



Important Changes to Open Burning Bylaw

Changes have been made to our Open Burning Bylaw that will impact how you manage yard waste and open burning within the Town of Creston limits.

Effective immediately, the Town of Creston has implemented a change in its Open Burning Bylaw. As part of our commitment to environmental responsibility and air quality, burning yard waste such as leaves, twigs, and grass clippings is no longer allowed. This change is vital to reduce smoke emissions, which can be harmful to our environment and our community's well-being.

While there are restrictions on yard waste burning, you can still burn branches larger than 2.5cm in diameter. However, to engage in residential burning, you must obtain a burn permit from Town Hall. This step ensures that open burning is conducted safely and responsibly.

Open burning can be any month if venting allows and there is no provincial fire ban. Please stay informed about fire bans through official channels and check the venting index on the day you would like to burn. You are permitted to burn only when the venting index is categorized as "Fair" to "Good." This precaution ensures that smoke dispersion is optimal, minimizing its impact on the environment and our neighbours.

- continued on page 4



Exciting News!

We're thrilled to unveil our new and improved website, creston.ca. We want the best user experience possible, so be sure to check it out and let us know what you think by emailing info@creston.ca.

Fall Yard & Garden Curbside Pick-up



The Town of Creston will be conducting the Fall Curbside Yard & Garden Curbside Pick-up in October. The first collection week will be October 10-13, 2023. Yard waste is collected by the Town Crew and is scheduled for your regular collection day. Due to the overwhelming amounts set out, it is possible that the Crew will not collect it all in one day. Leave it out and they will continue where they left off the previous day. If it has not been collected 2 days after your collection day, please call and let us know.

How to prepare:

- Branches and prunings (no larger than 6" in diameter) are to be wrapped in bundles of 3 feet (1 meter) - a manageable size for 1 person to pick up.

- continued on page 4

Have you Heard About our Wood Stove Exchange Program?

Air quality has been recognized as a persistent health risk in the RDCK. The region's topography and rural nature combine to create a situation where many outdated wood stoves are in use and wood smoke remains trapped within the steep valleys. Air quality data indicates that the poorest conditions often exist during the winter months, when wood stove use is at its peak. Wood smoke can be more harmful to human health than smog.

The Wood Stove Exchange Program is a partnership between the Province of BC, the Lung Association of BC, the RDCK, and the Town of Creston. This program provides a rebate for you to exchange your old (pre-1994), uncertified wood stove with a new, EPA- or CSA-certified wood, pellet, or gas heating appliance. By replacing your old, inefficient wood stove with a new, cleaner burning appliance, you can help keep your family and your community healthy!

For more information please visit creston.ca and search for "wood stove exchange program".



From the Desk of Bylaw Services



Section 72 of the BC Motor Vehicle Act and Section 9.3 of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act prohibit the transport of an unsecured pet in the back of a pick-up truck. It is against the law and dangerous for a pet.

Fine under BC MVA = \$109.00

You should not transport a dog in a vehicle outside of the passenger compartment, or in an uncovered passenger compartment, unless it is adequately confined to a pen or cage (secured to the box of the truck), or unless it is secured in a body harness or other manner of fastening to prevent it from jumping or falling off the vehicle or otherwise injuring itself. Don't tie a dog off by its collar as this is ineffective and can severely injure a dog.

Reasons your pet shouldn't be in the truck bed:

- Your dog can jump out while the truck is stopped.
- Your dog can jump out while the truck is in motion.
- Someone can rear end you, which could potentially hurt your dog.
- If you accelerate too fast, or brake too fast, your dog could get thrown against a hard surface.
- Someone can easily take your dog while stopped.

YOUR PARTICIPATION IS MAKING A DIFFERENCE!

Curbside Collection Program Results (July 2022 to June 2023)

Garbage (Mixed Waste)
Collected (482T)

56%

Organic Food Waste
Collected (234T)

27%

Recyclable Material
Collected (145T)

17%

Total Material Diverted from landfill 44% (379T)

Landfill cost savings resulting from curbside organic and recycling division options was \$39,154. Creston's Diversion Goal is 60%. Let's keep working towards additional savings!



