

In 2022, more than 190 countries came together under the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity to agree on a framework for reversing worldwide habitat and species loss. The agreement included a goal for each country to conserve 30 percent of its land and water by the year 2030.

With less than 15% of Canada’s land and freshwater protected, the 30x30 target is ambitious and all levels of governments need to work together to realize this significant commitment. The federal government has established a Canadian Protected and Conserved Areas Database (CPCAD) where areas that meet international conservation standards can be listed and count towards Canada’s biodiversity target. Working with BC Nature, the District of Summerland has put forward nine municipal-owned areas to be registered on CPCAD:

- Adam’s Bird Sanctuary
 - Giant’s Head Mountain Park
 - Back portion of Living Memorial Park
- Woodbridge Nature Preserve
 - Little Giant’s Head Mountain Park
 - Priest Camp Historic Park
- Mount Conkle Park
 - Landry Crescent parkland
 - Cartwright Avenue Neighbourhood park

To count towards the 30x30 target, at least 75% of each site must be preserved while up to 25% can be used for non compatible activities such as trails, playgrounds or parking lots, provided that they do not significantly impact the park’s ecological functions or biodiversity values. By including local areas in the 30x30 database, Council is demonstrating its commitment to conservation and assuring Summerland residents that our community parks are being protected.

~ Mayor Doug Holmes

Ongoing projects

Wharton Street revitalization project

The Wharton Street project is nearly complete with underground utility and roadwork in the downtown core installed. The new all-season washroom is expected to be delivered mid January and opened when weather permits. The District would like to thank businesses and residents for their patience during construction.



Wastewater treatment plant primary clarifier upgrade

Wastewater treatment plant primary clarifier upgrade

The majority of the concrete pours have been completed with the structures now being filled with water to allow for concrete saturation and the completion of leak testing. Some civil works have been exposed in anticipation of piping tie-ins and thermoliner welding completed (installed for the purpose of protecting the concrete walls from hydrogen sulfide gas once in operation).



Wharton Street Revitalization Project

2025 Paving Program

In 2025 the District was able to pave over 22,000m² of roads as well as place over 38,000m² of recycled asphalt millings over many of our lesser travelled streets, on parking lots and in our landfill. For an interactive look at our road and water upgrade projects, please view our Road and Water Integrated 20 Year Asset Management Plan www.summerland.ca/city-services/works-and-utilities-department/roads.



Canyonview Road before



Canyonview Road after

2026 budget open house

General fund budget discussions were held on December 9 – 10, 2025 with Council proposing a 6.36% property tax increase. Residents are encouraged to attend an open house on January 14, 2026, from 5:00 – 7:00 PM at the Arena Banquet Room located at 8820 Jubilee Rd E. to learn more about the proposed increase.

Winter curbside collection cart placement

As snow arrives this year, please clear an area to place your carts safely for curbside collection. Rolling carts up snowbanks is unsafe as carts can easily tip over and cannot safely be placed back after being emptied. Carts can fall over into the street or flip backwards making them hard to bring inside.



Please bring carts in after they are collected. Carts left out on the street could be damaged during road clearing.

If you have a missed collection, please contact Waste Connections of Canada at 250-490-3888 or e-mail csr-penticton-osoyoos@wasteconnections.com. They can let you know if the truck is late or unable to make it to your property. Please bring in your carts at the end of the day to ensure that they are not struck or damaged by snow removal equipment.

Snow removal

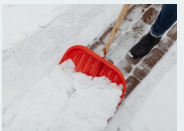
Our crews are on call seven days a week to keep District roads clear during winter weather. Staff begin as early as 5:00 AM to ensure major routes are plowed before most resident’s head to work. We also clear public sidewalks, walkways not bordering private property, and—with the help of a contractor—municipally owned parking lots.

It takes approximately 6–8 hours to complete all routes once snowfall stops, and crews often return the following day or Mondays after a weekend, to widen and clean up further. Priority areas, such as school bus routes, may need repeated attention during ongoing snowfall, which can delay work on residential side streets. Heavy snow and equipment issues may also impact response times.



Sidewalk clearing

Municipal bylaws require that residents remove the snow and ice from public footpaths and sidewalks bordering their property (business or residential). Residents must remove snow and ice from sidewalks bordering their property. Please use a CMA de-icer—avoid salt, as it damages concrete. Help keep sidewalks safe by not parking on the road and placing driveway snow on the right side when facing the street (never onto the roadway). This helps prevent snow from being pushed back into your driveway. Thank you for helping keep our community safe.



Winter recreation guide

Kick off 2026 with Summerland recreation! Whether you're looking for swim lessons, fitness classes, aquafit, or yoga, there are plenty of options! The 2026 Winter Recreation Guide has activities for all ages and interests. Visit www.summerland.ca/parks-recreation/recreation-guide to discover all our programs, facility schedules and registration details.



Christmas tree pick-up

With a donation to the 2026 Dry Grad Class, you can have your Christmas tree picked up from your house by the Summerland Fire Department. Trees will be chipped and composted by the Summerland Fire Department and the District of Summerland.



