Town Hall News June 2026

Protecting Our Water Resources

Mahone Bay town is fortunate to have a very high quality, dependable source of water from Oakland Lake. Water withdrawal to date in 2026 is 510,000 litres a day from the lake to our treatment facilities on the west edge of town.

As we remember, water supply was a challenge for many people last year in the drought Nova Scotia endured during the summer and fall. While our town water supply was never at risk of running out, some folks depending on wells were not so fortunate. While we cannot be sure that such a drought will recur it is our collective responsibility to do whatever we can to minimize any risk. To that end, your Town officials are working every day to minimize water losses through leakage. Leaks in recent history have accounted for 50% or more of the water withdrawn from Oakland Lake. This is in large part because much of our underground infrastructure is approaching 80 years old. The Edgewater Project replaced old piping and a planned project will replace all of the piping on West Main dependent on major external funding. Efforts to fix leaks and replace suspect piping have been ongoing and so far have resulted in a significant reduction in losses. That work continues. It should be noted that the several kilometers of piping that delivers the water to the town from Oakland Lake is also near 80 years old and will be replaced as soon as funds (in the millions) become available.

While it is true that for our purposes Oakland Lake holds plenty of water (one days withdraw amounts to about 1 millimetre of depth), it is important to recognize that keeping the lake full and overflowing is critical to the downstream ecosystem. To that end we are in a preliminary process of exploring rebuilding a dam that once existed at the outflow of Oakland Lake which would simultaneously slightly increase the depth of the lake while also allowing us to maintain a more regular volume of outflow. This would have the ancillary benefit of stabilizing the downstream wetlands and enhancing the overall environment.

As your town grows, these and other initiatives will ensure that we can all enjoy safe, secure water well into a vibrant future.

Councillor Kelly Wilson

Can we See Your Address?

Did you know that the Town of Mahone Bay has a Civic Address By-law which states that every property owner is responsible to post the civic number of the property on the same side of the road as the building with that number?

Civic numbers shall be on both sides of the sign and perpendicular to the street. The civic number shall be posted on a dedicated vertically mounted post, no further than 1 m (3') from the edge of the road, and between 1m and 1.5m from the road surface.

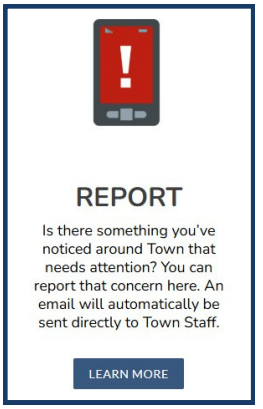
Blue and white civic address signs are available at Town Hall, give us a call or send an email to inquiries@townofmahonebay.ca to order yours.

Purple Week is Back!

June marks the beginning of purple week for the summer. During purple week (check your solid waste calendar) you can put your composter out for collection every week on collection day. You can also put out paper leaf collection bags and bundles of twigs.

Reporting an issue

Residents can report concerns, issues, or maintenance needs through the Town website. Visit the homepage and scroll down to access the reporting form. Submissions are sent directly to Town staff for follow-up. Please include your contact information so staff can respond if needed.



To bring a matter directly to Council, send a letter to clerk@townofmahonebay.ca. We value your feedback and strive to respond promptly.

Happy Summer, Swimmers!

The Town of Mahone Bay is thrilled to support the Mahone Bay and Area Swimming Pool. This summer, dive in for free and help shape the future of swimming in Mahone Bay!

We're kicking off our fundraising campaign for a new community pool with a summer of free swims. The more people who jump in, the stronger the case for investing in a pool that can serve generations to come. If you are interested in donating or getting involved, please contact us at projects@townofmahonebay.ca.

For the 2026 season, as a resident of the Town of Mahone Bay, you qualify for a refund on lesson registration fees. Pop in to Town Hall with your lesson registration receipt for a refund.

Be sure to kick off the summer at the Opening Pool Party on Friday June 26! Come make a splash, show your support, and help us prove that Mahone Bay is ready for a bigger future in the water.

Dog Days on Edgewater

Edgewater was serene on the morning rounds! Here's Harriet and her sweet boy Watson taking the trail in the glorious sunshine.

It was wonderful to hear such positive feedback from Harriet about the new and improved Edgewater while she and Watson were visiting Mahone Bay and exploring the South Shore trails.

Trail-use signage will be added soon, along with waste bag dispensers and bins for dog walkers. Please help keep the trail clean and welcoming by disposing of litter and pet waste properly.

