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**JULY 2026 WOODLAND HILLS**



AMERICA  
250  
CELEBRATION  
WOODLAND  
HILLS  
STYLE!



# TED TALKS

## Fire Safety and Upcoming Pavement Project

This year's wildland fire season started early and has already been very active and destructive. As we enter the heart and heat of the season, we want to keep our community safe and make sure we are all aware of the fire restrictions in place by the State, County, and our community. The State and Utah County are currently in Stage 2 fire restrictions; these restrictions align very closely with our community's Public Safety Code that applies all year. These restrictions include:

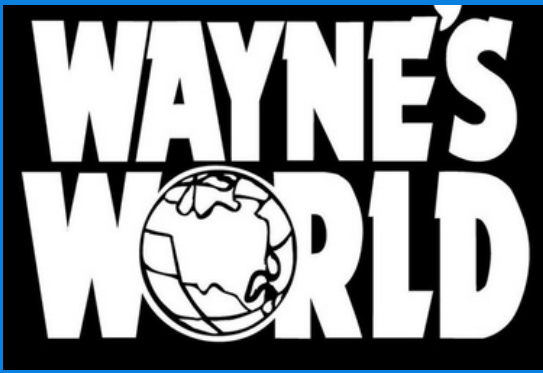
- It is unlawful to use or discharge any fireworks in the city.
  - o This includes any type of explosive, fountain, aerial, novelty (snakes, poppers, sparklers, smoke bombs, etc.), or any other type of firework.
  - No open flames or fires with the following exceptions:
    - o Stoves and fire pits that are solely fueled by liquid fuel have a shut-off valve and a 10-foot radius area clear of all combustible material around it.
- Smoking must be in a developed area clear of dry vegetation, or an enclosed trailer, building, or vehicle, and cigarette butts may not be discarded on the ground.
- No cutting, grinding, or welding in an area of dry vegetation.
- No operating motorcycles, ATV's, chainsaws or other small combustion engines without a spark arrestor.

If you see any of these activities or something suspicious, please report it to the dispatch center on their non-emergency phone (801) 798-5600 or you can reach me at (801) 455-6940.

Also, in July we will be starting Phase 3 of pavement rehabilitation project. Last year we completed 11 miles of pavement rehabilitation and will complete a few more miles in July. This will mostly affect the streets in the upper part of the city, some of Woodland Hills, Drive, and the Shadow Ridge Subdivision area.

Ted Mickelsen, P.E.  
Community Development Director/Fire Chief  
[works@woodlandhills-ut.gov](mailto:works@woodlandhills-ut.gov)





## ORDINANCE REVIEW

I am doing a review of some of our ordinances wherein there may be a conflict with other ordinances which we have. There are not a lot of them that I have found, but a few. If you have noticed any of these conflicts during the course of doing business with the city, I would be interested in your thoughts and assessments of these matters. This includes ordinances that you see no purpose in, that we can further review why we have them and why they were adopted, if they have outlived their usefulness and are no longer needed, etc. Some of our ordinances we are bound by. For example, we adopt some state ordinances that appear in our fire code. The city must continue to abide by these as they are not our ordinances, but ones we have adopted from State code and we cannot change that. Many of our building code ordinances are similarly adopted as part of a larger code and we will continue to have those. Our past city councils, including our current one, have done a fairly good job in scrutinizing wording, meanings and purposes in exercising their legislative authority as proposed ordinances come to them for review and consideration for approval. However, every now and then some matters surface that were not thought of beforehand and the implication and affect they might have on other ordinances or, as we say, the unintended consequences of their passage were not evident in the outset of their adoption. There is no point in living with a bad ordinance and if it needs to be amended to give better understanding and meaning to it, the city is always willing to make such changes. You can address any thoughts and suggestions to me at my email: [waynef@woodlandhills-ut.gov](mailto:waynef@woodlandhills-ut.gov), if you would like. We are always available to further explain our ordinances to you in order to better understand them. I should say too, that ordinances are usually adopted as problems have occurred that need correcting or to prevent ones from happening, all for the greater good of all. Our opinions may differ as we consider these matters of concern and we will not always agree with the proposed solutions. We are an imperfect people, but we do the best we can to address the matters that come before the city. We will always have complainers that never offer solutions or ideas that can be acted upon. At the other end of the spectrum, we have those who feel they can make a difference and decide to run for office and put themselves in a position to be a decision maker with the matters that come before the city. This is no easy thing to do as they put themselves out there and are often subject to criticism, being made fun of, etc. for the decisions they are making for our city and community. Several months ago I received a letter from one of our residents with many ideas and thoughts and changes they felt the city should consider. While some of those ideas may not be possible, others may be and they continue to be under review and consideration.

