District of Summerland Newsletter

July 2024

A permanent fenced dog park will be installed at the north end of Peach Orchard Beach Park, replacing the temporary modular fencing that has been in place since May 2023.

Council has long been looking for a suitable location for a dog park and deciding to establish 'pop up' parks on a trial basis to gauge public feedback. In 2021, a small temporary park was piloted at Dale Meadows and later made permanent after positive feedback. The Peach Orchard Beach Park location has been more controversial with responses both in favour and opposed.

After much deliberation weighing the benefits of the dog park at such a convenient location with the impacts on other park uses and disturbances to nearby residents, Council decided in a split vote at its June 11 meeting to proceed with permanent fencing. Staff will return at a future meeting with design options for Council to consider.

At the same time, municipal regulations will be amended to require dogs to remain on-leash year-round in other parts of Peach Orchard Beach Park and bylaw enforcement will be stepped up to ensure dogs aren't let off leash outside the fenced area.

It is important to have a mix of both on-leash and of-leash areas for dogs, and people should be able to walk in an on-leash area without fear of being approached by an off-leash dog.

Council asks dog owners to continue to enjoy the park but be responsible for their pet and its behaviour, and respect concerns of other parks users and nearby residents.

~ Mayor Doug Holmes

# Composted soil amendment material available at landfill at specific times

Composted soil amendment material is available at the Landfill from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM (noon), Monday through Friday



(except statutory holidays) for residential truck or trailer loads only. **No self-loading of compost at this time**. Customers must stay within their vehicles while compost is being loaded. Vehicles bringing materials to the landfill must drop off first and re-weigh before purchasing compost.

Only compost derived from wastewater sludge is available at this time. Compost created from food scraps will be available later this fall.

### Sewer main and hydrant flushing

The District of Summerland is performing annual sewer main and hydrant flushing throughout Summerland until the end of October. Annual maintenance ensures that sewer mains and hydrants are working properly. Please use caution when driving by crews working on the road.

### **Property tax notices**

The 2024 property tax due date was **July 5**, **2024** at **5:00 PM**. Effective July 6, 2024 unpaid 2024 property taxes (including unclaimed Home Owner Grants) are now subject to a 10% penalty.

You may still claim the HOG online at <a href="https://www.gov.bc.ca/homeownergrant">www.gov.bc.ca/homeownergrant</a> or phone the Province of BC 1-888-355-2700. Retroactive home owner grant applications are accepted up to December 31 each year.

The District of Summerland offers a Pre-Authorized Payment Program for property taxes - eleven (11) equal payments will be withdrawn from your bank account, starting August 15 each year. The final twelfth (12th) payment will be the difference between the actual amount of the current tax bill and prepayments collected, plus interest earned up to the tax due date.

To participate in this program contact the property tax department at propertytaxes@summerland.ca for an application form or visit our website <a href="https://www.summerland.ca/city-services/property-taxes">www.summerland.ca/city-services/property-taxes</a> to download a pdf copy.

Applications are due August 9, 2024.

### **Voyent Alert!**

The District of Summerland partnered with

Voyent Alert! to provide notifications and alerts throughout the community.

Receive notifications for critical events, wildfires and flooding as well as day-to-day communications such as garbage and recycling information, water and sewer notices, municipal facility updates and public engagement opportunities.

Sign up now at <a href="https://www.summerland.ca/city-services/notifications">https://www.summerland.ca/city-services/notifications</a>.

## Ongoing and upcoming project

Victoria Road South Storm Drainage Upgrade — Work on this project
has continued with resurfacing the remainder of the road beginning June
10. The District would like to thank the residents of Summerland who use
this route for their continued patience and understanding as this project is
completed.

 Dale Meadows Watermain Replacement Phase 2 – This project includes a new watermain and full road



reconstruction. The construction is anticipated to be completed mid-July.

- **Giant's Head Mountain Park Phases 3 and 4** This project includes trail, road and parking lot improvements as well as a new washroom located near the entrance gate. This project will continue into the fall with more planting and seeding.
- **Isintok Dam Spillway Upgrade** The Isintok Recreation site will be closed to the public starting in July to perform work on the spillway.
- Wastewater Treatment Plant Primary Clarifier Upgrade This project is currently in the design phase and will be tendered for construction over the summer months.

### How much water is enough?

One inch a week will do. Most lawns need just 2.5cm (one inch) of water per week—about the depth of a tuna can. Watering deeply and less often promotes deep, healthy root growth. If you're watering deeply but not seeing



results, the problem may be inadequate topsoil. Try top dressing with half an inch of compost, then over-seeding for a thick and vigorous lawn.

### Agricultural user meter readings

Agricultural users are reminded that monthly meter read updates are available on the municipal website. Now that the weather is becoming hotter, users should review their consumption more closely. To access these reports, please go to the District of Summerland's website at <a href="https://www.summerland.ca">www.summerland.ca</a>. Under the "City Services" tab at the top of the page, click "Water" to be taken to the main water utility page. On the left side of the page, click "Agricultural Water". Additional information pertaining to agricultural water, such as 2024 rates, can also be found on this webpage. Irrigators are encouraged to view the data to track their usage. The annual irrigation invoice will be mailed out by the end of July. Please call the Finance Department or email finance@summerland.ca if you have any questions.



