

Message from Council

Spring weather is most definitely here. Balsamroot and cherry and peach trees are blooming, the hillsides are greening, and ball and soccer players are out on the fields.

Council and limited essential staff are again able to hold in-person meetings in Chambers following the installation of plexiglass barriers. Upgrades to the audio and video components will improve the live streaming of Council meetings for those who wish to attend virtually.

Although public health orders continue to restrict in-person attendance by the public, we are looking forward to welcoming you back to Council Chambers when circumstances allow. In the meantime, please continue to engage with the District by email or by contacting the Corporate Officer to join Council meetings virtually by phone or Zoom.

Our thanks for the diligence and patience you have continued to show during the pandemic, especially over the cold and grey winter months. We know it is tiring and that you may be feeling anxious, stressed or depressed and missing your families and friends. However, if all goes according to plan, in another couple of months all adults who want to be vaccinated will have at least their first dose. Stay safe, Summerland.

Successful Unlimited Yard & Garden Waste Pickup

The April Unlimited Yard & Garden Waste Pickup event was a success.

Many Summerland residents utilized this opportunity to complete outdoor projects. The District will be offering another Unlimited Yard & Garden Waste Pickup event to be scheduled this Fall in the 2021-2022 Curbside Calendar.



Dog Days

The temporary off-leash period at Peach Orchard Park came to an end on April 30. Dogs are required to be leashed at all times on park trails. Dogs will be allowed off-leash at Peach Orchard Park starting October 1. Dogs are allowed off-leash year-round at Peach Orchard Dog Beach. Reminder to all dog owners to keep Summerland clean by picking up after your dog, using dog-waste bags, dispensers and garbage cans.



Summerland Biosolids Compost - 1.5 - 0.4 - 0.3

Available at Summerland Sanitary Landfill, 17202 Bathville Road, Summerland, B.C. V0H 1Z8
Lot: Biosolids Compost: 2020-05-21 Average net weight: 487 kg/m³

Did you know you can purchase high quality, sustainable, and safe Class A biosolid compost at the Summerland Sanitary Landfill? Biosolid compost is valued for its high organic matter content and strong structure that drains easily and promotes healthy root growth. The Class A government designation means that the product can be sold with no restrictions. It can be safely applied to lawns, flowers, shrubs and gardens. **Using District of Summerland Compost in the spring is a great way to set the stage for the planting season!**

Saturday May 15 from 9:00am to 2:45pm
A loader will be available for filling trucks and trailers.
(not available between 12 noon and 12:30pm)

Note - this event is weather permitting. Please monitor the District of Summerland website as the date approaches for more information.

For the safety of users and staff, stay in your vehicle during loading

- Residents may also self-load compost products into owner supplied containers during regular landfill hours (bring your own shovel), or
- A loader is available Mondays through Fridays, 9:00am to 2:45pm (not available between 12 noon and 12:30pm)
- Compost: 4 cents/kilogram, Wood Mulch and Topdressing: 6 cents/kilogram
- \$2.00 minimum charge
- A 25% discount will be applied for loads over 1 metric tonne

Agriculture Water Usage Data

In order to provide Agricultural water users with timely data, the District posts monthly consumption reports on the website www.summerland.ca. Click on City Services - Water - Agricultural Water to access the consumption reports. Search by meter number using Ctrl + f and enter meter number in search box. If users prefer to monitor consumption manually, please take note of the meter read (indicated in the recent letter sent) and check the meter yourself to make sure the 800mm allotment is not exceeded. If you require assistance, please call Meter Tech/Clerk at (250) 404-4102.

Let's Make
Summerland
Canada's Most
Active Community!



ParticipACTION
Community Better
Challenge
June 1-30, 2021



Track your physical activity minutes on the ParticipACTION app or track physical activity for yourself, your family or an organization on the ParticipACTION website (starting June 1)

To learn more, visit our website at www.summerland.ca/recreation.
Event details will be released on May 14.

District Facilities Update

Some District facilities have begun gradual re-opening plans. Face masks are mandatory. Call to check what hours facilities may be open to the public. Staff is available during regular business hours at the numbers below:

- Municipal Hall - General Enquiries: (250) 494-6451 Monday to Friday 8:30am - 4:00pm
- Development Services: (250) 494-1373
- Utility Billing: (250) 404-4047
- Property Tax/Accounts Receivable/Accounts Payable: (250) 404-4055
- Parks & Recreation: (250) 494-0447
- Fire Department (Non emergency): (250) 494-7211
- Works & Infrastructure: (250) 494-0431
- After Hours Emergency 3:30pm - 7:00am Monday to Friday, weekends or Statutory Holidays for Water/Sewer/Roads/Parks/Electrical Utility: (250) 493-0005

Prepare Your Family For An Outage

Most power outages will be over almost as soon as they begin, but some can last much longer – up to days or even weeks. Power outages are often caused by freezing rain, sleet storms and/or high winds which damage power lines and equipment. During a power outage, you may be left without heating/air conditioning, lighting, hot water, or even running water. You may also be left without phone or internet service. If you do not have a battery-powered or crank radio, you may have no way of monitoring news broadcasts. In other words, you could be facing major challenges.

