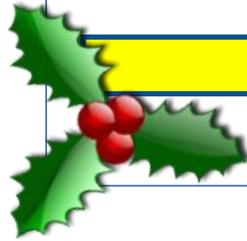


# ~ ATHOL CITY NEWSLETTER ~ December 1, 2025

Athol, A New Direction



*Merry Christmas*



**ATHOL ELEMENTARY**  
**Eagle Pride**



12/9 Kinder & 1<sup>st</sup> X-mas Program 6pm AE gym  
12/11 Skate Night PTU Fundraiser 6pm  
12/22-1/2 No School Christmas Break

### CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

@ **6:00 PM** 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tues.  
CITY HALL - 30355 N. 3<sup>rd</sup>  
208-683-2101

**Clerk/Treasurer Office Hours:**  
Monday - Thursday 9:00-4:30pm  
Fridays 8:30am- 12:30 pm

### Future Council Meeting Dates:

December 2, 2025  
December 16, 2025  
(Closed Dec 25<sup>th</sup> thru Dec 31<sup>st</sup>)  
January 6, 2026  
January 20, 2026  
February 3, 2026  
February 17, 2026  
March 3, 2026  
March 17, 2026  
April 7, 2026  
April 21, 2026

City website:

[www.cityofathol.us](http://www.cityofathol.us)

Mayor:

Steven Ruch

City Clerk/Treasurer:

Lori Yarbrough

Deputy City Clerk:

Lisa Lawson

Public Works/Water Operator:

Pete Weigman



## November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025 Election Results

If you think your vote doesn't count  
look at how close these results are! It matters locally!!

Running by Position were:

Council #3: Incumbent, Cindi Devine 34; Mark Dane 31; Holly Backwell 20.

**Cindi Devine wins by 3 votes.**

Council #4 Incumbent, Shane McDaniel 50; Broderick Pellow 42

**Shane McDaniel wins by 8 votes.**

There are 384 registered voters in the city limits. This election only 92 votes were cast; that is only a 24% turnout.

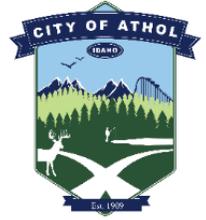
Our newly elected officials will be sworn into office at the first regular meeting in  
January 2026. If you would like to attend it will be January 6<sup>th</sup> at 6pm.  
Citizens are always encouraged to attend.



# From City Hall

Athol City Website: [www.cityofathol.us](http://www.cityofathol.us)

The Athol City Code is on the city website. Give us a call at City Hall if you need any help. 208-683-2101



## City Hall Closed for the Christmas/New Year Holiday

We will close early on Wednesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

We will remain closed until Friday, January 2, 2026.

*Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays  
from Mayor Ruch & your City Staff:  
Pete, Lori, and Lisa*



- Looking for the Perfect Gift, come by City Hall to get your Athol Daze sweatshirt for only \$10.00 in December only. (limited sizes available)

- City Council Approved new Water Bill Rates effective the January 2026 billing. Beginning your February 13<sup>th</sup> due date. - to avoid late fees. (*the 15<sup>th</sup> is a Sunday*). You can mail payments in, drop them off in the locked drop box in front of the building or give city hall a call and pay over the phone. **“NEW” Water Rates Begin January 2026 are:**

Base Rate by Category	Gallons	Rate
Residential 1 unit	12k	\$58.00
Residential 2 unit	24K	\$116.00
Commercial Low	20k	\$100.00
Commercial High	40k	\$200.00
Late Fee		\$15.00

**City Right-of-Ways** – Remember to remove any personal items left in the city right-of-way. Items left in the right-of-way are there at your own risk. Cars, trucks, boats, trailers, misc. items, all need to be removed for plowing. When removing snow from your driveway do not push snow or blow snow into the street.

We make every effort to NOT leave a berm in your driveway but occasionally during a heavy snow event this is not always possible. Please cooperate with our Public Works and/or his crew, if any, with the plowing of the city streets. Thank you in advance and have a safe and great winter.



## Water Service – A Christmas Sharing Tree Tags at the Food Bank

They are ready for your contributions. Children’s sharing tree tags are now available at the Food Bank, Country Boy Café’, Super 1 and the American Legion.

Please return tags and gifts back to Charlotte at the Food Bank no later than Wednesday, December 17<sup>th</sup> 2025.

*Thank you for giving!* Food Box pick-up Dec 9<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>!

Please text Charlotte at 208-771-3117 with all questions.



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## CITY OF ATHOL – IMPORTANT WATER SYSTEM NOTICE

The City of Athol is committed to providing safe, reliable drinking water. Our water comes directly from a deep aquifer and is normally untreated because it consistently meets state and federal drinking water standards.

During recent routine sampling, we detected the presence of **Total Coliform bacteria** in several locations within the distribution system. Total Coliforms are **not harmful themselves** and **do not typically cause illness**. Their presence **does not mean the water is unsafe**, nor does it indicate a violation of drinking water standards. Instead, Total Coliforms are used as an **indicator** that something in the distribution system may need attention—such as a loss of pressure, intrusion, or backflow.

Follow-up investigation indicates the likely source of this intrusion was **backflow from a non-permitted sprinkler/irrigation system** that did not have the required backflow prevention device. We are actively addressing this issue.