# Summerland Fire Department 75th Anniversary and community open house

The Summerland Fire department is inviting the community to come out to celebrate their 75th Anniversary this year! FireSmart, Emergency Support Services (ESS), Summerland Alert team, RCMP, and BC Ambulance has joined with the Fire department to host a community open house.

**When:** Saturday, July 13 from 11:30 AM—1:30 PM.

Where: Summerland Fire department, 10115 Jubilee Rd. W.

This is a free event for all ages! Special guest appearances from Sparky and Ember!



### **Summerland Recreation**

The Spring/Summer Recreation Guide has been updated to showcase summer swim lessons, aqua fitness, community partner's summer camps and more. Follow your dream of becoming a lifeguard with our summer lifesaving courses or get your groove on with new Aqua Zumba classes. Learn more about everything we have to offer at <a href="https://www.summerland.ca/parks-recreation/recreation-guide">www.summerland.ca/parks-recreation/recreation-guide</a>. Remember to follow us on



Facebook at Summerland Recreation to stay up to date with new program and schedule changes.

#### Keep up to date

The District posts community updates to our website and Facebook account. Council meetings can be viewed on the District's YouTube channel <a href="https://www.youtube.com/c/DistrictofSummerland">www.youtube.com/c/DistrictofSummerland</a>

website: summerland.ca

Facebook: facebook.com/SummerlandBC Sign up for our monthly newsletter online:

www.summerland.ca/your-city-hall/newsletter-subscribe

**Check out the Mayor's podcast** on all major streaming platforms or on the District's website: <a href="https://www.summerland.ca/your-city-hall/mayor-council/mayor's-podcast">www.summerland.ca/your-city-hall/mayor-council/mayor's-podcast</a>

### **2025 Permissive Tax Exemptions**

2025 Not-For-Profit Permissive Tax Exemption (PTE) applications are now available.

Not-for-profit organizations that provide a service to the community may be eligible for a reduction in property taxes if the facility they operate from is owned or leased by the organization. This reduction in property taxes payable is considered a

leased by the organization. This reduction in property taxes payable is considered a "Permissive Tax Exemption". Potential applicants can find eligibility criteria, along with the required application on the District of Summerland website <a href="https://www.summerland.ca/pte">www.summerland.ca/pte</a>.

All applicants will be requested to attend a council meeting as part of the 2025 PTE application process. The Permissive Tax Exemption submission deadline is <u>July 31</u>, <u>2024</u>.

Please access the District website or contact:

David Svetlichny, Director of Finance at (250) 404-4045 if you have any questions or require further information.

### **Puncturevine season**

The spiny invasive plant called **PUNCTUREVINE** is on the move in Summerland and we want your reports! Contact us at oasiss@shaw.ca if you find any. Puncturevine is an invasive annual introduced from Mediterranean areas. It is a low growing plant that matures from a taproot and



branches in all directions up to 3 metres in length. The stems are covered by hairy leaves that are divided into six to eight leaflets. Flowers are small and yellow. The fruit is a roughly circular, hard spiny bud with five sections that split when mature. Each section has two spines that are so sharp and hard they can pop bike tires, puncture shoe soles or embed in dogs' paws. It typically infests vacant lots, gravel parking areas, roadsides, unpaved trails and beaches. Hand-pulling can provide good control if done prior to seed formation. If done after seed set, pick up any loose seedpods and place in the garbage to prevent re-infestation. For more information go to: <a href="https://www.oiso.ca/species/puncturevine/">https://www.oiso.ca/species/puncturevine/</a>.

### Summerland Landfill recycling depot

Did you know that you do not have to cross the scale to access the Recycling Depot? When arriving at the landfill during operating hours, keep to the right to access recycling only.



The following residential items are accepted <u>free</u> of charge year-round:

- Smoke detectors and alarms
- Residential cardboard and paper
- Flexible plastic packaging including plastic bags, overwrap, plastic pouches, wrappers, onion nets and other soft packaging made of plastic
- Lighting—fixtures and bulbs
- Foam Packaging (white and coloured polystyrene) including containers for meat and produce, foam egg cartons, foam clamshells, cups and bowls for take -out food, firm foam cushion packaging to protect electronics, small appliances, etc.
- Glass clear or coloured food containers, jars, non-refundable bottles
- Batteries including household batteries, small rechargeable and lead-acid hatteries
- Electronic waste—computers, TVs, stereos, DVD players, phones, small electrical appliances

Crossing the scale gives access to many other <u>free</u> residential recycling opportunities:

- Household hazardous waste—paint, pesticides, flammables, anti-freeze, gas, fuels, mixed fuels, paint thinner, solvents
- Used motor oil, antifreeze, oil filters and oil containers
- Propane tanks, refillable or non-refillable—up to 46kg
- Metal/Scrap Metal—siding, roofing, rebar, pipes, window frames, doors, furnaces, duct work, wire cable, fencing, autobody parts, metal furniture, tire rims
- White Goods—washers, dryers, dishwashers, fridges, stoves, freezers, hot water tanks, air conditioners

The Landfill and Recycling areas are open Monday to Saturday from 8:30 AM to 4:15 PM except Statutory holidays when the Landfill is closed.