

NEWS
day



Town Council Agendas

Discussion Topics
Aug. 2 - Vail Town Council Chambers
 Vail Development Site in West Lionshead to
 of Proposed View Corridors (1 hr.)
 te (15 min.)
 owable Uses of Real Estate Transfer Tax
 12 Budget Process (20 min.)
 Vail Valley Foundation Staff (1 hr.)
 ervices Policy Discussion (20 min.)
 an Runoff Group on Water Quality Improvement
 Creek (30 min.)
 ate and Attachments (15 min.)
 Indicator Grid, Winter 2010/11
 re Sales Report
 ete Commission Summer 2011 Funding Report
 or and Council (15 min.)
 on, pursuant to: 1) C.R.S. §24-6-402(4)(a)(b)(e) -
 rchase, acquisition, lease, transfer, or sale of
 s; to receive legal advice on specific legal
 o determine positions, develop a strategy and
 ors, Re: Timber Ridge redevelopment, Lionshead
 e redevelopment, and other real property
 C.R.S. §24-6-402(4)(f) - to discuss personnel
 onnel matters; 3) C.R.S. §24-6-402(4)(b) - to
 rice on specific legal questions; Re: Conference
 allot Language (90 min.)
ts on work session items may be solicited.

Discussion Topics **Early Start**
Aug. 19 - Vail Town Council Chambers
 (15 min.)
 e July 5 and 19 Council meeting minutes
 olution No. 13, Re: Approving an
 OV and Eagle River Water & Sanitation District
 olution No. 14, Re: Ratify the Amended Articles
 of the NW Colorado Council of Governments
 ic Line Burial
 aintenance Project, Crack Sealing
 ising Unit Exchange Requests
 Report, Re: Revenue Highlights (15 min.)
 am Tract Encroachment Update (15 min.)
 (15 min.)
 hr.)
 tion (15 min.)
 d Draft Resolution No. 12, Re: Submitting a
 o the Registered Electors of the TOV at the Nov.
 Election Regarding the Use of Certain Lodging
 ax Revenues (20 min.)
 Mall Plaza and Concert Hall Plaza Concepts
 No. 17, Re: USA Pro Cycling Challenge (5 min.)
 . No. 18, Re: Rezoning the Ruder Cemetery,
 Park Parking Lot and Parcel G of the
 rian Patch from Residential Districts to Open
 eation Districts (15 min.)
 5, Re: Changing the Land Use Designation of
 Ord. No. 18 (5 min.)
 d. No. 16, Re: Allowing Local Control over
 ermitting to Serve Alcohol per Adoption of Senate
 in.)
 Hearing (1 hr.)

Public Announcements

on Twitter
 ie progress of the Vail Town Council meetings on
 minute tweets on the outcomes of agenda items
 er followers can find the town by visiting
 wncouncil. The service is a great tool for those

Storm drains aren't sewers

My neighbor tells me that draining his car radiator into the street is safe because the water treatment facility can easily remove the antifreeze. Does this sound correct to you?

Kris in Vail

That is a great question, Kris. Thanks for looking into a behavior that seems to be at odds with your intuition. You sound a bit skeptical and for good reason.

Your neighbor is incorrect in his belief that waste dumped in the street, which leads into storm drains, goes through some sort of filtration or treatment process. It does not. This common mis-

ASK WASTE WATCHERS



JOSEPH WALLS

The sewer system is an enclosed underground network of pipes that collects and transports wastewater from your toilet, sink and shower to a wastewater-treatment plant. At these facilities, trash, biosolids, microorganisms and chemicals are removed before the treated wastewater is discharged. These treatment facilities must meet very strict standards for the water that they discharge. In fact, the wastewater that has been treated and discharged is cleaner than the water that routinely runs through our rivers.

Storm drains are a separate system not connected to the sewer. They are a series of underground drainage pipes and exposed ditches that are not enclosed. Access to the drain is usually through a metal grate located along the curb in the street. Storm drains

'STORM DRAINS WHISK AWAY RAIN WATER SO THAT OUR STREETS DO NOT FLOOD DURING A DOWNPOUR. THERE IS NO FILTRATION OR TREATMENT OF THIS WATER. ANYTHING THAT IS IN THE STREET WHEN IT RAINS GOES DIRECTLY INTO OUR RIVERS AND STREAMS.'

whisk away rain water so that our streets do not flood during a downpour. There is no filtration or treatment of this water. Anything that is in the street when it rains goes directly into our rivers and streams.

Most people would not intentionally throw trash, pet waste, grass clippings, automotive fluids or household chemicals directly into the river, but that is basically what happens when these items are put into the street and storm drain.

The rivers in Eagle County are an invaluable resource. They provide drinking water for our communities and those downstream. They are an important source of recreation and tourism. The cleanliness and beauty of our rivers directly affects our quality of life and our visitors' experiences.

In summary, dumping chemicals and other waste into the street is little better than dumping it directly into the river. Flushing chemicals down the toilet or pouring them in the sink is not recommended, either. Some chemicals can be effectively removed or treated at wastewater-treatment facilities, but many disrupt the treatment process. It would be much better to discard chemicals properly by bringing them to the Household Hazardous Waste facility in Wolcott.

Joseph Walls is hazardous-waste specialist at the Eagle County Household Hazardous Waste facility, located at the landfill in Wolcott. The facility is open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday and 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday. Call 970-328-3468 or visit www.eaglecounty.us/recyclingwaste for information.

