



# The Eagle's View

City News

March 29, 2021

Eagle Mountain City Government

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## Spring Conservation and Recreation



*1 - Mayor Tom Westmoreland*

Now that spring is here and the weather will soon be warming it is important for everyone to be aware that according to the Utah Division of Water Resources, 100% of Utah is in drought – which is extremely concerning for this time of year. This winter’s snowpack (about 70% of average) hasn’t provided enough to offset the record dry conditions we saw last summer and fall. For snowpack to reach average, Utah’s mountains would need to receive the remaining 30% before it starts to melt significantly, typically the first week in April. There is about a 10% chance of this occurring. Below-average snowpack and extremely dry soils will likely result in well-below normal runoff, making conservation more important than ever. Finding ways to reduce water use is critical as we move into the summer months.

When considering new landscaping or yard maintenance, you may choose to convert some of your yard to xeriscape and cut back on water use. Landscaping is our highest water user during the summer months, but if done right, xeriscape can be beautiful. Often times the best way to approach something like this is to start small by creating spaces that enhance a yard, rather than trying to take on a whole yard renovation. Xeriscapes don’t have to be hot, dry, and barren looking yards of rocks. Combining large and small rocks with a compacted decomposed granite can create a very natural look. Combine that with some trees, plants, and flowers that are either drought tolerant or fed by a drip system and you can have a beautiful and practical yard that is low maintenance, without a lawn, the biggest water user. Add a water feature and you have an oasis that doesn’t feel like you are scrimping on water until you notice how much your water bill is reduced.

If you are not into gardening or landscaping it is a great time to reconnect with the outdoors through other activities. Maybe it is time to purchase a mountain bike and enjoy the many bike trails right here in your city. This summer, trailheads will be added with parking and in some cases, restrooms.

If not a mountain bike, try horseback riding or an ATV on designated trails. Or put on a comfortable pair of shoes and walk or run our many paved and dirt trails throughout the city and up into the hills and mountains. If you do, consider taking a camera or binoculars to spot the wildlife in our area. In the middle of the valley you might see antelope. They pass by the new Tyson facility almost every day. On the hills and in the washes you might see quail or mule deer as they migrate from Lake Mountain up into the Oquirrh Mountains. Look up and you might see eagles, hawks, owls, or kestrels.

If you enjoy antiquities and promise to be very careful, look for the petroglyphs that grace our area. Please remember these are ancient artifacts and will only last as long as we care for them. Let's keep them just as they are for future generations to enjoy.

I hope everyone will find time to play in our ever improving and growing parks. No matter your sport interest or ability, Eagle Mountain City is striving to have a place in our parks for you. Whether you are ready to give pickleball a try, cool off in one of our splash pads or enjoy an old-fashioned family picnic, I hope you will make time to enjoy the outdoor amenities this area and your city have to offer.

As you do so, please be safe, follow posted rules, be the reason that Eagle Mountain has a reputation of being friendly and clean. Most of all, get out there and enjoy!

P.S. This is the last newsletter that our good friend, Communications Director Linda Peterson will be putting together for us. She is the one that has kept you informed for almost 15 years by sending out texts and emails, managing social media, and keeping the city website up to date. In addition, she has worked in support of our events staff on many city events that we have all enjoyed over the years. Linda has accepted a position with another city. We wish her well but she will definitely be missed. Thank you Linda for your many years of dedicated professional service to help shape Eagle Mountain into the vibrant city with the small town feel that it is today.

Mayor Tom Westmoreland

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(801)789-6603

## Know the Code - Animal Control



Complaints have increased recently regarding excessive dog barking, leash laws, and owners not cleaning up after their pets on public and private property. Please be aware of the following sections of city code. Animal control violations may be reported to the sheriff's office via the non-emergency dispatch number at 801-794-3970.

- Animals shall be restrained or confined as required by law.
- Animals shall be humanely treated at all times.
- Vaccinations, licenses, and permits shall be obtained as required by law.
- Animal premises shall be kept clean and sanitary and shall not be allowed to constitute an insect habitat or reservoir, a source of offensive odors or of human or animal disease.
- Animals and animal premises shall not be permitted to disturb the peace or constitute a public nuisance or hazard.

Any animal which does any of the following shall be deemed a nuisance:

1. Causes damage to the property of anyone other than its owner or custodian;
2. Is a vicious animal as defined in this chapter and kept in a manner contrary to this chapter;
3. Causes unreasonable fouling of the air by odors;
4. Causes unsanitary conditions in enclosures or surroundings;
5. Defecates on any public sidewalk, park or building, or on any private property without the consent of the owner of such private property unless the owner or custodian of such animal shall remove any such defecation to a proper trash receptacle. Unsighted persons while relying on a guide dog shall be exempt from this subsection;
6. Barks, whines, or howls, or makes other disturbing noises in an excessive, continuous, or untimely fashion;
7. Molests passersby or chases passing vehicles;
8. Attacks other domestic animals;

9. Otherwise acts so as to constitute a nuisance or public nuisance under the provisions of Title [76](#), Chapter [10](#), Utah Code Annotated 1953.

