

## Important Fire Information

Another hot, dry summer is underway and residents are reminded to be aware of the extreme fire risks. Ministry of Forests crews are stretched across the province helping to fight fires.

Currently all District of Summerland parks and trails remain open to foot or bicycle traffic but municipal staff will continue to monitor the fire risk and will take appropriate measures as needed. All public trails are closed to motorized vehicles (this includes ATVs and motorcycles). The road within Giant's Head Park is closed to vehicle traffic as well. A Fire Ban came into effect on July 10, 2017. Please be cognisant of the risk of fire and be responsible to ensure a fire does not start accidentally.

**A FIRE BAN IS IN EFFECT**  
**Absolutely no campfires,**  
**open burning or fireworks**  
**permitted.**

### Reminders

- Campfires, outdoor burning and fireworks are NOT permitted until further notice.
- There is no smoking in public spaces or in parks or trails as per Outdoor Smoking Bylaw #2015-020. If you are smoking, please discard cigarettes in an ashtray or other responsible way as one butt could cause a major fire.
- Avoid use or take every precaution with motorized recreational equipment and power tools, and electric lawn tools in forested and grassy areas. One spark could cause a fire.

### What to do if Evacuated

It is important to have an emergency Household Plan that includes a meeting place for your family and an Emergency Kit prepared. Emergency Kits should be a bag you can easily grab and contains ready to eat food, water, flashlights, radio, blanket, 1st aid kit, spare eyeglasses and more. Medications, IDs for each family member, passports, cell phone and charger, and other personal items may need to be added at the time. For details on Emergency Planning visit [www.bcwildfire.ca](http://www.bcwildfire.ca).

If there is a fire and you are asked to evacuate, please register with our local Emergency Support Services (ESS) team at a determined Reception Centre. They are a group of trained individuals and will be able to help you with immediate accommodations, food, and support and have a record of where you are.

Typically our reception centre would be located at the Summerland Arena. Depending on circumstances, a Reception Centre may be set up elsewhere or in a neighbouring community which will be communicated at the time.

### Prevention

There are many ways to reduce the impacts of wildfires on your property. When building a home, many fire smart choices can be made. How you landscape and what trees etc. are used also play an important part in taking steps to reduce fire from spreading. Details can be found at [www.bcwildfire.ca](http://www.bcwildfire.ca). Here are a few tips:

- Clean up dry needles, leaves and debris in your yard.
- Remove any flammable debris on your balconies and patios.
- Within 10 metres of your home, plant low-density, fire resistant plants. Do not use bark or pine needle mulches within 10 metres of your home.
- Avoid stacking firewood piles against a house as this is a major fire hazard.
- Prune tree branches within 2 metres from the ground (best done when they are dormant). Space trees at least 3 metres apart and remove small coniferous trees that act as a "fire ladder".

### Numbers to Have Available

Report a Fire: Call 911

Ministry of Forest Fire Information Line: 1-888-336-7378

Information on emergency situations impacting Summerland will be posted on Facebook, the District website [www.summerland.ca](http://www.summerland.ca) and Twitter.



### Sandbag Cleanup Underway

The two hundred thousand sandbags used during the Okanagan Lake flood are now being cleaned up and disposed of. The District has already removed sandbags from the public access areas. Removal efforts are now being made for private residences requiring assistance. These cleanup costs are covered by the province. Please call the District's Flood Line at 250-486-3765 with any inquiries.

## Road Closures and Boat Launch Closure for the Summerland Orca Sprint Triathlon

The annual Orca Kids of Steel and Sprint Triathlon will be held at Peach Orchard beach on Sunday, September 3rd. **The boat launch will be closed from 5:00pm Sat. September 2nd until Sunday, September 3rd at 1:00pm. Please be aware that there will be limited road access on Lakeshore Drive from Highway 97 to Crescent Beach on race day Sunday, September 3rd from 8am - noon.**

Please help out by limiting travel and not parking on the road for Sunday's race day.

### Please Water Wisely

Summerland is currently in Stage 1 Water Restrictions which means:

If the last digit of your house number is **ODD**, you may water **Saturday, Monday and Thursday.**

If the last digit of your house number is **EVEN**, you may water **Sunday, Tuesday and Friday.**

Micro-irrigation, drip irrigation or a hose with a shutoff nozzle can be used to water trees, shrubs or your garden anytime.

