



Bylaw Information Update

Welcome summer! With a new season now upon us, Cumberlanders are outside taking advantage of the warm weather.

This summer update highlights new and existing bylaws to help everyone—from kids, to pets, to wildlife—enjoy summer together. Topics include water restrictions, secondary suites, illegal dumping, WildsafeBC and urban chickens.

We hope you find some value in the following information. Please contact Village staff if you have any questions or concerns.



Kayaking in Comox Lake

WILDSAFEBBC COORDINATOR

The Village is partnering with WildSafeBC to have a local WildSafeBC Coordinator for the second year in a row. Our 2017 Coordinator, Cali Barton, has specialized wildlife training and can answer many questions about various wildlife living around Cumberland.

Be sure to look for her at community events and festivals this summer. She can be reached at:

cumberland@wildsafebc.com or 250-897-8239.

ELECTRIC FENCING

An effective way to protect your fruit trees, bee hives, chickens and other animal attractants is to use electric fencing. There are many products available which are easy to install, and not cost prohibitive or dangerous.

Some of the advantages of electric fencing is that it is easy to install and remove. It is also versatile, able to be shaped to suit any purpose, whether protecting a round tree or a square chicken coop. Depending on the fence and installation, it can be an effective deterrent for deer, bears, raccoons, martens, and other animals that may be attracted to urban agriculture and other items in your yard.

WATER RESTRICTIONS

Stage 1 water restrictions are in effect in Cumberland from May 1 to September 30 each year.

Stage 1 means that if your home address has an even number, you can only water your lawn with a sprinkler on Wednesdays and Saturdays. If your home address has an odd number, you can water your lawn on Thursdays and Sundays. The restrictions apply from 4 am until 10 am in the morning and 7 pm until 10 pm at night.

There are further guidelines for different types of plants and watering. During stage 1, residents can water trees, shrubs, vegetables and flowers at any time with a handheld container or hose with a shut-off nozzle.

Stage 2 restrictions are very similar to stage one restrictions, but watering is not permitted on Saturday or Sunday. There are additional restrictions for cleaning exterior surfaces.

In Stage 3, watering and cleaning is further restricted, and some activities, such as watering lawns and washing cars, is prohibited.

Stages 2 and 3 are implemented by Village Council depending on the severity of the water shortage.

For more details, review the Water Conservation Bylaw No. 870, 2005, or search “water restrictions” at cumberland.ca.





ILLEGAL DUMPING

Illegal dumping affects us all. It is unsightly, often environmentally harmful, and very expensive to taxpayers.

Dumping anything, including tree trimmings, is illegal if not properly disposed of using the proper facilities. Illegally dumped materials need to be cleaned up by the Public Works department, which costs money and takes away from their time maintaining Village infrastructure and providing other community services, including summer community events.

The Village requests your assistance to report any suspicious behavior related to illegal dumping to the Village Office. Photos are a useful tool for staff when investigating complaints, especially any that include identifying information such as a vehicle license plate.

SECONDARY SUITES & ADU's

Much of Cumberland is zoned to allow a secondary suite in a single family dwelling. Conversion of an existing space, constructing a new suite, or legalizing an existing use all require Building and Plumbing Permits.

Some zones in the Village allow for a second detached dwelling unit. This can be a conversion of an existing accessory building, or a new construction, both of which require Building and Plumbing Permits and possibly a Development Permit. Please contact the Planning Department for information on how to do this.

LIVING IN A RECREATIONAL VEHICLE

The use of recreational vehicles or other vehicles for habitation, living or sleeping purposes, except as temporary accommodation within a recreational vehicle park or campground is not allowed within the Village of Cumberland.

No recreational vehicle, bus, or boat shall be used as a dwelling while located on any lot.

URBAN CHICKENS

Section 4.13 of the Zoning Bylaw No. 1027 states that hens (**no roosters**) are permitted within the Village. However, there are several restrictions, including:

1. No more than 6 hens per lot.
2. No sale of any product or of the hens themselves.
3. Hens must remain in a coop at all times.
4. There are coop restrictions in sizes, setbacks and more.

This is to allow residents to produce eggs for themselves without disturbing neighbors or the general public.

Be aware that chickens are a food source for black bears. One way to help avoid conflicts with bears is to install electric fences around coops. This helps ensure that bears do not become human-habituated. Human-habituated bears must often be destroyed for safety reasons.

CUMBERLAND LAKE PARK

Cumberland Lake Park is a great Cumberland asset that is owned by the Village. On hot summer days the park becomes very active and busy with people and vehicles. The Village asks that Village bylaws and signage be adhered to, to help ensure the safety and enjoyment of all this summer.

Please note that dogs are not allowed on the beach from May 1 - September 30, and must be on a leash at all times.

If you have any bylaw-related questions or concerns, please contact the Village of Cumberland at 250-336-2291 or email info@cumberland.ca.

Full copies of the bylaws highlighted in this newsletter are available from the Village upon request. Electronic copies are available at cumberland.ca

