

Mayor's Newsletter

July 2022 Mahone Bay, NS

Community Solar Garden

Mahone Bay is proud of its commitment to mitigating climate change, and the Community Solar Garden is an important part of our sustainable future! The Town has set ambitious



climate targets, including replacing 100% of our grid electricity with green electricity by 2030. Electricity has been determined to be the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions in Mahone Bay, making transitioning to renewable energy the most effective thing we can do to reduce our carbon footprint. When complete, the Community Solar Garden will supply approximately 16% of the Town's energy. This will result in the same carbon dioxide reduction as planting 35,000 trees every year! Construction on this project is expected to begin this summer. Keep an eye on the Town's website and Facebook page for updates as this exciting project takes place!

Natural Assets Program

You'll likely see this guy around town this summer. This is Jacob, an intern working on our Natural Assets Mapping Program.



Currently Jacob is working on mapping all of the stones in Park Cemetery. Once that project is complete he will

begin mapping all of Mahone Bay's Natural Assets, including Town-owned trees, wetlands, etc.

Water System Upgrade

Our water system upgrade project is well underway and we will see the first water shut-off on



Tuesday July 12th at 10pm until Wednesday, July 13th at 6am.

This is part of our ongoing upgrade to our 1940s era water lines.

We anticipate additional overnight water shut-downs in the near future. We will provide updated information once we receive shipments of equipment that have been delayed. We will share the information about future interruptions as soon as we are able to do so.

Living Shoreline



Work on the Living Shoreline Pilot project is now in full swing! So far, the construction has focused on creating rock sills in the intertidal area and regrading the shoreline bank. This will help slow down and disperse the force of the waves before they hit the shoreline. In July we plan to wrap up all work with heavy machinery and the work will shift focus to planting native plants to create a tidal wetland and vegetated bank. Coastal Action will be hosting community planting days in late July. Keep an eye out to learn more about how you can get involved and help with planting!

Message from the Mayor

As our summer kicks into high gear, so do activities in town and the participation of your Council. The Council agenda is published 3 days before the regularly scheduled Council meeting.

All members of Town Council strive to make decisions and take actions that serve the greatest good in town. Some individuals may not agree with particular decisions, and a decision may not be one that an individual counsellor might choose to support if they were pursuing their own personal interests. Councillors prepare diligently to make informed decisions that are in the best interest of the town at large and any decision must withstand the scrutiny of federal/provincial legislation. These other levels of governance further impact how council business is conducted.

Traditionally Mahone Bay Council would be fortunate to have two or three citizens attend a council meeting in person, but many more people watch the livestream on YouTube. The video allows the community to remain engaged while providing health protection to members of Council as well as to the citizens. Those citizens who watch the council meeting can ask a question on any topic discussed which will be answered once the meeting is concluded.

Citizens have an opportunity to review the meeting on YouTube and then direct questions to town hall staff for clarification. Your Council remains committed to openness, honesty, and transparency in conducting the business of your town. They remain accountable to the electorate. If you would like to arrange to meet with me and chat.

call 902 521 5650. Thank you.

Mahone Bay Pool It's official! The

Mahone Bay Pool is

open for the summer. To learn about upcoming events and classes, hours of operation or to purchase a membership visit mahonebaypool.com

Bayview Cemetery



We're working on some big improvements at Bayview Cemetery this summer. In June some dead trees were taken down in preparation

for the installation of a new picket fence. The picket fence will extend up Clearland Road replacing the chain link. In the Spring it will be painted white. This change will return the cemetery fence back to it's original design.

EV Chargers & Tickets



The Electrical Vehicle charger parking spots around town are only for EV's and only to be used when they are charging.

Non-EV's or EV's that are not charging are in violation and subject to parking fines.



Numbers to know

If you have an emergency, call 911.

