

July 2024

Mahone Bay, NS

MBARC

Mahone Bay: An Adaptive and Resilient Community, is an initiative, also known as MBARC, is an initiative of the Town's Climate and Environment Advisory Committee. This initiative aims to start a conversation with the community around being resilient and adaptive together, in the face of a changing climate.



What is climate change? Climate change is the shift in temperatures and weather patterns that is largely the result of the burning of fossil fuels such as coal, oil, and gas. These changes often result in severe storms, increased flooding, periods of drought, extreme hot and cold weather, and wildfires. To decrease the severity of these impacts, it is important to decrease our dependency on fossil fuels.

Climate adaptation involves changing our behaviors, systems, and ways of life to protect ourselves, our community, and our environment from the impacts of climate change. Successful adaptation doesn't mean that the impacts of climate change won't occur, but it does mean that the impacts will be less severe and cause less damage.

MBARC will be holding several events throughout the year that will give members of the community an opportunity to learn and become prepared for the effects of climate change. The next event is on July 23rd at the Community Room in the Mahone Bay Fire Hall (41 Hawthorn Street) from 6-8pm. There will be information on various climate change scenarios with tips for residents on how to protect your property and stay safe. Hope to see you there!

Mahone Bay Pool

The Mahone Bay Pool as we know it today, located at 91 Clairmont Street, is well over 50 years old and showing its age!



The Mahone Bay Lions Club, soon after they established their charter in 1969, set their sights on a very big first project, providing the town with a public pool. They launched a fundraising campaign and obtained donations of labour, materials and equipment. The Council of the time committed property within Jubilee Park and promised assistance with the project.

So many memories have been made at this old pool. But now it's time to look forward to a new facility that will serve the town for many future generations.

In the fall of 2023, Vigilant Management was hired to work with the Town and Mahone Bay Pool Society to complete pre-design work on the new pool with grant funding from the province. This pre-design helped us establish a capital cost for building a new pool and set a fundraising goal. Fundraising activities for the New Pool Project kicked off on Friday, June 28th during the season opener BBQ for the pool's summer season, when the Honourable Susan Corkum-Greek announced a \$1 million contribution from the province! Fundraising will continue until a future Council determines that fundraising objectives have been achieved and it is possible to proceed to tender for construction of the new pool.

To see the full design brief, visit the Projects page of the Town's website.

Public Hearings

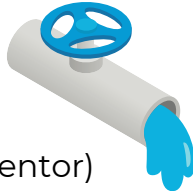


At their June 27th regular Council meeting, Mahone Bay Town Council gave first reading to a new Noise Bylaw and Parking Bylaw. The new Noise Bylaw is intended to regulate excessive noise in the Town to provide for a peaceful community. The new Parking Bylaw would allow for time enforced parking in the Town.

For those interested in making comments on the proposed bylaws, hearings will be held on July 17, 2024 in the Community Hall at the Fire Station, 41 Hawthorn Road at 7pm.

Cross Connection Control

Did you know that every Town of Mahone Bay water service line is now required to have a dual check valve (backflow preventor) in-place at all times?



A backflow preventor stops water from flowing from your home or business back into the public water supply.

To learn more about the Town's Cross Connection Control (CCC) Program visit townofmahonebay.ca/water--wastewater. You can also email any questions to inquiries@townofmahonebay.ca or call (902) 624-8327.

Be Fire Safe



If you enjoy sitting by an outdoor fire, be sure to check the Town of Mahone Bay Outdoor Burning By-law to make sure that your fire pit/appliance is safe and in compliance with the local by-law. The by-law can be found on the Town's website, townofmahonebay.ca and always check novascotia.ca/burnsafe to find out about possible burning restrictions.

Transformer Replacement

Starting in early July, the Town's electric utility will begin changing out PCB containing transformers with ones that do not contain PCBs. The utility's goal is to have all of these transformers replaced by the end of 2024.



This process will mean many small scale power outages around town, generally lasting on a couple of hours and affecting only a few customers. The utility will confirm on Monday mornings which units will be replaced that week and then knock on the doors of affected customers to inform them of the upcoming power outage.

Thank you for your patience as we work to complete this important project!

EV Charging Program



If you have an electric vehicle, you can receive a \$25 monthly credit on your electrical bill.

The EV Charging Program is a two-year program beginning April 2024. All you need to do is supply us with your charging data each month and you will receive a credit on your next bill.

Your data will be analyzed by our Climate and Energy Department to determine when residents most regularly charge their vehicles. This information will be used to create a time-of-use rate structure with the goal of incentivizing resident EV owners to charge their vehicles during hours when our local renewables are available (Ellershouse Wind Farm and the Town's Solar Garden).

To learn more, visit townofmahonebay.ca/climate--sustainability.html or contact climate@townofmahonebay.ca

A Toilet is Not a Trash Can

Just because something says it can be flushed, doesn't mean it should be flushed!

Many items we use on a daily basis like wipes and personal hygiene products cannot go down our toilets or drains. Flushing these items can cause damage to the wastewater treatment system and may potentially cause sewer backups in your home.

The wastewater treatment system is designed to treat and process wastewater from our homes and businesses. The process breaks down the waste so it can be filtered and removed before the disinfected water is returned to the environment. These items DO NOT break down and present a threat to the functioning of the system. They can cause blockages, increased maintenance, equipment malfunctions and can even contribute to environmental spills and overflows. These items should be disposed of properly in the garbage and/or green bin where they cannot damage our wastewater treatment system.



