



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 14, 2024
- Monday, November 11, 2024
- Winter Break — Tuesday, December 24, 2024 at 2 pm through to January 1, 2025. Town Hall re-opens Thursday, January 2, 2025 @ 8:30 am.
- Monday, February 17, 2025
- Friday, April 18, 2025
- Monday, April 21, 2025

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DATES TO REMEMBER

- Halloween Fun, October 31 at the Public Safety Building 6 pm — 9 pm 333 Island Highway
- Pumpkin Smash, November 2 at the Public Safety Building 10 am — 2 pm 333 Island Highway
- Sewer Utility Invoice payment deadline is the end of November 2024
- Business Licence Renewal deadline is January 31, 2025
- Type 2 Secondary Suite renewal deadline is February 28, 2025



From The Mayor's Desk

Hello Neighbours,

As the fall equinox has now officially passed, we welcome a new season. This autumn comes with a provincial election. You will see fewer election signs in the Town as Council recently passed a bylaw restricting political signs from municipal property. The reason for the restriction on election signage is to limit the distraction on roadways and the environmental waste of plastic signs. Of course, you can still show your support by placing signs on your private property - just make sure to check your property lines before setting them up. Final Voting Day for the Provincial Election is Saturday, October 19th, 2024. In View Royal you can cast your ballot at Shoreline Community Middle School, View Royal Elementary School, or Strawberry Vale Community Hall.

As many of you are aware, the Town has complied with new provincial government housing legislation that rezones the Town for greater density. In this legislation, the Town is forbidden to hold public hearings for housing developments that are consistent with the Official Community Plan (OCP) and largely permits the building of fourplexes on traditional single-family lots. The only time the Town is permitted to engage the public on housing development is when there is a change to the OCP. In early 2025, the Town will be embarking on an OCP review and update. Through a recent engagement survey, many of you have already indicated that you would like to participate in the process, providing input into what the future brings to our Town. We will soon be advertising for residents that represent the diversity of View Royal as we form an OCP committee and will also be engaging with the broader community in this OCP project. Your involvement in this important work – in whatever capacity you can provide – will be appreciated.

Council had the chance to recognize the Town's volunteers in September at the Victoria Scottish Community Centre. Volunteerism is truly what defines View Royal from other municipalities in the region. From Emergency Support Services, advisory committees, removal of invasive species, and work preserving our history - we celebrate those who make our Town the gem that it is. A heartfelt thank you to those who give so much to View Royal.

Lastly, Council endorsed several resolutions that were considered at the Union of BC Municipalities' September convention. Many of these resolutions aim to make our Town safer, stewarding the environment and providing the financial support for infrastructure required for our Town. Though we are a small town compared to others in BC, I am very proud of the leadership position we have taken on issues of advocacy that support our common future.

Respectfully,

Sid Tobias



Halloween Fun

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



Pumpkin Smash

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

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES UPDATE

Small-Scale, Multi-Unit Housing Update



On June 18, 2024, Council adopted [Zoning Bylaw No. 900, 2014, Amendment Bylaw No. 1135, 2024](#) to amend the Town's [Zoning Bylaw](#) and introduce small-scale multi-unit housing (SSMUH) in accordance with the

Province's Bill 44. These amendments allow secondary suites and/or garden suites, and a minimum of 3, 4, and 6 dwelling units on lots exclusively zoned for a single-family dwelling or duplex. The number of dwelling units permitted depends on the property location and size. A development permit and building permit are required for SSMUH. For more information, please visit [View Royal - Small-Scale Multi-Unit Housing](#) or contact the Development Services Department at 250-708-2256 or at planning@viewroyal.ca.

NEW! Garden Suites are now permitted in View Royal!

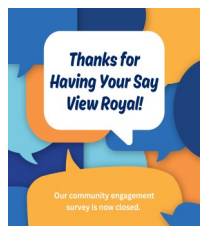
A garden suite is a legal, detached building, designed to be a ground-oriented suite in the backyard of a single-family home. Garden suites are to be used as long-term rental housing. They are permitted on all properties that permit detached, residential (single-family dwelling) homes and which are appropriately zoned. Please review the [Town's Zoning Map](#) to confirm the zoning of a property and review the Town's [Zoning Bylaw](#) to confirm if the identified zone permits a garden suite.

A development permit and building permit are required for a garden suite. For more information, please visit [View Royal - Garden Suites](#), or contact the Development Services Department at planning@viewroyal.ca or 250-708-2256.



Engagement Survey Update!

