

Work on Phases 3/4 of the Giant's Head Mountain Park redevelopment project is currently underway with upgrades to the upper circulation road and pedestrian trails, upper parking lot washroom, upper section of the Grind trail, and a new park entrance washroom. There is also remedial planting and invasive weed management, brush removal and fire hazard remediation work, and trail decommissioning for environmental protection and erosion control.

The work on the initial project phases completed in 2020 included 5.4 kms of upgraded existing trail, 2.3 kms of new trail, and the decommissioning of eroded trails.

There are various ways to decommission and restore a trail to its natural state, including turning up soil, reseeding and transplanting, redistributing downed trees, and closing off trail heads. Usually heavily compacted ground needs to be broken up and loosened to allow plants to recolonize the trail corridor.

A common question in environmental management is whether nature ought to be protected from people or for people. Obviously restricting entry to Giant's Head Mountain Park would protect its natural state, however, if done properly, enabling access can serve to deepen public appreciation for nature and foster stewardship to ensure conservation continues for generations to come.

Through effective park management, we are encouraging responsible recreational use of Giant's Head Mountain Park while at the same time protecting its sensitive ecosystems.

~Mayor Doug Holmes

## Composted soil amendment

### Available Saturday, May 11

The Summerland Landfill will be selling composted soil amendment on Saturday, May 11 from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM. Composted materials have been tested and are safe for garden and landscaping purposes. All materials were produced using local wastewater sludge and have been found to be high in nitrogen providing food for plants.

The composted materials will be sold by weight on a first come, first served basis. For further information, please contact Works & Infrastructure at 250-494-0431 or e-mail [works@summerland.ca](mailto:works@summerland.ca).

## Food scraps make compost, compost makes food

The District of Summerland started collecting food scraps in April. Materials collected in your green cart are composted at the Organics Facility at the Summerland Landfill. Compost can be used in local gardens and agricultural operations to support the growth of healthy plants. Items that don't belong in your green cart contaminates valuable composting material, making it unsaleable.



The District is seeing common contaminants that don't belong in your green cart such as:

- Cardboard including pizza boxes, place in your recycling cart
- Pet waste, place in garbage
- Plastic bags, recycle at the Landfill Recycling Depot
- Compostable or Biodegradable bags, not accepted
- Diapers, place in garbage
- Construction materials including scrap wood, deposit at Landfill

Please note the Summerland food scraps program differs from other communities. Summerland uses a cost-effective composting system that can accept food scraps, organic yard waste and food soiled paper. For further information please contact Works & Infrastructure at 250-494-0431 or e-mail [works@summerland.ca](mailto:works@summerland.ca).

## Get prepared

Unplanned power outages can happen anytime and are often caused by freezing rain, sleet storms, high winds, animals and motor vehicle incidents. During a power outage, you may be left without heating/air conditioning, lighting, hot water, or even running water. You may also be left without phone or internet service. If you do not have a battery-powered or crank radio, you may have no way of monitoring news broadcasts.

In order to maintain a resilient community, residents should take the time to prepare in advance. You and your family should be prepared to cope on your own during a power outage for at least 3 days. Having your home emergency kit stocked and ready will ensure you are prepared for power outages. Learn more <http://ow.ly/gcDs30pxNdx>.

## Ongoing and upcoming project

- **Prairie Valley Road Upgrade and Watermain Replacement** – The District is working through the Alternative Approval Process for the rebuild of a portion of Prairie Valley Road from Cartwright Avenue to Morrow Avenue. This project would replace a section of 1930s watermain and rebuild one of the heaviest used roads in the municipality. Plans for the project also include the installation of a multi-use path. Should the borrowing of funds for the project receive all approvals, work will commence in the fall.
- **Rotary Beach Park Pier Construction** – A total of 42 new steel piles have been installed for the Rotary Pier. Work will continue in the coming weeks to add structural beams and decking. We look forward to having this important Summerland landmark rebuilt for the public to enjoy.
- **Victoria Road South Storm Drainage Upgrade** – Drainage infrastructure has been installed from Dunham Crescent to Agur Street. The last section of road and multi-use path will be completed once final approval from Fortis BC has been obtained. We thank residents for their patience while we complete this project.
- **Dale Meadows Watermain Replacement Phase 2** – Phase 2 of the watermain replacement and road project on Dale Meadows Road from Gould Avenue to Haddrell Avenue has been awarded. Construction is anticipated to be completed by mid-Summer. Local businesses will remain open during construction.
- **Giant's Head Mountain Park Phases 3 and 4** – Work is well underway at Giant's Head Mountain Park to improve the trail system. Portions of the road leading to the upper parking lot will be repaired and will include an upper turn around area with improved parking. Upper pit toilets are being refurbished and a new washroom facility near the park entrance will be built. Park users are asked to be mindful of construction crews working at various locations in the park and to stay only on designated trails to allow rehabilitation of grasslands.
- **Deer Ridge Sanitary Sewer** – The District is working with residents of the Deer Ridge area to install sanitary sewer through a Local Area Service project. An information package will be mailed shortly to affected residents.
- **Transportation Master Plan** – The Transportation Master Plan will be updated to reflect the changes made to our road network and to provide direction on upgrades to our transportation system. Stay tuned for future opportunities to provide input on this guiding document that sets out the future goals for the transportation network.

## After hours emergency

An after hours emergency means an emergency that occurs between the hours of 3:30 PM and 7:00 AM Monday to Friday, or any time on the weekends or Statutory holidays relating to water, sewer, roads, parks or electrical utility. If you have an after hours emergency, contact our **Answering Service** at 250-493-0005. Please note that overtime charges may apply if the emergency is deemed to be on your property.



