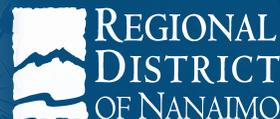


C



ELECTORAL AREA UPDATE

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

ISSUE 20 • SUMMER 2017

Rural Area Signage Project

Effective signage is important to the local economy, is a public safety factor and can strengthen community identity and pride. The RDN is working to better understand barriers to effective signage in rural areas



Director
Maureen Young

and launched an online survey and held open houses throughout April and May. It is anticipated that the results will be presented to the Board in July.

For more information, visit www.rdn.bc.ca/ruralsignage.

Area 'C' Building Statistics

Electoral Area Building Permits for 2016

Electoral Area	# of Permits	Construction Value (\$M)	New Housing Units
C	42	5.5	17

Electoral Area Building Permits for Jan-Mar 2017

Electoral Area	# of Permits	Construction Value (\$M)	New Housing Units
C	8	1.5	3

Benson Creek Falls Facilities

Staff will be initiating a geotechnical assessment of two sites within Benson Creek Falls Regional Park - the descent to Ammonite Falls and the crossing of Benson Creek. This is the first step in examining options for improving safety and environmental preservation of the sites.

Illegal Dumping

In 2016, approximately six 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. Although it represents less than one 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 clean-up 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).

Solid Waste Management Plan

The Regional District of Nanaimo is currently undergoing an update of the 2004 Solid Waste Management Plan. A Solid Waste Management Plan reflects a long term vision of how the regional

district manages its solid waste, including diversion and disposal.

If you would like more information on the Solid Waste Management Plan process visit: www.rdn.bc.ca/swmp or email zerowaste@rdn.bc.ca to receive updates and notifications on upcoming information sessions.

Region-Wide Standard Watering Restrictions

Across the region, water purveyors have adopted a standard framework for watering restrictions in an effort to streamline communications and increase clarity for the public. To find out if any restrictions are in effect in your area, visit www.teamwatersmart.ca. There, you will find an interactive map where you can zoom right in on your street. 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.



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

- * Rural Area Signage Project
- * Benson Creek Falls Facilities
- * Rebates

THIS NEWSLETTER IS
PRINTED ON 100%
POST-CONSUMER
RECYCLED PAPER.



RDN AREA C ELECTORAL AREA UPDATE

Region-Wide Parks and Trails mapping now available!

Multiple formats: [Online Interactive Map](#) and [Downloadable PDF](#)

GIS/Mapping

Geographical Information Systems are commonly known as GIS. These collections of computer hardware, software and geographic data are used for capturing, managing, analyzing and displaying all forms of geographically referenced information.

The Regional District of Nanaimo GIS Mapping Department provides GIS services to RDN staff and citizens in the most efficient and effective method possible, leveraging new technologies to dynamically create maps providing value added services. The staff in this department is responsible for maintaining and updating RDNMap, a geographical information mapping system that contains information on all of the properties within the Regional District. Staff also combines regional GIS data with other information to develop a variety of map products for RDN departments.

[CLICK HERE TO ACCESS RDNMAP](#) [CLICK HERE TO ACCESS RDNMAP MOBILE](#)

[HELP FILE: RDNMAP INSTRUCTIONS](#) [HELP FILE: RDNMAP MOBILE INSTRUCTIONS](#)

Parks and Trails Mapping

Interactive Parks and Trails Finder
Search for and identify parks and recreation trails throughout the RDN with this mobile friendly interactive webmap. Note that this map requires an internet connection and may use data when viewed on a mobile device. If hiking without internet or cellular data, refer to the georeferenced PDF maps below. *Keep checking back as more park features and trail data will be added on an ongoing basis.*



New parks and trails mapping is now available! Our interactive RDN Parks and Trails Finder map provides searchable information for Regional and Community Parks and recreation trails throughout the RDN, and is compatible with most mobile devices.

Hiking without cell service?

Geo-referenced PDF maps are also available for download – these can be printed or used with various mobile mapping applications. Maps are currently available for Mount Benson, Englishman River and Moorecroft Regional Parks, 707 Community Park, as well as Big Qualicum River Regional Trail with surrounding Hatchery Trails. Keep checking back as more PDF maps will be added on an ongoing basis.

Access our mapping at www.rdnmap.ca or www.rdn.bc.ca/gis.



We are now mapping trails on Crown Land!

Interested in trails outside of the RDN's Regional and Community Parks? We have started to map recreation trails on Crown Land. This ongoing project has started in Areas 'H' and 'B,' and will expand into the remaining Electoral Areas as we make progress. Maps of trails on Crown Land at Nile Creek – McColl Road and Big Qualicum Hatchery are available now with more to come.

Check for updates at www.rdnmap.ca or www.rdn.bc.ca/gis.

Rebates

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

NEW! WaterSmart Garden Incentive – for residential soil augmentation and irrigation efficiency upgrades – up to \$750 available.

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 fourth year. To date, the RDN has provided more than \$90,000 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 Performance Assessment report, b) install Risers, c) install an Effluent Filter and/or d) replace a malfunctioning system.

Apply for preapproval soon to reserve funds before they run out.

Visit www.SepticSmart.ca for full program details.

Rainwater Harvesting Incentive – for residents installing a minimum of 1000 imperial gallons of rainwater storage – up to \$750 available.

Rural Water Quality Stewardship Incentive – for one-time 50% off well water testing, and various wellhead protection upgrades.

Home Energy Assessments

A \$150 to \$200 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-\$650 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 can access a \$100 - \$200 rebate from BC Hydro.



contacts

Electoral Area Director | Maureen Young
maureen_young@shaw.ca
Regional District of Nanaimo Website | www.rdn.bc.ca
250-390-4111 1-877-607-4111 (Toll-free access to all departments)