Market Park

As you may have noticed, Market Park is paved! Market Park received fresh asphalt in early August, realizing the Farmers' Market area and food truck, RV, and general parking areas. Boulders were installed in Yaqaan Nukiy Amakis, the first step in creating the culturally significant gathering circle. Boulders were also installed along the south embankment of Yaqaan Nukiy Amakis to create the boulder terrace, showcasing the beautiful view of the Creston Valley. River rock has been distributed along the embankments next to the railway, and the required security fence is installed.

Market Park will soon be looking much greener. Thanks to Morris Flowers, we have a variety of trees and shrubs that are ready for planting, which will be happening soon. The Town has exciting plans for the remainder of the year and beyond. The following steps include art installation and the installation of tables, benches, and garbage receptacles.

We are thrilled to see this community cornerstone project come to life! To find out more about the history of the project visit letstalk.creston.ca.

Meet Kyle from Creston Fire Rescue's Work Experience Program



My name is Kyle Wood. I'm 26 years old and from Burlington, Ontario. I applied to the Creston Fire Rescue Work Experience Program and was fortunate to be selected for a 1-year contract with the department. I initially applied for the position to hopefully increase my chances of getting hired in a career department and gain valuable experience in daily truck checks, maintenance of the hall, daily cleaning, delivering public education presentations on fire safety, responding to emergency and non-emergency calls under the direction of the shift captain, and training. Living at the hall full-time is very beneficial as we have all the equipment and apparatus to train on and work with. Every week, the entire department meets to train as a team, maintaining and building the necessary skills. Fire Chief Riel has the program set up so that we get as much experience as possible to learn the job and become proficient at it.

Another benefit of being here in Creston is having the opportunity to chip in and help out in the community wherever possible: at work through the delivery of fire and life safety presentations, responding to calls to assist as part of a team, or volunteering in the community at the local fair or the bottle drive, for example. I've been here for almost 4 months now, and it has been an all-around great experience. I was drawn to a career in the fire service to pursue a challenging and rewarding career where no two days are alike. I enjoy working in a hands-on environment. In this position, I am able to work with tools and drive large trucks on a daily basis, and the work-life balance that a career in the fire service offers is great! Creston has lots to offer when it comes to the outdoors, when time permits. I golf at the local course, go tubing down some of the local rivers, or go for a hike at one of the many spots in this town. Thanks for having me, Chief Riel!

- continued from page 1 (Open Burning Bylaw)

The RDCK Landfill accepts yard and garden waste for free in April and October and user fees apply during the rest of the year.

We understand that these changes may require adjustments in how you manage yard waste and engage in open burning activities. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation as we work together to protect our community and preserve our environment.

- continued from page 1 (Yard Waste Pick-up)

- Leaves, twigs, grass cuttings, and organic garden waste must be placed in rigid, weather proof containers (e.g., garbage cans, cardboard boxes), something that can be quickly dumped and returned to the curbside.
- Paper garden bags are permitted.
- NO plastic garbage bags with yard waste will be accepted.
- We ask that you please keep all organic yard waste separate from household garbage when placing curbside for pick-up.
- Yard and garden waste may not be picked up if materials are not prepared as requested.

Please note:

There is a second curbside collection week scheduled for the week of November 14-17; however, the date may change as it is weather dependent. Visit creston.ca or our social media pages (Facebook and Instagram) for updates.

A reminder that yard waste is for organics only and not 'anything found in the yard'. For example: broken lawnmowers, paving stones and garden gnomes are not accepted.

The RDCK Landfill also takes yard waste for free in the months of April and October. Shrubs and tree branches must be less than 6" in diameter. Large loads (larger than 2.5m³ / one truck box) are at the discretion of the site attendant and may be turned away if the site is too full for the day or it looks like it is a commercial load. Plastic bags are NOT accepted at the organics station. Bags must be emptied and not left on location.