## Myrtle Spurge or Donkeytail

Many invasive plants are knowingly sold as ornamental species. They can escape gardens and have the potential to take over large areas, rapidly outcompete native species and negatively impact local ecosystems.



Myrtle spurge or donkey tail is one such example. This popular ornamental plant has blue-green alternate leaves that spiral around the stem. It blooms in April to May, then develops seed pods. When the seed pods dry, they release the seeds in bursts, sending them as far as five metres away! Seeds can remain viable in the soil for up to eight years. It also has a toxic sap that can cause painful swelling and blisters, and blindness if it gets into your eyes. TAKE ACTION if you have this plant on your property. Gloves, long sleeves and protective eyewear should be worn when removing plants. Hand-pull or dig small patches before seed production. Do not compost or add to yard waste. Stonecrop (sedum) or bunchgrasses are suitable drought-tolerant alternatives.

To learn more about suitable plants to replace invasive species, check out the PlantWise Guide for the South Okanagan: [www.oasiss.ca/homeowners](http://www.oasiss.ca/homeowners). To obtain a hard copy booklet, contact [oasiss@shaw.ca](mailto:oasiss@shaw.ca)

## No partridge in this pear tree

*Pyrus calleryana* Chanticleer- common name Chanticleer pear is a deciduous tree that was discovered growing in Cleveland in the 1950s. It was selected to be a cultivated variety (cultivar) for its improved branching structure and propensity to not fall apart during a strong breeze. It grows approximately 10m high and 5m wide so an ideal candidate for smaller spaces. It is loaded with white flower clusters in spring which the bees love and has reliable maroon and red fall colour. If you wish to see some in person look no further than the median strips in the middle of Rosedale Ave and on east Prairie Valley Road and on the north side of the RCMP building. Two warnings: it is sometimes described as fruitless but that is more a description of trying to collect the hundreds of tiny fruits that fall from it, and avoid planting near your bedroom window as it has been described in bloom by tree expert Michael Dirr as being 'malodorous'.



## Plant smart, stay safe

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. Follow these guidelines to help 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 BCOneCall at 1-800-474-6886 or email [info@bc1c.ca](mailto:info@bc1c.ca) at least five working days before planting. Once the utility lines are marked, remember to carefully dig around lines with hand tools.

For more information, visit [bc1c.ca](http://bc1c.ca).

## 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](http://www.youtube.com/c/DistrictofSummerland)

website: [summerland.ca](http://summerland.ca)

Facebook: [facebook.com/SummerlandBC](https://facebook.com/SummerlandBC)

Sign up for our monthly newsletter online:

[www.summerland.ca/your-city-hall/newsletter-subscribe](http://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](http://www.summerland.ca/your-city-hall/mayor-council/mayor-s-podcast)

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website: [www.summerland.ca](http://www.summerland.ca) email: [info@summerland.ca](mailto:info@summerland.ca) [facebook.com/SummerlandBC](https://facebook.com/SummerlandBC)

Mayor: Doug Holmes Deputy Mayor: Erin Trainer Councillors: Richard Barkwill, Adrienne Betts, Doug Patan, Janet Peake, and Martin (Marty) Van Alphen

Registration now open [www.runningroom.com](http://www.runningroom.com)  
or register in person at the Summerland Aquatic Centre

Registration  
**NOW  
OPEN!**

5.7KM OR 10KM DISTANCE

Recreational, Fun, Competitive & Family Friendly!  
**Saturday, June 1**

Race Starts at  
the Aquatic  
Centre  
at 9:00am  
*New Start Time*



Prizes & Awards  
Ceremony  
at 10:30am



- Kids Fun Zone!
- T-Shirt to the first 400 participants!
- Draw Prize Entry with Registration!



Want to sponsor this event? Contact: [recreation@summerland.ca](mailto:recreation@summerland.ca) or 250-494-0447.



Save the date • Plan to come out and have fun.

## Community Challenge

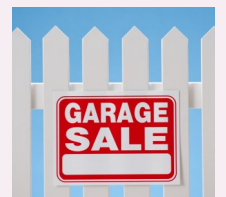
Get ready to participate this June to get active, connect with others and help your community be crowned Canada's most active community. Kick off the challenge with us at the Giant's Head Run, June 1. Learn more about the ParticipAction Challenge at

[www.participaction.com/programs/community-challenge/](http://www.participaction.com/programs/community-challenge/)



## Signage

Please be reminded that the District of Summerland does not permit permanent or temporary signs to be placed in the roundabouts, on power poles or light standards or anywhere within highway rights-of-way, unless expressly permitted in Sign Bylaw No. 2022-026. The District may **remove and take away** any sign on District road rights-of-way that is in contravention with this Bylaw.



## Be bear smart

Garbage, bird feeders and tree fruits can attract bears to your yard 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.

**Garbage** - properly secure your garbage and keep it indoors until pick-up or until you can bring it to the landfill. **Place your carts at the curb no earlier than 5:00 AM on your scheduled collection day.**

**Compost**- use finished compost, leaves, grass or wood chips to cover up fruit or other food waste in your composter. Properly care for your compost by turning it and layering it appropriately to reduce odours.

**Fruit Trees and Grapes**- make sure to harvest fruit immediately and remove all windfall fruit. If you own an orchard, electric fencing is encouraged.

**Pet food, Birdfeeders and Gardens** are all attractants for bears. Keep your pet food securely stored indoors. Bring your birdfeeders in for the summer, supplementing them with natural flowers and birdbaths.

**Barbeques**- everyone loves the smell of a good barbeque, bears included! To keep your barbeques safe, make sure that they are properly cleaned, covered and don't leave utensils out overnight.

Report all wildlife encounters to the BC Conservation Officer Service RAPP Line at 1-877-952-7277 or visit [www.wildsafebc.com](http://www.wildsafebc.com) to learn more about how to protect the species around you.