



Town of Creston Receives \$2,350,000 Grant

The Town of Creston has been granted a one-time commitment of \$2,350,000 from the Provincial Government for community infrastructure and amenity projects as part of the recently announced \$1-billion Growing Communities Fund. The announcement was made by Brittny Anderson, Nelson-Creston MLA, on March 3, 2023.

The \$1-billion Growing Communities Fund is aimed at funding local governments in British Columbia to help meet the demands of unprecedented population growth.

"This funding will greatly benefit Creston residents and taxpayers as we continue to invest in infrastructure and amenities to meet the needs of our growing population, while also serving our existing, new, and future residents," said Creston Mayor Arnold DeBoon. "We thank Premier David Eby and the Province of British Columbia for this significant investment in our community, and we will ensure that the funding is directed to where it is needed most."

The Growing Communities Fund will provide a one-time total of \$1-billion in grants to all municipalities in British Columbia, which can be used to address unique infrastructure and amenities demands, including recreation facilities, parks, and water delivery improvements.

The Town of Creston is committed to using this grant to benefit the community and ensure a prosperous future for its residents. More information will be announced on project funding as Council considers infrastructure and amenity priorities.

Modern Building Practices Workshop

Mark your calendars for June 8th and 9th! The Town of Creston is thrilled to present an incredible opportunity for Builders, Building Designers, Architects, Engineers, Building Officials, Energy Advisors, HVAC installers, and Exterior Applicators. This event will be open to anyone else interested in the latest building practices, subject to availability.

Our Modern Building Practices Workshop will bring together renowned educators and experts from BCIT, TECA, and other specialists to provide insight on experience that will revolutionize the way you think about construction.



This workshop is your chance to explore the latest advancements in energy-efficient systems, high-performance insulation, and advanced HVAC systems. Whether you're a seasoned builder, a curious architect, or an aspiring energy advisor, this workshop will provide you with the tools you need to excel in your field. You won't want to miss this opportunity to learn from the best in the business!

This workshop is a must-attend event for anyone looking to take their building knowledge to the next level. Pre-registration will be available soon, so keep an eye out for more details from the Town of Creston.

Backyard Hens



In October 2022, Council adopted a bylaw for a **Backyard Hen Pilot Program**. This Pilot Program is an exciting opportunity for residents to get involved in sustainable living, learn about raising backyard hens, and provide fresh eggs for their families. It will also determine how the Town of Creston approaches backyard hens and urban agriculture in the future.

The Program will run until October 31, 2024. For the duration of the Program, a maximum of 10 Town of Creston residents are permitted to keep up to 6 backyard hens. Applications are on a first-come, first-serve basis. Residents interested in participating in the Program should submit their application as soon as possible. **There are still five spaces available in the Program!**

Are you thinking of keeping backyard hens? Check out letstalk.creston.ca to see if you're eligible and if keeping hens is right for you!

Already participating in the Program? If you're getting ready to construct or purchase your coop, be sure to read the applicable regulations. Contact the Town for a coop inspection to ensure your coop meets regulations and is approved before obtaining chicks.

Contact natasha.ewashen@creston.ca for more information.

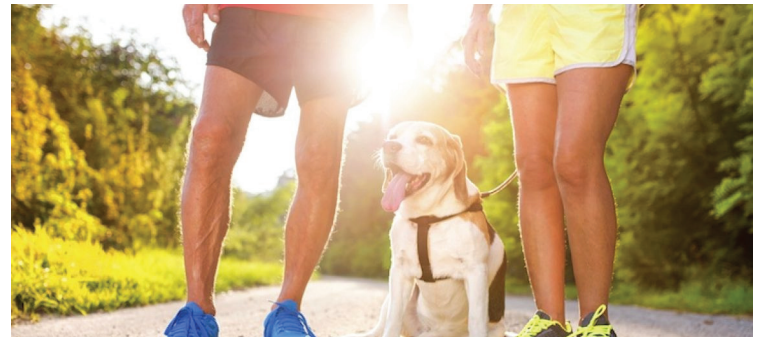
From the Desk of Bylaw Services



If you're a pet owner, it's important to be aware that allowing your animals to roam freely outside of your property can have consequences. Within the Town of Creston limits, dogs and cats that are not restrained by a leash or contained within their owner's premises are considered "running at large" and can face impoundment or other penalties.

To ensure the safety and security of your pet, it's important to obtain the necessary licensing and identification tags at the Town of Creston (license your pet before March 31st to avoid late fees). The Town of Creston pays P.A.W.S. an annual fee with the proceeds from pet licenses, which helps reunite you with your animal if they happen to escape from your yard.

For more information about animal care and owner responsibility, visit creston.ca and search for Bylaw No. 1826.



An Important Note About Curbside Collection

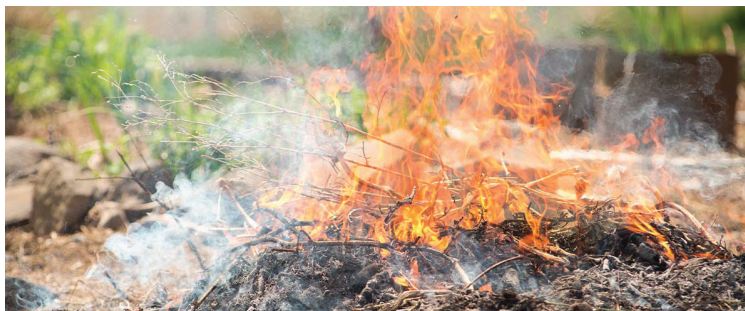


The "Kitchen Catcher" is used to store food waste in the kitchen before transferring it to the large "Green Cart". The "Green Cart" is then set at the curb for collection.

