



COUNCILLOR RUSSELL WALKER
DISTRICT 10 ONLINE NEWS
HALIFAX - BEDFORD BASIN WEST

Register for Mach Break Recreation Programs in Halifax

March break is upon us (March 18th to 22nd) and Halifax Recreation offers programs to get you moving and feeling great. Join a walking club and explore new trails with friends, take a fitness class, improve your swimming skills, or register your children in a fun, high energy adventure camp for March Break and the Summer.

Halifax has recreation programs for people of all ages and all abilities year round at over 50 community and recreation centres.

Register online by visiting:
<https://www.halifax.ca/recreation/programs-activities/programs-registration>



We make a difference.

Become a Master Composter Recycler



Master Composter Recycler (MCR) is a free four-week education program offered in May 2019. Through training sessions, hands-on workshops, and facility tours, you will become more knowledgeable



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about how waste is managed in the Halifax region, from collection to processing. You will also learn how to reduce waste through backyard composting and other at-home solutions.

The MCR program is open to all Halifax Regional Municipality residents interested in becoming waste champions within their families, communities, and work places. MCR is new to Nova Scotia but has been a popular and long-standing program in other municipalities in Canada and the United States.

The MCR program can accommodate 20 participants who will be expected to attend all eight sessions during the month of May 2019. Participants are responsible for their own transportation to and from the field locations, as outlined below.

When: May 1 - May 29, 2019. Wednesday evenings from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Saturday mornings 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Where: Citadel Community Centre (located at Citadel High School), 1955 Trollope St, Halifax, NS, Room 101

Contact a Waste Resource Education Officer for more information and to register at wasteless@halifax.ca

Or go to: <https://www.halifax.ca/home-property/garbage-recycling-green-cart/education-outreach/master-composter-recycler>

Class Schedule: Dates subject to change pending weather

Class 1: Wednesday May 1, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

The introductory session will provide a course overview, addressing the importance of proper waste management and waste reduction. The session will also include an interactive "what goes where" presentation about proper waste sorting at home and at work, addressing questions of

compostable vs biodegradable, and recyclable plastic items vs garbage. The presentation will feature examples of recycled products made from our every day waste items.

Class 2: Saturday May 4, 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

The second session will take place at the Otter Lake Waste Management Facility, located near Lakeside. This field trip will include a tour of the landfill and its unique features, including a Waste Stabilization Facility and Front-End Processor.

Class 3: Wednesday May 8, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Topics of waste diversion and reduction will be discussed in greater detail during the third session. Information will be provided about textile recycling options, electronics recycling, HRM's construction waste recycling, and how to manage household batteries and other special waste. We will share tips and strategies for reducing plastic and food waste.

Class 4: Saturday May 11, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

The fourth session will include two field trips; the first to the recycling facility in Bayer's Lake and the second to the organics processing facility in Burnside. Each tour will provide a "behind the scenes" look at how our waste is diverted from the landfill and processed for market.

Class 5: Wednesday May 15, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

This session will provide in-depth information about the science of composting, and how to build and maintain your own compost pile at home. With show and tell items to help demonstrate, this session will share tips on how to turn your food scraps into a valuable resource!

Class 6: Wednesday May 22, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

The topic of composting will continue in this session, with an in-depth look at how to build healthy soil using compost, how to do vermi(worm)-composting, making "compost tea", and much more!



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Class 7: Saturday May 25, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

The final field trip will take place during this session, with a hands-on composting and gardening demonstration at the Sackville Food Garden at Acadia Park, behind the Sackville Public Library. Different examples of backyard composting systems will be showcased and discussed, and a garden tour will provide information about how to fertilize various plant species using compost.

Class 8: Wednesday May 29, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

The final session will provide a review of all topics covered and a discussion of the various connections that participants identify. Following the closing discussion, each participant will receive a Master Composter Recycler certificate of completion and will complete a program evaluation. Finally, there will be time for snacks and social time to celebrate completion.

learn how extensive public input over the past five years has helped shape the plan.

Thursday, March 14, 2019

10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Scotia Square | Centre Court

As part of the municipality's most recent engagement efforts, from August-October 2018, residents contributed roughly 100 ideas about parks, plazas, streetscapes, greenways, public art, and commemoration of history within the area. Nearly 80 per cent of these comments and ideas were incorporated, either fully or partially, into the approved design.

All are welcome to attend the showcase, hosted by the municipality's Cogswell District project team. Cindi Rowan, urban designer with WSP, will also be in attendance to share insights and answer questions.

Learn more about the 90 per cent construction design plan for the Cogswell District by going to:

<https://www.halifax.ca/about-halifax/regional-community-planning/construction-projects/cogswell-district/engagement>

Community Engagement



Showcase: Cogswell District Design Plan

The Cogswell District is one of the biggest city-building projects in the history of Halifax.

Join us at an upcoming showcase to view the approved 90 per cent construction design plan and





Residents invited to information sessions on youth programming



The Halifax Regional Municipality's Adventure Earth Centre, Youth Live Program and Youth Advocate Program, will jointly host a series of community information sessions on youth programming. These sessions, led by municipal staff, will provide attendees with information on current programs and services available to those aged 13 to 24.

Those interested are encouraged to attend one of the following sessions:

Where: The Den (Youth Centre), Acadia Centre, 636 Sackville Drive, Lower Sackville

When: Tuesday, March 5, 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Where: Dartmouth North Community Centre, 105 Highfield Park Drive, Dartmouth

When: Thursday, March 7, 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Where: Family SOS Greystone Facility, 4 Cranberry Court, Spryfield

When: Wednesday, March 13, 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

For information on youth programming, visit www.halifax.ca/youth.



MOBILE FOOD MARKET

The next Fairview Food Market will be held on Saturday, March 23rd from 12 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. at MacDonald Laurier Place. For more information visit: <http://www.mobilefoodmarket.ca/>



Community gardens

Did you know many community gardens in Halifax are operated by residents on land owned by the municipal government? These are small-scale sites operated by non-profit societies for one or more of the following purposes:

1. Growing produce for:

- personal consumption
- donating to local food causes
- generating revenue to reinvest in the community garden

2. Production of a floral or landscape display

3. Demonstration gardening or other related instructional programming.

Community gardens can include vegetables, fruit, herbs, flowers, native and/or ornamental plants established and operated within existing municipal regulations, bylaws and assessments.



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A community garden must have a “common area” with shared upkeep and may include individual garden plots. Community gardening differs from urban agriculture (urban farms), which is an industry that produces agricultural products for distribution to local markets.

Thinking of starting a community garden?

To start a community garden, you must be a non-profit group and submit an application before the March 15 deadline. This ensures there is enough time for staff to review and work with you on your request.

For a list of current community gardens, access to the community garden application go to:

<https://www.halifax.ca/recreation/parks-trails-gardens/gardens/community-gardens>

Or contact Darren Hirtle, Community Developer, at 902.490.4865 or hirtled@halifax.ca



Contact

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Open 7 days a week from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm Monday to Friday and 9:00 am to 5:30 pm Saturday and Sunday (closed Christmas Day & New Year's Da)