

C



ELECTORAL AREA UPDATE

AREA C | EXTENSION | ARROWSMITH-BENSON | EAST WELLINGTON-PLEASANT VALLEY

ISSUE 19 • SPRING 2016

Illegal Dumping

In 2015, approx 19 tonnes of illegally dumped waste was removed from Area C thanks to the RDN, Island Timberlands, Timber West, VIU and Community Groups such as the Doumont Restoration Project.



Director
Maureen Young

Although it represents only 0.02 per cent of the total solid waste generated in the region, illegally dumped material can have serious effects on the environment, wildlife habitat and the ability for others to use

and enjoy outdoor recreational areas. By dumping illegally, violators create a problem that costs everyone in the region. The RDN is taking several steps to combat and prevent illegal dumping, including funding the clean-up of disposal sites and allocating staff time to carry out illegal dumping surveillance, prevention, education and enforcement activities. If you are interested in organizing a community cleanup in your neighbourhood contact Solid Waste Services at (250) 390-6560 or 1-877-607-4111 (toll-free) to have disposal fees waived (must be arranged one week in advance of clean-up date).

NEW! Region-Wide Watering Restrictions

Across the region, water purveyors are adopting a standard framework for watering restrictions in an effort to streamline communications and increase clarity for the public. To find out more, visit www.teamwatersmart.ca. Private wells

that are not part of a community water system are not subject to this watering restriction framework, but are encouraged to continue to voluntarily practice water efficiency.

Agriculture Bylaw and Policy Updates Project

Following community consultation in 2015 and in response to positive community feedback, draft bylaws have been developed. New or amended zoning changes will better support farming and improve consistency with provincial regulations and include: new or amended agriculture zones that would apply to land in the Agricultural Land Reserve and new or amended general regulations and definitions related to agriculture, farm use and the keeping of animals.

On March 22, 2016, the Regional District of Nanaimo Board granted 1st and 2nd reading to zoning amendment Bylaws "500.402, 2016" and "1285.26, 2016". If there is continued support for the zoning changes then the new zones for agriculture could be in place by as soon as the end of May.

To learn more about the proposed bylaw amendments, visit www.growingourfuture.ca.

Cedar Landfill Update

Two construction projects started this winter and will carry through to the early summer at the Cedar Regional Landfill. Both projects involve the construction of buildings to replace the current office and shop. The construction site near the scale-house and Cedar Road will be the new location of a modular office. Further down the site haul road along the eastern property line, earthworks are underway to prepare an area to construct a maintenance shop, which will remain and service the site post-closure.

The existing buildings must be removed to make way for construction of the North Berm which will begin in July. The North Berm is being constructed to stabilize the landfill should there be a significant seismic event in the area and, in addition, it provides about 10 years more landfill capacity to approximately 2041. These current construction projects are the culmination of more than a decade of planning.

Rebates

For a complete list of rebates and eligibility visit www.RDNrebates.ca or call 250-390-6560.



NEW! Oil to Heat Pump Rebate is available

in RDN Electoral Areas. This program encourages the transition from oil heating to heat pumps and is an additional \$250 incentive from the RDN for those who complete the upgrade and are eligible for the provincial Oil to Heat Pump Incentive Program administered by City Green Solutions.

The popular **RDN Septic Maintenance Rebate** program is back for a third year. In the first two years of the program, the RDN provided more than \$50,000 in rebates to help RDN homeowners maintain their septic systems. This year, up to \$1,000 is available for RDN homeowners to a) obtain a Maintenance Assessment report, b) install Risers and/or c) install an Effluent Filter.

Offered through the SepticSmart program, the rebates promote long-term maintenance habits to maximize the useable life of existing onsite systems. >

This flyer is intended for residents in RDN Electoral Area C. Overlapping postal routes could result in some City of Nanaimo, Ladysmith and adjacent electoral area residents receiving this newsletter. We hope you find the content of interest.

highlights

- * Illegal Dumping
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- * Rebates

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PRINTED ON 100%
POST-CONSUMER
RECYCLED PAPER.



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Rebates are available until December 31st or until the rebate budget is spent.

The Rainwater Harvesting Incentive provides up to \$750 to install a cistern (min. 1000 imperial gallons) and other rainwater harvesting system components.

Rural Water Quality Stewardship Rebates (a two-part rebate program)

- 1. Water Quality Testing** – one time 50 per cent off of comprehensive water quality test for private well owners.
- 2. Wellhead Protection Upgrades** – \$50 to \$500 is available for upgrades to existing well construction to improve groundwater protection. This includes upgrades to well cap, well casing stick-up, surface seal or for well closure. Upgrades must be completed by a registered qualified well professional.

Home Energy Assessments

A \$150 incentive is available to residents who have an initial Home Energy Assessment conducted by a certified energy advisor. An additional rebate is available if the follow-up assessment shows an increase in your home's EnerGuide rating.

Woodstove Exchange Program

Receive \$250 by replacing an old wood-burning appliance with an EPA-certified wood burning, pellet, or gas stove insert.

Renewable Energy Systems

A \$250 rebate is available to residents who purchase and install an eligible renewable energy system.

Residential Electric Vehicle Charging Station

Residents who install an eligible Level 2 EV Charging Station can apply for this \$250 rebate.

Sustainable Development Checklist

Receive between \$500 and \$1000 for achieving a high Checklist score when building an efficient home.

Graded Site-Cut Timber Incentive

Up to \$250 for homeowners who provide documentation confirming the use of site-cut timber for a structure requiring a building permit.

ENERGY STAR® Clothes Washer Incentive

Residents who purchase an eligible ENERGY STAR® clothes washer from May 1 to June 30 and again from October 1 to November 30, 2016 can access a \$100 joint rebate from BC Hydro and the RDN. Limited rebates available.



If you haven't heard about the RDN's popular Team WaterSmart program yet, visit www.teamwatersmart.ca for tips on water conservation and water quality protection, the Team WaterSmart KidsZone and upcoming workshops and events.

Curbside Collection App

Simplify your life with the RDN curbside collection reminder feature and mobile app! Check out the app on our Facebook page or visit www.rdn.bc.ca and click on the Curbside Collection image at the top right side of the page.



- EMAIL
- VOICEMAIL
- TWITTER
- ICALENDAR
- DOWNLOAD THE APP



EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Know the Risks: Did you know that wildfire is the number one hazard in the RDN? You can learn more about hazards in the region by visiting www.rdn.bc.ca/emergency.

Have a Plan: Home emergency plans include the basics like including a strategy for communicating after a disaster, a meeting place and how to care for service animals or pets.

Personal Support Network: Create a support network of at least three people to assist during an emergency. Give them keys and add their contact information to a shared emergency plan.

Get a Kit: An emergency kit should include at least one week of the basic necessities – visit www.publicsafety.gc.ca for a detailed list.

**Be Safe.
Be Proactive.
Be Ready!**

contacts

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