

# Cut the Broom when it is Blooming!

The District of Lantzville has partnered with the Broombusters Invasive Plant Society again this year to assist in controlling the alien invasive plant Scotch broom in our community. The Broombusting season has just begun and Broombusters could use your help. If you have an hour or two, they can loan you some loppers for you to cut on your own or join them for some weekly community cuts. Help protect our environment from this invasive, alien plant and enjoy some time with fellow residents. The first cut of the season is scheduled for: Galloway Marsh, Saturday, April 29th, 9:30 am-11:30 am. More cuts will be added as the blooming season progresses. Watch for signs in your neighbourhood. Contact Sharon at [sahokas@shaw.ca](mailto:sahokas@shaw.ca) for further details, to borrow loppers, or add your name to the email list. For more info, check out the Broombusters’ website (including a ‘How to Cut Broom’ video) at [www.broombusters.org](http://www.broombusters.org). Cuts are held rain or shine – loppers are provided!



## Volunteer Vacancy

The District of Lantzville is seeking a volunteer to serve, without remuneration, to fill a vacancy on the Board of Variance for a three-year term. Visit [lantzville.ca](http://lantzville.ca) or Municipal Hall to view the notice, the regulations that outline the structure, duties and responsibilities of the Board (Bylaw No. 10 & Local Government Act excerpt), and Council Committee System Policy No. 3000-12 (including volunteer application form). To be considered for appointment by Council to the Board of Variance, please submit a Committee Volunteer Application form, no later than 4:00 pm, Friday, May 26, 2023 to: Director of Corporate Administration, District of Lantzville, 7192 Lantzville Road, PO Box 100, Lantzville, BC V0R 2H0 or [tcoates@lantzville.ca](mailto:tcoates@lantzville.ca).

## Construction Traffic Safety

Construction continues at locations requiring drivers and pedestrians to be alert and follow traffic control instructions:

- 6953 Dickinson Road, Monday-Friday, 7:00 am-5:00 pm through May 2023
- Commercial Core Revitalization Phase II Lantzville Road (Dickinson to Tweedhope) construction is scheduled for May - June. Properties affected will be notified by the contractor (Windley Contracting) and given contact and construction schedule information. Please obey all traffic control; there will be temporary traffic disruptions, detours, and periodic parking restrictions.

## Tree Protection & Management

In April, the District launched a community survey to gather public input to inform the future of tree protection and management in the District of Lantzville. The survey provided an opportunity until 4:00 pm, Friday, April 21st for the public to share wants, needs, and concerns regarding tree cutting on developed and/or undeveloped properties in Lantzville. The survey was mailed to properties, paper copies were available at Municipal Hall, and people could choose to complete the online version on the District website. Also, an information session was held at the Royal Canadian Legion Seaview Centennial Br. 257 Hall from 6:30 pm-8:30 pm on Thursday, April 13th attended by over 30 people. Thanks for your input through the survey and at the information session! Staff are busy compiling a report on the results. Watch for it on an upcoming Council meeting agenda. Questions? Contact the Planning Department at [planning@lantzville.ca](mailto:planning@lantzville.ca) or by phone at 250.933.8093.

## Public Access Trail to Seaview Elementary School Reopens!

April was a busy month with finalization of a Licence of Occupation offered by the property owner, Lantzville Projects Limited (LPL), authorizing the District of Lantzville to construct, fence, maintain and use a trail for public pedestrian and bicycle access to Seaview Elementary School for a three-year period (subject to earlier termination). The District constructed and fenced the 3 metre wide by approximately 60 metres in length trail within the Licence of Occupation area through LPL’s property at 7220 Ware Road from the District’s Lancewood Avenue right of way to 7001 Lantzville Road (Seaview Elementary School field). Council authorized funding the chain link fence cost (\$8,000) from the Community Works (Gas Tax) fund. The District looks forward to the community’s respect for no trespassing signage installed on private property, and for the responsible use and maintenance of the trail to support its continued use. Please pick up any waste, and comply with the prohibition of motorized vehicles. The District appreciates the civic-minded cooperation of the property owner, LPL, for granting the District the licence to re-establish the trail that Council was aware was sorely missed by the children, families and pedestrians who regularly used the trail.

