

Habitat for Humanity Active in Spryfield

On Monday, October 7th, I was pleased to be in attendance for Habitat for Humanity's announcement of their five-year project to build 30 homes in the Governor's Brook area of Spryfield. Habitat for Humanity has acquired 5.86 acres of land for this development.

Two single family home builds are planned for 2013/14 at Governor's Brook. Anyone who would like to volunteer please go to the Habitat for Humanity website at:

<https://cm2nshab.neworg.com/default.asp?PageNum=7>.

Walk and Win in HRM!

As a result of many volunteer and staff hours, we are able to enjoy beautiful, natural trails throughout our region including the MacIntosh Run Community Trail located right here in our own district. This trail, managed by the MacIntosh Run Management Association, has a trail head at 10 River Road that leads to 1.3 kilometres of finished trail including guaranteed wheelchair accessible sections.

If you have not yet visited this area, the Get Out...Check It Out (GOCIO) Trail challenge may just be the added incentive you need to get you and your family out enjoying our natural assets. From October 1st to October 31st, all you have to do is walk, hike and/or bike any trails in HRM and enter the contest by filling out the online entry form or tweet a picture of your trail use with the hashtag #HRMtrails. You may find the form online at www.halifax.ca and then search for Trail Challenge.

Prizes up for grabs include money for HRM recreation programs, bicycle helmets, pedometers, trail books, and water bottles.

Winners will be contacted after October 31st.

The Spryfield Silver and Black Attack continue to have a great season!

As many of you know, we have a Junior Hockey Team in Spryfield, which plays its home games at the Lions Rink. We are the only Junior C team in HRM, and offer some very entertaining hockey. This team is comprised of local players, with others from Dartmouth, Sackville, Fall River, and other communities outside of HRM. We are off to our best start in our short, 3-year history, and look to put together our best season ever.

You will see our home games advertised on signs throughout Spryfield, and also with posters at the rink. Our complete schedule is on www.nsjrchl.com. As well, our webpage www.spryfieldattackhockey.com has pictures, team information, videos and other important information to keep you up-to-date.

Our next home game is Saturday, October 26, at 8:00. I can assure you, you will not be disappointed.

Graffiti Management in HRM

During your Fall maintenance routine, you may notice signs of unsightly graffiti in your community or even on your own property. HRM has implemented a Graffiti Abatement Plan geared toward keeping our communities in HRM beautiful and clean all year round.

Graffiti is a form of vandalism in which HRM property or private property is marked or defaced using spray paint, markers or any other form of paint without the permission of the property owner. There are number of forms of graffiti such as “tags” that are usually placed in highly visible and high traffic areas.

The goal of the graffiti management in HRM is targeting and reducing the prevalence of graffiti within the community through a series of initiatives and policies that strengthen community capacity and increase civic responsibility.

Through the Graffiti Abatement Plan, Municipal Operations is responsible for the identification and rapid removal of graffiti from HRM infrastructure, no matter the location. Responsibilities include the ongoing monitoring of the site targeted to decrease the number of vandals and increase the odds of enforcement/arrest.

Obscene or offensive graffiti will be removed within 24 hours of identification or being reported. All other graffiti on HRM owned assets is removed with 3 business days. Municipal Operations provides private property owners free graffiti removal kits.

To report graffiti in progress please call 490-5020 and to report all other incidents of graffiti please call 311. For more information on obtaining a Graffiti Removal Kit please visit: www.halifax.ca and search for “Graffiti in the HRM”.

Halloween

Halloween is coming up fast. Preparing for “trick or treat” time with your little ones is a great way to encourage creativity, get involved in your community and begin or build on family traditions. Make sure your child has a fun experience trick-or-treating by following these safety tips:

Halloween Safety Tips For Your Little Ghosts and Goblins

- Bright costumes or reflective tape will help make your child visible
- When possible use face paint instead of a mask

- Have your child carry a flashlight or glow sticks
- There is safety in numbers, so have your child go trick or treating with a group or at least with a responsible adult.
- Remind your child to limit the number of times he or she crosses the street by going down one side of the street and up the other
- Older children should discuss their route with parents
- Check your child's treats before they dig in

Keep your own home Halloween safe:

- Use an LED light or flashlight instead of candles to illuminate your pumpkin
- Keep your front porch or entryway well-lit and free of tripping hazards
- Make sure your pets are in a safe area away from the front door to keep them calm

FALL BACK!

Daylight Savings Time ends at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday, November 3rd. Remember to set your clocks back one hour.

CONTACT ME

If you wish to contact me in regard to municipal issues, please do so by calling 477-0627 or by emailing me at Stephen.Adams@halifax.ca. You may also contact our HRM Citizen Contact Centre at 3-1-1 from 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. daily (except Christmas and New Year's Day) to request assistance.