

Thank you to everyone who took the time to provide us with feedback on the Town's 2021-2025 Strategic Plan.

THANK YOU

This feedback will be provided to Town Council for consideration as they conduct their first annual review.

Solar Garden



Mahone Bay is investing in solar energy! In partnership with the Alternative Resource Energy Authority (AREA), we are developing a Community Solar Garden right here in Town!

This 1.873 MWpdc project will produce approximately 16% of the energy for the Town and will be located at the current wastewater treatment plant at 918 Main Street. 73% of the funding for this project will be provided from federal and provincial grants.

The Community Solar Garden will give all residents an opportunity to benefit from solar power and contribute to reducing our community's carbon footprint, while also providing the Town with a cost effective, stable energy source. Construction on the Community Solar Garden is expected to begin later this spring. For additional information, please visit community-solar.ca.



SOLAR FOR EVERYONE

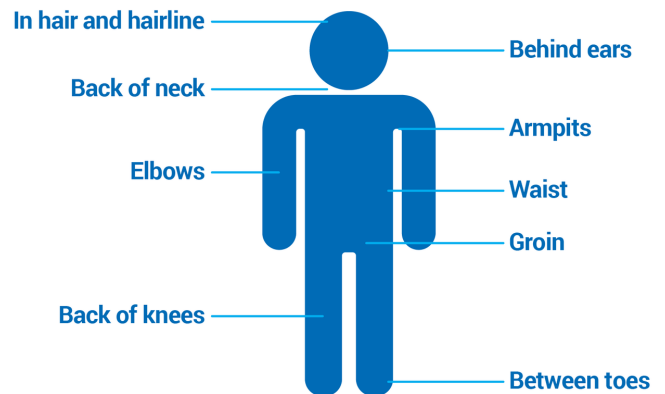
community-solar.ca

Tick Safety






Spring is in the air! We're all excited to get out and enjoy the spring weather but we need to remember that with the return of warm weather comes the return of ticks.

Nova Scotia has many types of ticks but the one of most concern for the spread of Lyme Disease is the blacklegged tick.

Blacklegged ticks are very small so it's important to be diligent about checking yourself and your pets whenever you've been spending time outdoors. Ticks like warm places on the body so be sure to check these areas



You can also reduce your risk by:

-  Wearing long pants and long sleeves in areas likely to have ticks
-  Wear light coloured clothing (it's easier to see ticks)
-  Wear enclosed shoes and tuck your pants into your socks
-  Walk on well-travelled paths, avoiding long grass and vegetation
-  Apply insect repellents containing Deet or Icaridin to exposed skin and clothes

Message From the Mayor

Mahone Bay Town Council needs you!

The Municipal Government Act requires that Councillors be aware of the issues in their town and then to vote on an issue to be of benefit to the town in general. Councillors need information to support that level of awareness on the issues and on the perspectives of the citizens on the issue. This is where your Council needs your help.

We have citizen input on Council committees, and we value their input in making recommendations to Council. We have committees that deal with any number of topics and all the activity is invaluable to Council in helping the members to understand the issues along with concerns that citizens may have on a particular topic.

Council has garnered commentary from twelve citizens or groups on the strategic plan for 2021 to 2025. Responses from the citizens on the strategic plan will help hone our operational plans to achieve the goals we have established. And they will ultimately impact the budget and the tax rates and the level of service the town is able to provide.

Council may not always make decisions that appeal to every citizen, but everyone's input helps Council in honing their awareness on a topic and assists Council in determining the best action for the town as a whole. Speak with a member of Council. Let them know what is on your mind. I am available to meet with you at your convenience on any town issue you may wish to discuss. You can reach me at 902-521-5650. Thank you.


David W. Devenne
Mayor

EV Chargers are Here!

Have you seen the Town's new electric vehicle chargers? Eight new level two chargers have been installed at Town Hall, Clairmont St, Main St, the Mahone Bay Centre, the Mahone Bay Civic Marina and the new Firehall! These electric vehicle chargers were installed as part of the Pan Maritime Provinces Municipal EV Charging Stations Initiative, with the goal of increasing electric vehicle charger access throughout the Maritimes. Since the transportation sector is the second highest source of emissions in Mahone Bay, installing electric vehicle chargers is an important step in reducing our emissions. Charging your electric vehicle in Town will truly allow you to reduce your carbon footprint, since our energy is already 84% non-emitting!



Our chargers will provide up to 30 km of range per hour of charging and will charge your vehicle 5 times faster than a standard home charger! They feature a universally compatible J1772 connector. There is a charge of \$1.50/hr to charge at these stations, which can easily be accessed using the FLO mobile application or FLO access card.

