

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 13, 2025
- Tuesday, November 11, 2025
- Winter Break Wednesday, December 24, 2025 at 2 pm through to January 1, 2026. Town Hall re-opens Friday, January 2, 2026 @ 8:30 am.
- Monday, February 16, 2026
- Friday, April 3, 2026
- Monday, April 6, 2026

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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 2025
- Business Licence Renewal deadline is January 31, 2026
- Type 2 Secondary Suite renewal deadline is February 28, 2026
- CRD Dog Licence Renewal deadline is March 1, 2026.
 For discounted fees, renew before December 31, 2025.



From The Mayor's Desk

Hello Neighbours,

As the leaves turn this fall, I want to take a moment to celebrate the people who make View Royal such a strong community.

At our recent Volunteer Appreciation event, we recognized the many

individuals who give their time to keep our community safe, connected, and vibrant. From the volunteers who support our Emergency Support Services program, to those who keep our emergency radio network active, to members of the Board of Variance, the Green Team, and our community archives—each group makes an important contribution. These efforts may often be behind the scenes, but they are the heart of a healthy



community. If you have been thinking about helping out, there are many ways to get involved, and even small contributions of time or skill make a big difference.



Council and the Official Community Plan (OCP) Advisory Committee, are continuing work on our long-term OCP. We are hearing from residents about housing, parks, natural areas, and how best to shape the future of our Town. Your ideas are helping to build a vision that reflects the priorities of View Royal.

At the same time, we have launched an update of the Transportation Master Plan. This work will guide how we move around town in the years ahead—whether on foot, by bike, on transit, or by car. Engagement is now open through our online

platform at <u>engage.viewroyal.ca</u>, where surveys and pop-up events will give you a chance to share your views. Your input will help set priorities for safety, connections, and accessibility.

This season, let's celebrate the volunteers who strengthen our community, and let's continue shaping a future that is connected, sustainable, and welcoming for all.

Respectfully, Sid Tobias



Transportation Master Plan

See more on Page 3



Halloween Fun October 31

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



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



BEAT THE HEAT

Did you know...

Shade under a tree can be 12 degrees cooler than the surrounding area. Studies have shown that trees can reduce land surface temperatures by as much as 12 degrees Celsius. This difference is due to a tree's ability to block sunlight, which reduces the amount of solar radiation that reaches the ground and the surrounding air. In addition, trees release water vapour into the atmosphere through their leaves via evapotranspiration which has a cooling effect similar to sweating in humans.

Increasing our Urban Tree Canopy coverage is critical for us to cope with the ever increasing heat events.

Did you know...

- 75% of the urban forest is on private land.
- Boulevards are too narrow and fragmented to function as corridors or habitat.
- Green infrastructure (trees, shrubs, gardens, hedgerows, etc.) serve as urban ecological corridors connecting parks, natural areas and green patches.

These corridors:

- Allow movement of pollinators, birds, and small mammals.
- Help native species adapt to climate change by offering food, shade, and shelter.
- Improve genetic flow between isolated populations. If birds do not have corridors that they can migrate through, they begin to inbreed, leading to a weakened gene pool that eventually dies off.

Trees will help us build our climate resiliency. Please consider participating in View Royal's Resident Tree Planting Program. More information can be found in the newsletter article "RESIDENT TREE PLANTING PROGRAM".

Submitted by the View Royal Climate Coalition https://www.viewroyalclimatecoalition.ca/

ONLINE SERVICES

Did you know that you can....

- View your sewer utility and/or property tax accounts online including recent payments
- View your sewer utility account billable consumption and yearly variances
- Sign-up for e-billing to receive sewer utility bills and property tax notices via email
- Download and print your bills
- Access your property's legal description, assessment history, and tax levies
- Renew and make online payments for your business licence
- View municipally licenced businesses located in View Royal via our online database.

To sign up, look for **Online Services** under **QUICKLINKS** on our home page at <u>www.viewroyal.ca</u>.

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?

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 over the long-term?

Applications are now being accepted for trees giveaway event in the **Spring of 2026**.

How do I Apply?

Simply complete our application form and submit to the Town for consideration. Application forms can be found online at View Royal - Resident Tree Planting Program 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.



NEXT STEPS IN THE OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN UPDATE

The Town of View Royal is continuing work on **View Royal 2050: Our Future View**, a comprehensive update to the Town's Official Community Plan (**OCP**). This process will set the community's long-term vision and policies for growth and development, ensuring decisions reflect the needs and values of residents now and in the future. The **OCP** is one of the Town's most important guiding documents, addressing land use, housing, transportation, parks, environmental stewardship, climate action, and economic development.

Building on the feedback received earlier this year, the next round of engagement will take place in **October and**November 2025. Residents will be invited to share their input on the **Western Gateway Community Corridor** and on **draft policies** that will help guide future growth across View Royal. Opportunities to participate will include surveys, open houses, and workshops.



