

Code Enforcement Report
April 2012

April has been a relatively quiet month. I have been doing my regular rounds and also surveying for outbreaks of Scotch Broom, weed of the month. They are just starting to bloom, so they are easily identifiable. Letters to property owners will go out soon.

A disabled vehicle on East 7th Street was finally moved. Several conversations with the owner did not result in action, so I tagged it. It was moved within 72 hours.

I hand-delivered a “closure” letter to a business in arrears on its Food and Beverage tax. The taxes have been paid in full and the special City Council Hearing on this matter resulted in a six-month probation with monthly reporting and payment.

Several lots on Horizon Hill Road have been cleared. The plants were cut, not pulled. This is going to result in some horizontal growth and make it more difficult for removal. The plants were stacked, which allows the plants to put their remaining energy into seed production. The seeds are viable for 80 years.

I received several complaints of a motorized surfboard that has been cruising up and down the Yachats River in the tidal area next to Quiet Water. I have contacted ODFW, Oregon State Troopers and the Lincoln County Sheriff’s Department trying to determine the jurisdiction and if there are any restrictions on the Yachats River on motorized crafts. It sounds like a gas powered leaf blower

Several contractors have been contacted regarding the requirement of a City Business License. I made a mistake on one contractor that had renewed his license in January. I called and apologized. I expect more unlicensed contractors, as our weather turns mild. If you are anticipating work, you can help by asking the contractor, if the City licensed them. It is a painless and inexpensive requirement.

Most of the siding dumped at the end of Kenah Drive has been removed. I did notice a lot up there, where most of the alders had been stripped of their branches and cut to a 3’ to 4’ height. Somewhat strange. The debris was thrown on to adjoining lots.

I met and talked to the new owner of 380 Spruce Street. He had heard about the recent history of that property and wanted to assure the City that he was not going to convert the property to a Vacation Rental.

I have completed all but two of the Vacation Rental inspections for this year. Any new rentals coming on line will be required to have an inspection. Cooperation and compliance has been excellent.

I will review the web sites for these rental properties and make sure the occupancy numbers advertised are consistent with the inspections. Maximum occupancy and the number of vehicles allowed will be listed on the GoYachats.com web site.

The situation I reported on in last month's report on West 2nd Street is continuing. Both City Hall and I have spent considerable time on the phone with the property owner trying to convince her that this is not a City matter. It is a civil matter and an Attorney and proper eviction procedures must be followed. According to the property owner, this is in process. The individual has been seen carrying gallon jugs of water from Yachats State Park. This is a four and a half month issue and there was some prior history at other properties in Yachats.

There was a lull in the transients coming through town, but I have noticed an upturn in the last week or so. The rainy weather seems to get them moving. So far no problems have been reported.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donald W. Niskanen
Code Enforcement Officer
City of Yachats