Cryptocurrency Mining Update
On June 14, the Board of County Commissioners held a public hearing on cryptocurrency mining. The hearing was well-attended, with 30 members of the public providing comments on the topic following a report by CAPS staff on the impacts and potential impacts of cryptocurrency mining in Missoula County and the possibility of interim zoning to address it. The hearing will be continued on Thursday, August 9 at 2:00 p.m. in Room 151 of the County Courthouse Annex. There will be an opportunity for additional public comment on that date, and comments are also accepted online at any time. For details and to provide comments, visit http://apps.missoulacounty.us/go/cryptocurrency.

Questions may be directed to Diana Maneta at 406-258-3424 dmaneta@missoulacounty.us or Jennie Dixon at 406-258-4946 jdixon@missoulacounty.us

Volunteer at the Western Montana Fair
Register HERE to Volunteer at the 2018 Western Montana Fair, August 7-12, 2018!

Volunteers will receive one Arena Event Ticket OR one All-Day Ride Pass and a T-Shirt OR Hat OR water bottle per shift. Please fill out and submit the following form and we’ll give you a call to confirm.

Thank you!
The Fair could not happen without its amazing volunteers!
Phase II Grand Opening

FREE FAMILY FUN & ENTERTAINMENT Thursday July 26 6-10pm

Tours, Games, Food, Music and More!

Discover and Explore Your New Park!

Next to Community Medical Center
3005 South Ave West, Missoula, MT 59804
Becoming a Smoke Ready Community

It’s officially summer. The days are long, the grass is green(ish), and it’s time to get outside, enjoy the fresh air and make plans for the rest of your summer! And by make plans, I mean assess your indoor air filtration and take steps now to protect yourself later this summer when wildfire smoke rolls back into town. You didn’t really think this was going to be uplifting, did you?

The wildfire outlook is grim – long range forecasters at National Predictive Services are expecting a hot and dry summer in the Northern Rockies with above average fire activity. Even if we get super lucky this year and the lightning doesn’t fall in our neck of the woods, it’s going to fall somewhere, and there’s just a darn good chance that we’re going to see smoke this summer.

It shouldn’t come as a surprise to you that smoke is bad news. Wildfire smoke contains fine particulate matter and a vast array of volatile organic chemicals (VOCs) such as benzene, acrolein and formaldehyde. The particulate matter is our primary health concern, but the VOCs can still make you pretty miserable. VOCs from wildfire smoke can cause headaches, stinging eyes, upset stomach and a scratchy throat. Meanwhile, the particulate matter can cause respiratory and cardiac issues such as reduced lung function, exacerbated asthma and increased risk of heart attack and stroke. The fine particulate matter in smoke (typically less than 1 micron in diameter) is so tiny that it evades all your natural defenses when you breathe it in. Once it enters your lungs, the fine particles can pass into your bloodstream and set off an inflammatory response. It’s nasty stuff. And, if you don’t take steps to clean your indoor air and keep smoke out, next time smoke rolls into the valley it’s also going to roll into your home.

The 2017 wildfire season was brutal, but it led to an important paradigm shift in how we approach wildfire smoke. It’s time to stop reacting to smoke by hunkering down and waiting for it to go away. As any of us who lived through the 2017 wildfires know, sometimes the wait for the smoke to leave can take weeks, if not months. (No one wants to hunker for that long, it’s got to be terrible for your back.) It’s time to be proactive. There is a lot of important work being done around Missoula County to become a fire-ready community. It’s time to also become a smoke-ready community.

So, what can you do? A lot, actually...

To read the entire article and learn about how to choose a HEPA filter please visit the ‘Current Air Quality’ webpage.

http://www.missoulacounty.us/currentaq

Written by: Sarah Coefield, M.S., M.A.
Air Quality Specialist
Missoula City-County Health Department
406-258-3642
Join us for the 4th annual Revive and Thrive event! This community work day is a great way to give back to the Montana Forests on which we depend. Activities include meadow and aspen restoration to benefit native camas!

To volunteer, RSVP to Helen Jenkins at hjenkins@tnc.org or 406-543-6681.

For details and map, visit nature.org/montana
Montana Holds Highest Suicide Rate in Nation

Last week brought discouraging news for Montana. The US Centers for Disease Control (CDC) issued a report saying that Montana has the highest suicide rate in the nation, and that suicide rates have been climbing across the country for decades. We also got news of two high-profile Americans taking their own lives. Every suicide, whether public or private, is a painful reminder that people from all walks of life, including very successful people, can have depression. People with depression may not know they have an illness and may not reach out to get the professional help and support they need. It is also a painful reminder of the persistent stigma around mental illness.

Sometimes a person who is considering suicide is not aware that help is available. For immediate help, suicide crisis resources are available HERE. Any one of us who might need immediate support can call 1-800-273-8255, or text “MT” to 741 741, for free, confidential, 24/7 support.

