



Lawn Watering and Water Conservation

Water your lawn only when needed! In hot weather two to three times per week for thirty minutes is usually plenty. Your lawn can only absorb 2.5 centimetres of water at one time. This is equivalent to thirty minutes of watering. Any more than thirty minutes results in the water running off the lawn into the storm sewer, or evaporating. The time of day you water also affects absorption of water into the roots. By watering between 6 pm and 9 am, you are maximizing water absorption into the roots. If you water outside those times, you are losing much water to evaporation and may actually 'sunburn' your lawn. One way to keep your lawn green and healthy is to set your lawnmower between five and eight centimetres and leave the cut grass on the lawn as fertilizer. If everyone voluntarily conserves water, the Town of Smithers can continue without water restrictions as it has in the past.

Notice to Taxpayers

2010 Smithers Property Tax Notices were mailed on May 21, 2010. If you have not received your 2010 tax notice by June 14, 2010, please contact the Town Office. The due date to make a tax payment and/or claim a homeowner's grant, without incurring a penalty is Friday, July 2, 2010. Please remember that the Town must receive the tax payment by the due date.

Postmarked dates are not acceptable. If you wish to pay by cheque, the Town of Smithers accepts, and encourages, post-dated cheques. You may also pay your taxes on-line using on-line banking services provided by the Royal Bank, Bulkley Valley Credit Union, Scotia Bank, and CIBC. Please remember to claim your annual homeowner grant, even if the bank is paying your property tax bill through your mortgage account. You may submit your completed homeowner grant forms to the Town Office or you may claim your 2010 homeowner grant on-line through the Town's website at www.smithers.ca using E-HOG (the Town's electronic homeowner grant program). The Town of Smithers office hours are from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Monday to Friday. If you have any questions about your property taxes, homeowner grants or other tax programs, please contact Leslie Ford or Elma Hamming at the Town Office.

Recreation News

- Registration for Summer Day Camps and Summer Sport Camps begins May 31 and will take place at Walnut Park School, Ranger Park, and the Arena/Heritage Park. Register online at www.smithers.ca or call 250-847-1600.
- The arena is available for summer ice rentals starting August 18 to September 4. You may contact us now to book your rental time.

- Council has approved the construction of a playground for preschool-aged children at Ranger Park. Construction is expected to begin in mid-July.
- The Multiplex Feasibility Study Final Report will be available May 31.
- Canada Day activities for families will take place at Heritage Park on July 1.

2009 Annual Report

The Annual Report is available for public review at the Town Hall and on the Town's website. Council will consider the 2009 Annual Report at its June 8 Regular Meeting, which begins at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers. Members of the public are welcomed to attend. Written submissions regarding the Annual Report should be submitted to S. Bassett, Director of Corporate Services, by June 7, 4:00 p.m., for inclusion on the June 8 agenda.

Celebrating Service at the Town

The Town of Smithers was pleased to acknowledge the following employee service milestones at a luncheon held April 16:
20 years—Gord Arnold and Grant Gibson
15 years—Jan McKay
10 years—Penny Goodacre, Dorothy Cardinal, Fred Wilson, Elma Hamming, Marcel Ehalt, and Aaron Miles
5 years—Nancy Roulston and Debbie Holland

June 2010

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27	28	29	30			

■ = Council meeting at 7:30 pm

Building Permits

The Town is currently utilizing building inspection services from the Regional District of Bulkley Nechako until the Building Inspector vacancy is filled. Please allow for ample lead time on permit applications and inspection appointments.

Tree Preservation Bylaw

This regulates the removal of trees on public lands (parks, streets, boulevards, and trails) and on private lands within a Development Permit Area for a watercourse or steep slope. Please call the Town Hall if you have any questions on removing trees or to apply for a permit. A reminder that tree cutting or trail work on Crown Land requires a permit from the Ministry of Forests and Range.

Paved Road Improvements

This year's program is focused on Main Street from 7th Avenue to 15th Avenue, and other various locations.