

Stratford Town Crier

Town Crier, May 21, 2022

Public Information, Notices and Meeting Schedules

VICTORIA DAY HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

City of Stratford Administration Offices will be closed on Monday, May 23, 2022.

LANDFILL SITE HOURS

Closed Monday May 23, 2022 for Victoria Day Holiday.

CURBSIDE RECYCLING AND GARBAGE COLLECTION SCHEDULE

There will be no change in the Recycling, Green Bin, Leaf & Yard Waste and Garbage collection programs on Monday May 23, 2022. Please ensure materials are to the curb prior to 8:00 a.m. on collection dates. For further information, please call 519-271-0250 extension 279.

RETAIL CLOSINGS ON VICTORIA DAY

Shoppers and merchants are reminded that under the *Retail Business Holidays Act*, Victoria Day, Monday, May 23, 2022, is among the holidays when most stores must be closed.

The *Retail Business Holidays Act* provides limited exceptions for retail outlets that may be open, including stores that sell handicrafts and book or magazine stores that are less than 2,400 square feet with a maximum of three employees, pharmacies under 7,500 square feet, flower shops and gas stations. Stores may also remain open in locations established as tourist areas by specific municipal by-laws. Businesses should contact their municipal offices for information.

Minimum fines for opening businesses on prohibited days of retail operation are \$500 for the first offence, \$2,000 for a second offence and \$5,000 for a third or subsequent offence. Retail outlets may be fined up to \$50,000 or the total amount of gross sales for the holiday, whichever is greater. Stratford's designated tourism season is May 1 to November 12 each year and includes the Victoria Day Holiday.

Stratford City By-law 149-92 permits certain retail establishments in Stratford that meet the tourism criteria established by the Province and that provides goods and services primarily to tourists in Stratford, may open for business on Victoria Day under the following provisions:

- The retail business establishment does not open prior to 10:00 am and does not remain open after 4:00 pm;
- The number of persons engaged in the serving of the public does not at any time, exceed four (4);
- The total area used for serving, selling or displaying goods or services to the public inside the establishment is less than 278.71 m² (3000 square feet).
- Certain larger retail business establishments listed in Schedule "A" to By-law 149-92 as amended, may also open on Victoria Day between the hours of 10:00 am and 4:00 pm

Enforcement of the *Retail Business Holidays Act* in Stratford is the responsibility of Stratford Police Services. To find out which retail operations are exempted by the Act, call the Ministry of Government and Consumer Services toll-free at 1-800-889-9768. For more information visit www.sse.gov.on.ca

FIREWORK SAFETY – VICTORIA DAY AND CANADA DAY

City of Stratford Fireworks By-law 73-2006 provides that fireworks can only be set off on Victoria Day and Canada Day between 8:00 pm and 12:00 midnight. In the event of weather conditions such as rain, fog, smog or wind on Victoria Day or Canada Day, fireworks may be set off the day before or the day after Victoria Day or Canada Day.

FIREWORKS MAY NOT BE SET OFF:

- On any city street or highway.
- In any park or other public place.
- In any building or vehicle.
- In areas containing dead undergrowth or trees.

FIRECRACKERS - which are different than fireworks, cannot be set off anywhere in Stratford.

WHEN SETTING OFF FIREWORKS:

- Use fireworks outdoors only;
- Choose a clear, open area;
- Check wind direction and speed;
- Always have an adult present;
- Have water handy;
- Read and follow label directions;

- Keep spectators away from launch area

Flying lanterns (the small paper hot air balloons propelled by an open flame) are not permitted for sale or use in Stratford.

If you have any questions or wish to report a violation of the By-law, please call the Fire Department at 519-271-3212. Please enjoy the holiday safely.

COMMUNITIES IN BLOOM GARDEN FLING

Stratford's Communities in Bloom Advisory Committee will be hosting its annual Garden Fling at the Stratford Farmers' Market, 357 McCarthy Road West, on Saturday, May 28, from 7 a.m. to Noon. Volunteers will be handing out calla lilies and sunflower seeds, complete with planting instructions, at the event. Supplies are limited.