Please note: "Kitchen Catchers" are designed for indoor use only and are **NOT acceptable at the curb**. They may be easily damaged, break apart or be missed all together due to their small size.

Reminder: Biodegradable and compostable plastic bags are **NOT** accepted in the Curbside Compostable Collection Program. Instead, line your "kitchen catcher" with newspaper, a brown paper bag, flyers, or approved "Bag to Earth" compostable paper food waste bags.

Burning Yard Waste



If you live within Town of Creston limits, you are only permitted to burn yard waste during the months of April and October, and you need a permit from the Town of Creston. Permits can be purchased at Town Hall – Monday to Friday, 8:30am – 4:30pm.

Open Burn Permit Pricing:

- Residential leaves, foliage, weeds \$15.00
- Freestanding grass and brush \$50.00
- Large Piles \$85.00
- Land Clearing \$250.00

Please note: The Venting Index Interactive Map must be checked each day before burning. Creston area must be blue or green the day of the burn. No burning is permitted when the Venting Index is Red. Fires must be extinguished at the end of each day. The Venting Index can be found by Googling “venting index interactive map BC” or for a recorded message call 1-888-281-2992 (opt. #4 Castlegar).

Thank You FortisBC!

The Town of Creston would like to express their gratitude to FortisBC for their support in the construction of the Creston Emergency Services Building. With the \$60,200 rebate provided through the Commercial New Construction Performance Program, FortisBC has played a critical role in reducing our construction costs and securing a bright future with lower energy bills.

Their generosity has enabled us to invest in the latest energy-efficient technologies, elevating the comfort, and productivity of our building inhabitants while also promoting sustainability in our community.

We also extend a thank you for the thoughtful donation of the gas BBQ to our local firefighters. This act of kindness speaks volumes of FortisBC's dedication to supporting and uplifting the communities they serve.

We have a long-lasting and beneficial partnership with FortisBC and look forward to our continued collaboration!



Celebrating Earth Day on April 22, 2023

Earth Day is an annual event that promotes environmental protection and celebrates the natural beauty of our planet. This year, Creston has much to be proud of as we reflect on our successes including reducing water consumption and implementing sustainable waste management practices.

In 2022, water consumption was down 27% compared with water consumption in 2009.

The Town of Creston and community have made significant strides in reducing water consumption. This impressive achievement demonstrates our community's commitment to preserving precious natural resources and reducing our ecological footprint.

In total in 2022, we have diverted 46.3% of waste.

The Town of Creston's effective implementation of our Curbside Collection Program has led to significant progress in minimizing landfill waste. Through the program, we have diverted a substantial amount of waste from the landfill. 29.5% of organic food waste and 16.8% of recyclable materials were diverted in 2022, resulting in a remarkable reduction in our ecological footprint.

We would like to extend gratitude to the community for their participation and support in making this program a success. It is through collective efforts that we can continue to build a resilient and climate forward Creston.

As we celebrate Earth Day this year, we can take pride in the progress we have made in promoting sustainable practices and protecting our planet for future generations. However, there is still much work to be done, and we must continue to prioritize environmental protection in all aspects of our lives. Together, we can make a difference to ensure a healthy community and planet.

Camp Ignite - Kootenay Division

Calling all Grade 11 (Fall 2023) and Grade 12 girls! Camp Ignite - Kootenay Division is hosting a camp July 7, 8 & 9, 2023 in the beautiful Creston Valley.

Creston Valley Fire Departments are excited to open applications up for participants that want to experience a fun-filled weekend of skills and team building with women in the Fire Service. Join us in a safe, inclusive, environment to see if firefighting is a career for you. Deadline to apply is May 26, 2023.



Activities

We offer our campers the chance to explore the many aspects and specialties associated with firefighting.

They will get an opportunity to try auto-extrication, hazmat operations, technical rope rescue operations, and learn about the various tools and skills needed to be successful in the fire service.

Team Building

Camp Ignite places a huge emphasis on team building through fun team activities. Participants will practice communication, coordination and execution of tasks in a fun and creative way.

Our goal is to provide a safe and supportive environment that utilizes the unique strengths of each individual.

Accommodations & Travel

Parents or Guardians must provide accommodations while in Creston and travel to and from the Fire Hall. All inter-departmental travel to camp activities will be provided by camp personnel.

To find out more about Camp Ignite or to apply, visit creston.ca and search for "Camp Ignite". If you have any questions, feel free to email us at campignite@creston.ca.

Spring Yard & Garden Curbside Pick-up

The Town of Creston will be conducting the Spring Yard & Garden Curbside Pick-Up in April.

The collection week will be April 11 – 14, 2023. Yard waste is collected by the Town Crew and is scheduled for your regular pick-up 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 garbage 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.
- 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 waste when placing curbside for pick up.
- Yard and garden waste may not be picked up if materials are not prepared as requested.



Please note:

- The Creston 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 with yard waste are NOT accepted at the landfill.