



VIEW ROYAL NEWS

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TOWN HALL HOURS & CLOSURES

Hours of operation are Monday to Friday, 8:30 am — 4:30 pm, excluding statutory holidays. Town Hall will be closed on the following dates for statutory holidays and winter break:

- Monday, October 2, 2023
- Monday, October 9, 2023
- Monday, November 13, 2023
- Winter Break — Saturday, December 23 through to January 1, 2024. Town Hall re-opens Tuesday, January 2, 2024 @ 8:30 am.
- Monday, February 19, 2024
- Friday, March 29, 2024
- Monday, April 1, 2024

WHAT'S INSIDE

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- Parks Updates and Tree Planting program, see pg. 4.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Halloween Fun, October 31 at the Public Safety Building 6 pm — 9 pm 333 Island Highway
- Pumpkin Smash, November 4 at the Public Safety Building 10 am — 2 pm 333 Island Highway
- Sewer Utility Invoice payment deadline is end of November 2023
- Business Licence Renewal deadline is January 31, 2024
- Secondary Suite renewal deadline is February 29, 2024



From The Mayor's Desk

Hello Neighbours,

I hope the summer has provided some rest for you.

This summer has been British Columbia's most destructive fire season on record and it is not over yet. This year, it is predicted that fire season will overlap with the fall flood season. The effect of the prolonged drought, fueled by climate change, has also contributed to fires in the Town, including our parks.

I want to acknowledge the work of all of those fighting fires in the Province, including our Fire Department, for their heroic work and particularly for those who have lost their lives.

Due to these poignant reminders, I am very pleased that View Royal Council has approved bold new initiatives, advancing construction regulations to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and global warming. The Town is becoming recognized as a leader in municipal bylaw and policy on the issues of climate change and the environment and I am very proud of our Staff and Council to set new standards advocated for by our residents, and in particular, the View Royal Climate Coalition.

Council has also approved a policy to assist those displaced by new construction, ensuring existing tenants are protected to the best of our ability. I am very encouraged to see all members of Council considering the layered effects of our reality in decision-making, including attainable housing, the environment, and the infrastructure to support new residents of the Town.

The Town has also advanced its early work on public engagement by adopting the International Association of Public Participation's core values as a general framework for our engagement work with you. I believe all of Council is very interested in building capacity for collaborative decision-making over the long term by improving relationships and increasing trust between decision-makers and you for the issues facing our Town and its future. If you have not already done so, I encourage you to subscribe through the Town's website viewroyal.ca/EN/meta/notifications.html to be informed of upcoming Council meetings, public notices, and "what's new" items.

It is with deep respect that I acknowledge the Town's Chief Administrative Officer will be retiring this fall. Mr. Kim Anema has devoted over a decade to View Royal and a lifetime to municipal leadership. He is the reason our level of service makes View Royal stand out among other municipalities and his leadership and counsel will be greatly missed. Kim represents the very best in public service and his commitment to excellence and professionalism has set an uncommonly high standard.

With shorter days upon us, now is a great opportunity to check out your recreation centre. The Juan de Fuca Recreation Centre has a host of activities available – from swimming to ice skating, the weightroom, and classes <https://www.wspr.ca>.

Respectfully, Sid Tobias



Halloween Fun

October 31
at the Public Safety Building
6 pm — 9 pm
333 Island Highway



Pumpkin Smash

November 4
at the Public Safety Building
10 am — 2 pm
333 Island Highway

“DEAR AUNTIE ARCHIVES”**Dear Auntie Archives:**

I am interested in learning more about the materials that are on display in the Archives' cabinet in the Town Hall lobby throughout the year. Who contributes the photos and pieces used? Who sets up the exhibit? Can the public make suggestions? Best regards, I.M. Keen

**Dear Keen:**

Thank-you for noticing the Archives displays! We like to highlight the people, features, and areas of View Royal and tell their stories. A theme and design idea are decided during our meetings and the materials come from our collections and volunteers. The Archivist generally arranges the display and takes photos of the finished cabinet for our reference resources.

