



District of Summerland Newsletter

November 2024


Council has begun its annual budget deliberations with the operating and capital plans for the three utilities (water, wastewater, electrical) coming under consideration the week of Oct. 28. A virtual open house to present the utility budgets to the public is scheduled for Nov. 19. Input from the open house will be considered at the Dec. 17 Council meeting. The utilities are supported by monthly utility rates and any increases would take effect at the start of 2025.

Starting the week of Dec. 9, once the utility budgets are finalized, Council will deliberate the general fund budget, which is supported primarily by property taxes and user fees. Council will first review the operating budget and then discuss capital projects, for which direction is provided on funding strategies with a view on maintaining long-term financial sustainability.

An in-person open house on the general budget, including any proposed property tax increase, is scheduled for Jan. 15 (5:00—7:00 PM) at the Arena Banquet Room. Input from the open house will be considered at the Feb. 11 Council meeting.

For both utility and general budgets, Council starts with a “baseline” budget where current spending levels are used as a reference point for the upcoming year, taking into account contractual increases (like union agreements) and increases due to government regulations such as new health and safety or environmental requirements.

~ Mayor Doug Holmes



Remembrance Day—November 11

Please take time on November 11 to honour and remember those who proudly served our country. The Legion will hold its annual service:

- 10:30 AM—parade form up on Wharton Street
- 10:45 AM—march to Cenotaph
- 11:00 AM—Ceremony beings
- 12:00 PM—Branch #22 opens
- 2:30 PM—Entertainment at the Legion
- 5:00 PM—Remembrance Day (Tickets are \$25 each)
Veterans and their caregivers are free, but must pick up tickets in advance

Donations for the Food Bank Christmas Hampers will kindly be accepted at the Legion up until December 15.

Over 50 banners of WWI and WWII Summerland soldiers are displayed on our streetlight standards. Have a look at the banners throughout Summerland!

District Offices Closed November 11
District of Summerland facilities, including the Arena, Aquatic and Fitness Centre and the Landfill will be closed on Monday, November 11 for Remembrance Day.



Food scrap with yard waste program reminder

A reminder to all residents that any form of plastic cannot be put in the compost or green cart, even if it states that it is “compostable”. They will not break down properly during processing and will contaminate the finished compost.

For a list of what does and does not go in your green cart, please visit www.summerland.ca/city-services/garbage-recycling.



Light Up! Summerland

Destination Summerland and the District of Summerland are thrilled to bring the 37th Annual Summerland Festival of Lights on Friday, November 29 from 5:00 PM — 9:00 PM.

This year’s festivities feature the RE/MAX Orchard Country Main Stage, Family Stage and the Kidz Zone for our littlest festival goers. All of your favourite food and artisan vendors will be located along Main Street and Victoria Road. The Summerland Credit Union will finish off the evening with their amazing fireworks display! For more information, visit www.summerlandlightup.com.



Ongoing and upcoming projects
Prairie Valley Road Improvement Project from Cartwright Avenue to Morrow Avenue

Phase 1 of the Prairie Valley Road Improvement Project is wrapping up with minor work being done over the winter. Phase 2 work will begin again in Spring 2025. The public is asked to continue to follow detours and traffic control during the course of the project.



Unlimited yard & garden waste curbside collection – week of November 26 to 29

1. Fill your Green Yard & Garden Waste Cart and put it out for collection.
2. Place additional Yard & Garden Waste out beside your cart for collection as follows:
 - In “kraft” style yard waste paper bags, or
 - In any container that is clearly marked as “Yard Waste Only”, has a volume capacity of 95 Litres or less and a maximum weight of 25 kgs. “Yard Waste Only” labels are available for free from the Cashier’s counter at Municipal Hall
 - Bundle branches, five centimetres in diameter and under, with string or twine. Bundles must be less than one metre long and weigh less than 25 kgs



Please note that paper bags that are ripped or heavily saturated will not be collected. Materials must be placed out for collection by 7:00 AM on your regular collection day. An additional truck will collect the extra yard & garden waste after the garbage is collected.

Toys & Toonies for Tots & Teens Breakfast

Join the Summerland Fire Department on Saturday, November 30 from 8:00 AM—11:00 AM at Second Home Café & Grill, 13229 Henry Avenue, for the annual Toys & Toonies for Tots & Teens breakfast.

The Fire Department will be serving pancakes, sausages and scrambled eggs, along with pastries from True Grain Bakehouse. Breakfast is by cash donation, new unwrapped gifts or Canadian Tire money. All funds received go towards purchasing gifts for children and teens in need that live in Summerland.

Firefighters will also be ‘shaking the boot’ for donations at the Festival of Lights on November 29.



Sani-station seasonal closure

The Trout Creek Sani-Station will be closed for the season as of Tuesday, November 12, 2024.



Are you prepared for an unexpected power outage?

We can all take steps to prepare for an outage when we know it's going to happen, but most often, power outages are caused by factors beyond our control like windstorms, lightning, motor vehicle accidents, and animals — and they can happen at any moment. That's why it's important to ensure you and your family are prepared for an outage year-round.



