

SPRINKLING REGULATIONS ARE NOW ENFORCED:

Sprinkling shall be restricted to the following days and times:
 "EVEN" numbered civic addresses may sprinkle on "even" numbered days (02,04,06,etc)
 "ODD" numbered civic addresses may sprinkle on "odd" numbered days (01,03,05,etc)

MANUAL SPRINKLERS
 From 7:00 am until 9:00 am And
 From 7:00 pm until 9:00 pm

AUTOMATIC TIMED UNDERGROUND SPRINKLERS
 EITHER From Midnight until 4:00 am
 OR From 7:00 am until 9:00 am
 AND From 7:00 pm until 9:00 pm
 BUT NOT BOTH

On the 31st day of any month:
MANUAL SPRINKLERS:
 "EVEN" numbered civic addresses may
 sprinkle in the mornings from:
 From 7:00 am until 9:00 am
 And "ODD" numbered civic addresses may
 sprinkle in the evening from:
 From 7:00 pm until 9:00 pm

On the 31st day of any month:
AUTOMATIC TIMED UNDERGROUND SPRINKLERS:
 EITHER From Midnight until 4:00 AM OR
 "EVEN" numbered civic addresses may sprinkle in the
 mornings from: 7:00AM to 9:00AM
 "ODD" numbered civic addresses may sprinkle in the
 evening from: 7:00PM to 9:00 PM
 BUT NOT BOTH

City Parks & Cemetery will adhere to the same
 numbers of hours as residential sprinkling.

Flower, vegetable gardens and newly planted
 lawns & landscapes may be hand watered at
any time using a hand held nozzle.
ie.No manual sprinklers.

**FOR NEW PLANTED LAWNS
 AND LANDSCAPES FIRST MONTH ONLY**
 Newly planted lawns & landscapes may be sprinkled
 twice a day everyday from 7:00 AM - 9:00 AM &
 7:00 PM-9:00 PM for the FIRST MONTH using either
 manual sprinklers or automatic timed underground
 sprinklers.
 Automatic timed systems can be used to water up to 5
 minutes per zone at a time, with total watering time NOT
 to exceed 4 hours. Newly planted lawns and landscapes
 may be hand watered using a hand held nozzle at any
 time i.e. No manual sprinklers

The City has authority to shut water off at the
 property line to those residents refusing to
 comply with sprinkling regulations.
 The first offense will result in a warning letter.
 The second offense will result in your water
 being shut off.
 A reconnection fee of \$50.00 will be required
 before your water is reconnected.

COMPOSTABLE YARD & GARDEN WASTE COLLECTION FOR 2009

HOW MUCH & TYPE OF CONTAINER
 Three cans or bags or bundles. It can be
 any combination as long as it is a volume
 equal to three cans per month. Cans to
 be set out without the lid. If plastic bags
 are used, they must be clear & you must
 be able to see what is inside the bag.
 Waste will be picked up if it is in a regu-
 lar garbage can (no lid), in a clear plastic
 bag, (or in the case of tree prunings)
 bundled.

**ACCEPTABLE YARD & GARDEN
 WASTE**

Grass, lawn & hedge clippings, grass
 sod, flowers, weeds, leaves, vegetables,
 stalks, shrubs and tree branches less
 than three inches in diameter. Tree
 prunings must be three inches in
 diameter or less and three feet long
 tied in bundles not exceeding the
 equivalent of a garbage can.

SCHEDULE FROM JUNE-NOVEMBER
 North Side of Highway 3 between
 Riverside Drive and North Fork Road
 (Current Wednesday garbage pick
 up)
**June 22, July 20, August 17, Sept
 14, Oct 26, Nov 23**

Ruckle Addition and Valley Heights
 (Current Tuesday garbage pick up)
**June 23, July 21, Aug 18, Sept 15,
 Oct 27, Nov 24**

South Side of Highway 3 between
 Riverside Drive & Spraggett Road
 (Current Thursday pick-up)
**June 26, July 24, August 21, Sept
 18, Oct 30, Nov 27**

COMMUNITY TASK FORCE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Councillors Joy Davies and Christine
 Thompson are actively involved in en-
 gaging various sectors of the Commu-
 nity to inspire and create a Community
 based Economic Development. As part
 of the process, two guest speakers will
 be speaking on June 18th, 2009 com-
 mencing at 7.00pm at the Seniors Hall
 in the City Park. Guest Speakers are
 former Provincial Court Judge Jerry
 Paradis and Rielle Capler who has
 Masters Degree in health administra-
 tion. The topic of the discussion at the
 forum is medicinal cannabis.



