

The most proactive way to play a role in determining Summerland's future is to participate in the updating of the Official Community Plan (OCP), the process is currently underway.

The OCP is an over-arching document that establishes a sustainable long-term vision of the community and outlines the objectives and policies to guide local planning and land use decisions. It looks at the community's housing and development areas, infrastructure, transportation, parks, economic development, and the natural and social environment. The Plan sets the course for our future and therefore public participation in the review process is essential.

Community visioning started in February with an open house and public survey and engagement will continue throughout the year with surveys, open houses, pop-ups at local events, and outreach to community groups and Indigenous nations. We are initially gathering feedback on the current OCP and the core values and priorities that should guide future growth. Later, in the Spring, we will turn our attention to the Urban Growth Boundary (UGB), or urban containment boundary, which is the area designated for new development.

A first draft of an updated OCP will be published in the fall and another round of public engagement will be held to provide a final opportunity for residents to make their voices heard and ensure the policies in the draft reflect the community's values and aspirations. All feedback will be analyzed and a second draft will be brought to Council for consideration and formal adoption by the end of the year. For information on how to get involved, visit www.summerlandocp.ca.

~ Mayor Doug Holmes

New requirement at landfill:

Potential asbestos declaration form

Starting March 1, 2025, the Summerland Landfill will require customers to complete a Declaration form for any load that may include building materials with the potential to contain asbestos. This measure aligns with WorkSafeBC's objectives and our safe work procedures to protect workers and the community from asbestos exposure.

Materials requiring a Declaration include:

- Gypsum wallboard (drywall), wall tape, and drywall mud
- Plaster and plasterboard
- Vinyl flooring and leveling compound
- Ceiling tiles
- Concrete pipe
- Stucco and concrete siding
- Attic insulation

The Declaration form is available online or at the Landfill. Please note, non-compliance with this requirement will result in increased disposal costs. For structures built pre-1990, a letter from a WorkSafeBC certified Safety Surveyor showing the materials do not contain asbestos is required as part of the declaration process, otherwise the materials must be treated as asbestos.

Asbestos Bags for Sale

To help residents safely handle small amounts of asbestos, the landfill is now selling 6 mil asbestos bags. These heavy-duty bags are specifically designed for the safe collection and transport of asbestos-containing materials. For more information on how to package and deliver potential asbestos to the landfill, visit our website. Let's work together to keep our community safe.

Spring/Summer 2025 Recreation Guide

The full Spring/Summer recreation guide is available online at www.summerland.ca/parks-recreation/recreation-guide and all programs running from April 1–August 31, 2025 are open for registration. Summer swim lessons are the exception with registration opening June 3 at 6:00 AM. Summerland Recreation is constantly updating our dynamic guide, please bookmark the noted above page or visit www.summerland.perfectmind.com for the most up to date programming and schedules. Did you miss the start of your favourite class? No problem! Our system will automatically pro-rate registration for any classes that still have space. For in person registration visit us at the Summerland Aquatic and Fitness Centre or call 250-494-0447.



2025 Projects

Prairie Valley Road - Work will continue on Prairie Valley Road this spring between Cartwright Avenue and Morrow Avenue. Information on detours will be provided at a later date as the startup is dependent on weather conditions. This project includes the installation of a new watermain, reconstruction of the roadway and a new multi-use path.



Spring sweeping

The Works crews will be heading out soon to sweep Summerland's 330 kilometre of roads, the equivalent of driving to Greenwood and back! Crews start in the lower town area and work their way up to the higher elevations. Sweeping takes approximately two months to complete and is a two-step process as follows:

Step 1 - Sand laden areas are cleaned with a front broom articulating sweeper, loader and dump truck.

Step 2 - Remaining sand particles are cleaned with a vacuum sweeper. This is a slower process as it takes several passes to cover the same amount of road area.



If you see or hear the sweeper in your neighbourhood, please give us a helping hand by moving your vehicle if it is parked on the street.

Sani-station reopening in March

Weather dependent, the Sani-Station located at the Trout Creek pullout will reopen the week of March 10.

Notice to Summerland irrigators

The Works Division will begin turning irrigation services on the week of April 7. Irrigators who wish to have their irrigation turned on prior to this date will be required to complete an Advanced Irrigation application form and pay \$61.02 plus GST per property no later than Wednesday, April 2, 2025 at Municipal Hall, 13211 Henry Avenue, 8:15 AM to 5:00 PM, Tuesday to Friday.



One-day recycling depot—April 19

The District of Summerland will be holding a One-Day Recycling Depot at the Summerland Arena Recycling Compound, 8820 Jubilee Road from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM Saturday, April 19, 2025.



