

# Maple Ridge This Month

## JUNE 2016

### INFORMED: Tax Time

#### Using Online Services Can Help You Avoid Any Line-Up

You should have received your 2016 Property Tax Notice in the mail. From the back of the envelope to the special insert inside, we are trying to give you tips on how to avoid waiting in line to claim your Home Owner Grant and pay your property taxes.

We created a new button on the home page at [mapleridge.ca](http://mapleridge.ca) called 'Property Taxes & Home Owner Grant' to help you get a direct link to the essential information to use our online



services to avoid any line-up. In fact, setting up a 'My Maple Ridge' account online will give you 24/7 access to your tax information and allow you to sign up for paperless tax notification as well as track your payment history. It's just one way to save time. Once you claim your Home Owner Grant you can pay the balance owing at most financial institutions either in person or by using your online or telephone banking.

You can drop off your Home Owner Grant and post-dated cheque at the secure drop box located at the west entrance of City Hall near the Economic Development Office as another way to avoid lining up. The box is cleared daily and will be emptied at midnight on Monday, July 4, 2016.

For those of you who prefer to make payments in person, our office is open late on Thursday evenings until 8:00 pm for the month of June. Take a few moments to read through the materials that came with your tax notice and learn how you can avoid any line-ups. The illustration for this article is 'Page 28' of the 2015 Citizens Report. This publication can be found online at [mapleridge.ca](http://mapleridge.ca) or in the lobby of City Hall. It's a great way to learn how your tax dollars are invested in your community.

### SPOTLIGHT ON: Sprinkling Regulations Now in Effect

#### Conserving Water Starts Now!

Effective Sunday, May 15, Stage One of Metro Vancouver's Water Shortage Response Plan came into effect. Last year we had a long hot summer with very little rainfall which resulted in the implementation of Stage Three water conservation regulations.

Your lawn only requires one inch of water per week to stay healthy. Most sprinklers can deliver this level of water in one hour. For example, based on the rainfall amounts last weekend you won't need to water your lawn until after this coming weekend. If you do water before that it's just a waste. Any particular piece of lawn covered by your sprinkler should only be watered for one hour, once a week. Overwatering is very common and it is not good for your lawn. It's also a waste of water.

Here are the specific regulations that are in effect immediately;

##### Residential Addresses:

Even-numbered addresses may sprinkle lawns from 4:00 - 9:00 am Monday, Wednesday and Saturday.

Odd-numbered addresses may sprinkle lawns from 4:00 - 9:00 am Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday.

##### Non- Residential Addresses:

Even-numbered addresses may sprinkle lawns from 1:00 - 6:00 am Monday and Wednesday.

Odd-numbered addresses may sprinkle lawns from 1:00 - 6:00 am Tuesday and Thursday

All non-residential addresses can also sprinkle from 4:00 - 9:00 am Friday.

Newly turfed or seeded lawns may be sprinkled more frequently, provided a permit is first obtained from the Engineering Department (with proof of seed/sod purchase). The cost of the permit is \$30.00 for a three week period and is renewable once.

If you are looking for more details of the Stage One Water Conservation Guidelines go to [mapleridge.ca](http://mapleridge.ca) and click on Hot Topics. This page is updated if the water restrictions elevate. Please do your part to conserve water this year.



### INFORMED: Construction

#### Our Top Tip to Avoid 'Road Rage.' Get in the Loop!

One of the road projects that has been most anticipated is the conversion of 128 Avenue into a four lane section of road from the current two lane alignment. This week work began on the section running from 216 Street to 224 Street.

The projected completion date for this section is November of this year. While the project is being staged to minimize the impact to commuters on this popular route, let's be realistic, there will be some delays during the construction.

In fact, we have a number of road works scheduled for this year and we want to make sure that you don't wake up late one morning, jump in the car to race to work only to find your usual route under construction.

For larger projects, our Engineering team put bright orange information signs and electronic reader boards up before the work starts warning you that there will be an impact to the regular flow of traffic. This is your warning to get through the site earlier than usual in the day or plan an alternate route

during the construction phase.

For smaller projects our Operations Centre sets the priorities based on emergency repairs and weather conditions. Some work can be done rain or shine, like a broken watermain or sewer line. Some repairs and small projects, especially paving and road patching projects, are best done in dry weather. Once the team has set the project list they post a road construction or closure alert on the City website at [mapleridge.ca](http://mapleridge.ca).

The best way to 'get in the loop' is to sign up for notifications by email or directly to your smartphone using the 'Notify Me' feature of the City website. It takes just a few minutes to sign up for the alerts that are important to you, and once you are in the loop the chances that our construction projects will ruin your commute should be zero.



Thanks for your patience as we complete these important projects and remember to follow the instructions of the flagging crews who will be out there keeping all the workers safe on the job sites.

### INFORMED: June 2016

#### Council Meeting Schedule

Mayor and Council encourage everyone to attend these important public meetings. It's your chance to see how public policy is debated and enacted.

##### Monday, June 6

10:00 am, Workshop - Blaney Room  
1:00 pm, Committee of the Whole - Council Chambers

##### Monday, June 13

10:00 am, Workshop - Blaney Room

##### Tuesday, June 14

7:00 pm, Council Meeting - Council Chambers

##### Tuesday, June 21

7:00 pm, Public Hearing

##### Tuesday, June 28

7:00 pm, Council Meeting - Council Chambers

##### Agendas & Minutes

Agendas for these meetings are posted online the Friday before the meeting date. Go to [mapleridge.ca](http://mapleridge.ca), click the link under Your Council on the home page.

##### Workshop at a Glance

Subscribe to the 'Workshop at a Glance' eNewsletter that provides a summary of issues discussed at Council Workshop meetings. Go to [mapleridge.ca](http://mapleridge.ca), click the link to 'Notify Me' and sign up today.

##### Council Meeting Videos

If you are unable to attend a Council Meeting, Public Hearing or Committee of the Whole meeting you can now watch these meetings on your computer 24/7. The entire unedited meetings are posted two to three days after the meeting. The video is indexed to the agenda package so that you can watch them in their entirety or click through by agenda item. Go to [mapleridge.ca](http://mapleridge.ca) and click on the video link at the centre of the home page. In addition, Council meetings broadcast on the internet via live streaming. For more information about the live stream go to the 'Council Meetings' page or connect via the Videos link right beside the 'newsroom' icon on the home page at [mapleridge.ca](http://mapleridge.ca).

#### Contact us at [enquiries@mapleridge.ca](mailto:enquiries@mapleridge.ca)

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