If you have an idea or are interested in joining us for a meeting (we are a friendly bunch!), look for Archives meeting announcements on the Town's main website page www.viewroyal.ca or send us an email at: archives@viewroyal.ca.

Our digitized collection can be viewed at: <https://viewroyalarchives.accesstomemory.org/>.



**Please
do
NOT
flush
these
items**

- Any kind of wipes
- Paper towels
- Diapers
- Feminine hygiene products
- Cooking oil/fat/grease
- Dental floss
- Condoms
- Paint/chemicals
- Plastic bags

Let's work together to keep repair and maintenance costs down!

SAFE DISPOSAL OF ELECTRONICS & BATTERIES



Do not include batteries or other electronic items in your regular garbage. They contain a number of heavy metals and toxic chemicals and can potentially catch fire. Batteries in particular, when damaged, tend to explode or ignite. When included in regular trash, they are likely to be crushed, compacted or smashed and, being in the presence of other flammable material, can lead to fires.

Please take them to your nearest e-waste drop off centre. See <https://recyclemyelectronics/bc.ca> for a list of locations. By recycling electronics, you divert waste from landfills, and help reduce the risk of soil contamination, water pollution and fire.

ZERO CARBON STEP CODE UPDATE

View Royal is taking action on climate change by adopting the Zero Carbon Step Code so that all space and water heating and cooking appliances will be fueled with clean energy in new construction starting in November 2023 for houses and July 2024 for multifamily buildings.

For existing homes, installing electric heat pumps for space heating is an extremely efficient way to create comfortable warmth in winter and keep homes cool in summer. Heat pumps are also a great investment in indoor air quality as they filter out pollutants such as wildfire smoke. Reduced energy bills are the icing on the cake!

If you are replacing your oil or natural gas furnace, the Capital Regional District offers a free concierge program to help you navigate the process to switch to heat pumps and access additional rebates such as View Royal's \$350 top-up.

<https://www.crd.bc.ca/about/news/article/2022/11/08/crd-launches-home-energy-navigator-program>

Submitted by View Royal Climate Coalition

I ♥ MY GVPL CARD

If you have a Greater Victoria Public Library card, you already know it is a passport to a world of entertainment, information, and learning.

But did you know, your card now also gives you access to *The New York Times*?

An annual Times subscription for individuals is about \$180, but with your library card, you can read The Times online every day without buying a subscription. For more details, check out https://gvpl.ent.sirsidynix.net/client/en_US/default.

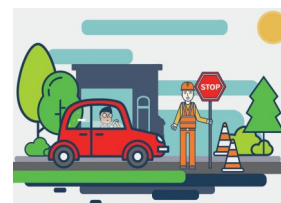
TRANSPORTATION & SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

Atkins Road and Jedburgh Road Sidewalk Design

Pre-design work is underway for two new sidewalks – one along Atkins Road and one on Jedburgh Road – to improve neighbourhood walkability and safety.

Bus Stop Improvements

A new bus shelter will be installed at the bus stop along Helmcken Road (NB) at Camden Ave. Improvements are being made to the two bus stop pads at Six Mile Road and Chilco Road (NB & SB) to prepare for future amenities.

**Pavement Patching Highland Road**

Portions of Highland Road will be receiving some attention this fall as crews mill and pave worn areas to improve road quality and safety. Impacts to traffic will be posted at www.viewroyal.ca and you can sign up to receive public notices, notifications and updates.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS



Earthquake Preparedness Workshop:

Tuesday, October 17, 2023 6:30-8:00pm

Emergency Preparedness Workshop:

Tuesday, November 14, 2023 6:30-8:00pm

To reserve a seat for one or both of the sessions, please email emergencyprogram@viewroyal.ca or call 250-479-7322.

The sessions will be held at the View Royal Public Safety Building located at 333 Island Highway.