CITY OF GRAND FORKS

SUMMER 2009

INFORMATION NEWSLETTER

PROPERTY TAX INFORMATION

The City sends out one consolidated
 property tax notice on behalf of the
 following local governments and
 agencies.

City of Grand Forks: Municipal
 works and services plus the parcel
 tax excluding water, sewer and gar-
 bage. The electrical credit is applied
 against the municipal tax only. This is
 the only amount the City retains and
 is accountable directly to the taxpay-
 ers of the City of Grand Forks.

**Regional District of Kootenay
 Boundary (RDKB):** Governance,
 planning, animal control, building in-
 spection, economic development,
 waste disposal, recycling, arena,
 aquatic centre, library and curling rink.
 This is a joint service with municipali-
 ties and electoral areas of RDKB.
 Arena and aquatic centre is a joint
 service with Electoral Area D and
 Grand Forks. Curling Rink and Library
 is a joint service with Electoral Areas
 C, D and Grand Forks.

School District: School tax is as-
 sessed by the Province of BC. partly
 offset by the Provincial Home Owner
 Grant. Any unused home owner grant
 is applied against the municipal tax

Policing: Assessed by the Province
 for providing RCMP contracted police
 service in the City of Grand Forks,
 Electoral Area C and D of RDKB.

Hospital: Hospital tax covers the en-
 tire West Kootenay to provide capital
 funding for buildings and equipment
 up to 40% cost sharing with the Prov-
 ince of BC for all hospitals and Interior
 Health managed facilities in the re-
 gion.

BC Assessment Authority: The tax

is levied to provide assessment ser-
 vice to all local governments in the
 Province.

Municipal Finance Authority: This
 tax is levied to provide all locals gov-
 ernments in BC financing of projects
 for water, sewer, roads, transit, equip-
 ment and buildings.

PROPERTY TAX NOTICES

2009 Property tax notices and Home
 Owner Grant applications have been
 mailed out to owners of properties
 within City boundaries at the end of
 May 2009. Property owners are re-
 minded that the due date for 2009
 property taxes is July 2, 2009. All
 balances owing after close of busi-
 ness on July 2, 2009 will be subject to
 a 10% penalty, as required by the BC
 Local Government Act.

**PROVINCIAL HOME OWNER
 GRANT**

Individual resident homeowners are
 eligible for a Provincial Home Owner
 Grant which will reduce the taxes ow-
 ing on an owner occupied home. A
 Home Owner Grant application must
 be submitted for each taxation year
 regardless of whether tax payment
 arrangements have been made
 through the City, a bank or mortgage
 company or any other agency. Be
 sure to apply for your Home Owner
 Grant before the due date of July 2,
 2009 to avoid unnecessary penalty
 charges. Home Owner Grant appli-
 cations may be made in person at
 City Hall or on the City's website
www.city.grandforks.bc.ca in the
 Online Services section. Please be
 sure to provide all requested informa-

tion. You must have the folio num-
 ber of the property tax account and
 the access code which has been as-
 signed to your account in order to
 claim the Home Owner Grant or to
 make a payment on line. Both these
 numbers appear on the property tax
 notice mailed to the address on re-
 cord for the registered owner of the
 property.

PROPERTY TAX DISTRIBUTION

Property taxes and parcel taxes fund
 50% of non-utility municipal services.
 These include protective (fire and
 emergency), trans-portion (streets,
 roads, sidewalks and airport), ceme-
 tery, parks, playing fields and facilities
 main-tenance and general govern-
 ment and communications support
 functions. In 2008, residential prop-
 erties, formed 83% of assessments
 and funded 40% of the City's tax reve-
 nues (\$1,026,000). The remaining
 26% of the City's tax revenues came
 from business, light industry, farm,
 recreation and utility properties which
 make up 13.7% of the assessment.

It should be noted, that after home
 owner grant residuals and electrical
 dividends, the cash flow from home-
 owners was approximately \$700,000.
 Major Industrial formed 3.3% of as-
 sessments and funded 31.4% of the
 City's tax revenues (\$574,000).

In 2009, residential properties still
 form 83% of assessments, however,
 the Major Industry class which funded
 a significant ratio of City Tax Reve-
 nues, has shifted to 2.7 % of as-
 sessments. The Canpar closure
 has resulted in a permanent de-
 crease of tax revenues by
 \$200,000 annually. This repre-
 sents a drop in tax revenues of
 upwards of 10% and a drop in Ma-
 jor Industrial tax revenues of 26%.