To stay informed and get involved, visit the project website at engage.viewroyal.ca/view-royal-2050, which serves as the central hub for information, updates, and upcoming engagement opportunities. For questions, please contact us by email at ocp@viewroyal.ca

HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF TRANSPORTATION IN VIEW ROYAL



Getting around View Royal is an important part of daily life, whether you are walking to school, cycling to a park, catching the bus, or driving to work. With the region continuing to grow, it is time to look ahead and plan for the

next 10 years. The Town has launched an update to its Transportation Master Plan (TMP) to improve safety, accessibility, and connections for everyone. This plan will help guide transportation improvements and support walkable neighbourhoods, sustainable travel options, and future transit needs.

Public input will be key to shaping the plan. Opportunities to get involved will begin this fall, so watch for details on how you can share your ideas and priorities. Learn more and stay up to date at engage.viewroyal.ca/TMP.

FireSmart EDUCATION PROGRAM



One of the best ways to be FireSmart is to start young. The FireSmart BC Education Program is a free all-in-one teaching resource to introduce students in grades K-12 to FireSmart concepts, including how to make homes and communities more resilient to wildfire. Resources are interactive, inclusive, and purposefully aligned with the BC school curriculum,

making them easy to teach and fun to learn!

Learn more about the FireSmart BC Education Program at www.firesmartbc.ca/educationprogram.

View Royal teachers, email us at firesmart@viewroyal.ca to book your class for a free FireSmart education session this

For more information on the View Royal FireSmart Program visit www.viewroyal.ca/firesmart or call 250-479-7322.

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



2025 SEWER UTILITY INVOICE

COMING SOON

Sewer user fees are collected by the Town of View Royal to recover the cost of View Royal's sanitary sewer system and CRD sewer costs.

Fees for residential and non-residential users are based on water consumption from mid-October 2024 to mid-April 2025. The average 2025 sewer invoice for a residential property with 86 cubic metres of winter water consumption is expected to increase an estimated 5.64% or about \$24 over 2024 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 2025 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, 2025, please contact the Finance Department at finance@viewroyal.ca or 250-708-2270.

Payment may be made in the following ways: online banking; by mail; by visiting 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, 2025, 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 online or opt to receive it via email. Sign up by October 10, 2025 to receive this year's invoice by email. Once you sign up, you will no longer receive a paper copy in the mail. 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 10:16 a.m. on Thursday, October 16, 2025.



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. 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.

WINTER ROAD & SIDEWALK MAINTENANCE

As winter approaches, the Town of View Royal is prepared to respond to snow and ice conditions with a proactive and prioritized approach. Crews monitor weather 24/7 and pre-treat roads with de-icing brine when freezing temperatures are forecasted.

Clearing Priorities:

First Priority: Emergency routes, high-traffic roads, BC Transit routes and stops, steep hills, school zones, and municipal frontages.

Second Priority: All other public roads,

cleared as conditions allow—typically within 72 hours after snowfall ends.

What Residents Can Do:

Sidewalks: Property owners are expected to clear adjacent sidewalks by 10:00 a.m. daily.

Driveways: Shovel snow to the right side (as you face the road) to reduce plow pushback.

Parking: Avoid parking on the street when it's snowing to allow plows to pass safely and efficiently.

Cul-de-sacs: Keep these areas clear for emergency access and snow storage.

Catch Basins: Keep them free of snow and debris to prevent flooding during melt.

Please note: The Town does not maintain private roads. This responsibility lies with the property owner or strata. For full details, visit View Royal - Snow & Ice.

TRANSPORTATION AND SAFETY UPDATES

Atkins Road Sidewalk Upgrade - Expected early 2026.

Highway 1 Bus on Shoulders Project – (Led by Province of British Columbia)

Staff have ongoing dialogue with the Ministry of Transportation and Transit to ensure expectations are managed for View Royal residents and businesses. More information on the project and how to contact the project manager can be found here:



https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/transportation-projects/other-transportation-projects/highway-1-bus-on-shoulder

Six Mile Road Improvements Program – Street light upgrades and crosswalk warranting at Damon Drive (late 2025)

Helmcken Road at Watkiss Way Intersection Improvements – Concept designs will be presented to Council this fall; construction expected in 2026

Drainage Master Plan – Development in process; completion expected late 2025/early 2026



Glenairlie Pumpstation Upgrade – Construction expected late fall 2025

Atkins Road Pump Replacements – Tendering later this fall; construction expected early 2026

LAWN AND GARDEN WASTE CURBSIDE COLLECTION IN NOVEMBER 2025

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 2025 collection date:

Regular Weekly Garbage Day	Lawn & Garden Waste Collection 2025
Tuesday	Saturday, November 1 st
Wednesday	Saturday, November 8 th
Thursday	Saturday, November 15 th
Friday	Saturday, November 22 nd

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 <u>35 pounds</u> 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.

PARKS PROJECT UPDATES



Chancellor Park Playground Updates

Playground design proposals underway. More information can be found at Chancellor Park
Playground Upgrades | Engage View Royal.

Watkiss Community Park (by the BC handyDART site)

Tendering for installation of the "Quiet Park" will start this fall. Finalization of the design was approved earlier this year. More information can be found at <u>Watkiss Way Neighbourhood</u> Park | Engage View Royal.



Urban Forest Strategy



The Urban Forest Strategy has now been finalized and will be presented to Council for review this fall. More information can be found at Urban Forest Strategy | Engage View Royal.