## New BC Building Code: BC Energy Step Code Requirements

The Province has amended the *BC Building Code*: Effective May 1, 2023, requiring most new construction to be 20% more energy efficient than the base 2018 BC Building Code:

- Part 9 buildings (including buildings 600 m2 or smaller and less than 3 storeys) must be constructed to meet Step 3 of the BC Energy Step Code
- Part 3 buildings (including buildings larger than 3 storeys or 600 m2 in area) must be constructed to meet Step 2 of the BC Energy Step Code.

These changes will apply to building permits applied for on or after May 1, 2023. Additional information about the BC Energy Step Code can be found at <https://energystepcode.ca>. If you have any questions, please contact the District of Lantzville Planning Department at [planning@lantzville.ca](mailto:planning@lantzville.ca) or by phone at 250.933.8093.

### DISTRICT OF LANTZVILLE

**Municipal Hall** 250.390.4006  
7192 Lantzville Road [district@lantzville.ca](mailto:district@lantzville.ca)  
PO Box 100, [lantzville.ca](http://lantzville.ca)  
Lantzville, BC  
V0R 2H0



### Do you Want to Meet With the Mayor?

Call the Municipal Hall at 250.390.4006 if you wish to book an appointment to meet with Mayor Swain.

# COMMUNITY UPDATE

May 2023



### Municipal Hall Hours

Monday to Friday (Closed May 22<sup>nd</sup>, reopening on Tuesday, May 23, 2023)  
By phone or email: 8:00 am – 4:00 pm  
In-person payment and document drop off: 8:30 am – 4:00 pm  
Call or email for appointments or other services  
After-hours Public Works emergency call 1.888.826.8271  
All other emergencies dial 911



## Upcoming Meetings

**Wednesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>** – 6:00 pm Regular Council

**Wednesday, May 17<sup>th</sup>** – 6:00 pm Committee of the Whole, if required  
Council members may attend in person, or electronically (except for the Mayor) for a hybrid meeting, or via Zoom Webinar for an Electronic Meeting (per the *Community Charter* and the Council Procedure Bylaw). The Council Procedure Bylaw defines an Electronic Meeting as a

meeting where all attendees participate electronically. Participation will be managed electronically via Zoom, operated from the Council Chamber. Public Hearings are held electronically (per the *Local Government Act*) to provide greater access, transparency and convenience. Zoom also offers the option to dial in by phone. For Electronic Meetings (e.g., meetings with Public Hearings), in accordance with the *Community Charter*, the Council Chamber is open (with limited seating) for those unable to participate electronically to attend and a designated municipal officer must be in attendance. For in person and hybrid meetings the Council Chamber is also open for the public to attend. Due to limited seating, the public is encouraged to view the open portion of the meeting via the livestream (advance registration is not required), and to provide verbal public input on agenda items by registering in advance using the Zoom Webinar link provided for each Council meeting event at [lantzville.ca](http://lantzville.ca) OR written comments by noon the day of the meeting. Prior to attending at Municipal Hall, please self-assess to ensure you are healthy and do not attend if you are ill. Members of the public must remain seated unless invited to address Council. Meetings recorded by the District of Lantzville may be viewed at [lantzville.ca](http://lantzville.ca).

*For meeting information, including meeting livestreaming and electronic participation, visit [lantzville.ca](http://lantzville.ca) and click on the meeting date on the calendar to access the meeting agenda package, minutes and video recordings. The start time of the open portion/livestreaming of the meeting may vary if a closed portion is required at the beginning of the regular Council meeting. Please refer to the Council meeting agenda, published the week before the meeting, to confirm the open portion/livestream start time.*

## Property Tax Information

**2023 PROPERTY TAX NOTICES** – Property tax notices will be mailed in late May. If you have not received your property tax bill by the first week of June – particularly new owners – please call 250.933.8086. Property tax payments and your completed Home Owner Grant (claimed through the Province of BC, if eligible), are due July 4, 2023 with a 2% penalty applied on any outstanding balance on July 5<sup>th</sup> and an 8% penalty applied on any outstanding balance on October 3<sup>rd</sup>. The municipality has no authority to waive or modify these penalty amounts, which are required by law. NOTE: If you qualify for the Home Owner Grant, you must apply to the Province before the July 4th property tax due date. Home Owner Grant questions? Call 1.888.355.2700 (toll free).