Pick-up dates will be:

Sunday, January 4 and Sunday, January 11, 2026 starting at 9:00 AM

Contact the Fire Department to schedule a pick-up by phone **250-404-4087** or email sfd@summerland.ca.

Food scraps collection in yard waste carts

It can look silly placing a small amount of food scraps in a large yard waste cart, but it works! The collection truck will keep picking up the Green Cart weekly for the entire winter. Please keep placing food scraps in your Green Cart and have it to the curb by 7:00 AM on your collection day.

Some tips:

- Wrap your food scraps in newspaper or any paper bag. The type of paper bag can be a normal one or one designed for compost. Yard waste bags can also work.
- If you have the space, freeze your food scraps. This will stop materials from sticking to your cart.
- Keep some yard waste aside and place the yard waste at the bottom of your cart throughout the winter, this will help materials empty into the truck.

If you are a Summerland resident and can share your techniques to handle food scraps over winter, please contact works@summerland.ca.

Dog and business licence renewals

Renewal notices have been mailed and are due January 30. Payments received after this date are subject to a \$10 late fee. If you didn't receive your notice or no longer need a licence, call **250-494-6451** or email info@summerland.ca.

All dogs in Summerland must be licensed by six months of age. Licensing helps ensure lost dogs are returned home. Unless you are authorized to operate a kennel, households may have no more than three dogs.

Dog Control services are contracted by the District. To report a lost or found dog, barking complaints, aggressive behaviour, or a dog at large, call **250-494-6446**.

Be a "Snow Angel" this winter

The Snow Angel program encourages neighbours to help by shoveling snow or keeping sidewalks clear. Nominate your Snow Angel online at www.summerland.ca/your-city-hall/snow-angel for a chance to win a prize and receive a certificate of recognition.

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

Instagram: www.instagram.com/districtofsummerland/

Sign up for the monthly newsletter online:

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

Check out the Mayor's column available on the District's website:

www.summerland.ca/your-city-hall/mayor-council/mayor's-minute

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

Save electricity and water with efficient showerheads, faucets, and simple fixes

You can lower both water use and the electricity needed to heat it by making a few easy upgrades in your bathroom and kitchen.



Energy-efficient showerheads

Showers can use a large portion of a home's hot water—about 15% of total household energy use. Replacing a standard showerhead with a low-flow model costs as little as \$15, installs quickly, and reduces water use without affecting pressure. Savings begin almost immediately.

Energy-efficient tap aerators

High-efficiency faucet aerators reduce water flow and lower hot water costs. Installing one in your kitchen can save about \$28 per year.

Fix leaky faucets

A single leaky faucet can waste up to 11,350 litres of water annually. Repairing a hot-water leak—often just a matter of replacing a \$0.25 washer—can save up to \$33 per year in heating costs.

Reminders: upcoming 2026 election

The next general local election is on October 17, 2026. If you are interested in running, check the District's website for key dates and details www.summerland.ca/your-city-hall/elections. Register to vote on the Provincial voter's list elections.bc.ca/resources/voters-list/the-provincial-voters-list/.

2026 Council meeting schedule

Mark your calendars—the 2026 council meeting schedule has been adopted and is now available for viewing! View the schedule online www.summerland.ca/your-city-hall/council-meetings. All public is welcome and encouraged to attend these meetings to stay informed and engaged in municipal decision-making.

Invasive trees in Summerland—Russian Olive

As part of our series on invasive trees, this article focuses on **Russian olive**. This tree species can grow up to 9m at maturity. New stem growth is covered with hairs giving it a silvery-gray appearance. Aging stems become smooth and reddish brown with age with numerous thorns. Mature trunk bark can be gray and ridged. Russian olive has narrow, silvery-green leaves that are smooth-edged. Its fragrant yellow flowers in the spring turn into silver, olive-shaped fruits that ripen to tan or brown.



What are the impacts of Russian olive? Russian olive was once used in windbreaks and shelterbelts but has spread widely, threatening riparian areas, grasslands, irrigated pastures, and hayfields. It can form dense, single-species stands that crowd out native plants like cottonwood and willow. Its fast growth and thick canopy reduce plant diversity and productivity, and along streambanks it can alter natural flooding and limit nutrients and moisture for other vegetation.

How to control? Seedlings can be hand-pulled when the soil is moist. Mature trees may be controlled using cut-stump herbicide treatment or trees can be cut followed by stump grinding. Bulldozing, mowing and brush cutting can also be effective, but require many consecutive years of treatment. Anyone dealing with invasive trees should consult a professional.

For more information go to: www.oiso.ca/species/russian-olive/.

2026 Summerland Free Fare Passes

A 2026 pass is required for Summerland residents to continue accessing free fares on **Route 30** for the 2026 year. Available now at our two vendor locations:

Municipal Hall (13211 Henry Ave) and **Aquatic & Fitness Centre** (13205 Kelly Ave). For holiday closure times, visit www.summerland.ca/your-city-hall/contact.

Curbside collection delays

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

In the event of a collection delay:

- Contact Waste Connections of Canada at **250-490-3888** to see when any missed collection for your property will be collected
- To avoid animals getting into waste, bring in carts overnight
- 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.