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Community Engagement Survey that ran from July 15 to September 1, 2024 and spoke with staff at the various pop-up events around Town. Results of the survey will help inform the Town's future public engagement on the Official Community Plan, master plans (such as the Transportation Master Plan, Parks and Trails Master Plan, etc.), and various Town projects (e.g. playground replacement, off-street Parking Review, Housing Strategy, etc.). Staff will report back to Council in October 2024. **Please stay tuned!**



Chancellor Park Playground Upgrade

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Chancellor Playground Upgrade engagement events and completed the online survey. At the regular Council meeting on June 18, 2024, staff presented a [What We Heard Report](#) from the feedback received from the public. The input collected from these public engagement activities will inform the draft design concept for the playground to be presented at a future Council meeting. The draft concept will also be shared on the Town's [website](#) and social media. **Please stay tuned!**



PARKS PROJECTS

Knollwood Park Playground Upgrade (on Pearce Place)

The playground equipment is currently on order and installation is expected later this year.

Watkiss Community Park (by BC Transit HandyDART Site)

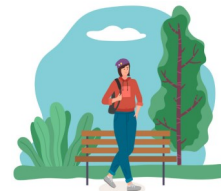
The new neighbourhood park's detailed design is underway and public engagement on the concept will occur this fall to time with BC Transit HandyDART's landscaping engagement.

Urban Forest Strategy

This project is in progress and is to be completed in early 2025. Public engagement will be launched later this year to inform on the final document.

Portage Park East Trail Improvement

A steep and rocky section of a trail in Portage Park East has been improved with concrete steps. Handrail installation will be completed this fall.



View Royal Park Habitat Restoration & Stormwater Improvements

The Salt Water Marsh project was completed by Peninsula Streams this summer which included the removal of invasive species, installation of native plantings and grading works to improve stormwater management and create a habitat within Craigflower Creek. In addition, the Stormwater Management Project on the north side of the park (Phase 1) was completed earlier this year and staff are monitoring the establishment of the plantings for the purpose of future extensions to the improvement.

CHOOSING YOUR NEXT STOVE: WHICH ONE'S FOR YOU?



Electric Stove

Affordable and easy to operate. Electric stoves with ceramic cook-tops are easy to clean. No harmful fumes are produced by the appliance ... unless you're not a very good cook! No electromagnetic field (as experienced with induction cooking), which could interfere with cardiac pacemakers. Fossil-fuel free and a climate-friendly choice.

ReImagine
West Shore Community
ReImagineUs.ca

Gas Stove

Leaks toxic fumes into your home even when it's not in use. When you go to buy a gas stove, no one tells you the fumes make asthma worse in kids, worsens adult lung function, especially for folks with COPD (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease), and includes a cancer-causing chemical Benzene that raises the risk of leukemia and lymphoma, and when exposed during pregnancy also raises the risk of birth defects. Contributes to climate change by burning fossil fuels (natural gas ain't natural!). Hard to clean.

Electric Induction Stove

Superb chef-level heat control. Busy life? Nothing cooks faster than induction! Looking to save \$\$\$? Induction is 3X more energy-efficient than gas and 5-10% more efficient than other types of electric stoves! Safer around kids because the stove top itself never gets as hot as a gas or standard electric stove. Safer around older folks who may forget they've turned on the stove. Safer air quality for everyone, including pets you leave at home! Easy to clean. Doesn't burn dead dinosaurs.

For more information go to www.heatcookbreathe.ca

Submitted by: the View Royal Climate Coalition

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS WORKSHOPS



Earthquake Preparedness Workshop:
Thursday, October 10, 2024, 6:30-8:00 pm.

Emergency Support Services & Emergency Communications Volunteer Info Session:
Saturday, November 2, 2024, 2:00-2:30 pm.

Emergency Kit Preparedness Workshop:
Saturday, December 7, 2024, 2:00-3:30 pm.

To reserve a seat for one 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.

GET FireSmart - LEARN HOW TO REDUCE THE RISK OF WILDFIRE TO YOUR PROPERTY

What is FireSmart?

FireSmart is a provincial program committed to reducing the negative impacts of wildfire. The program is based on scientific research and shows that doing simple tasks around where you live can make your property more resilient to wildfire.

View Royal FireSmart Program

Through the View Royal FireSmart program, residents can request a free Home Ignition Zone assessment to assess their home's risk from wildfire and receive recommended changes to help defend against structure ignition.

To request a free Home Ignition Zone Assessment, email firesmart@viewroyal.ca.

The [FireSmartBC.ca](https://www.firesmartbc.ca) website has many additional helpful resources, including:

- the **FireSmart BC Begins At Home Guide**
- the **FireSmart Landscaping Hub**
- the **Emergency Wildfire Preparedness Checklist**

For more information on the View Royal FireSmart Program contact the View Royal FireSmart Coordinator at firesmart@viewroyal.ca or call 250-479-7322.