**PAYMENTS** – The Municipal Hall is open Monday-Friday, excluding statutory holidays, to process payments from 8:30 am- 4:00 pm. Staff are available by phone or email from 8:00 am-4:00 pm to answer questions. Property tax payments can be made through online banking, or in person by cheque, cash, or debit. There is a drop box at Municipal Hall, to the right of the front door.

**DEFERMENTS** – Have you considered deferring your home property taxes? Tax deferment is a low interest loan program managed by the province that helps qualified BC homeowners pay their annual property taxes on their principal residence. You may qualify for the Regular Program if you’re 55 or older, a surviving spouse of any age, or a person with disabilities OR for the Families with Children Program if you’re a parent, stepparent or financially supporting a child. Deferment applications are processed by the province (not at Municipal Hall). Learn more about the property tax deferment program, including eligibility, at [www.gov.bc.ca/propertytaxdeferment](http://www.gov.bc.ca/propertytaxdeferment), 1.888.355.2700 (toll free), or the Service BC Centre, 460 Selby Street, Nanaimo - 250.741.3636.

**NOTE** - To defer, you will still need to claim your annual Home Owner Grant with the Province of BC first – learn more at [www.gov.bc.ca/homeownergrant](http://www.gov.bc.ca/homeownergrant).





# Recreation Opportunities

The District of Lantzville partners with the City of Nanaimo, Regional District of Nanaimo, and Seaside Community Society to provide recreation opportunities for the residents of Lantzville.

- Lantzville Community Facilities** – For what’s happening at Costin Hall for the month of May, visit [costinhall.com](http://costinhall.com).
- Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup> & Sunday, May 14<sup>th</sup> 10:00 am-5:00 pm each day - Vancouver Island Chapter of the Federation of Canadian Artists – Art Show!
  - Movie Night is May 12<sup>th</sup>! Doors open at 5:45 pm, "Light Year" movie starts: 6:00 pm. Admission is by donation and children need to be accompanied by an adult. There will be a small cash only concession available, feel free to wear your jammies and bring something comfortable to sit on.
  - Thank you to everyone that came out and supported the Bobs & Lolo concert and brought clothing donations for the Clothing Swap!
- City of Nanaimo (CON)** – May offerings:
- May 1st-7th is Youth Week. There will be a variety of activities from youth drop-in to workshops as youth in our community are celebrated. For all the details, see CON website. [Youth Week 2023 \(nanaimo.ca\)](http://nanaimo.ca/youth-week-2023)
  - The month of May is Invasive Plant Removal month. There are several work parties planned, and there is a Drop Zone where citizens can drop off their invasive plants for disposal. It will take place on Saturday, May 27<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 am-12:00 pm at Bowen Park (off Wall Street). For more information, see CON website. [Invasive Work Parties - 2023 \(nanaimo.ca\)](http://nanaimo.ca/invasive-work-parties-2023)
  - Family Fishing Day is happening on Sunday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 am-2:00 pm at Colliery Dam Park. There will be an opportunity to learn how to fish, entertainment, a trout release and more. Event is free.
  - Nanaimo Aquatic Centre has a new aquafit program called “Aqua Zumba”. This class is perfect for those looking to make a splash by adding low-impact, high energy aquatic exercise to their fitness routine. Aqua Zumba® blends the Zumba® philosophy with water resistance for one pool party you shouldn’t miss. It happens Fridays, 9:30 am-10:15 am and 10:30 am-11:15 am. Admission is \$7 for an adult.
  - Lions Free Swims happen at Nanaimo Aquatic Centre every Saturday from 1:00 pm-2:30 pm until June 24<sup>th</sup>.
  - There is a new Youth Drop-in Volleyball happening at Oliver Woods Community Centre. There are two age groups to choose from (10-13 years & 14-17 years). Occurs on Fridays, 3:30 pm-4:30 pm. Admission is \$5.25.
  - Play and Learn program registration (monthly program for ages 3-5) for September 2023-June 2024 starts on Wednesday, June 7<sup>th</sup> at a variety of locations, including Beban, Bowen and Oliver Woods Community Centre.

- Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN)**
- Youth Week May 1st-7th, local organizations are hosting events in celebration of our young people. Visit REC Connect at [www.getinvolved.rdn.ca/rec-connect](http://www.getinvolved.rdn.ca/rec-connect)
  - RDN Drop-in Fitness passes are back! A great way to try out the classes for only \$12/class. Get your pass at either Ravensong Aquatic Centre or Oceanside Place Arena and spring to it! [www.bit.ly/rdnfitness](http://www.bit.ly/rdnfitness)
  - Registration for summer programs, camps and lessons will open on May 9th. [www.rdn.bc.ca/recreation](http://www.rdn.bc.ca/recreation)
  - **Qualicum Beach Family Day** – Visit the RDN Rec booth for games and activities for all. Plus, wrap up your Family Day with a free swim at Ravensong Aquatic Centre on Sunday, May 28th from 4:00 pm-7:00 pm. [www.qualicumbeach.com/qualicum-beach-family-day](http://www.qualicumbeach.com/qualicum-beach-family-day)
  - **Go By Bike & Bike to School Week** – May 29th-June 4th Visit <https://gobybikebc.ca/oceanside> for more information on what’s happening locally.

**Ready, Set, Learn** – Funding is provided by the Ministry of Education. Pizza and play for Preschoolers. Registration not required. It’s Free! Come drop-in at Huddlestone Park, 7080 Huddlestone Road, 12:00 pm-2:00 pm, May 2, 2023. This is a family-orientated drop-in play time where you and your children age 3-5 years old will take part in a variety of play-based activities including a Story Walk and enjoy some pizza too. Check School District #68 social media for updates.

## Wildfire Community Preparedness Day May 6, 2023

On Wildfire Community Preparedness Day May 6<sup>th</sup>, residents of all ages are encouraged to host events and work together on projects that raise wildfire risk awareness and increase resilience. Get FireSmart tips and learn how to protect your property at [www.getinvolved.rdn.ca/rdn-firesmart](http://www.getinvolved.rdn.ca/rdn-firesmart).

## Visible Street Addresses Can Save Lives

It is crucial for homes to have visible street address signs. This helps emergency services find the right home quickly during an emergency, such as a fire or if someone needs medical attention. If your address isn't visible, the responders may have trouble finding the right home, wasting valuable time. Visible addresses are important for day-to-day things too like receiving deliveries or visitors to your home. Visible address signs are an easy way to help keep the public safe and make sure everyone can find their way. The District of Lantzville contracts with the RDN to provide emergency planning services. Learn how to be prepared for emergencies at [www.rdn.bc.ca/emergency-program](http://www.rdn.bc.ca/emergency-program).

## Emergency Preparedness Week May 7-13, 2023

May 7<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> is Emergency Preparedness Week. This is a great time to develop your family’s emergency plan and learn what you need to prepare for! Follow the RDN on Facebook as they will be sharing Emergency Preparedness tips to help you and your family be ready. Learn more about emergency preparedness in the RDN at [www.rdn.bc.ca/emergency-program](http://www.rdn.bc.ca/emergency-program).

# Bylaw Reminders

**Effective April 16<sup>th</sup> Burning Ban in Effect Until October 14<sup>th</sup>** – Category 2 OPEN FIRES (burn barrels, backyard burning, incinerators, burn piles, burning grass, fireworks, binary exploding targets, sky lanterns, outdoor burning, etc.) are NOT permitted on private and public property in the District of Lantzville. Small campfires used for cooking, heating or ceremonial purposes are allowed (except on beaches) subject to conditions:

- must be contained in a device or fixture
- campfire must be away from combustible materials and campfire must not exceed 0.61 m in size at anytime
- only propane, natural gas, charcoal or clean organic wood can be used; no branches, yard waste or construction materials
- a responsible person must be in attendance at the campfire at all times, with a hand tool or at least eight litres of water available to properly extinguish the fire
- ensure campfire is completely extinguished and ashes are cold to the touch before leaving the area for any length of time
- be considerate of neighbours when planning a campfire.



