



## City of Coeur d'Alene Municipal Milestones Newsletter

Issue 70/March 2020

### IN THE NEWS

#### Planting for the Future: Re-Leaf CDA Offers Residents Free Street Trees

The City of Coeur d'Alene has 85 street trees that need good homes! Street trees will be planted at residential locations within public right-of-way areas in the Coeur d'Alene city limits through the CDA Re-Leaf program. Trees are planted at no cost to the homeowner to enhance neighborhoods and provide many street-side benefits such as mitigating storm water and reducing pollution. This yearly program helps to grow our urban forest and we encourage the citizens of Coeur d'Alene to take part.



Trees are available to homeowners residing within the city limits of Coeur d'Alene. Trees will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis and we ask that you have at least a first and second choice of species due to limited availability.

The tree species still available are Frontier Elm, Metro Gold Maple, Zelkova, and Eastern Redbud. Species descriptions are available at the City of Coeur d'Alene website. Don't worry about the planting -- trees will be planted by a contracted tree planting crew in late April or early May. Deadline to sign up for a tree is March 30, 2019.

More information is available online at [www.cdaid.org/re-leafcda](http://www.cdaid.org/re-leafcda). You can also send an email to [ngoodwin@cdaid.org](mailto:ngoodwin@cdaid.org) or call the Urban Forestry division of the Parks Department, (208) 769-2266 to claim your tree today. These trees cannot be used to fulfill existing street tree permit requirement for a refund.

### Newsletter Archives



### CITY FACES



**MITCH KEITH**  
**Building Inspector/Plans Examiner**

Municipal Milestones recently caught up with newly - hired Building Inspector, Mitch Keith, to learn more about his role with the City.

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## St. Patrick's Day Parade



Enjoy the annual St. Patrick's Day Parade presented by Idaho Central Credit Union and then head out for dinner and drinks at one of Downtown Coeur d'Alene's local restaurants or watering holes. This family-friendly parade is free to the public! The parade starts at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 14 at 8th and Sherman in Downtown Coeur d'Alene, travel down Sherman and end at 1st street.



## City Employees Donate to Families Feeding Families

City employees recently donated 65 bags of food, four bags of additional food items, and \$160 cash to the Salvation Army Kroc Center Families Feeding Families February Food Drive, which will help to restock our local food pantries in North Idaho. Thanks to our employees who donated, and also thanks to those who shopped, sorted, packed & delivered bags!



## Prescribed Burning Planned on Tubbs Hill Early April

The CDA Fire Department along with the Idaho Department of Lands will be conducting a prescribed burn in early April, when the right conditions are met and it's safe to burn. They will be evaluating the moisture of the fuels and temperatures to choose exactly the best and safest time to conduct these burns. If you are familiar with Tubbs Hill, you may have noticed some of the issues regarding forest and tree health currently affecting this great public asset. Trees will be removed in compliance with the city's Natural Open Space Management Plan. Burning helps to clear the forest floor, which helps to increase



## Tell us a little bit about your background and experience:

My background is in construction and special inspection. I began working as a carpenter at 18 and moved into special inspection in my early 30's. In 1999, I started my own company and it grew into a partnership with an engineer friend. Together, we built a premier geotechnical and materials testing firm here in North Idaho. After I retired from the firm, I realized how much I missed working with the construction community here in Coeur d'Alene so, when an opening in the City Building Department came to my attention, I thought building inspection was the perfect next step in my career.

## What are your current responsibilities:

Drawing on my experience and knowledge of the building code, I perform inspections on new construction and renovations as required by the building code. I work with a team of experienced inspectors to help guide contractors and homeowners to complete their projects in accordance with the building code.

## What is the most fulfilling aspect of your job, and why? It

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planting space for seedlings as well as improves the ability of ponderosa pine to successfully reproduce. During the last 2 weeks of March, crews will be completing the prep work. Citizens of Coeur d'Alene can expect to see fire crews and smoke on and around Tubbs Hill for several days. During that time, area's of the hill will be closed. You can check out the City of Coeur d'Alene website or CDA Fire Departments Facebook page for up to the date details. Thank you for your support and understating as we protect the health and safety of our crown jewel, Tubbs Hill.

### Well Done Coeur d'Alene Police Department!

The Coeur d'Alene Police Department was awarded the "2020 Advocate of the Year" award in the Community category by Sacred Heart Children's Hospital. The award was accepted by Sergeant Shane Avriett on February 25, 2020, at the annual "Kids at Heart Charity Luncheon" held at the Spokane Convention Center. For the past three years, Sergeant Avriett has organized a Toy Drive during the Holiday Season, during which Police Association members gather donations for the Sacred Heart Children's Hospital and the Kootenai Health Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. Approximately \$60,000 in toys, cash and gift cards has been collected. Well done, Coeur d'Alene Police Department!



### The Coeur d'Alene Library Will Host "The Wild" - A film by Mark Titus



The Coeur d'Alene Public Library will host a special screening of a new Mark Titus film, "The Wild," Friday, March 13, at 7 p.m., in the Community Room. Doors open at 6:30. The program is co-sponsored by the Library Foundation and the Kootenai Environmental Alliance. Refreshments will be provided by Bakery by the Lake. Donations to benefit the Library are encouraged.

didn't take long for me to discover that I was back working with the construction community that I had missed. I am constantly running into contractors I knew from my special inspection days and, because we already have a great rapport, it makes the job I do now go so well.

**What do you love about Coeur d'Alene, and North Idaho?** I have always loved the outdoors and North Idaho does not disappoint. I enjoy the natural beauty of the area and spending time with my family camping and fishing, riding trails on our ATV's, and skiing the local mountain resorts.

**What about your family and interests?** My wife and I have been married 32 years and we have four grown children — two boys & two girls. They all graduated from Coeur d'Alene High School and went on to colleges here in Idaho, Washington , and Arizona. All but the oldest are still living here. Two children are married and the youngest is planning for her wedding this spring.

