

Let's Talk Water

A Minute with the Manager - Feb 2026



Good Morning Rawlins,

Last month, the City experienced a water break on a high-pressure transmission line that supplies water to roughly one half of our community. Thanks to a new monitoring and control system installed last year, Water Department staff quickly identified abnormal water loss. Crews located the break on Saturday and worked continuously for 20 hours to replace about 60 feet of twenty-inch line.



Because residents in the affected area conserved water, the City was able to minimize system loss until repairs were completed. Public Works staff - assisted by Parks and Community Relations - worked from Friday night through Sunday morning to restore service while keeping the community informed throughout.

Initial estimates place the cost of this single incident between \$21,000 and \$25,000.

Unfortunately, water breaks are not uncommon in Rawlins. The Water Department responds to approximately 30 to 40 breaks each year. Averaging roughly \$6,000 per incident in labor and materials, these repairs cost the City about \$210,000 annually - a pattern that has persisted for nearly a decade. This is not sustainable.

Rawlins' water system stretches more than 45 miles from springs to town to river and includes about 65 miles of in-town infrastructure. The City has taken on major projects over the last few years, completing approximately \$4.2M in projects (using \$2.3M in Water Funds and \$1.9M in Federal and State Grants). This included replacing 10,000 feet of wood stave pipe in the springs, bringing the pretreatment plant online, installing a new monitor and control system, and adopting a comprehensive water plan.

Beginning this summer, the City will undertake two major projects to rehabilitate the fatigued 32-mile transmission line south of town at a total cost of \$5.8 million. Through a combination of rate adjustments and internal savings, the City has committed \$2.9 million, with the State providing a matching \$2.9 million grant.

This work will be followed by improvements to the collection system at the headwaters and, ultimately, the phased replacement of in-town infrastructure including the high-pressure line, water tanks, and water mains. The estimated cost to the Water Enterprise Fund for the remaining Phase I projects in our Master Plan is over \$26 million, exclusive of replacements to in-town water mains or ongoing annual operating/maintenance expenses.

Rawlins is a remarkable place to live and work. But as a high desert community, our future depends on a reliable water system. As we begin the budgeting process we will focus on adopting a fiscally conservative budget which accounts for sustaining water rates that reflect the true cost of work, and ensure the City can continue to secure outside funding and tackle these projects over time in a measured and predictable way, with lowest long term cost to the community.

I ask you please keep this in mind as City staff continue addressing these critical infrastructure needs.

Sincerely, Matt Hall
Rawlins City Manager
mhall@rawlinswy.gov
307-328-4500





WE ARE HIRING

PROFESSIONS THAT MAKE A DIFFERENCE

POLICE OFFICER

- \$28.04 per hour
- 20 Year Retirement
- Employer Paid Health Insurance

COMMS/DISPATCH

- \$23.07 per hour
- 20 Year Retirement
- Employer Paid Health Insurance

307-328-4530
rawlinswy.gov/betheblue

ADOPT, DON'T SHOP!

FOSTER HOMES ALSO NEEDED



Call 307-328-4530 today!

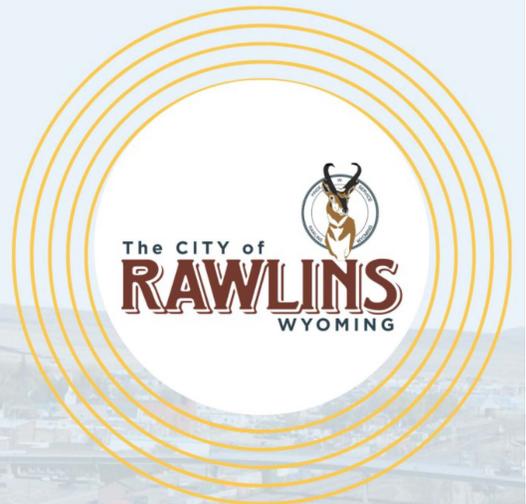
Available pets listed at

www.rawlinswy.gov/petfinder

\$35/cat & \$50/dog including spay or neuter

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www.rawlinswy.gov





CARBON COUNTY COMPASS

YOUR WEEKLY EVENTS CALENDAR AND TOURISM INDUSTRY UPDATES



SCAN HERE

OR PUT THIS LINK INTO YOUR WEB BROWSER:
[HTTPS://SHORTURL.AT/PVAQ5](https://shorturl.at/pvaq5)

JOIN DISCOVER CARBON COUNTY'S RESIDENT E-NEWSLETTER TODAY!

Your Compass to Carbon County Life is Here!

Want to be the first to know about everything happening locally?

Subscribe to our new Resident e-Newsletter for **Full Weekly Community Calendars** for all local happenings!

Teen Dating and Healthy Relationships Presentation

Carbon County Higher Education Center
1650 Harshman St

High School Presentation - February 4th @ 6pm

Middle School Presentation - February 11th @ 6pm



RPD Victim Advocates invite you to a teen-focused presentation on healthy, safe dating relationships. Teens must attend with an adult or guardian.

Sign up today to receive the information you need - when you need it.



CarbonWy.MyFreeAlerts.com



AlertSense is used throughout Carbon County to distribute emergency alerts based on the address(es) you provide. Alert types are easily customized and can be received via phone call, text message, app, email and/or pager.

