

CAN WE FIND YOU IN AN EMERGENCY?

In an emergency, police, fire and rescue workers depend on house numbers to find you as quickly as possible. Finding your home – especially at night – can be challenging if address numbers are unreadable, hidden, have missing numbers and are not lit. This may delay emergency responders from getting to you as quickly as possible.

- Numbers must be visible from the street – at least 3.5 inches high
- Numbers should be placed on a contrasting background, with a reflective coating on the numbers
- Repair or replace aging address number placards
- Prune any bushes, trees or other growth covering house numbers
- Numbers should be placed on or beside the front door. If the door is not easily seen from the street, put the numbers on a post, fence or tree at the driveway entrance so they are clearly visible.



IF IT'S NOT TOILET PAPER – DON'T FLUSH IT!

In order to help prevent clogging pipes, please don't flush disposable wipes! The label may say "flushable" but disposable wipes are clogging our sewer lines. Other equipment such as pumps are also being damaged which can result in raw sewage overflows into homes, businesses and waterways.

The following items, even though they are labeled "flushable" or "disposable", should NOT be flushed down the toilet:

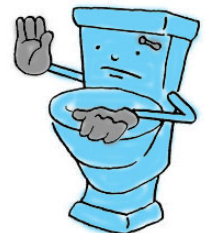
- Baby wipes
- Diaper pads
- Facial wipes
- Nursing pads
- Personal wipes
- Paper towel



These items do not disintegrate quickly enough in sewer systems causing clogs in sewer pipes and treatment plant machinery costing tax payers thousands of dollars in repairs and maintenance.

Other items that should NOT be flushed down the toilet or put down the sink include:

- Medications (Return to pharmacy)
- Fats, Oils, Grease and leftover food
- Band-aids and bandage wrappers
- Condoms
- Cotton balls, swabs and pads
- Dental floss and teeth whitening strips
- Diapers
- Hair
- Kitty litter
- Mini and maxi pads
- Tampons and applicators
- Paint and other chemicals (Return to Bings Creek)



Flushing these items down the toilet damages your household plumbing, your environment and the wastewater treatment system. If it isn't sewage or toilet paper, put it in the trash instead of the toilet.

WORKING SMOKE ALARMS SAVE LIVES

Every October, the Duncan Volunteer Fire Department participates in Fire Prevention Week, committing seven days to sharing fire prevention strategies and information with our community. Fire Prevention Week runs from October 5 – 11, 2014 and this year's theme is "Working Smoke Alarms Save Lives: Test Yours Every Month!"

Give your family a chance to survive in the event of a fire by installing smoke alarms. Smoke alarms are critical to home fire safety because they alert us to fire in its early stages. Even more importantly, they can alert us to a fire when we are most vulnerable - when we are asleep at night. According to the Office of the Fire Commissioner, the majority of home fire victims die in homes without a working smoke alarm because batteries were dead, disconnected, or missing.

Smoke alarms should be installed inside every bedroom, outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home, including the basement. Smoke alarms should be interconnected so when one sounds they all sound. Reposition smoke alarms away from kitchen and bathroom entrances if they are causing false alarms. Test your smoke alarms once a month and replace all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old. If you live in an apartment building, check with your manager before testing your smoke alarms as you may set off the system in the whole building and cause the fire department to be dispatched. These systems are usually checked by technicians trained to test them properly.

The presence of a working smoke alarm doubles your chances of surviving a fire. If you, or someone you know, have any questions about smoke alarms, contact the Duncan Volunteer Fire Department at (250) 746-5211.

2014 GENERAL LOCAL ELECTIONS

The 2014 General Local Elections take place on **Saturday, November 15, 2014** from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Duncan Fire Hall (468 Duncan Street, Duncan) where you can help elect one Mayor and six Council members for Duncan City Council. Since 1990, BC general local elections for mayors and councillors have been held every three years. Following the November 2014 election, the general local elections will be held on the third Saturday in October every four years; therefore, the next local election will be in October 2018.

Voting in an election is one of the most important things a citizen can do in their community and country. Voting strengthens our democracy. It gives each and every voter a voice in their local government, and it makes us a much stronger community. Voting can take as little as 10 minutes but unfortunately it's a right we sometimes ignore or take for granted.

We are working to make the local voting process as convenient and accessible as possible by offering the following:

- Two Advance Voting Opportunities on November 5 and November 12 from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at City Hall (200 Craig Street, Duncan)
- A Special Voting Opportunity on November 5 for residents, patients, or those who are employed at Cairnsmore Place, Sunridge Place, and the Duncan Kiwanis Village
- A Special Voting Opportunity on November 12 for residents, patients, or those who are employed at Sherwood House, Wedgwood House, and Duncan Manor.

You may vote in a BC local election as a resident elector if you:

1. are a Canadian citizen;
2. are 18 years of age or more on general voting day;
3. have lived in BC for at least 6 months before you register to vote (since May 13, 2014); and
4. have lived in the City of Duncan for 30 days or more before you register to vote (since October 15, 2014).

If you are interested in running for elected office you may pick up a nomination package at City Hall. Nomination papers must be filed with the Chief Election Officer between 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, September 30, 2014 and 4:00 p.m. on Friday, October 10, 2014.

For more information on running for office, voting opportunities, or to see if you are on the Voter's List, please contact Karen Robertson, Chief Election Officer or Tricia Mayea, Deputy Chief Election Officer, at 250- 746-6126 or by email at elections@duncan.ca.

WATER METERS

The City will soon begin installing water meters for those residents living outside of the City's boundaries and anticipate that installation to those residents living in the City of Duncan will begin in 2015. Duncan residents are encouraged to continue to conserve water and to check for leaks. Undetected leaks waste money and water, and often occur when component parts are worn and need replacing. The toilet is a common source of unnoticed leaks and such leaks can waste hundreds of litres of water each day.

What can you do to conserve water?

- Listen for leaks – if you hear the sound of running water, your toilet is leaking
- Add food colouring or dye to the toilet tank and wait for 20 minutes - if coloured water appears in the toilet bowl, a leak is present
- Check your washing machine and dishwasher for the Energy Star™ rating as these washers use between 35-50% less water and 50% less energy per load
- Install a flow restrictor or an aerator in your faucet to save up to 20L of water per day
- Change showerheads to low-flow showerheads and reduce consumption by 50%
- Replace your old toilet with a new high efficiency or dual flush toilet (Note: For the City's toilet rebate program please see the website at www.duncan.ca)
- Leave the grass clippings on the lawn after mowing as this reduces evaporation, promotes plant growth and controls weeds
- Install a rain barrel to collect free water from the roof when it rains to water your garden.

WHERE DOES YOUR WATER GO?



FREE WIFI

The City has recently granted Shaw the right to provide free WIFI access at the following City of Duncan properties: City Hall, City Square, Public Works, Valley Seniors Organization, the Fire Hall, the Margaret Moss Building, Arcadian Daycare and Centennial Park. These access points will also provide guest access to non-Shaw customers.