

The Village of
Midway
MUNICIPAL NEWSLETTER

www.midwaybc.ca/ | midwaybc@shaw.ca | ph. 250-449-2222 | fx. 250-449-2258

Next Council Meeting

Tuesday, April 6, 2021

Monday, April 19, 2021

Agendas close at noon

If you would like to appear as a delegation, or have an item added to the agenda, please contact the Village office prior to noon on the following dates for the upcoming meetings:

Thursday, April 1, 2021

Thursday, April 15, 2021

Contact the Council

Mayor Fromme:
mfvillage@shaw.ca or
250-449-1978

ICBC & Motor Vehicles

The Village of Midway Office offers all of your ICBC Autoplan and Drivers Services needs.

Kettle River Museum - Is currently looking for a General Manager. The anticipated start date is Mid-April. Applications will be accepted until April 5, 2021. Please contact Steve for more information: 250-449-2467

Midway Partnership Fund - Is now accepting Letters of Intent for 2021 grant funding. Information and forms can be picked up from the Village Office. Application cutoff is April 30, 2021.

Centralization of the Homeowner Grants - Effective 2021 all homeowner grant applications must be submitted directly to the BC Provincial Government using a secure online application. Please see the attached sheet for more information.

Utility Billing - We have issued the Water and Sewer Utility billing for 2021. Please remember, like property taxes, these are not due until July 2, 2021, after then a 10% penalty will be applied to any unpaid balance. Everyone is welcome to pay at their convenience to avoid having to pay both at the same time. Property Tax notices should be issued in May.

FireSmart Chipping Day - A huge thank you to the Midway Fire/Rescue Department for cleaning up the piles that the chipper was not able to get to. Many members of the department also came from the West Boundary to help the residents of Midway. THANK YOU!



Landfill Hours of Operation

- **Rock Creek** - Monday, Thursday, Saturday: 10 am - 3 pm Sunday: 10 am - 5 pm
- **Greenwood** - Tuesday, Friday, Saturday: 9 am - 4 pm

Battery Recycling

Drop off your dead household batteries in the red box at the Village Office parking lot.

New Midway Residents

Welcome to Midway! New residents are asked to contact the Village Office to ensure we have your correct mailing address on file. Please phone 250-449-2222.

Council Meeting Minutes

Are available on our website at: www.midwaybc.ca/minutes-newsletters/

If you do not have access to the online version, please contact the Village Office for a hard copy.

Statistics Canada - Looking for work? Statistics Canada is now hiring candidates to help conduct the 2021 Census in May. For more info, visit: census.gc.ca/jobs2021

Dog Tags - 2021 dog tags are now available at the Village Office. \$15 for spayed or neutered, or \$30 for un-spayed or un-neutered. Cash, cheque and debit are accepted.

Business Licences - The \$50 annual fee is due in January for businesses operating in the Village of Midway. Fees can be paid at the Village Office.

Fire Permits - Residents are reminded that burning permits are required for all burning within the Village and can be purchased for \$1 at the Village Office. This includes campfire, and open burn piles not exceeding one metre in height and one metre in width. No person shall ignite or cause to be ignited any household waste, refuse, rubbish, garbage, plastic, or styrofoam, industrial or commercial waste.

******Please note that there are Open Burn restrictions: there will be no open burning allowed during the peak hours of 11:00 am and 6:00 pm. This restriction applies to all new and previously issued burn permits.******

Any person who contravenes or violates any provision of this Bylaw could be liable to a minimum fine of \$500.00 and should the Midway Volunteer Fire Department/Emergency Responder be required, the Permittee shall be liable for the total cost of the fire call per Bylaw #451, Part 10, Sec. 51 (2) (3).



IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR 2021 TAXES

The Property Tax Due Date is July 2, 2021. Property Tax notices will be mailed in late May 2021. If you have not received your 2021 property tax notice by early June, please contact the Municipal Office at 250 449 2222 or email midwayreception@shaw.ca. Postmarks are not accepted as proof of payment. A 10% penalty will be added to current taxes that are not paid on or before Friday, July 2, 2021.

B.C.'s HOMEOWNER GRANT CENTRALIZATION

Effective 2021 all homeowner grant applications must be submitted directly to the B.C. provincial government through a secure online application.

When can B.C. homeowners apply?

As of February 16th, homeowners can apply for their current year or their retroactive homeowner grants online at www.gov.bc.ca/homeownergrant

If the homeowner would prefer to apply over the phone, they can call the contact centre toll free at 1-888-355-2700 to speak with an agent. The contact centre will begin taking applications over the phone as of February 16th.