## Wildlife - Nest Building



Now that spring is here, you may have noticed more activity among our feathered friends. The weather has warmed, those that wintered elsewhere have returned and they and our year-round avian residents are preparing for the arrival of their young by building nests in our trees and other locations. They need to do so quickly so they get busy right away in the spring because they will soon lay their eggs and they need a protective place to do so.

Most of the songbirds here in our area use twigs, grass, string and bits of fiber that they find to make their nests. They may even use a few of their own or other birds' feathers. These hard-working and tireless creatures will make many trips back and forth as they collect and carry in their beaks the items they want to use in building. The swallows use mud to make their nests. If you have a protected porch or patio area, you may have seen their mud nests up close and experienced the whole process of nest building, egg-laying, hatching, feeding and even fledging as the young birds take their first flight. The ground-nesting birds such as the killdeer, use rocks and a few twigs and place them in an indentation on the ground.

When you think about it, the process of building a nest with no hands and just a sharp beak is quite a feat of engineering. They use their sharp beaks to manipulate and weave the nest together. Turning a loose gathering of small twigs and other tiny pieces of fluff into a structurally sound home is no easy task, but they know exactly how to do it.

Some birds might re-use a nest they or another bird have built sometime before. Or they may make a nest in a hole in a tree, a crevice in the rocks or possibly even inside of a birdhouse that you have provided.

You may want to help the birds that rely on materials to build their nests by leaving a small stash of natural fibers and plant material in your garden for them to find and collect.

Please remember that one of the most important rules of being a conscientious observer of nature is that of never disturbing a nest. Always observe from a discreet distance so the birds don't become alarmed and frightened while they are in the delicate process of raising their young.

## Help to Plan The Point



[The Point of the Mountain State Land Authority](#) is proactively planning for the future of The Point by creating a framework master plan. The plan will provide direction for future site use, while allowing for flexibility to respond to changing conditions. Planners for The Point have released three preliminary concepts for the site. These concepts illustrate different potential approaches to future development. More information about these concepts can be found at [the-point.utah.org/master-plan](http://the-point.utah.org/master-plan).

A virtual open house to solicit public input was held in March. Click [here](#) to watch the recording. With the public input received, the planning team is working to refine and optimize the elements of each concept into a preferred alternative for the framework master plan.

Help to Plan the Point by participating in another virtual open house is scheduled for Tuesday, May 4 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. To participate, [visit bit.ly/planthepoint](http://bit.ly/planthepoint) during the scheduled time. In addition, a public survey will be available in the coming weeks.

## Emergency Prep - Earthquakes



Federal, State, and local emergency management experts and other official preparedness organizations all agree that “Drop, Cover, and Hold On” is the appropriate action to reduce injury and death during



earthquakes. Great ShakeOut Earthquake Drills ([www.ShakeOut.org](http://www.ShakeOut.org)) are opportunities to practice how to protect ourselves during earthquakes.

You cannot tell from the initial shaking if an earthquake will suddenly become intense ...so always Drop, Cover, and Hold On immediately!

In MOST situations, you will reduce your chance of injury if you:

**DROP** where you are, onto your hands and knees. This position protects you from being knocked down and also allows you to stay low and crawl to shelter if nearby.

**COVER** your head and neck with one arm and hand · If a sturdy table or desk is nearby, crawl underneath it for shelter · If no shelter is nearby, crawl next to an interior wall (away from windows) · Stay on your knees; bend over to protect vital organs

**HOLD ON** until the shaking stops. · Under shelter: hold on to it with one hand; be ready to move with your shelter if it shifts · No shelter: hold on to your head and neck with both arms and hands.

If there is no table or desk near you, drop to the ground and then if possible move to an inside corner of the room. Be in a crawling position to protect your vital organs and be ready to move if necessary, and cover your head and neck with your hands and arms.

Do not move to another location or outside. Earthquakes occur without any warning and may be so violent that you cannot run or crawl. You are more likely to be injured if you try to move around during strong shaking. Also, you will never know if the initial jolt will turn out to be start of the big one ...and that's why you should always Drop, Cover, and Hold On immediately!

## Upcoming Events

- March 30 - [Joint City Council & Planning Commission Meeting](#)
- April 6 - [City Council Meeting](#)
- April 13 - [Planning Commission Meeting](#)
- April 20 - [City Council Meeting](#)
- April 27 - [Planning Commission Meeting](#)
- April 29-May 3- [Spring Cleanup Dumpsters](#)
- [Free Senior Meal Program](#)



2 - Thanks to City Events staff and the Eagle Mountain Youth Council for filling bags with over 32,000 eggs for our Easter Egg Drive-thru Giveaway.

## Contact Us

### **Eagle Mountain City**

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Visit us on the web at [www.eaglemountaincity.com](http://www.eaglemountaincity.com).

**After-hours hotline for Water, Parks, Streets, Storm Water, and Sewer: (801) 789-5959**

Can't find the answers you need on the website? Email [info@emcity.org](mailto:info@emcity.org)

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