Bring your glass jars, foam packaging, plastic bags, other flexible plastic packaging, residential batteries, lightbulbs, electronics, TVs, and small appliances. Help us keep recyclables out of our landfill. Staff will be on hand to answer questions on how to sort and place your recyclable materials.

Please note that residential hazardous materials like paint, used oil, pesticides and flammable materials and scrap metal items are not accepted at the one-day recycling depot. Bring these items to the Landfill for free recycling.

Be safe – call or click before you dig

Whether your project is big or small... call or click before you dig! You may be planning to install fence posts, placing a foundation for a deck, planting bushes or trees or even building a house, if you are disturbing the ground, you may run the risk of cutting into an underground service that may cause potential for loss of life, personal injury, damage to property, or disruption of service(s). Please call 1-800-474-6886 or visit bc1c.ca at least three working days in advance of your project to request underground locates, the service is free.



Snowpack readings

Snowpack readings are taken monthly from January until the snow is melted. Average snow depth and average water equivalent (amount of water contained in the snow) are recorded and compared to the historical average, measured over 62 years.

Snowpack readings from February 1 measured 89% of the historical average for the Summerland Reservoir (Headwaters) and 63% for Isintok Lake. Please visit www.summerland.ca/city-services/water/snow-course-survey for further details.

SAVE THE DATE!

2025 EARTH WEEK APRIL 22-27TH PLANTING EVENT APRIL 27TH

District of Summerland newsletter is moving online!

Beginning April 2025, the District of Summerland newsletter is moving to online only. View current and past newsletters online the District's website www.summerland.ca/your-city-hall/newsletter. If you wish to receive the monthly newsletter right to your inbox, simply email info@summerland.ca with a subject line of "Newsletter Signup" and provide your name and email address.



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

Sign up for the monthly newsletter online:

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

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

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

Utility billing

Did you know that it costs District taxpayers approximately \$83,000 annually to mail out monthly utility bills? That is equivalent to a 0.75% tax increase. As part of the 2025 budget process, Council resolved to implement a monthly postage fee to those utility account holders who wish to continue to receive their utility bills in the mail. Utility customers are encouraged to sign up to receive their utility bills through email in order to avoid this fee, which comes into effect on April 1, 2025. Please visit www.summerland.ca/city-services/utility-billing to find more information on how to sign up for e-bills.

Julia Street Kinsmen Park

Julia Street Kinsmen Park located at 10502 Julia St. Have you had a chance to check out the new slide and bounce away on the wings of the DigiRider butterfly?



This unique park is designed for tots aged two to five years, is fully fenced, has large mature shade trees, seating and street parking.

Be sure to keep an eye out for the new swings coming soon!



Be a "Snow Angel" this winter

Nominate a Snow Angel online

www.summerland.ca/your-city-hall/snow-angel.

All nominees will receive a certificate of acknowledgement and have their name entered into a draw to win a prize!



Alternative means of Public Notice

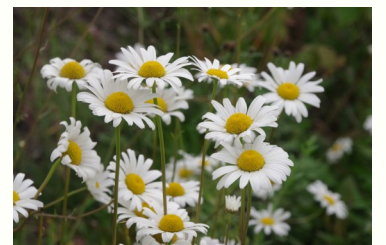
To increase flexibility and accessibility, the District of Summerland is proposing to change the method for delivering statutory notifications to satisfy the legislative requirements of section 94 of the *Community Charter*. The proposed methods will include posting statutory notice notifications on the District's website www.summerland.ca and on the District's Facebook page facebook.com/SummerlandBC.

Previously, the District was required to advertise some public notices in the local newspaper. On February 28, 2022 the provisions for providing public notice changed, giving local governments the option to adopt a bylaw to provide for alternative means of public notice that are different than the default requirement of newspaper publishing.

Provincial legislation (*Community Charter & Local Government Act*) requires local governments to provide advance public notice of certain matters of public interest to facilitate transparency and accountability as well as to inform the public of opportunities to participate in local government decision-making by sharing their views.

Be plantwise

Spring is in the air! And with that, comes the urge to start growing plants. Nursery racks are stocked with seed packets and Seedy Saturdays are underway in many communities. Planning for spring planting is what keeps many people motivated during grey skies and winter days.



Unfortunately, most packets of wildflower seeds do not contain species that are native to the local area. Common bluebells, oxeye daisy and bachelor's buttons are few examples of invasive plants that commonly show up in these mixes. It is important to BE PLANTWISE! Here are some guidelines for the purchase and use of wildflower seed mixes:

- Avoid purchasing wildflower mixes unless you are buying from a reputable plant nursery that has collected seed locally.
- Check the species list to make sure you are planting species you want.
- Contain the plants until you know what you've got. This will make it possible for you to remove any undesirable plants that appear.
- Properly dispose of garden plants at the end of the growing season.

Learn more at www.oasiss.ca or www.oiso.ca.