EV Test Drive Event

This year's Next Ride Event is scheduled for July 15th from 9:30am – 1:30pm at Town Hall, 493 Main Street.



There will be two EVs available to test drive during that time, as well as an E-bike.

During the first week of July, a booking link will become available that will allow you to sign up for a test drive ahead of time. We will share this link on our Facebook page and website once it becomes available.

2024 Municipal Election



Municipalities across Nova Scotia will hold their general elections on October 19, 2024. Mahone Bay will be running a telephone/online election again this year.

In coming weeks, you will see information about the election on our website and social media.

The next Municipal Campaign School Workshop is happening in Shelburne on July 13. For more information, go to novascotia.ca/municipal-elections

Bike Safety

With warmer weather comes an increase in bicycle traffic.



Bicycle safety is everyone's responsibility.

Cyclists - wear your helmet, it's the law, and watch out for pedestrians and vehicles.

Motorists - watch for cyclists, especially the young ones who are still learning.

Public Input Session

Did you know that there is a 15 minute Public Input Session during each Council Meeting? The session starts right after Council approves the agenda and minutes of their previous meeting(s).

This is an opportunity for you to share your opinions with Council and the community.

Upcoming Dates

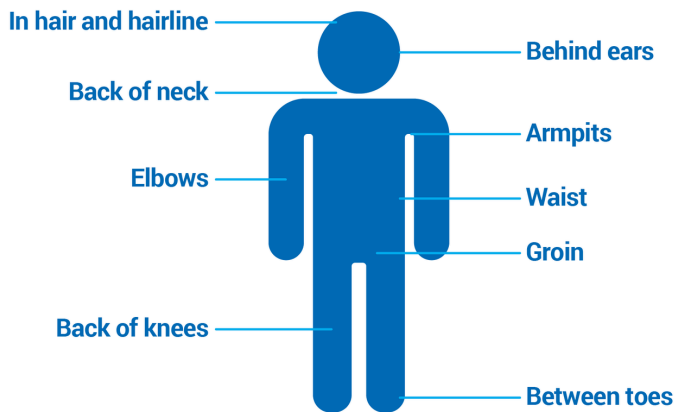
July 9 - Council Meeting
July 10 - Heritage Advisory Committee
July 16 - Asset Management Committee
July 17 - Noise Bylaw & Parking Bylaw Hearing
July 22 - Policy & Strategy Committee
July 25 - Police Advisory Board
July 25 - Council Meeting

Tick Safety

Summer is here! We're all excited to get out and enjoy the warm weather but we need to remember that with the return of warm weather comes the return of ticks.

Nova Scotia has many types of ticks but the one of most concern for the spread of Lyme Disease is the blacklegged tick.

Blacklegged ticks are very small so it's important to be diligent about checking yourself and your pets whenever you've been spending time outdoors. Ticks like warm places on the body so be sure to check these areas:

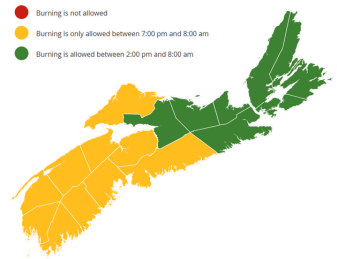


You can also reduce your risk by:

- ✓ Wearing long pants and long sleeves in areas likely to have ticks
- ✓ Wear light coloured clothing (it's easier to see ticks)
- ✓ Wear enclosed shoes and tuck your pants into your socks
- ✓ Walk on well-travelled paths, avoiding long grass and vegetation
- ✓ Apply insect repellents containing Deet or Icaridin to exposed skin and clothes

Illegal Burning

The province has recently increased the fine for violating the daily burn restrictions to \$25,000.



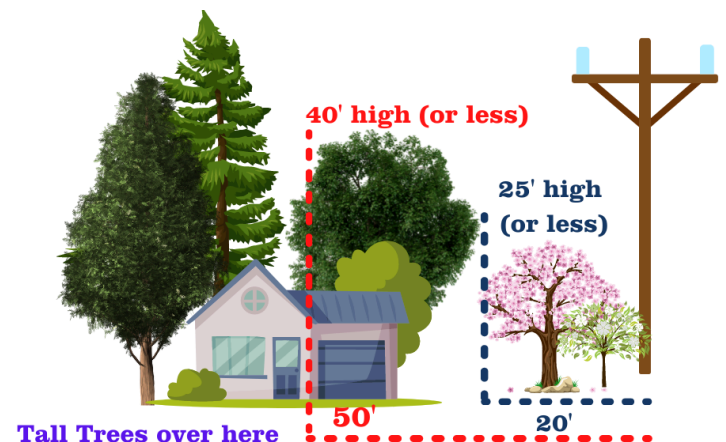
From March 15 to October 15, daily burn restrictions are in place to help prevent wildfires. Burning is not permitted anywhere in the province between 8 a.m. and 2 p.m. because that is often when the risk of wildfires is greatest. The BurnSafe map remains red during those hours every day.

Each day at 2 p.m., the map is updated to show the daily restrictions:

- red means burning is not permitted that day
- yellow means burning is permitted after 7 p.m.
- green means burning is permitted after 2 p.m.

People can check daily burn restrictions via the online BurnSafe map at <https://novascotia.ca/burnsafe/> or by calling 1-855-564-2876 (BURN). Please also review the Town's Burning Bylaw by visiting www.townofmahonebay.ca/by-laws--policies

Planting and Utility Lines



Keep in mind what you choose to plant near power lines as utility crews will need to trim to keep the power lines clear.