

FLOODING IN SUMMERLAND

Since the end of April, Summerland has been faced with flooding due to heavy rain and a higher than usual snowpack. In early spring, high water levels in Aeneas Creek caused local flooding in the Garnet Valley area. Flooding continued throughout May as Okanagan Lake reached levels not seen since the 1990's. The water level has continued to rise into June and has exceeded the all time recorded high reached in 1948. The Province has recently recommended that measures be taken to protect property to the 343.50m level (plus .50 m for wave action). The increase in water level has levelled off over the past two days and the District of Summerland is hopeful, that without a significant rain event or very high temperatures, that the lake level may begin to decline.

Property owners and the District of Summerland have been working very hard to protect homes, structures and municipal infrastructure from the high water. To date, over 140,000 sandbags have been distributed in Summerland.

Some residents in Trout Creek and the Summerland RV Park have had their electricity disconnected as electrical connections have become submerged creating a dangerous situation. Summerland's electrical crew has been able to restore power to most of these properties by reconnecting services above ground. Options are being reviewed to determine whether it will be possible to reconnect the remaining Trout Creek properties before the water recedes.

Okanagan Lake Levels

Full Pool	342.48m
1990 flood	342.87m
1948 flood	343.00m
June 5, 2017	343.23m

All District beaches, including the boat launch are closed. The pathway at Landry Crescent, Centennial Trail along Peach Orchard Road and the path from Rotary Beach to the Peach Orchard boat launch are closed due to high water levels. Residents who do not live in the areas affected by the floods are asked to refrain from driving through these areas as traffic has increased and the situation has become dangerous with property owners on the streets working to protect their homes from the rising waters.

District of Summerland crews and the Summerland Fire Department have been assisted by Ministry of Forests fire crews. Many thanks to the individuals, service groups, organizations, and businesses who have come together as a community to help residents protect their properties from flooding.



Access near Laidlaw St.

Financial assistance through the Province of BC's Disaster Financial Assistance program may be available for property owners affected by the flooding. Residents should contact the program directly to determine their eligibility.

Anyone who has been displaced from their residence because of the flooding are encouraged to contact Summerland's Emergency Support Services at 250-462-0823 for assistance.

Property owners should call 250-486-3765 with questions relating to the flood situation. Regular updates are made on Summerland's website (www.summerland.ca) and District of Summerland's Facebook page (SummerlandBC) .

Property Taxes and Home Owner Grants Due 4pm Friday, July 7th, 2017

Property Tax Notices were mailed out at the end of May. Outstanding taxes and Home Owner Grants are due and payable by 4pm on Friday, July 7th, 2017. A 10% penalty will be added to any outstanding balances or unclaimed Home Owner Grants (HOG) after **the due date**. If this is your principal residence, you may be eligible to claim the HOG. This must be done every year (even if your bank pays the taxes for you).

Payments for property taxes can be made by cheque, cash, debit, post-dated cheque, internet or telephone banking. **Please note we do not accept credit cards.** Postmarks are not considered as date of payment so don't wait until the last minute!

For more information on Home Owner Grants, Property Taxes, the Provincial Tax Deferral Programs or the Pre-Authorized Prepayment Plan, please see the back of your Tax Notice or the insert included with your notice, visit our website at www.summerland.ca, call 250-494-6451 or come to Municipal Hall - we'll be happy to help you!

To help line-ups move quickly, please have your cheque and Home Owner Grant filled out BEFORE you take it to the cashier.

Let's Be Clear on Glass Recycling

Glass is an energy intensive material. Making new glass means heating sand and other substances to a temperature of 2,600°F, which requires a lot of energy and produces an enormous amount of industrial pollution. Making recycled glass consumes 40 percent less energy and saves more than a tonne of the raw materials needed to create new glass, including: 1,300 lbs of sand; 410 lbs of soda ash; and 380 lbs of limestone.

In BC, clear or coloured non-deposit jars and bottles must be recycled separately from curbside recycling as glass can easily break during collection and transport. It is difficult to sort broken glass from other mixed recycling, and when broken glass mixes with paper and other containers it becomes difficult to properly recycle these materials. Broken glass is also a safety hazard. **Clear or coloured non-deposit jars and bottles can be dropped off for free at the Summerland Sanitary Landfill (17202 Bathville Rd).**

Plate glass, including glass from windows, picture frames, furniture, and glassware, is not recyclable in Summerland and must be disposed of in your garbage as these types of glass have a different chemical composition and manufacturing process than container glass. Please always wrap broken glass in tape or cardboard for safety reasons.

BC Transit Rate Changes

Effective July 1, 2017 there will be a 25¢ increase in rates for bus trips within Summerland (handyDART now called On Request). A pass will increase from \$2.00 to \$2.25 per trip. Books of 10 can be purchased for \$20.25. Tickets already purchased at the lower rate will be honoured until January 1, 2018.

Regional bus fares will remain unchanged at \$4.00 per trip or 10 for \$36.00.

Signs Not Permitted

Please be reminded that for safety reasons the District of Summerland does not permit signs to be placed in the roundabouts or on power poles or light standards.

Plant Smart, Stay Safe

Trees that encroach on overhead power lines are not only the cause of most power outages and disturbances, but they can also pose a serious safety hazard.

If you have a power line on or near your property, it doesn't mean you can't plant trees. The safest bet is to plan ahead so trees won't interfere with power lines no matter how tall they grow.

Here are a few guidelines that will help you ensure your trees won't grow into hazardous trees:

- Trees planted closer than 7.5 metres should be low-growing varieties.
- Nothing should be planted closer than 5 metres from the base of a power pole.
- If you have a secondary line connecting your home to a power line, avoid planting trees that will grow into the line. If you don't see a secondary line connected to your house, your secondary line is underground.

Call BC One Call at 1-800-474-6886 or email bconecall.ca at least three working days before planting. Once the utility lines are marked, remember to carefully dig around lines with hand tools.

Open Houses Taking Place in June

The District of Summerland will host two informative open houses in June.

Join us on the evening of June 15th at the Arena Banquet Room to learn more about Giant's Head Mountain Trails Re-Development Master Plan that is being developed by the District of Summerland.

The consultant Bench Site Design and District Staff will be on hand to answer questions and discuss ideas.

If you're not able to attend the open house, information about the Giant's Head Trail Re-Development Master Plan and a questionnaire to share your thoughts will be posted on the District's website from June 15th to June 30th www.summerland.ca/parks-recreation.

Giant's Head Mountain Trails - Re-Development Master Plan

Date: Thursday, June 15, 2017

Time: 6:30pm – 9:00pm,

Formal Presentation at 7:00pm

Location: Arena Banquet Room



The public is invited to the Arena Banquet Room on June 20th to learn more about the new Parks and Recreation Master Plan that is being developed by the District of Summerland. The Master Plan will serve as a guiding document for parks and recreation over the next ten years. You'll learn what the Master Plan will consider and how it will be developed, and you'll have an opportunity to share your thoughts. Staff will be on hand to answer questions and to discuss ideas.

Parks and Recreation Master Plan

Date: Tuesday June 20, 2017

Drop in from 7:00 – 9:00 pm

Location: Arena Banquet Room

If you're not able to attend the open house, information about the Master Plan and a questionnaire to share your thoughts will be posted on the District's website at <http://www.summerland.ca/parks-recreation/recreation-master-plan-2017> from June 20th to July 2nd.

Be "Unbearable"



Bears are out of hibernation and looking for food. Their sense of smell is excellent, so please do not leave garbage that can attract them into your yard. Whenever possible, please put garbage out the morning of pick up and ensure it is in a sturdy container to keep critters out.