If you see a situation in which life and/or property are at risk, call the RCMP at 902-634-8674 (the

number goes to dispatch after office hours)



If you have a public works emergency or experience an interruption of power/water/sewer after office hours, call 902-543-3251

Electric Vehicles and Home

Charging

The Climate and Energy team has developed a short survey to gather information regarding – electric vehicles (EVs)



and home charging in Mahone Bay. The goal is to determine the number of EVs in town and gain insight into how they interact with our electricity grid. As well as to better understand residents' decisions around purchasing an EV.

Having effective and efficient charging infrastructure is an important factor when pursuing a pathway toward achieving the Town's climate and sustainability goals.

To complete the survey go to https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FQ2RHG2 or check out the projects page of the Town's website to find the link.

Free Wood Give-away!



On Tuesday, July 12th and Wednesday, July 13th from 9am to 6pm, wood from clearing the site of the community solar garden will be

available to the public free of charge. The wood is currently stacked in approximately 6 to 8-foot lengths and while there will be a contractor on site to assist with cutting to a manageable length, anyone who enters the site to collect wood does so at their own risk.

Wood is available on a first-come, first-served basis and is being offered free of charge as an additional benefit to the community. Pick-up is at 918 Main Street only in the times noted.

Municipal Boundary Review

Have you read the information on the Town's website about the Municipal Boundary Review? The Municipal Boundary Review is a process conducted by the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board.



The Municipal Boundary Review examines the appropriateness of the size of Council as well as parity of voting power. The two questions of the review for Mahone Bay are:

- what is the preferred size of Council?
- should Mahone Bay create polling districts or continue to elect members of Council atlarge?

Share your thoughts!



A public meeting
will be scheduled in the
near future at the new
Firehall. Watch for more
information on this
meeting in your post office

box as well as on the Town's other communication platforms.



Look for the special new page on our website about the Municipal Boundary Review Process and the job of a Councillor



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



Please take the time to review the information on our website and send us your comments to be a part of the consideration of this decision.

Cemetery By-law Amendment

On June 14, 2022 Mahone Bay Town Council gave first reading to the amended Cemetery By-law.

Amendments to the By-law include changes in wording to align the By-law with current legislation as well as housekeeping amendments. The intent of the offences within the By-law remain unchanged.

A public hearing will be held on July 28, 2022 at 6:30pm to receive submissions from the public on the proposed by-law. If you would like to make a submission, please contact Town Hall staff by phone or email.

The by-law will be considered for 2nd reading and adoption at a meeting of Town Council on July 28, 2022, immediately following the public hearing.

Copies of the by-law are available for viewing on the Town of Mahone Bay website, www.townofmahonebay.ca.

Heartland Tour 2022



The Heartland Tour cycling event is coming back through Town! On July 14th a few hundred

cyclists will visit our Town for this annual cycling event. Registration and the start of the ride will be at the St. James parking lot and green space by the comfort station on Edgewater Street. Cyclists will be in town from early in the morning to mid afternoon.

What to Expect

9:00am - event registration

9:30am - riders arrive from Bridgewater via Main Street

10:00am - 2:00pm - Heartland Tour registration site on Edgewater Street is a rest stop for road cyclists and the start and stop for trail riders using the Bay to Bay trail.

Planting and Utlity Lines

We love to see home owners planting new trees and bushes on their properties!



Please keep in mind what you choose to plant near power lines. Shorter plantings prevent the need for Town crews to trim them later.

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. As per the Town Council policy which can be found on the Town website, participants will be asked to state their place of residence.

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

July 12 - Council Meeting

July 13 - Heritage Advisory Committee Meeting

July 14 - 2022/23 Budget Meeting

July 21 - Asset Management Committee Meeting

July 21 - Audit & Finance Committee Meeting

July 22 - 2022/23 Budget Meeting

July 25 - Policy & Strategy Committee Meeting

July 28 - Police Advisory Board Meeting

July 28 - Public Hearing: Cemetery By-law

July 28 - Council Meeting