Wayne Frandsen, Planning Commission Chairman and Code Enforcement Official

# COUNCIL'S COMMENTS

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men (and women) are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

*The Declaration of Independence*

What a blessing it is to be an American. I think about this a lot as my mother was an immigrant from England. She sacrificed everything to come to America to become a citizen. I also have two sons who have been adopted from Haiti. They dreamed their whole lives of coming to America to have the chance at a better life. They have gone through all the steps to legally become citizens.

What a beautiful gift to live in a country founded on such great principles and opportunities.

I like so many Americans have enjoyed the videos posted on social media from all the visitor's who have come over from other countries during the World Cup to discover just how great a country we truly have. It's interesting to see that they had a very different view before they got here, based purely on stories and propaganda spread by the media. What beautiful timing to have the record set straight right before and during our America 250 celebrations, the birth of our nation.

These images and stories are a great reminder to the rest of us to take stock in our blessings and remember how truly great we have it. Is life perfect, no, not for anyone. But life is beautiful even in it's imperfections, especially when you live in "the land of the free, home of the brave."

Living in Woodland Hills feels like we are even more blessed. Like God has smiled down upon us and said "you are the lucky ones." We live in a beautiful place with lots of green space, beautiful views, wildlife and amazing neighbors. Every time we get together as a community I feel so much love and support for each other. It truly is amazing.

Is Woodland Hills perfect, well.... almost. There's always room for improvement, but there are a few loud voices that seek to tear us apart and paint our community as less than it really is. Lies are spread, stories are made up and some of the accusations have grown pretty ugly and dangerous. Is this how we want newcomers to see our community? Especially when the truth is so readily available to anyone willing to take the time to look?

I think it's time to take a stand and flood our social medial with the truth. Since, July is the most patriotic month of the year, I'd love to see posts of your patriotism, barbeques with neighbors, and all the things we love about Woodland Hills. Maybe with enough of the truths about our community posted and shared, we can drown out the few negative voices who are so desperate for attention.

We truly are the luckiest people to live in Woodland Hills, Utah, USA. The most peaceful city in the most amazing country in the world..

**Happy Birthday America!!!**

Council Member Janet Lunt

## What It Means To Be An American Bill Dunaway

I am not sure why I was on the list of people to write about "What it means to be an American" other than as I am in my 80's. It might be that I am writing as someone who has been privileged to have lived the American dream for decades, years longer than most everyone else in the area. Looking back over the years, there was never a time I wasn't proud to be an American. I am proud to have served in the military almost 30 years. We are not nor will ever be a perfect country, but I feel we are a beacon to the world for freedom and economic opportunity.

I am especially appreciative of the economic opportunities that this country offers to so many people. Both my wife and I, when we were young, lived for a time in farm houses with no phones, nor indoor water/plumbing. We didn't feel poor as many of our neighbors lived the same. I am appreciative, how thanks to hard work and a political/economic system, we now live in a comfortable home in beautiful Woodland Hills



### JUNE 2026 STATS



911 Abandon	5
Abandoned Vehicle	1
Animal complaint	3
Assist Agency	5
Citizen contact	1
Firework	1
Fraud	1
Loud Noise	1
Medical	5
Vin Inspection	1
Grand Total	24



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JANET@WOODLANDHILLS-UT.GOV  
WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!

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