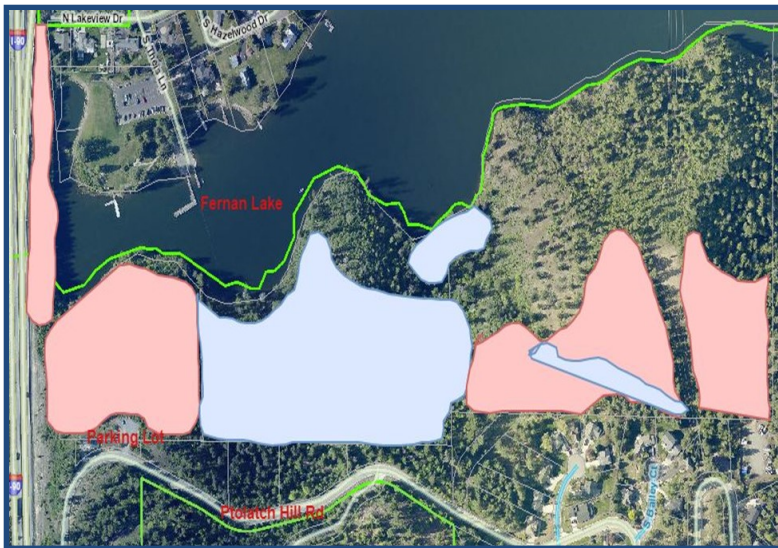
City of Coeur d'Alene Municipal Milestones Newsletter

Issue 85/June 2021

IN THE NEWS

Fernan Lake Natural Area Fuel Mitigation Work

Fuel mitigation has begun on the Fernan Lake Natural Area. This will result in trail closures and limited parking or no parking available at the parking lot near 2747 E Potlatch Hill Rd. The work will be ongoing for several weeks.



Red shaded areas indicate mechanical work areas.
Blue shaded areas indicate hand work areas.

The goal of the project is to reduce hazardous fuels in the natural area by removing understory plants (understory plants typically consist of trees stunted by lack of light) such as ocean spray and nine bark and then treat with a herbicide to discourage regrowth. The project will also raise the canopy in some areas by reducing ladder fuels. Some radial spacing will be performed. The goal is to create a mosaic look to treated areas keeping wildlife trees and healthy growing trees over 7" in diameter.

[Newsletter Archives](#)



CITY FACES



COLTER RAY UTILITY OPERATOR WATER DEPARTMENT

Municipal Milestones recently caught up with newly hired Utility Operator Colter Ray to learn more about his role with the City.

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Contractors will be leaving clumps of selected understory plants to encourage the wildlife habitat. This project is funded by a federal grant and is a multi-agency project involving Kootenai County Emergency Operation Management, The City of CDA Parks and Recreation/Fire Department and the Idaho Department of Lands. The project has been in the works since 2017. There will be some limited pile burning connected to this project and it is slated to be completed by 2022.

Ramsey Elementary Tours at the Water Resource Recovery Facility

Ramsey Elementary has been touring the WRRF (Wastewater Plant) for more than 15 years. This is a joint effort of many City departments and the University of Idaho (UI). The day of "hidden science" involves what's going on beneath their feet with presentations from Water, Wastewater, Wastewater Lab, and Stormwater. UI shows the students things that cannot be seen in their presentations on Zooplankton and Macro Invertebrates. The students were enthusiastic and engaged. The next group of "hidden scientists" looks very promising indeed.



This is a huge team effort. Thank you to everyone who is involved in making it the awesome event that it is. They are really making a difference in the community!

Tails & Tales: Coeur d'Alene Library's Summer Reading Program

Coeur d'Alene Public Summer Reading Program For All begins on June 1st, and events begin June 14th. The adult and teen portion is called BookBlitz and it's very simple. Read any book that you want, you can choose a favorite or maybe a challenging read, and then

Tell us a little bit about your background and experience:

I'm from Northern California. I lived in Salmon, Idaho for ten years. I moved to Coeur d'Alene two years ago. Previously, I worked in general construction doing water services and building roads. I have also worked in the oil fields in California, Texas and North Dakota.

What kind of training do you need to be a Utility Operator?

To be a Utility Operator, you need time and experience. It takes time to build up different types of skill sets. Not being afraid of a shovel helps!

What does a Utility Operator do?

As a Utility Operator, you work to install water mains, repair leaks, provide hook-up services and install water meters.

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tell someone about it! You can either tell a friend/acquaintance/librarian/social media about how you loved it/loathed it/what you learned or you could submit a review of your book choice here: tinyurl.com/cdaBookBlitz2021. Let someone at one of the service desks in the library know that you shared your book review and then you'll get a punch on your punch card. Once you fill up your card, take it to the bookstore for a free book + entry into the end of summer prize drawing.

Teens can also choose a book from the free YA book shelf. Children's summer reading logs are split into early learners (birth to 4) and school age (5-12.) Early learners can earn a different delightful prize each month in June, July, and August. Participants pick up an Early Learner Activity Sheet each month and it is filled with fun activities for early learners and their grown-ups to do together. Each month's sheet is turned in for a prize and acts as a raffle ticket for our Early Learner Grand Prize Drawing. School Age kids are invited to earn lots of prizes all summer long with their reading logs. Earn a prize every five hours you read between June 1st and August 31st. Prizes include: yummy treats, free books, CDA Carousel tickets, 30 minute virtual reality sessions at V Sports Arena, summer reading badges, and raffle tickets for the grand prize.



The Jewett House on Lake Coeur d'Alene

The Jewett House is a senior citizen recreation center located at 1501 E. Lakeshore Drive in Coeur d'Alene. Scheduled activities include: Yoga, Senior Meditation, Book Club, Pinochle, Idaho Writer's League, Hand and Foot Card Game and Free Blood Pressure Checks. The Jewett House is also available for other uses such as weddings, arts and crafts, family reunions, meetings and study groups.

For more information, contact Adam Rouse at (208) 769-2250.

What do you enjoy most about your job?

What I enjoy most about my job is being outdoors. I also enjoy the people I work with at the Water Department.

What about your family and interests?

My wife and I have been together for fifteen years and married for eight of those years. We have two kids, a 6 year-old girl and a 3 year-old boy. While my wife enjoys shopping, I'm addicted to hunting and fishing. Our family enjoys everything outdoors.

What do you love most about Coeur d'Alene and North Idaho?

I love that hunting and fishing are so accessible in North Idaho.