PUBLIC INPUT INVITED - STRATFORD LANDFILL SITE - REMINDER

The City of Stratford welcomes feedback on the operation of its Romeo Street landfill site, and there are several options to provide it.

Comments can be made to the Infrastructure and Development Services department by calling 519-271-0250 extension 5261, or by emailing mcronin@stratford.ca, by Thursday, June 9, 2022. Comments received will be included with the agenda for the meeting.

Citizens are also invited to comment on the operation of the landfill site at the upcoming Infrastructure, Transportation and Safety Sub-committee meeting scheduled for Wednesday, June 29, 2022, at 3:30 p.m., by requesting to appear as a delegation.

Delegation requests can be made by completing the Delegation Request Form, available on the City's website at <https://forms.stratford.ca/IT-Services/Clerks-Corporate-Services/Delegation-Request-Form>. Alternatively, requests can be made by contacting the City Clerk at clerks@stratford.ca. Requests to appear as a delegation must be submitted no later than 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 21, 2022. Details for participating in the meeting will be provided once the request is confirmed. This meeting will be held electronically via Zoom and a link to watch the meeting while in progress will be available on the first page of the Sub-committee agenda at the following link: <https://calendar.stratford.ca/meetings/Detail/2022-06-29-1630-Infrastructure-Transportation-and-Safety-Sub-commi>

Answers to some frequently asked questions about the Stratford Landfill Site can be found on the City's website at <https://www.stratford.ca/en/live-here/landfill-faq.aspx>.

NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNERS - DESTROY NOXIOUS WEEDS - REMINDER

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to all property owners in accordance with the WEED CONTROL ACT OF ONTARIO, that unless noxious weeds growing on their lands within the Municipality of Stratford are destroyed by June 1, 2022 and throughout the season, the Municipality may enter upon said lands and cause the noxious weed or weed seeds to be destroyed, charging the costs against the land in taxes as set out in the Act. In the interest of public health, the noxious weeds requiring eradication include Giant Hogweed, Ragweed and Poison Ivy. Other noxious weeds requiring eradication include European Buckthorn, Thistles, Jointed Goatgrass, and others as designated under the above Act.

Enquiries and complaints should be directed to the Infrastructure & Development Services Department at 519-271-0250 extension 345.

FLUSHING OF FIRE HYDRANTS - REMINDER

Beginning April 25, 2022, and continuing for approximately five weeks, preventative maintenance flushing of fire hydrants will take place within the City of Stratford. Customers may temporarily experience discoloured water. Water quality is not affected by this colouration, and the water is safe to use and consume. Discoloured water will clear, but before doing laundry, please check to see that water has cleared. If you have any questions, please call the City Water Division at 519-271-0250, extension 5222 during business hours.

NOTICE - RAKING OF WINTER SAND - REMINDER

Reminder to residents from Infrastructure & Development Services that during the months of April and May, winter sand that has accumulated can be raked to the edge of the road or the street gutter. Please help street sweeping operations by spreading the sand out in the gutter area. Please do not place the sand in large piles in the gutter or along the road, as the piles can restrict water flow and be a traffic hazard.

MEETING SCHEDULE

May 24	Committee of the Whole In-camera	5:00 p.m.	Electronic Participation
May 24	Regular Council and Standing Committee	7:00 p.m.	Electronic Participation
May 25	Infrastructure, Transportation and Safety Sub-committee	4:30 p.m.	Electronic Participation
May 26	Planning and Heritage Sub-committee	4:30 p.m.	Electronic Participation

Meetings continue to be held electronically. Agendas, including a link to watch the meeting while in progress, are available on the City's website. A video of the meeting will also be posted to the City's website once available.

Telephone: 519-271-0250 www.stratford.ca