Employee Assistance Programs can have many resources that offer confidential support. The Missoula chapter of NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) provides support groups, classes, and referrals for people with mental illness and their friends and loved ones.

Missoula County and Project Tomorrow Montana partners will continue to lead community efforts through free suicide prevention classes and gun locks available by request. We also want to erase the stigma of mental illness in partnership with NAMI Missoula through NAMI’s “Cure Stigma” campaign. We want people to know that there are resources to help. Our aim is to support each other and all members of our community.
Who: Clients, Providers, Family and Friends

7th Annual Party in the Park

What: N.A.M.I. (National Alliance on Mental Illness) and the L.A.C. (Local Mental Health Advisory Council) are sponsoring a summer picnic and get together to raise awareness and have some summer fun. Thanks to the Mental Health Centers and Knights of Columbus.

Big Dipper Ice Cream Truck will be providing cones for everyone!

When: Thursday, July 19, 2018
12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m.

Where: Franklin Park
Directions to Franklin Park: 10th and Kemp, six blocks west of Russell on 10th. You can take the #2 or #8 bus from downtown. Info call 396-3395
BOARDS & COMMITTEES

- **Parks and Trails Advisory Board** meets the 3rd Thursday of every month at 1:30 p.m. at the CAPS conference room at 323 W. Alder.
- **Open Lands Citizen Advisory Committee** meetings convene the 3rd Thursday of every month at 6:00 p.m. at the CAPS conference room at 323 W. Alder. All meetings are open to the public.
- **Missoula Consolidated Planning Board** meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday every month at 7:00 p.m. in Missoula City Council Chambers, 140 W. Pine. All meetings are open to the public and televised on MCAT.
- **Missoula County Board of Adjustment** meets the 3rd Wednesday every month at 7:00 p.m. in Missoula City Council Chambers, 140 West Pine. All meetings are open to the public and televised on MCAT.

Community Council monthly meeting dates (unless otherwise noted):

- **Bonner-Milltown** 2nd Monday, 7:00 p.m. Bonner School Library
- **East Missoula** 2nd Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. East Missoula Fire Hall
- **Evaro-Finley-O’Keefe** 3rd Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. Evaro Community Center
- **Lolo** 2nd Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. Lolo Community Center
- **Seeley Lake** 2nd Monday, 6:00 p.m. Historic Barn on Hwy 83zz
- **Swan Valley** 3rd Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. Swan Valley Community Hall
- **West Valley** 2nd Thursday, 6:00 p.m. Frenchtown Fire Station

LINKS AND OTHER RESOURCES

- **W.O.W Bus**: The W.O.W. (Web on Wheels) Bus is Missoula Public Library’s mobile branch. Made possible through federal funding, this bus has Internet access, database training stations, and a reference librarian on board. The bus travels around the county making scheduled stops on a biweekly basis. Click here for the most current W.O.W. Bus schedule. Visit the website [www.missoulapubliclibrary.org/index.php/branches/w-o-w-bus](http://www.missoulapubliclibrary.org/index.php/branches/w-o-w-bus) or call Missoula Public Library at 406-721-2665 for updates.

- **Montana 2-1-1**: Do you have a question about food, housing, heating, daycare, support groups, health care options or general questions? HELP IS JUST A CALL AWAY 2-1-1 406-549-5555. If you need assistance or information and don’t know where to turn please call the phone numbers above. Calls to 2-1-1 are free and confidential. A service of the Human Resource Council, 2-1-1 is available 24 hours and serves Missoula, Mineral and Ravalli Counties. This programs is funded, in part, by gifts to United Way.

- **Missoula City-County Health Department Public Health Visiting Program**: Nurses and Social Workers provide information and referrals on a wide variety of interests to all families in our community. A nutritionist is also part of the Home Visiting team. For more information, contact the Health Department at 406-258-4298 or visit their website at: [www.missoulacounty.us/government/health-department/healthy-people-healthy-families/home-visiting-family-support/nurse-family-partnership](http://www.missoulacounty.us/government/health-department/healthy-people-healthy-families/home-visiting-family-support/nurse-family-partnership).

- **Montana Association of Community Development Extension Professionals (MACDEP)** is the state affiliate of the National Association of Community Development Extension Professionals (NACDEP). MACDEP’s mission is to encourage excellence in community development educational programs, research, and technical assistance through the exchange of ideas and methods, collaboration, and professional development of members to benefit communities. Visit MACDEP’s website [here](http://www.missoulapubliclibrary.org/index.php/branches/w-o-w-bus).

- **Missoula Public Library Newsletter**: [http://www.missoulapubliclibrary.org/newsletter-2](http://www.missoulapubliclibrary.org/newsletter-2)
- **Missoula County’s Property Information System**: [http://gis.co.missoula.mt.us/propertyinformation/](http://gis.co.missoula.mt.us/propertyinformation/)