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We are on the Web!
www.city.grandforks.bc.ca

City of Grand Forks

COMPARATIVE PROPERTY TAX RATE SUMMARY FOR 2009

Property Class	Description	General Municipal		Regional Hospital		Regional District of Kootenay Boundary		School, Police & Other	
		2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009
(Dollars of tax per \$1,000 taxable assessed value)									
1	Residential	2.46530	2.7282	0.33550	.1985	1.67620	1.7761	2.8852	2.9564
2	Utility	34.00000	34.0207	1.17440	.6946	5.86660	6.2164	15.5986	15.9168
4	Major Industry	50.59440	46.5431	1.14080	.6749	5.69890	6.0388	10.6723	8.3905
5	Light Industry	11.51500	11.5130	1.14080	.6749	5.69890	6.0388	7.888	8.098
6	Business/Other	9.47430	9.4669	0.82200	.4863	4.10660	4.3515	7.6381	7.8478
8	Rec/Non-Profit	6.00000	6.0020	0.33550	.1985	1.67620	1.7761	3.9244	4.0275
9	Farm	6.00000	6.0020	0.33550	.1985	1.67620	1.7761	7.1244	7.2275

TAX DEFERMENT PROGRAMS

1. The existing property tax deferral:

Eligible homeowners are reminded of the Provincial Property Tax Deferral program that allows homeowners who are disabled or over 55 and have 25% equity in their homes to defer their property

taxes. **2. Temporary property tax deferral:** *Are you aware of the Temporary property tax deferral program that the B.C. government has created in 2008?* This new program will allow eligible homeowners facing financial hardship, and who have at least 15% equity in their homes, to defer their 2009 and 2010

property taxes. The B.C. government will provide details for applying and eligibility before tax notices are issued. For more information on these programs, please pick up a circular at City or visit the Provincial Government website http://www.sbr.gov.bc.ca/individuals/Property_Taxes/Property_Tax_Deferral/ptd.htm

GRANTS RECEIVED FROM THE PROVINCE AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENTS

In the last two fiscal years 2007/2009 ending March 31, 2009, the City received these grants for projects and services. The Federal and Provincial governments provide two types of grants: Unconditional Grant: must be applied against a project subject to the terms of the application and is used towards reduction in property taxes. Conditional Grant: must be applied against a project subject to the terms of the application and is used towards reduction in property taxes.

1. Central Avenue Paving—Hwy #3 & GF Rural	\$2,600,000—Completed 2008	12. Emergency Plan	\$21,000—On Hold
2. Sewer Lift Station	\$1,254,000—Under AAP July 8th, 2009	13. Victim Assistance	\$90,000—Utilized 2008-09
3. Flood Protection Granby River	\$548,000—Completed in 2008	14. Air Quality & Operations	\$115,000—On-going—Done in 2008-09
4. Towns for Tomorrow	\$400,000— Completed in 2008	15. SIDIT: Art Gallery/Museum	\$75,000—Completed
5. Cycling Network: CCIP	\$250,000—Completed in 2008	16. Trees for Tomorrow	\$43,000—Fall 2009
6. LocoMotion Matching Funds	\$712,000—Outstanding—Requires 50%	17. Wood-Stove Exchange	\$45,000—On-going
7. Forestry Workers Job Opportunities-Granby River Trail	\$250,000—Underway—Granby River	18. Youth Alliance Climate Change	\$40,000—On-going
8. Small Communities Grant towards property tax reduction	\$1,500,000—Utilized General Funds	19. Green City	\$25,000—Completed 2008
9. Sustainable Plan	\$93,300—Completed 2008	20. Transition Plan Study Grant	\$45,000—Completed 2008-09
10. Water Reservoir Upgrade	\$172,000—Completed 2007-08	21. Fibre Network-WD Federal & Provincial Required	\$532,000—On hold matching funds
11. Water & Sewer Planning	\$20,000—Infrastructure Plan	TOTAL FUNDING APPROVED FOR PROJECTS & OPERATIONS	\$8,830,300.

ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICE

The City and the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary are in discussion on the purchase and lease of the Donaldson Drive Property from the SPCA. The animal control service is funded by the City of Grand Forks, Electoral Areas "C" and "D" and the City of Greenwood. The annual property taxation limit on the animal control service is \$225,000 per year. SPCA is no longer the contractor. The City and the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary are looking for either a Non-Profit Society or an enterprise willing to enter into a long-term service delivery contract at the Donaldson Drive Property. Volunteers will also be needed to provide assistance depending upon the selection of a successful service provider at this location.