HABITAT RESTORATION
VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The View Royal Habitat Restoration project unites volunteers to remove invasive plants from our parks to keep our habitats healthy.

The Dedicated Volunteer Team:

- Removes invasive plants and litter
- Improves wildlife habitat
- Monitors restoration progress
- Plants native plants and trees
- Educates others about View Royal's greenspaces, invasive species and native species



Volunteer as a group or as an individual.

Please email restorevr@gmail.com for more information on volunteer opportunities and restoration projects.

VIEW ROYAL FIRE RESCUE IS NOW
ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR
VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS

VIEW ROYAL FIRE RESCUE IS NOW RECRUITING

Applications available on-line @ www.viewroyalfire.ca or call 250-479-7322 for more information

2023 SEWER UTILITY INVOICE

COMING SOON

Residents are likely to pay slightly less than last year for sewer if their water consumption did not change. All non-institutional users' invoices are based on November 2022 to April 2023 water consumption, so if your consumption increased from last year, you will likely see a similar percentage increase in the amount you pay. Conversely, if your consumption decreased, you should see a related decrease in your sewer utility invoice. If you experienced a water leak during that period, your 2023 fee will be affected, and you may qualify for a leak adjustment. Please visit www.viewroyal.ca to review the leak adjustment policy for eligibility requirements and keep all records pertaining to the leak as this will help us in assisting you through the adjustment process.

The 2023 Sewer Utility Invoice will be issued in mid-October with payment due near the end of November. If you have not received your invoice by October 31, 2023, please contact the Finance Department at 250-708-2270 or finance@viewroyal.ca. You can pay your sewer utility invoice in person at Town Hall using cheque, cash or debit card; via the payment drop box located by the front doors of Town Hall; by mail; or by using online or telephone banking. **Any balances outstanding on December 31, 2023, will be transferred to property tax arrears and will accrue daily interest charges.**

Did you know you can sign up to receive your sewer utility invoice by email instead of a paper copy in the mail? You can also access your sewer utility account information securely online. Look for **Online Services** under QUICKLINKS on the home page at www.viewroyal.ca.

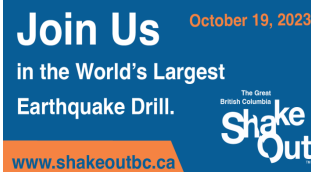


THE GREAT BC SHAKEOUT

Do not leave it to luck. Get the facts on how to protect yourself during an earthquake by participating in the Great British Columbia Shakeout at 10:19 a.m. on Thursday, October 19, 2023.

Register today at:

www.shakeoutbc.ca and join more than 670,000 British Columbians for the annual "Drop, Cover and Hold On" drill.

VIEW ROYAL EMERGENCY PROGRAM
VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Emergency Radio Team – Provides emergency communications during major emergencies and disasters. The Team meets weekly via radio net. Emergency management training and amateur radio licence provided free.

Emergency Support Services Team

(ESS) – Provides emergency support to residents displaced due to emergencies or disasters. The Team delivers public education regarding emergency preparedness and assists with support to emergency responders. ESS and emergency management training are provided free and the Team meets monthly.

Interested or have questions?

Contact View Royal Emergency Program at 250-479-7322 or email emergencyprogram@viewroyal.ca.



PARKS PROJECTS

Knollwood Park Playground Upgrade

Site clearing work is underway to provide access for machinery to remove and replace the playground surface. Neighbourhood engagement will be mailed out to residents in the fall.

Did you know... The existing wooden play structure at Knollwood Park was built in 1992!

View Royal Park Stormwater Management Improvements

This fall, stormwater management upgrades will begin in the northern section of View Royal Park. Riparian plantings of approximately 250 trees and shrubs will also be completed in the same area. This project will improve storm water quality and flow control of water discharging into Craigflower Creek. Plantings will be completed in partnership with the Greater Victoria Green Teams and funded in part through the TD Tree Days grant.

