



# Town of Ignacio Newsletter

January 5, 2021

Volume VI, Issue I



## Upcoming Events

### PLEASE NOTE:

Until further notice, all meetings will take place via Remote Public Meeting. Check the Town's website for information on how to access these meetings.

PLEASE NOTE: The regular Town Board Meeting is now on the second Monday of each month.

### Town Board Meeting

Mon, Jan 11th  
6:30PM

### Town Staff Out of the Office

Mon, Jan 18th

In observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day

# Welcome to Ignacio!

Please wear a face covering at all indoor public spaces and practice 6-foot social distancing.

These practices help keep our community healthy & businesses safe.



## Town Hall Partial Opening

Town Hall remains closed to the public indefinitely; however, staff is available by phone between 9 AM and 4 PM Monday thru Friday. If you call and get a message, please leave contact and pertinent information so staff can respond to your call accordingly. Town staff are available for in-person appointments, which require advanced scheduling and coordination by calling Town Hall.

## Utility Billing Information

The Town Board has approved the below temporary changes to the utility billing policy due to the COVID-19 Emergency Declaration:

- *Late fees are waived during the Disaster Declaration*
- *Utilities will not be shut off for unpaid utility bills*
- *Unpaid utility balances will need to be paid in full at the conclusion of the Emergency Declaration in order to avoid future late charges and shut-offs*

The on-call number (970-759-3660) is for **utility emergencies ONLY**. If you have utility billing or service questions, please call Town Hall and speak with staff or leave a detailed voicemail; your call will be returned as soon as possible.

### Email Billing

The Town will offer emailing billing in February. If you would like to receive your utility bill via email, please call the office 9 AM to 4 PM Monday through Friday and give us your name, account number, phone number, and email address. Thanks!

## Utility Assistance for Those Impacted by COVID-19

If you lost your job or had a reduction in pay as a direct result of COVID-19 and that loss has impacted your ability to stay current on your utility bills, please contact Town Hall to request possible assistance. The Town will require verification of job loss or reduction in pay.

## Utility Rates

The Tribe notified the Town of rate increases for 2021. Per our Municipal Code, these rates are being passed on to the customers. Please note the following rate changes:

Water - \$6.00 per thousand gallons (up from \$5.00 per thousand gallons) plus 10% loss factor and 5% capital factor

Sewer - \$17.02 per thousand gallons (up from \$14.52 per thousand gallons) plus 10% loss factor and 5% capital factor

There are no changes in gas, irrigation, trash or recycling rates. For the complete 2021 Utility Rate Sheet, contact Town Hall.

## If you smell natural gas

in your home or business, leave immediately! Do not turn light switches on or off, especially in the area you smell gas. Do not use your cell phone until you are outside and can no longer smell any gas. Call 911, the Fire Department (563-9501), or Dispatch (563-4401) if you smell gas at any time.



## COVID-19 Information & Resources

There are increasing numbers of people testing positive for COVID-19. PLEASE follow all CDC and SJBPH recommendations for protecting yourself and your loved ones.

To keep updated on the current Executive Orders from Governor Polis, San Juan Basin Public Health, and other agencies, go to the following websites:

<https://www.colorado.gov/governor/2020-executive-orders>, <https://sjbpublichealth.org>, <https://www.colorado.gov/cdphe>

For information on COVID-19 Recovery and Assistance, please visit these websites:

[www.211colorado.org](http://www.211colorado.org), [www.swcoda.org](http://www.swcoda.org), <https://www.facebook.com/PineRiverShares>, <http://swhousingsolutions.com/program/community-emergency-assistance-coalition>, <https://forms.gle/Y5ma2cdQye2adYhY8> (Ignacio COVID-19 Mutual Aid), [www.aidtoall.org](http://www.aidtoall.org) (La Plata County Economic Development Alliance).