Donations to Fire Department

Your local Fire Department will be canvassing the community for donations from June 22 - 26, between 6:00 p.m. and dusk, to help purchase essential firefighting equipment. If our volunteers miss you and you would still like to contribute, donations can be made by cheque and mailed to: Mahone Bay & District Fire Department, PO Box 520, Mahone Bay, B0J 2E0.

Every donation helps support the safety of our community and the firefighters who serve it. If you are interested in volunteering with your local fire department, please contact chief@townofmahonebay.ca to learn more.

According to Fire Smart Canada, hot and dry weather can increase the risk of wildfires that can spread quickly and unpredictably, making preparation essential. Help protect your home and family by clearing vegetation and other flammable materials from around your property, keeping grass cut short, storing firewood away from buildings, having an emergency kit ready, and creating an evacuation plan. Stay informed through alerts and emergency updates, and if an evacuation order is issued, leave immediately and follow the directions of emergency officials.

Rain Barrel Sale

The Town is organizing a bulk rain barrel purchase. You can order yours at rainbarrel.ca, with delivery to Mahone Bay scheduled for the end of June.

Rain barrels conserve water, reduce flooding, lower water bills, and protect foundations. Collected rainwater is ideal for gardens, houseplants, washing cars and outdoor equipment, and filling bird baths or ponds.

Community Events

The Mahone Bay Museum opened for the season on Tuesday, May 26th. Visitors are welcome Tuesday through Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The popular Home and Garden Tour returns June 13th and 14th. Tickets are $35 each. Details at MahoneBayMuseum.com

Bay Hive Festival Buzz

The Mahone Bay Signature Festivals celebrate two favourites: the Scarecrow Festival and the Father Christmas Festival. At the heart of the creativity is the Bay Hive, located inside Trinity United Church at 101 Edgewater Street. This lively space is busy all year, bringing the festivals to life.

Volunteers and creators meet here to share ideas, repair characters, and build playful displays. The room is always active with colourful, sparkly, and imaginative projects in progress.

More than a workshop, the Bay Hive is a welcoming community art space. Local artists host hands-on workshops where people of all ages can try new skills and create together. With new tables, comfortable seating, and space for up to 12 people, it is a friendly place to gather.

A summer student will be with the festivals for nine weeks to help create figures, welcome visitors, and support workshops. Starting June 30, open Tuesday to Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Pop in if the door is open. Volunteers are always welcome.

Connections Near and Far

May brought two special events to Mahone Bay that helped launch the summer season, each highlighting the importance of connection, both close to home and across the world.

The Sri Chinmoy Oneness-Home Peace Run arrived at Bayview Community School, sharing its message of global friendship and peace before gathering with residents at the Michael O'Connor Memorial Bandstand. The event reminded us that even small communities can play a role in building understanding across borders.

Then the Hi Neighbour event, hosted in partnership with the Mahone Bay Centre, welcomed longtime residents and newcomers alike. Through shared food, stories, and conversations, participants celebrated the community spaces and relationships that make Mahone Bay such a vibrant and welcoming place.

Mahone Bay offers the best of both worlds: the warmth and charm of a small town combined with an openness to new ideas, perspectives, and people.

As one Peace Run participant observed, Mahone Bay is a place of friendly faces where strangers quickly feel at home.

Stay Informed
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Newcomers Welcome Pack

The Town of Mahone Bay is pleased to welcome new residents with a special Welcome Pack. Each organic cotton Town-branded market bag includes helpful local and Town information. If you're new to town, or know of someone who is, let us know and a Councillor will stop by with a warm welcome. Local businesses are invited to contribute a small token or voucher for the Welcome Packs. Items can be dropped off at the Town Hall front office.

Elder Abuse Awareness Day

World Elder Abuse Awareness Day is marked each year on June 15th and is internationally recognized by the UN, acknowledging the significance of elder abuse as a public health and human rights issue.

To educate yourself on elder abuse and find resources, visit the Canadian Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse at www.cnpea.ca

Congratulations Class of 2026!

Congratulations to the class of 2026 from Mahone Bay Town Council and Staff!

Upcoming Meeting Dates

June 15 - Policy & Strategy Committee
June 25 - Council (7pm)
June 30 - Asset Management Committee

SIGN UP TODAY

Join our community engagement platform at www.getonboardmahonebay.ca to stay updated and share your input on key projects, bylaws, and policies shaping our Town.