SUMMER SCHEDULE OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

The July 20th and August 17th, 2009 meetings of Council are subject to cancellation. The notice of cancellation will be before Council on June 18th, 2009. As the City is reducing management staff time worked to balance funds and staff vacations, these two meetings are recommended for cancellation. Council meetings require support staff and substantial preparation before meetings take place.

CROSS CONNECTIONS

INTRODUCTION

The majority of sprinkler irrigation systems in the Province of British Columbia are connected to a potable (safe for drinking) water supply. This potable water supply could consist of a city water main, a well, or any other source of drinking water supplied by your local water purveyor. The connection of a sprinkler irrigation system with its maze of pipes, valves, and sprinkler heads to a potable water supply is called a Cross Connection.

Herbicides, pesticides, fertilizers, or animal feces' may collect in cesspools of water around the sprinkler heads creating a potential for the contaminants to be drawn back through the sprinkler irrigation system. This flow of contaminates (by means of Backflow or Backsiphonage) into the potable water supply line. without an approved means of cross connection control, will result in contamination of the potable water supply.

WHAT IS POTABLE WATER?

Potable water is water, which is safe for human consumption, free from harmful or objectionable materials, as described by the health authority.

WHAT IS CROSS CONNECTION?

A cross connection is any actual or potential physical connection between a

potable water line and any pipe, vessel, or machine containing a non-potable fluid or has the possibility of containing a non-potable fluid, such that it is possible for the non-potable fluid to enter the water system by backflow. A cross connection could be any physical arrangement whereby a potable water supply is connected directly or indirectly, with any non-potable or unapproved water supply system, sewer, drain, conduit, pool, storage reservoir, plumbing fixture, or any other device which contains, or may contain, contaminated water, liquid, gases, sewage, or other waste, of unknown or unsafe quality which may be capable of imparting contamination to the potable water supply as a result of backflow.

WHAT IS BACKFLOW?

Backflow is the flow of water or other liquids, gases or solids from any source back into the customer's plumbing system or the water purveyor's water distribution system.

WHAT IS BACKSIPHONAGE?

Backsiphonage is backflow due to a negative or reduced pressure within the purveyor's potable water supply.

WHY DO I NEED CROSS

CONNECTION CONTROL ON MY

SPRINKLER IRRIGATION SYSTEM?

Everyone likes to feel that the potable

water supply is safe and under control at all times. Unfortunately, this is not always true, and precautions are **required to ensure the health and safety of all British Columbians.** It is a very real and constant danger that our potable water supply could become contaminated by something harmful to our health. As a result, minor skin irritation, serious health effects, or in some cases death may occur. For this reason, backflow preventers shall be selected, installed, maintained and field tested in conformance with CSA B64.10.

It is up to your local water purveyor to specify which type of backflow preventer to use. There are now many regions throughout B.C. using CSA as the approval organization. A Backflow Prevention Device (non testable) or Assembly (testable) are the most common.

Have your IIABC Certified Irrigation Contractor obtain all necessary permits and inspections on Your Sprinkler Irrigation Cross Connection as required. Please do your part to ensure that everyone can enjoy the benefits of safe drinking water and ensure the health and safety of everyone in British Columbia.

GRAND FORKS FIRE/RESCUE

Smoke Alarm Testing, Maintenance and Replacement Tips

- Smoke alarms should be maintained through regular testing, cleaning and replacement
- Smoke alarms should be tested at least once a month by pushing the test button and listening for the alarm
- For battery operated smoke alarms, replace batteries at least once a year. Batteries should also be replaced when the smoke alarm makes a chirping sound
- Smoke alarms should be cleaned regularly, at least once every six months, by gently vacuuming the exterior.
- Smoke alarms should be replaced at least every ten years.

QUALITY OF DRINKING WATER

Under the BC Drinking Water Protection Regulations Schedule A & B, the City provides a weekly water sampling to an accredited sampling laboratory approved by Interior Health Authority. Water Quality Standards for potable water are as follows: no detectable fecal coliform bacterial per 100ml, no detectable E-Coli per 100ml; Total Coliform bacteria: (a) 1 sample in a 30 day period-no detectable total coliform bacteria per 100ml; (b) more than 1 sample in a 30 day period-at least 90% of samples have no detectable total coliform bacteria per 100ml & no sample has more than 10 total coliform bacteria per 100ml. Frequency of Monitoring Samples for water system serving a population of under 5,000: 4 samples required. Chemical analysis of water is done once a year. A complete sampling of locations, results & chemical composition of water is posted on the City's website.

GOLDEN HEIGHTS PROPERTY PURCHASE

The City is not proceeding with the purchase of the Property. Council received public comments and input at the two meetings in May. There was an overwhelming opposition to the purchase consideration.