

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS WEEK

Emergency Preparedness (EP) Week is May 1st–7th. Everyone should be prepared and able to take care of themselves for a 72 hour period from any potential harm caused by a significant weather event or incident. Our district is very fortunate to have two Joint Emergency Management (JEM) Teams: Eastern Shore JEM (Cole Harbour to Ship Harbour) and Sheet Harbour JEM (East Ship Harbour to Ecum Secum). For more details about them please go to: www.halifax.ca/emo/jems.php. On Saturday May 7th, 10AM–2PM, the tenth annual JEM Jamboree will be at the Porters Lake Atlantic Superstore parking lot. Their plan is to continue promoting efforts in emergency preparedness, training & community readiness. Our JEM Teams are looking for volunteers. Here are more web-sites about EP information:
www.GetPrepared.gc.ca
www.publicsafety.gc.ca
<http://novascotia.ca/dma/emo> or @nsemo
www.halifax.ca/emo or @HRM_EMO

2016 CENSUS DAY IN CANADA

Statistics Canada conducts a census every five years. The census provides a statistical portrait of the country and its people. In Canada it is mandatory for all residents to participate in the census. The next Census of Population will take place in May 2016. Tuesday, May 10th is Census Day. Starting May 2nd all households in Canada will receive a census package. You may also complete the census questionnaire on-line at: www.census.gc.ca. It is an easy, secure and convenient option. No pre-registration or lengthy download processes are required. This website will be updated regularly, so check back often for information. When you complete your census questionnaire you are providing important information that will be used in making decisions for your neighbourhood, your community, your province, and the country as a whole. Communities depend on census information when planning for new schools, roads, waterworks, public transit, and police and fire services. Town planners use census information on households and families to plan for current and future housing needs, health care and day-care centres. Population estimates obtained from the census are used to allocate transfer payments from the federal government to the provinces and territories and from the provinces to municipalities. So Be Sure to Count Yourself In!

ENVIRONMENT WEEK: JUNE 5-11TH

During Environment Week there are many special days to heighten the awareness of various environmental causes: World Environment Day (June 5th), Clean Air Day (June 4th) and World Oceans Day (June 8th). For more information and details about Canadian Environment Week (CEW) visit: www.ec.gc.ca/sce-cew/ or on Twitter - #enviroweek2016. During CEW and throughout the year we are urged to reflect on the many ways we can take action to protect and preserve our natural surroundings. Following CEW is "Rivers to Oceans Week," which is an opportunity to work together to create an understanding of watersheds, our connection to fresh and salt-water environments and what everyone can do to protect them.

BIKE WEEK CONNECTING COMMUNITIES

HRM Bike Week is June 3rd–12th, and the theme is "Connecting Communities". Please complete the form at the following link to register your 2016 HRM Bike Week event: <https://fluidsurveys.com/s/2016BikeWeek/>. This year the Bike Week committee has decided to support Bike Week events all summer long. While most of the "signature" Bike Week events and many community events will take place during Bike Week, HRM will support and publicize community-based bicycling promotion and education events throughout the summer.

RESPONSIBLE PET OWNERSHIP

HRM By-law A-700—Respecting Animals & Responsible Pet Ownership is intended to promote responsible animal control. Visit: www.halifax.ca/legislation/bylaws/hrm/documents/By-LawA-700.pdf. Dogs must be licensed. See License Fees schedule below. Please note that HRM now offers a Lifetime Registration option for your dog. It requires your dog to be micro-chipped with imbedded pet ownership information. There have been several complaints about untidy owners who are not picking up after their dogs. The by-law specifies that a dog is not to defecate on any public or private property other than its owner's property unless the dog owner immediately removes the defecation. Please be respectful and clean up after your dog, and do not kick it into the roadside ditches as that can lead to other environmental run-off problems. If residents see a dog running at large they should contact the owner if they recognize the dog or contact HRM Animal Services at 311 or 1-800-835-6428. When reporting a dog running at large residents should provide a description of the dog and the time and location where the dog was seen running at large. For more information go to: www.halifax.ca/animalservices/index.php.

License	ANNUAL		LIFETIME	
	Standard	Senior	Standard	Senior
Unaltered	\$50	\$25	\$200	\$100
Neutered	\$15	\$7.50	\$75	\$37.50
Service Dog	N/C	N/C	N/C	N/C

Dog Designated as Dangerous: \$100 annual or \$300 for lifetime registration. Proof must be provided to be eligible for license discounts. Individuals must be 65 or older to receive the seniors' discount. It is an offence to provide false information when applying for a license.

HRM HONOURS ITS VOLUNTEERS

On April 13th, during National Volunteer Week, HRM honoured 79 volunteers and 2 community groups from across the municipality, 13 of whom hail from our District 2 area. The following individuals were nominated from their respective service organizations for their tremendous contribution to the community: George Abboud, Harold Baker, Paul Campbell, Jeff Crowell, Donna Gibbons, Art Keeble, Rod Lewis, Gail Marlene Martin, Richard Martin, April Scudder, Mary Stienburg, Eric Tait, and the Marine Riders ATV Club. Thank you all!

CANADIAN COMMUTER CHALLENGE

The Great Commuter Challenge is a week-long event during Canadian Environment Week (June 5th–11th). It is a friendly competition between Canadian municipalities and workplaces that encourages Canadians to leave their cars at home. It rewards walking, cycling, carpooling/ride-sharing, taking transit and telecommuting. Register your workplace before June 5th and yourself any time before the end of the challenge. You can walk, cycle, carpool, take transit or telecommute during the event week. To be included in the final results you need to make at least one sustainable commute during Commuter Challenge Week. Login once your workplace is registered or sign in as an individual. For more information contact Lisette Cormier at Halifax Transit: cormiel@halifax.ca or 902-490-4160.

MOBILE HSW DROP-OFF DEPOTS

Residents can drop off the following items at a local mobile Household Special Waste (HSW) Depot: Batteries, leftover liquid paint, leftover corrosive cleaners, pesticides/herbicides, old or mixed gasoline, fuel oil & used motor oil, solvents & thinners, BBQ propane tanks, small propane cylinders, aerosol spray cans containing hazardous substances, pharmaceuticals & drugs, and smoke detectors. There is one mobile drop-off depot scheduled at the Porters Lake Metro-X Park & Ride Terminal on Inspiration Drive by Hwy #107 Exit 20 on Saturday, May 28th from 9AM - 4PM. There will be another mobile depot later in the summer for the Sheet Harbour area. For a complete list of dates and locations of these HSW Drop-off Depots go to: www.halifax.ca/recycle/hhw.php.

CITIZENS REGIONAL OPINION PANEL

HRM is inviting residents to join a new web-based Halifax Region Opinion Panel created to help improve customer service, programs and overall service delivery. The municipality regularly uses web-based opinion panels to collect citizen feedback on their perceptions of various municipal services and programs, allowing municipal staff to explore ways to make programs and services more effective, relevant and easy to access. Interested residents can register to participate easily online at www.hfxopinionpanel.ca. It is anticipated the commitment for individuals participating in this endeavour will be minimal, and there will be opportunities to win some great prizes for those who contribute their valuable time to assist in our service improvement efforts. HRM wants as many citizens as possible to register with the panel, which will provide greater geographic and demographic representation in various survey results. Be sure to share this invitation with your friends, family and neighbours so that we can all contribute to making Halifax Region even greater.