Build an emergency kit so that you and your family can be self-sufficient for at least 72 hours during a power outage. Store your items in something that is easy to carry, is located in an easily accessible place and that family members know where to find it. Items may include a flashlight, battery-operated radio, first aid kit, tools and supplies, food and water. Check your kit once a year and replace items you may have used or that have expired.

During a power outage, some of the necessities we take for granted may disappear, including phone access, electrical and water services. Roads could be blocked, stores might need to close and gas stations can be out-of-service. Taking these considerations into account when making your plan is important to keep your family safe. Create an outage plan and share it with your family so that everyone knows what to do in the event of an outage.

Be bear smart

Bears are preparing for their winter slumber. Garbage, bird feeders and tree fruits can attract bears to your yard, family and neighbourhood. Once a bear becomes used to human food sources it becomes habituated, usually resulting in the bear being destroyed. It is important to keep wildlife wild and communities safe.

You can report all wildlife encounters to the BC Conservation Officer Service RAPP Line at 1-877-952-7277 or visit www.wildsafebc.com to learn more about how to protect the species around you.

Winter driving condition tips

- Ensure your vehicle is equipped for the weather — use winter tires.
- Maintain a safe following distance — look ahead, keep at least 4 seconds distance.
- Reduce your speed to match road conditions — the posted speed is the maximum speed under ideal conditions.
- Watch for black ice — especially common in shaded areas, under an overpass and in areas where vehicles frequently stop.
- Accelerate and brake slowly — to maintain traction.
- Avoid sudden moves — look ahead to anticipate stops and turns well before they occur.
- Know how to handle a skid — do not brake, ease off accelerator, and look and steer smoothly in the direction you want to go.
- See and be seen — turn your vehicle lights all the way on, so your tail lights come on as well.
- Be cautious when approaching District maintenance vehicles and staff — they are trying to get you safely to your destination.



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 www.youtube.com/c/DistrictofSummerland

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: www.summerland.ca/your-city-hall/mayor-council/mayor-s-podcast

Municipal hall hours of operation: Tuesday - Friday from 8:15 AM to 5:00 PM. Closed Mondays and Statutory Holidays.

Winter curbside cart collection

With winter on its way, follow these guidelines for successful curbside collection:

- Ensure the areas around and under your carts are clear of snow.
- Place carts as close as possible to the road, without obstructing the snow removal operations, street, sidewalk or bike lane.
- Do not place carts behind or on top of a snow bank.
- Ensure there is proper spacing around the carts:
 - 1m (3ft) of space on all sides;
 - 3m (10ft) of clearance above; and
 - 1.5m (5ft) of space from a vehicle.



The District of Summerland curbside collection contractor will make every attempt to pick up waste material during winter conditions. However, their top priority is resident and employee safety.

In the event of a collection delay:

- Please place your cart(s) out **each day** following the delay until collection can be completed safely.
- When service is resumed, the contractor will collect any extra accumulated material, at no extra charge, equivalent to the amount that would have been collected if service had not been temporarily interrupted.

To sign up for curbside notifications/alerts and for more information on winter curbside cart collection please visit www.summerland.ca/solidwaste.

Fall Fun with Summerland Recreation

New sessions of Refit, Little Leapers, Swim Lessons, and more are starting now. Missed the start day? No problem! Our registration system is automated to pro-rate you, making late registration a breeze!



Don't wait until the New Year to get started; sign up for fitness classes today by registering online at summerland.perfectmind.com, visiting us in person at the Summerland Aquatic Centre, or call 250-494-0447.



Is independent exercise more your pace? Check out the new equipment in the Fitness Centre. For all recreation fall schedules, visit www.summerland.ca/parks-recreation/schedules.

What to do if you see a fallen power line

It's impossible to tell just by sight or sound if a power line that has fallen on the ground or become damaged is still live — it doesn't always spark, smoke or make a buzzing sound. If you come across a downed or damaged power line, it's important to treat it as an emergency situation. Stay back at least 10 metres (the length of a city bus) and report it to 911.



Spotted Lanternfly

Invasive insects may be the smallest of the invaders but they can pose a huge threat to both our environment and our economy.



One species to watch for is the Spotted Lanternfly. This unwanted species showed up in Canada for the first time in September, in Windsor, Ontario. The Spotted Lanternfly could have drastic implications for the grape, fruit tree and forestry industries. The adults have light brown front wings covered in black spots with dark speckled bands on the tips. The rear wings are black and white on the tips, and red with black spots on the main section of the wing. The abdomen is yellow with horizontal black stripes. This colourful insect feeds on more than 70 different plant species. Some examples of their host plants include grape, apple, pine, willow, stone fruit and the invasive tree-of-heaven. Build-up of their egg masses and secretions can also cause damage to patio furniture, garden ornaments and cars. If you suspect that you have seen a spotted lanternfly, collect a specimen in a sealed container and report your sighting immediately to the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) at 1-800-422-2342 or www.inspection.gc.ca/pests. For more information visit www.oiso.ca/species/spotted-lanternfly/.