Please watch for notices banning campfires due to drying conditions.  
NO OPEN FIRES ARE PERMITTED ON ANY BEACH AT ANY TIME OF THE YEAR; only portable propane campfire apparatus (CSA or ULC approved) are permitted on the beach between the hours of 11:00 am - 8:00 pm.

For more information, visit [lantzville.ca](http://lantzville.ca) to view [Fire Protection Services Bylaw No. 185, 2019](#) and the [Outdoor Burning brochure](#) or contact the Fire Chief at [nrukus@lantzville.ca](mailto:nrukus@lantzville.ca).

### Stage 2 Watering Restrictions – Effective May 1<sup>st</sup>

Under Stage 2 watering restrictions, sprinkling is permitted between the hours of 7:00 am-10:00 am OR 7:00 pm-10:00 pm for a maximum of 2 hours every other day on the following days:

- Odd-numbered addresses on odd-numbered days
- Even-numbered addresses on even-numbered days



Sprinkling includes watering lawns, ornamental shrubs, flowers and trees and use of pop-up spray, rotors and sprinklers. Putting in a new lawn? Apply for a new lawn watering permit by emailing [district@lantzville.ca](mailto:district@lantzville.ca). The following are permitted at any time in Stage 2: hand-watering (trees, shrubs, vegetables), drip irrigation, and micro irrigation (check regularly for leaks); washing vehicles, boats, and houses (siding) if using a hose with a shutoff device; filling fountains, pools, or hot tubs; pressure washing walkways, driveways and siding. Vegetable gardens and fruit trees are exempt from all watering restrictions but watering in the early morning or in the evening is recommended – less evaporation. Private wells are not subject to municipal watering restrictions, but conservation is encouraged because water is a shared resource.

# 2023 Business Licence was Required by January 1st

It is unlawful for a person to engage in or carry on a business within Lantzville unless that person holds a valid 2023 business licence issued by the District of Lantzville. The requirement to hold an annual District of Lantzville business licence includes non-Lantzville-based business operators who also hold a licence in the municipality where their business has an office, business address or is normally based. The Miscellaneous Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 26 establishes the business licence fee (\$100/each premise in Lantzville for non-Lantzville-based and Lantzville-based business except Home based business whose fee is \$50.00) and renewal fees. **Did you miss the deadline? Apply now for your 2023 business licence!** For more information to obtain a business licence application, visit [lantzville.ca](http://lantzville.ca) to view Bylaw No. 167 or Bylaw No. 26.

# Illegal Dumping

- Remember: Each property owner is responsible for disposing of your own grass clippings and yard waste by:
- Composting on your own property
  - “Grasscycle” by leaving grass clippings on your lawn after mowing. Grass clippings are approximately 80 per cent water and will decompose quickly, releasing valuable nutrients back into the soil. Grasscycling is an environmentally and financially friendly option
  - NEW since March 1, 2023: Top up your organics cart with leaves, grass clippings and light yard trimmings. Keep the lid completely closed. If the cart is over 75% full, leave the cart in the unlocked position. Expanding what can go in the organics cart beyond just food waste will provide a more accessible way to dispose of light yard waste. Learn more about what you can and can’t include in your organics cart at [bit.ly/3KGWGrH](http://bit.ly/3KGWGrH)
  - Contracting with a private recycling service to pick-up
  - Taking it to the landfill.

It is illegal to dump your yard waste on rights of ways, public property or private property owned by others.

## Curbside Collection Schedule Reminder

Your curbside collection continues on Fridays in May until after the Victoria Day statutory holiday when it moves to Mondays starting May 29<sup>th</sup>. Sign up for weekly collection reminders and service alerts at <https://rdn.bc.ca/curbside-collection>.