Municipalities can no longer accept any homeowner grant applications

Where to go if you should have questions?

Starting immediately, homeowners can find this information about this change at www.gov.bc.ca/homeownergrant or they can call toll free: 1-888-355-2700 to speak with an agent.

- The Province will start to accept current year and retroactive grants online starting February 16, 2021
- Their call centre and ServiceBC staff will also accept applications on February 16, 2021
- Note that while a homeowner can apply for their current year grant, the application will not be approved until taxes are levied in May; they will remain in a hold status
- Homeowners can subscribe to receive updates at www.gov.bc.ca/homeownergrant

Ready to apply?

The best time to apply is after you receive your property tax notice in the mail and before your property tax due date.

1. Wait to receive your property tax notice in the mail.
2. Keep your property tax notice on hand. It has important numbers you'll need to apply.
3. You can apply quickly and easily online
4. If you're unable to apply online, call the Province at 1-888-355-2700

By centralizing this program within B.C. government reports this will:

- Ensure homeowners receive the grant amount they are eligible for, such as the additional grant for seniors or persons with disability
- Automate the approval process for grants resulting in quicker application processing – this will help prevent homeowners from being penalized for late property tax payments.

PO Box 160, Midway BC, V0H 1M0 | 250.449.2222 | midwaybc@shaw.ca | www.midwaybc.ca

BC Transit - Health Connections Route.

70 Health Connections

Rock Creek	Midway	Greenwood	Grand Forks	Grand Forks	Greenwood	Midway	Rock Creek
T 8:30	8:50	9:10	10:00	T 1:00	1:35	1:55	2:23

T Trip only operates on Tuesdays.

Health Connections

Call to book these trips

1-855-993-3100

Health Connections is a transit service providing communities with accessible transportation options to access non-emergency medical appointments. Although medical appointments have priority, everyone is eligible to use this service if space is available. Call 1-855-993-3100 to book your trip. Visit bctransit.com for Health Connections schedules.



PRESS RELEASE

MIDWAY, BC, March 15, 2021 - UBCM GRANT BOLSTERS MIDWAY'S RESILIENCE TO WILDFIRE



PHOTO CAPTION - Tony Wright Contracting works to chip conifers trimmed and piled by Midway residents for the FireSmart Chipping Day event. Photos courtesy of Frontline Operations Group.

The FireSmart Community Chipping project held in Midway, BC this past weekend was an outstanding success. Midway Mayor Martin Fromme stated, "This was a great community event, and I had several residents say to me what a wonderful program it was."

The Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) granted resiliency funding to the Village of Midway in 2020 for a FireSmart project which included an educational mailout to residents and a FireSmart on private land work project such as a community-wide chipping day. The Village of Midway and Midway Fire & Rescue worked with a Local FireSmart Representative from Frontline Operations Groups to implement the wildfire resiliency project.

The one-day event was a surprising success. Residents received a FireSmart educational package and event announcement in the mail in advance of the project and they really came together to participate. The Project Manager, Brandy Maslowski said, "The best participation



I've had in the last 3 years on a chipping project is 32 homes. On Sunday, Midway had over 60 homes with piles ranging from 2 feet to 40 feet long. This is really a job well done!"

Midway residents signed up at the village office to participate and then worked hard following the FireSmart recommendations to clear flammable conifers from the 1.5 M zone around their homes and to trim trees out to 10M zone before the chipper and truck arrived on Sunday.

The crew from Tony Wright Contracting worked from dawn to dusk. They did an exceptional job. They were exhausted but completed 50 homes in a day including some piles that were over 20 feet long. The Midway community gardens was pleased to accept a massive pile of wood chips for use in the gardens. Since there were about 10 piles left over, Midway Fire & Rescue volunteers arranged to pick them up on Tuesday evening.

For Midway Fire Chief Michael Daloise wildfire resiliency is a priority. "Our goal is zero injury or home loss from wildfire, period. Resiliency starts within the first 10M surrounding your home. We had an opportunity to support the residents of Midway in removing flammable trees, branches and debris around their homes, and we jumped at the chance. Forest mitigation alone doesn't help if the homes are not FireSmart. This was a community resiliency project, and we are pleased at how the residents came together."

Residents of Midway can contact Midway Fire & Rescue anytime if they have questions or to book a FireSmart Home Assessment.

Residents all over BC can go to www.firesmartbc.ca to learn what they can do to keep their homes safe from wildfire. Small actions can make a big difference.

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Frontline Operations Group
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