Power Outages

What to do?

You can greatly lessen the impact of a power outage by taking the time to prepare in advance. You and your family should be prepared to cope on your own during a power outage for at least 72 hours.

Visit www.getprepared.gc.ca.



Giant's Head Mountain Park

Giant's Head Mountain Park Road is open to regular vehicle use daily from noon – 9:00pm and will remain closed on Sundays to vehicles for the summer of 2021.



The morning and Sunday road closures will allow for more space for park users to utilize the road for biking and hiking on the road without conflict with vehicles.

Snow Angel Award

Congratulations to Stuart and Maxine Millis, Summerland's Snow Angels for the 2020/21 winter.



A Snow Angel is someone who helps out a neighbour and shovels snow or adopts a sidewalk to keep clear whenever it snows. This past winter, almost 50 residents were nominated as Snow Angels and each received a signed Snow Angel certificate. Stuart and Maxine Millis, whose names were randomly drawn, received a \$50 gift certificate to a local vendor. Thank you 2020/2021 Snow Angels!

Plant Smart, Stay Safe

If you have a power line on or near your property, it doesn't mean you can't plant trees. The safest bet is to plan ahead so trees won't interfere with power lines no matter how tall they grow. Here are a few guidelines that will help you ensure your trees won't grow into hazardous trees.

Trees planted closer than 7.5 metres should be low-growing varieties. Nothing should be planted closer than 5 metres from the base of a power pole. If you have a secondary line connecting your home to a power line, avoid planting trees that will grow into the line. If you don't see a secondary line connected to your house, your secondary line is underground.

Call BCOneCall at 1-800-474-6886 or email bconecall.ca at least three working days before planting.

Property Tax Notices and New Online Home Owner Grant Applications

Property Tax Notices will be mailed out by the end of May. Property taxes will be **due by 4:00pm on Friday, July 2, 2021**.

Contact Municipal Hall if you have not received your notice by early June. The Finance Department will be pleased to help you with any questions, call 250-494-6451 or email propertytaxes@summerland.ca.

Reminder that as of January 1, 2021, the Province of BC is now managing the Home Owner Grant (HOG). To avoid penalties and interest, homeowners need to apply for their HOG directly to the Province using an online system prior to the property tax deadline of July 2, 2021. Program eligibility has not changed, however, homeowners can no longer apply for their HOG at Municipal Hall.

For more information, or to learn more about the Home Owner Grant program, please visit the Province's website at: gov.bc.ca/homeownergrant.

For homeowners that do not have a computer or would prefer to apply over the phone, please call the Province's toll free number at: 1-888-355-2700.



Be Bear Smart – Place Your Carts at the Curb As Close As Possible to Your Collection Time

Garbage, bird feeders and tree fruits can attract bears to your yard, family and neighbourhood. Once a bear becomes used to human food sources it becomes habituated, usually resulting in the bear being destroyed. It is important to keep wildlife wild and communities safe.



Tips to prevent attracting bears to your property:

- **Garbage** – properly secure garbage and keep it indoors until pick-up or until you can bring it to the landfill. Do not place your carts at the curb the night before your collection day. Rather, bring your carts to the curb as close as possible to your collection time. Consider upgrading to a wildlife cart.
- **Compost** – properly care for your compost by turning it and layering it appropriately to reduce odours.
- **Fruit Trees and Grapes** – make sure to harvest fruit immediately.
- **Pet food, Birdfeeders and Gardens** are all attractants for bears. Keep your pet food securely stored indoors.
- **Barbeques** – limit smells by keeping your barbeque properly cleaned, covered and don't leave utensils out overnight.

Report wildlife encounters to BC Conservation Officer Services at 1-877-952-7277 or visit www.wildsafebc.com for information.

Is Your Property FireSmart?

Please visit FireSmart BC at <https://firesmartbc.ca> for more information on how to protect your home from a potential wildfire.



Signage

Please be reminded that the District of Summerland does not permit permanent or temporary signs to be placed in the roundabouts, on power poles or light standards or anywhere within highway rights-of-way, unless expressly permitted in Sign Bylaw No. 2013-026. The District may remove and impound any sign on District road rights-of-way that is in contravention with this Bylaw. Parking a vehicle on roadways to display for sale is in contravention of Section 5.05(1)(j)(i) of the Traffic Bylaw.

Utility Bill Equal Payment Plan

If you are on the utility bill equal payment plan, April is reconciliation month (due date May 27). Those wanting to be on the Utility Equal Payment Plan have until May 15 to apply. To request an application contact (250) 404-4047, email utilities@summerland.ca, send a written request to apply in the drop box at Municipal Hall or notify us by mail. All participants must be on the **pre-authorized payment plan** which requires a copy of a "VOID" cheque or Customer Account Information from your financial institution to be included with your application.

Keep Up To Date: The District will post community updates to our website, Facebook and Twitter accounts. Please follow our pages to keep up to date on COVID-19 information and more.

Website: summerland.ca

Facebook: facebook.com/SummerlandBC

Sign up for our Online Newsletter:

<https://www.summerland.ca/your-city-hall/newsletter-subscribe>