Watkiss Community Park Engagement

A new neighbourhood park is being planned for View Royal! The 1.5-acre space located along Watkiss Way at Burnside Rd West has been provided to the Town by the Province as part of the redevelopment of the adjacent handyDART site.



Do you have ideas for how this space should be used? Public engagement is scheduled to begin this fall.

Chancellor Park Engagement

Playground equipment at Chancellor Park is scheduled for replacement. An online survey will be advertised and made available to the public this fall.

WESTSHORE PUBLIC ALERT NOTIFICATION SYSTEM (PANS)

Sign up now to receive public safety alerts – it only takes a few minutes

In the case of a public safety incident, the Westshore Public Alert Notification System (PANS) will be used to deliver critical and potentially life-saving alerts to residents who have registered. This information can help you and your family know what to do, where to go, and what to expect.

Sign up to receive critical alerts for major emergencies and disasters (ie. tsunami, earthquake, wildfire) and/or lower severity alerts (ie. traffic, weather). You can also choose to receive notifications for more than one location such as your home, office, cottage, family, friends, etc.

Notifications can be received by:

- Home, cell, or work phone
- Email
- SMS Text Message
- Smartphone app
- Social media and more



If you live, work, or play in the Westshore, you are invited to register! Signing up is free, easy and can be done from your mobile phone, tablet, or computer.

Please visit westshorealert.ca to register.

LAWN AND GARDEN WASTE CURBSIDE COLLECTION IN NOVEMBER 2023

The Town's waste collection contractor, Waste Management, will be collecting lawn and garden waste from the curbside of View Royal residential homes this fall. See the schedule below for your 2023 collection date:

Regular Weekly Garbage Day	Lawn & Garden Waste Collection 2023
Tuesdays	Saturday, November 4 th
Wednesdays	Saturday, November 11 th
Thursdays	Saturday, November 18 th
Fridays	Saturday, November 25 th

THE PROCEDURES TO FOLLOW ARE:

All items are to be placed at the end of your driveway at the curbside by **7:00 am** on the day of your collection. We will accept these items **ONLY**:

GRASS, LEAVES, FLOWERS, SHRUB CLIPPINGS & WEEDS:

These are to be put in RECYCLABLE BROWN PAPER YARD WASTE BAGS and weigh no more than **35 pounds** each. Please shake off any extra soil from flowers and weeds to reduce weight.

NOTE: Invasive and noxious weeds, such as Scotch Broom, English Ivy, and Himalayan Blackberry are not allowed in this collection service. They can be included in your weekly garbage in a separate bag.

BUNDLED BRANCHES: Branches are to be no longer than 3 ft. in length, no more than 3 inches in diameter, and are to be bundled and then tied with string in bundles that weigh no more than **35 pounds** each.

Each resident is allowed up to **5** of the above bags or bundles in total. If you would like to put out more than this, you can purchase extra bag decals at the Town Hall for \$3.50 each, for each additional bag or bundle over this limit.

IF YOUR LAWN & GARDEN WASTE DOES NOT COMPLY WITH THE ABOVE, IT WILL NOT BE PICKED UP.

For more information on this service, please visit www.viewroyal.ca and select **Lawn & Garden Waste Disposal** from the **Municipal Services** drop-down menu.



RESIDENT TREE PLANTING PROGRAM

Funded through tree removal permitting, the **Resident Tree Planting Program** encourages residents to contribute to View Royal's urban canopy within their private property.

Am I Eligible? You are if you answer **YES** to the points below:

- ✓ Do you own a home in View Royal?
- ✓ Do you have extra outdoor green space suitable for tree planting?
- ✓ Are you able to plant and care for new trees on your property long-term?



Apply at any time! There is no deadline for applications.

How do I Apply?

Simply complete our Application Form and submit to the Town for consideration.

Application Forms can be found online at www.viewroyal.ca or can be picked up at Town Hall by request.

Contact the Engineering Department to learn more at 250-708-2258 or e-mail engineering@viewroyal.ca.