2024 SEWER UTILITY INVOICE

COMING SOON

Sewer user fees are collected by the Town of View Royal to recover the cost of both View Royal's and the CRD's sanitary sewer systems. Fees for residential and non-residential users are based on water consumption from mid-October 2023 to mid-April 2024. The average 2024 sewer invoice for a residential property with 81 cubic metres winter water consumption is expected to increase an estimated 6% or about \$25 over 2023 due to increased costs and additional contributions to reserves for future asset replacement.

Did a leak occur in the water system on your property this year? Please visit www.viewroyal.ca to review the leak adjustment policy for eligibility requirements. Keep any records pertaining to the leak as this will help you through the adjustment process.

The 2024 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, 2024, please contact the Finance Department at finance@viewroyal.ca or 250-708-2270. Payment may be made in the following ways: online or telephone banking; by mail; by visiting us at Town Hall; or by using the payment drop box located by the front doors of Town Hall. We accept cheque, cash, or debit card. **Any outstanding balance as of December 31, 2024, will be transferred to your property tax arrears and will accrue daily interest charges until it is paid.**

As a property owner, you can access your sewer utility account information online, such as viewing billable consumption and yearly variances, and you may opt to receive your invoice via email. Look for [Online Services](#) under QUICKLINKS on our 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 10:17 a.m. on Thursday, October 17, 2024.

Register today at:

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

Shake Out.
Don't Freak Out.

October 17, 2024

www.shakeoutbc.ca

The Great
British Columbia
Shake Out

VIEW ROYAL FIRE RESCUE IS NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR PAID-ON-CALL FIREFIGHTERS



WE HAVE A SPOT FOR YOU

VIEW ROYAL FIRE RESCUE IS NOW RECRUITING

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

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. Both 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.



TRANSPORTATION & SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

Six Mile Road at Atkins Road Roundabout

Construction has now been completed.

Jedburgh Road Sidewalk Extension

Construction of this sidewalk extension will commence this fall and will complete sidewalks on Jedburgh Road in its entirety.

Island Highway Sidewalk Extension (between 1658-1660 Island Highway)

This project will close a gap in the sidewalk network and is expected to commence in the fall of 2024.

Bus Stop Shelters

A new bus stop shelter at Six Mile Road and Chilco Road (Southbound) is scheduled for installation before end of the year. The Town is also engaged in preliminary designs for multiple other stops.



Island Highway Transit Priority Upgrade Project

Construction is well underway for the BC Transit led priority bus lane project on Island Highway, between the Colwood Interchange and Six Mile Road. The project entails the addition of dedicated transit and bicycle lanes and is expected to be completed in December 2024.

Island Highway Traffic Signal Upgrades

Traffic signals along Island Highway are undergoing upgrades to improve infrastructure resiliency and accessibility. The latest upgrade was seen at the Helmcken intersection and involved the installation of left turn signals for all legs of the intersection.

St. Giles Street Lighting Improvements

The second half of the street lighting improvements is scheduled for installation this fall.

Packers Pump Station Upgrades

This project was completed over the summer of 2024.

LAWN AND GARDEN WASTE CURBSIDE COLLECTION IN NOVEMBER 2024

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 2024 collection date:

Regular Weekly Garbage Day	Lawn & Garden Waste Collection 2024
Tuesdays	Saturday, November 2 nd
Wednesdays	Saturday, November 9 th
Thursdays	Saturday, November 16 th
Fridays	Saturday, November 23 rd

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.



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

TOWN OF VIEW ROYAL

APPOINTMENT TO VIEW ROYAL BOARD OF VARIANCE



The Town of View Royal is now accepting applications from interested individuals wishing to serve on the View Royal Board of Variance. The Municipal Council will appoint one member for a three-year term.

The Board of Variance is an autonomous body with the power to vary Zoning Bylaw regulations in situations where compliance with respect to the siting, dimension or size of a building or structure would cause a person undue hardship. The Board of Variance may not vary the density or use of land. In addition, the Board may grant minor variances, with limitations, to the provisions of the Tree Protection Bylaw and to requirements under Sections 531(1) and 506(1)(c) of the *Local Government Act*.

The three-member volunteer Board meets as required (typically once a month when applications have been received). In addition to this time commitment, members undertake site inspections prior to the meeting. All meetings are open to the public and involve the weighing of information and evidence to determine if variances are to be approved or declined.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Contact Leanne Taylor, Director of Development Services, at 250-479-6800 or via email to info@viewroyal.ca.

HOW TO APPLY:

Those interested in being considered for the Board of Variance must submit a one page covering letter with a detailed resume outlining your occupation, community involvement, relevant history, technical or special expertise.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: 4:30 p.m., FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2024

Submit to the Town of View Royal, Attn: Leanne Taylor, 45 View Royal Avenue, Victoria, BC, V9B 1A6, or by email to info@viewroyal.ca.