**Please keep checking the District website as this could change anytime.**

The hot weather has increased the demand for water which has our Water Treatment Plant (WTP) operating near maximum capacity. If water demands increase and exceeds the capacity of the WTP, the District will be required to open a supplemental line resulting in the issuance of a boil water notice. Water users are encouraged to voluntarily reduce their water consumption and avoid the need for further steps. **Please be aware of your watering days, water wisely, and reduce use wherever possible.**

### Watering Tips:

- Most lawns only need about 2.5 cm (one inch) of water per week—about the depth of a tuna can.
- Water your lawn or garden—NOT PAVEMENT.
- Leave grass 5-8cm (2-3 inches) long. Water stays longer when grass is longer.
- Leave grass clippings as mulch. This helps feed the lawn and retain moisture.
- To prevent evaporation, don't water in the heat of the day.

Using water wisely will not only help save water but will also help you save money. For more watering tips visit the Make Water Work website [www.makewaterwork.ca](http://www.makewaterwork.ca).

### Council Committee Volunteers Needed

If you would like to volunteer to sit on a Council Committee/Commission such as the Agricultural Advisory Committee, Cultural Development Committee or the Water Advisory Committee, please check our website [www.summerland.ca](http://www.summerland.ca) for an application form.

### Citizens on Patrol -

#### Help Keep our Community Safe

The Summerland Citizens on Patrol (COPS) are a group of volunteers that assist the local RCMP by being another set of eyes and ears in the community to help in the prevention and reporting of crime and suspicious activity. If you are interested in joining and giving back to your community, please call Doug Hardman, President at 250-494-0202.

## Pool and Fitness Centre Maintenance Closure

The Summerland Aquatic and Fitness Centre on Kelly Avenue will be undergoing its annual cleaning, maintenance and repairs. **The pool and fitness room will be closed Saturday, August 26th and will reopen Monday, September 11th.** The office will be open during regular hours for fall program registration and inquiries. Please call 250-494-0447 if you require further information.

### Garnet Valley Update

Watermain installation and service connections are now complete up to Wildhorse Road and watermain installation is now proceeding north of Wildhorse Road. FortisBC will be extending their distribution pressure gas main north of the pumphouse during the week of August 8<sup>th</sup>. Following this, road construction on Garnet Valley Road will continue north from the pumphouse up to Wildhorse Road.

The District appreciates everyone's patience and understanding as they deal with the traffic delays experienced along Garnet Valley Road. We understand this is an inconvenience; however, these delays are required to allow the work to be completed efficiently and safely. Please observe traffic control as flaggers and a pilot car are on site for the safety of everyone.

For the latest updates, follow this project on Facebook (@GarnetValleyWater), Twitter (@GarnetValleyH2O) or on the District's website at [summerland.ca/garnetvalley](http://summerland.ca/garnetvalley).

### A Spill Could Kill

In BC, used oil, oil filters, and oil containers can all be recycled, as well as used antifreeze and antifreeze containers.

Used motor oil is Canada's single largest source of potentially hazardous material. One litre can contaminate one million litres of ground water.

Used antifreeze contains heavy metals and other impurities that must be handled with care. Filters and containers can leach material into the ground or groundwater if not contained. Even a few drops can contaminate soil and groundwater and be toxic to animals and plants.

So how can you put these harmful chemicals in their place? When changing your own fluids, keep these steps in mind:

1. **REMOVE CAREFULLY.** Do not spill any on the ground.
2. **CONTAIN.** Put your used motor oil or antifreeze in a clean plastic container with a tight lid.
- 3 **DO NOT MIX.** Keep each chemical separate or it cannot be recycled.
- 4 **RECYCLE.** Take the used oil or antifreeze, oil filters, and oil and antifreeze containers to the Summerland Sanitary Landfill for disposal at **no charge**.

Through the recycling process, used oil is re-refined into new lubricating oil and is used as a fuel in pulp mills, cement plants and asphalt plants; used antifreeze is reprocessed to produce new automotive antifreeze; oil filters are reused for metal products (rebar, nails, wire); and plastic oil and antifreeze containers are made into new oil containers, flower pots, pipe, guardrails, patio furniture, and other plastic lumber products.

For more information please visit [summerland.ca](http://summerland.ca) or [bcusedoil.com](http://bcusedoil.com)