

# Maple Ridge This Month

## APRIL 2014

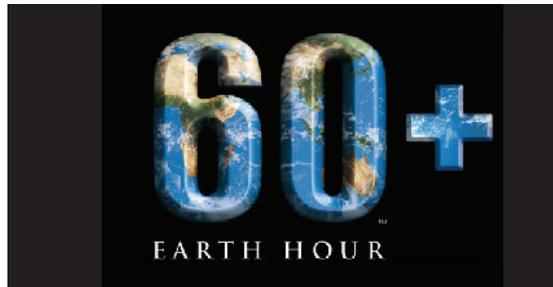
### ENGAGED: Earth Hour March 29, 2014 at 8:30 pm

#### What Will You Do To Make A Difference?

Earth Hour is the largest climate change movement for the planet in human history, spanning 7,000 cities, 152 countries with a digital reach of 200 million. Earth Hour is much, much more than a symbolic action of switching off lights for an hour; it's a continuous movement driving actions, big and small, that are changing the world we live in.

As part of Maple Ridge's commitment to reducing energy consumption and achieving carbon neutrality, we are participating in Earth Hour 2014 by turning off as many lights as possible in our corporate buildings. This year the Earth Hour message urges us to use our power to change a reality.

This event demonstrates that we can make a difference by doing something as simple as turning the lights off. The 2013 Earth Hour results showed that Maple Ridge saw a drop of 2.5% in the community electricity load, a 39% improvement over the 2012 results.



We encourage all residents to join millions of Canadians and participate in this worldwide event. Turn off your lights for one hour, Saturday, March 29, 2014 at 8:30 pm and together let's reduce energy consumption. There's great information on the overall campaign at [www.earthhour.org](http://www.earthhour.org) along with links to some very inspiring videos.

### ENGAGED: #MyHammond Photo Project

#### Capture Hammond Neighbourhood in Words and Photos

The Hammond Area Planning Process has launched and there's a new landing page on the Maple Ridge website called #MyHammond. In addition, we've created a special email address [myhammond@mapleridge.ca](mailto:myhammond@mapleridge.ca), which you can use if you have questions, comments and contributions to make to this exciting work.

The first phase of the project is called the Hammond Community Character Photo Project and seeks to connect citizens with the project and to complete important background work in exploring the history and character of the neighbourhood. To achieve this goal we are asking you to take photos that capture the character of the neighbourhood and then place these pictures on Facebook or Instagram with the hashtag #MyHammond, so that everyone will be able to search for them. In addition to the photos and hashtags, we are asking citizens to provide a brief one or two word description of what the photo symbolizes. Facebook photos are the easiest to search, but if you prefer Instagram, make sure that you follow the Maple Ridge Instagram page 'yourmapleridge' so we can see your masterpieces. You also have the option of emailing your photos and brief descriptions to the special project email.

Maple Ridge will hold an open house in early June, where these images and the descriptions will be displayed so that



all participants can get a sense of how their 'lens' on the community is similar or different than their neighbour's. In addition to displaying the photos, all of the one and two word descriptions will be used to create a 'word diagram' that will graphically reflect the importance of certain key words from the participants.

For more information about the Hammond Area Planning Process or the Community Character Photo Project please contact Lisa Zosiak at [myhammond@mapleridge.ca](mailto:myhammond@mapleridge.ca) or by calling 604-467-7383. Get snapping! We can't wait to see your photos.

### ENGAGED: Food Sustainability

#### Urban Food Forest Presentation Open To Public

We would like to invite you to a special presentation by Mark Lakeman, a national leader in the development of sustainable public places. He will talk about 'The Urban Food Forest.' The session will be held in Council Chambers on Wednesday, April 16 from 6:30 to 9:00 pm.

Mark has been instrumental in the development of dozens of participatory organizations and urban permaculture design projects across the United States and Canada. We look forward to hearing about how a project such as this could lead to a more sustainable community and potentially help address issues around food security.

In addition to Mark, we have Chris Zabek speaking about our agricultural land base. Chris will outline the results of an agricultural survey, which sent researchers out to record actual land uses throughout the community and across the region. We are also inviting community groups to display and share your local initiatives/projects related to Food Security and/or Sustainability with those in attendance. Please contact Dave Speers for further details via email [dspeers@mapleridge.ca](mailto:dspeers@mapleridge.ca) or by calling 604-467-7433 Ext #1.

If you'd like to be part of this presentation please RSVP to Pat Shiratti by calling 604-467-7342 or email [pshiratti@mapleridge.ca](mailto:pshiratti@mapleridge.ca) as seating is limited to the first 100 people.

### FEEDBACK

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

If you have a question about any of the content in this ad, or questions about any programs or services offered by the District of Maple Ridge, please send an email to [enquiries@mapleridge.ca](mailto:enquiries@mapleridge.ca) and one of our team members will respond to you.

### INFORMED

#### April 2014

##### 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, April 7

9:00 am, Workshop - Blaney Room

1:00 pm, Committee of the Whole - Council Chambers

##### Tuesday, April 8

6:00 pm, Public Hearing - Council Chambers

##### Monday, April 14

9:00 am, Workshop - Blaney Room

1:00 pm, Committee of the Whole - Council Chambers

##### Tuesday, April 16

6:00 pm, Public Hearing - Council Chambers

##### Tuesday, April 22

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.

##### Council This Week

Subscribe to the 'Council This Week' 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.

### INFORMED: Construction Season Begins



Maple Ridge recently launched an update to our website and one of the great new tools for citizens is the 'Notify Me' feature. At this time of year the weather starts to improve and our Engineering and Operations crews begin their work on maintenance

and new construction projects on our road, water, sewer and storm water systems.

This means that there are delays and detours on our roads during the construction period. Some projects, like the upcoming installation of streetlights along 122 Avenue will not cause too great a traffic delay. But a project like the installation of the traffic circle at Kanaka Way, which commences in April while the local students are on their break, will have a greater impact.

Click on the 'Notify Me' icon on the home page and provide either your email address or cell phone number and sign up for the Traffic Alerts so that you will know when our crews or our contractors are out there doing work. By planning an alternate route or scheduling your trips around the work schedule you will save time. Take a few moments to explore the Engineering department page and you will find a list of projects that are underway in the 'Neighbourhood Improvements' tab. There's lots of ways to get the information you need to avoid any construction delays in 2014!



11995 Haney Place, Maple Ridge BC V2X 6A9

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