If you have questions or need help signing up, please call 307-324-2776.



Carbon County
Office of
Emergency
Management





This year Rawlins Downtown Development Authority is celebrating 35 years of supporting, enhancing, and promoting Downtown Rawlins!

As a proven partner and community developer, our organization has:

- Raised over \$500,000 for downtown projects and programs
- Secured more than \$5 million in grant funding
- Reached over one million people through marketing and social media in 2025

Help us continue our success!

Gems of Downtown is our annual investment program that makes supporting downtown simple and flexible. Choose a “Gem” level that fits your goals while helping fund meaningful downtown projects.

As a Gem of Downtown, you can:

- Support downtown improvements and events
- Receive local recognition
- Direct your contribution to specific projects

Volunteers are
GEMS too!

Our Gems of Downtown Investment Program offers:

- Meaningful marketing and community visibility
- Options tailored toward specific beautification projects or downtown events
- Convenient annual giving

Choose your level of support by selecting a “Gem” that aligns with your personal, business, or organizational goals!

For more information about Downtown and our GEMS program scan the QR Code or visit our website: www.downtownrawlins.org

Save the
DATE

35-year celebration
and GEMS unveiling

March 19th, 2026 from 4pm-8pm
The Depot & Depot Park
400 W. Front Street



34th Annual Silver Bullet
Pistol Competition

DATE: FEB 28TH & MAR 1ST
2026

34TH ANNUAL SILVER BULLET TOURNAMENT IS BACK!!!
ALL STANDARD NRA CLASSIFICATION AVAILABLE.
NRA ACTION PISTOL RULES APPLY.
RANGE WILL BE OPEN FOR PRACTICE ON FRIDAY FEB 27TH FROM 5-8PM

REGISTRATION FEE IS \$80 FOR FIRST GUN AND \$40 FOR THE SECOND GUN,
AND A \$30 FEE FOR JUNIORS.

PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CAN THE REC CENTER
(307)324-7529
OR EMAIL
SELLSWORTH@RAWLINSWY.GOV



IT'S TIME TO SKATE!!

ROLLER SKATING
NIGHTS!

FRIDAY'S 6PM - 8PM
SUNDAY'S 3PM - 5PM

\$7 PER
PERSON

STARTING NOVEMBER 2ND

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
DBACA@RAWLINSWY.GOV
RFLAMIG@RAWLINSWY.GOV

TIMES AND DAYS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

rflamig@rawlinswy.gov
dbaca@rawlinswy.gov
307-324-7529

SIGN UP NOW!!!!

09 Feb, 2026 - 19 March, 2026

\$100
PER PLAYER



1616 Harshman St.
Rawlins Wy, 82301



NRA
ACTION PISTOL
LEAGUE

Members get 25% OFF \$60 NON-Member

PER PERSON PER LEAGUE

League 2 (6 weeks)
Jan. 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th
Feb. 5th, 12th

League 3 (6 weeks)
Feb. 19th, 26th
Mar. 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th

League 4 (5 weeks)
Apr. 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd & 30th

Courses of fire
Los Alamitos
Combat
Practical
Plates
Barricades

WHY ARE PERMITS REQUIRED?

The City of Rawlins requires building permits and the required inspections to make sure that building codes are being met. This ensures the health and safety of current and future residents.

Work can also be performed by homeowners if 1) a permit is issued 2) required inspections are performed by the building inspector, and 3) all work is built to the code requirements.

WHY A LICENSED CONTRACTOR?

1. The contractor must prove they have relevant training and experience.

2. The contractor must show current general liability insurance, which ensures the quality of the work and protects you from liability for injuries on site.

3. We help hold licensed contractors accountable for permits and inspections so that we can inspect the quality of work.

WHERE DO I FIND A CONTRACTOR?

The City can help you find a licensed contractor. Our office has a complete list of current licensed contractors available upon request in person, by email or by phone.

All contractor's files, including any complaints, are public record available upon request.

Contractors should be able to furnish a copy of their current license with their name, number and expiration date.

We require all contractors working within City limits to be licensed per Rawlins Municipal Code 15.28.020.

Your Guide to Home Projects & The City



WHAT ARE MY RESPONSIBILITIES?

- We can help from the beginning. Visit with Community Development or even schedule a free site visit to understand the process.
- If using a contractor, make sure they are licensed.
- Construction that requires a permit will also require various inspections. These are listed on the permit paperwork. Touch base with your contractor and/or the City about these inspections.
- If you ever have any concerns about your contractor, please reach out to the Community Development Department. If we are notified quickly, we are able to take action more effectively to correct the issue.
- Construction inspections show if the work is being done correctly. We work with the contractor to correct any issues before they can pass the inspection. If not, they can be fined, given a violation letter, and even have their license removed by the City.

WHAT PROTECTION DO I HAVE?

The City of Rawlins is limited to fining contractors and eventually removing their license. If you have problems with the work done by a contractor, you have the following options:

- Collecting against the contractor's insurance, either independently or in conjunction with your homeowners insurance.
- Make a legal claim against the contractor in civil court.

City of Rawlins Community Development Dept.

307-328-4500 ext. 1014
permits@rawlinswy.gov
rawlinswy.gov/building
521 W. Cedar
PO Box 953
Rawlins, WY 82301