## Si huele gas natural

en su casa o negocio, salga inmediatamente, sin pagar los interruptores de las luces, especialmente en el área que se siente olor a gas. ESPERAR a usar su teléfono celular hasta que ya no pueda oler el gas. Llame al número local de emergencias 911, al Departamento de Bomberos (563-9501), o diligencia al numero 563-4401, si siente olor a gas en cualquier momento.



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## Carbon Monoxide & Smoke Detectors

According to Colorado State Law, every home must have Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Detectors installed. The smoke alarms must be installed both inside and outside of each sleeping room. Battery operated units should have a new battery installed every six (6) months.

## Town Burn Pile

The burn pile is available for disposal of your tree limbs, grass clippings and other organic material. Please note that, if the ground is muddy, access to the Burn Pile will be closed until conditions are satisfactory. To drop off items at the burn pile, please call the on-call number (970-759-3660) to set an appointment.

## Online Payments

You can pay your Town utility bill **ONLINE!** Go to the Town's website [www.townofignacio.com](http://www.townofignacio.com) and look for the "Pay Your Bill Online" link at the bottom of the home page. You will be charged a fee of \$1.00 for electronic checks, and \$0.75 + 2.25% of the transaction for debit or credit payments. You can mail your payment to:  
PO Box 459  
Ignacio, CO 81137  
or drop it in the night drop box (no cash, please).  
If you have a cash payment, please call Town Hall to set an appointment to make your payment. Thanks!

## Christmas Tree Disposal at Town of Ignacio Burn Pile

The burn pile will be open 9 AM to Noon on the following days for your convenience in disposing of your Christmas Tree: January 7, 8, 11, 12, 13 and 14.

## Snow Removal

The Public Works Department is preparing for snow removal operations. During snow storms, please park your vehicles in your driveway or garage and leave the street clear for snow removal. Also, the Town Code states that it is unlawful to plow, shovel, push, or place snow from privately owned property into any street, road, alley or highway in the Town. Please help Town crews as they work hard to keep town streets clear of snow and safe for your travel. Thank you.

## Town of Ignacio Website and Facebook Page

The Town of Ignacio will use our website ([www.townofignacio.com](http://www.townofignacio.com)) and Facebook page ("Town of Ignacio") to communicate with our citizens on COVID-19 information, events, closures of facilities and roads, utility outages and/or disruptions, etc. These sites are updated regularly with important information; we encourage you to visit them often for up to date information provided by the Town.

## LEAP

The Low-income Energy Assistance Program (LEAP) began November 1 and runs through April 30. LEAP is a federally funded program, administered by Discover Goodwill of Southern and Western Colorado. It is designed to help eligible low-income households with winter home heating costs. It is NOT intended to pay the entire cost of home heating. If you received assistance last year, you need to reapply this year. Go to [www.discovermygoodwill.org/LEAP](http://www.discovermygoodwill.org/LEAP) to apply.

## Ignacio Youth Services

Ignacio Youth Services is currently offering a variety of virtual programming and take-home kits for middle school and high school youth. Club Venture will be starting a new cultural and adventure based 8-week cycle in January. Call or text 970-759-2011 for information about all Ignacio Youth Services programs.

## WIC Program in Ignacio

The Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program is a supplemental food and nutrition program for pregnant or postpartum women, infants, and children up to age five (5). WIC is conducting appointments over the phone. Go to [www.coloradowicsignup.com](http://www.coloradowicsignup.com) to self-refer. La Plata County residents can call Durango WIC office (970-335-2026).

## Sexual Assault Services Organization

SASO is looking for volunteers for our 24-hour Crisis Hotline and First Responder Training. For more information, please contact Emily ([emily@durangosasos.org](mailto:emily@durangosasos.org)) or call 970-259-3074.

## SoCoCAA Employment Opportunities

SoCoCAA is **HIRING** for a part-time Teacher Assistant. Details and applications are available online at [www.sococaa.org](http://www.sococaa.org). Position closes January 11 at 5 PM. For more information call 970-563-4517.