### **What We Are Doing**

To restore the system to normal operating conditions, we will be **temporarily treating the water system with Sodium Hypochlorite (chlorine)**. This treatment will continue for approximately **two weeks**, or until follow-up sampling confirms the system is fully cleared and stable.

### **What You May Notice**

- A **mild chlorine smell or taste** in your water during this temporary treatment period.
- Slight fluctuations in water quality as the disinfectant moves through the system.

These effects are **expected and safe**, and chlorine levels will remain within allowable drinking water limits.

### **What You Need to Do**

- **No action is required** from customers at this time.
- If you use water for medical devices sensitive to chlorine, or if you maintain aquariums/ponds, please take any usual precautions you would take with chlorinated water.

### **Preventing Future Issues**

Backflow events can happen when irrigation systems or other connections are not protected with proper backflow prevention devices. We will be increasing outreach and enforcement to ensure all sprinkler and irrigation systems have approved, functioning backflow protection.

If you have a sprinkler system or any connection that could pose a backflow risk, please ensure it is properly equipped.

### **Questions?**

If you have any concerns or would like more information, please contact our water operator Pete Weigman at 208-683-1130 or by email at [publicworks@cityofathol.us](mailto:publicworks@cityofathol.us)

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding as we work to ensure the continued safety of our community's water supply.

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# Come meet Santa - it's FREE!!

Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup> 1:00pm - 3:00pm  
at the Athol Community Center

Hosted by the  
**LADIES AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY**



Free  
*Athol Community Swap*  
Clothing, Toys, Decor, Gifts & Baby Items

**DECEMBER 6TH, 2025**  
**11-4 PM**

ATHOL COMMUNITY CENTER  
30355 3<sup>RD</sup> ST. ATHOL, ID

To volunteer or donate  
Call Riley 208-719-662

From 9am-11, drop off donated items & from 11-4 Shop Away!  
Clean, Odor free & gently used items only please

The advertisement is framed with a black border and features a festive design with a red bow at the top, a reindeer on the left, a snowman on the right, and two decorated Christmas trees at the bottom. The text is in various fonts, including a large green script for 'Free' and a red cursive for 'Athol Community Swap'.

TIMBERLAKE FIRE  
**CHRISTMAS**  
FOOD & TOY DRIVE

Friday, December 5

DRIVING AROUND WITH SANTA  
COLLECTING FOOD AND TOYS FOR THE  
**ATHOL FOOD BANK**

The advertisement is framed with a black border and features a central illustration of Santa Claus sitting on a red vintage fire truck. The text is in a serif font, with 'CHRISTMAS' in a larger, bold font. The background is a light beige color.

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# Athol TREE Lighting

## Saturday November 29<sup>th</sup>

### at 4:00pm

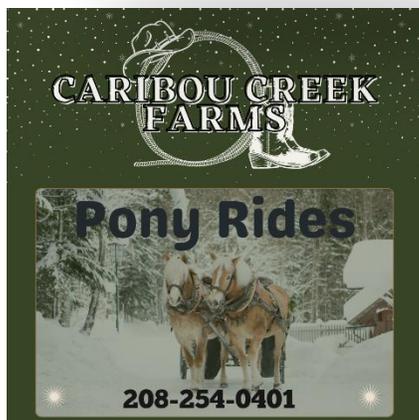


Come sing carols, warm up by a fire and chat with your neighbors.

“FREE” Pony Rides hosted by Idaho Gun and Caribou Creek Farms!

A neighborly way to celebrate our Community as we Light Up the Tree and Kick-Off this Holiday Season!

Gathering and Singing to begin about 4:00pm with the lightening happening at 4:30pm.



## Athol Farmers Market

# Christmas Market

*Food Trucks, Music, 50+ Vendors, Refreshments*

**November 29-30**

**Saturday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.**  
**Sunday 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.**

**Athol Community Center**  
**30355 3<sup>rd</sup> St.**  
**Athol, Idaho 83801**

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**Sunday-**

**Monday –**

Fit n Fall Class (Mon, Wed, Fri) 9:30am-10:30am, Gym  
Grandmothers Club (3<sup>rd</sup> Monday each month) 10am-1pm

**Tuesday –**

Food Bank (every Tues) 9am-12 noon & 1pm-3pm

**(Contact Charlotte Hooper)**

Sit-ercise (Tues & Thurs) 10am

City Council Meeting (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tues each month) 6pm

Eager Beavers 4-H (2<sup>nd</sup> Tues each month) 6:30pm-7:30pm

GEM State Gleaners (4<sup>th</sup> Tues each month) 6pm

**\*\*NOTE: This is not a full listing of the activities and classes this month\*\***



**Wednesday –**

Fit n Fall Class (Mon, Wed, Fri) 9:30am-10:30am, Gym  
Remington Water District (3<sup>rd</sup> Wed each month) 6:30pm

**Thursday –**

Lady A's (every Thurs) 9am-10am

Sit-ercise (Tues & Thurs) 10am

Athol Radio Group (2<sup>nd</sup> Thurs each month) 7pm

**Friday –**

Fit n Fall Class (Mon, Wed, Fri) 9:30am-10:30am, Gym

**Saturday –**

Big Book Recovery AA's (every Sat) 5pm-6pm



**Upcoming:**

City Council Meetings in December 2025 are on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and the 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm.

Water bills are due upon receipt and considered late if not received by Monday, the 15<sup>th</sup>.

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**WATER BILL ↓**