Check out the Town of Mahone Bay website for more information on the chargers and how to use them!

Flower Baskets

The folks at the Mahone Bay Tourism and Chamber of Commerce are preparing a plan for flower baskets on Main Street - stay tuned for more information on how you can sponsor a basket!



Please ensure that staff have safe access to read and/or maintain your water and electric meters.

Municipal Boundary Review



The Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board (NSUARB) is required by the Municipal Government Act to conduct reviews of the number and boundaries of municipal polling districts and the number of councillors every eight years. Council will have to make a submission to the NSUARB, stating what Council composition should look like in the future, specifically:

Should there be polling districts?

Should Mahone Bay voters continue to elect people on a ballot with names from any part of town (like we do now) or should the town be divided into polling districts so that voters choose from candidates in a specific part of town?

Should Mahone Bay Town Council be made up of 4 Councillors + a mayor OR 6 Councillors + a mayor?

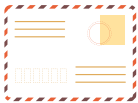
Watch your mailbox for a mailer that describes what Councillors do, and keep an eye on the special Municipal Boundary Review page on the Town's website.

What do you think? Should Mahone Bay have six councillors or four?

Have your say!



Look for the special new page on our website about the job that a Councillor does and who does what on the current Council



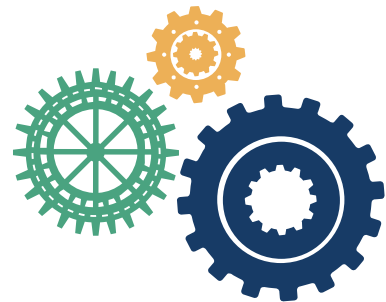
Watch for a notice via Canada Post with information about this process and how to share your thoughts with Council.



A survey is now available to get your opinion:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PKB375F>



Join us on
Monday, May 16th at 7pm
at the new fire hall to discuss this issue



Then what happens?

- The Council will make their submission to the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board
- The Utility and Review Board will hold an independent Public Hearing in Mahone Bay before they make their decision
- The decision of the NSUARB will determine the make-up of Council at the next municipal election in 2024



Hi everyone,
My name is Finn and
I'm Mahone Bay's
2022 dog tag model.

I just wanted to take a minute to remind everyone to register their pups. Dogs need to be registered every year in Mahone Bay. But don't worry, registration is completely free! All you have to do is swing by Town Hall to pick up your tag, I've heard a rumour that if you bring your furry friend along they might get a treat! You can also call or email and the staff there will mail you your tag.

Thank you,
Finn

Dog Waste Stations

Have you seen the new dog waste stations around Town?

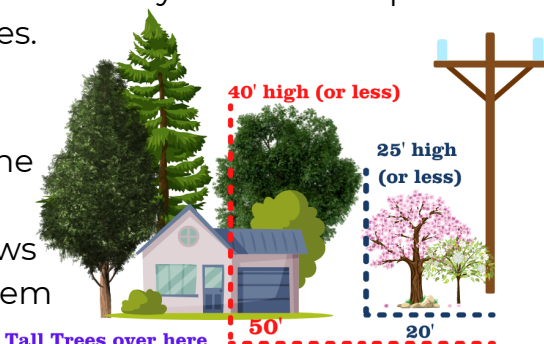
Mahone Bay now has 10 waste stations set up in parks and along walking paths.

These stations are equipped with garbage cans and even a dog waste bag dispenser. Please remember that it is the law in Mahone Bay to clean up after your pet.



Planting and Utility Lines

As you plan your garden and landscaping, keep in mind what you choose to plant near power lines. Shorter plantings prevent the need for Town crews to trim them later.



Compost Bin Liners

While compostable bags and biodegradable bags may be advertised as fully compostable, they are not. They get tangled in equipment and contaminate curing compost piles. This adds staff time and expense at our solid waste site.

Please consider using brown paper bags instead of "compostable" bags.

Bags tangled in grinder



Compostable bags visible in curing compost pile

Public Input Sessions



As part of the Town's Council Policy, 15 minutes have been added ahead of each council meeting. If you have a question or concern that you would like to voice to Council,

this is an excellent opportunity to do so. The link to the session is available 3 business days prior to the meeting, it can be found on the Town's Facebook page and website.

Upcoming Dates

April 5 - PAC Meeting
April 12 - Council Meeting
April 13 - HAC Meeting
April 15 - Office Closed
April 18 - Office Closed
April 21 - Asset Management Meeting
April 28 - PAB Meeting
April 28 - Council Meeting

