



COUNCILLOR MATT WHITMAN
DISTRICT 13 ONLINE NEWS
HAMMONDS PLAINS - ST. MARGARETS

THANK YOU!



Thank you for your enduring support. I'm looking forward to continuing to work with the diverse communities of District 13 to foster a healthy community, improve our transportation network, invest in economic development and make HRM a great place to live, work and play.

ROAD CONSTRUCTION – HAMMONDS PLAINS RD.

We appreciate your patience during road construction on Hammonds Plains Road from Lucasville Road to Kingswood Drive. Remaining work on this project will be completed in the spring 2017.

CROSSWALK SAFETY



The Halifax Regional Municipality is committed to improving crosswalk safety for drivers and pedestrians. Crosswalk safety is everyone's responsibility, so don't

forget to [Stop and Lock](#) before you cross.

We are running a contest until Tuesday December 13th where residents can post their short video, picture or message showing how you practice crosswalk safety with the hashtag #headsupalifax for your chance to win one of five \$100 Visa gift cards. Check out our [website](#) for more details.

COMPOST MATTERS

The Halifax Regional Municipality has been extremely successful over the past 17 years with a robust compost management program. However, our organics management facilities are aging and have reached their processing capacity. We're looking for your input in how to move forward. Join the conversation on the future of our compost management program by completing the survey [online](#).

For more information on the municipality's compost, recycling and waste reduction programs visit our [website](#).



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MUNICIPAL PLANNING STRATEGY AMENDMENTS FOR 10 HECTARE LOTS

At the October 4th meeting of Regional Council, a staff report recommending public participation and possible amendments to the Regional Municipal Planning Strategy (MPS) for development on 10 hectare lots came forward, and at this week's Council meeting we set the date for a public hearing to amend the MPS and applicable community land use by-laws that prohibit development. The public hearing will be on December 13th 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

The *HRM Charter* allows lot sizes of 10 hectares or more to be created outside of the municipal subdivision approval process. This exemption is generally intended for resource uses such as farming or forestry. However, in recent years it has become more common for people to utilize the exemption with the intent of creating such lots for cottage or residential development. Although such lots can be created without meeting subdivision bylaw or Land Use Bylaw (LUB) requirements, development permits will only be issued if the development meets LUB requirements.

The municipality has heard from several landowners in recent months with questions and concerns related to development on lots of this nature. For more information about this issue, see our [website](#).

DRAFT CENTRE PLAN RELEASED

The Centre Plan will shape the Regional Centre for our future, serving as a blueprint for smart development by providing clarity on how and where growth should occur.

Last month, our Planning and Development team released the proposed urban structure for the Regional Centre. The urban structure considers existing development and land uses, and reflects a vision for how to grow in the Regional Centre over the next 15 years.

We are releasing the draft plan in installments to allow the time for thoughtful, considered review and public input in relation to each section of the plan. For more information, check out the Centre Plan [website](#).

POLICE WARN CITIZENS OF RECENT SCAMS

Investigators in the Financial Crime Unit of the Integrated Criminal Investigative Division are warning citizens about three recent scams; an email scam that claims to be from police regarding an overdue traffic ticket, a telephone prize scam claiming to be Publishers Clearing House and an online romance scam.

Investigators remind citizens to be suspicious of anyone asking for financial information by e-mail or over the phone. Refrain from providing personal information, whether the solicitation occurs by telephone, email or in person, unless you have initiated the contact or you are certain of the identification of the person and the legitimacy of the organization they claim to represent. Providing personal information such as your Social Insurance Number (SIN) and date of birth could lead to identity theft.

If you've lost money or provided personal information as a result of these or any other scam, please report the matter to your local police agency. There is no need to call police to report that you've been contacted in relation to these scams if you're not a victim. You can report a scam where you haven't been a victim to the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre [here](#) or by calling 1-888-495-8501.

HATS, SOCKS AND MITTS CAMPAIGN

The Hats, Socks and Mitts Campaign team are seeking donations for an online auction that will support HRM shelters at Christmas time.

The money raised will go towards purchasing new items for various shelters. The group are also collecting donations of hats, socks, mitts, toothbrushes, toothpaste, bars of soap, razors and backpacks to provide to shelters for distribution.

Check out their facebook page, or contact [Faye Edwards](#) to donate to this important cause.





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HALIFAX WATER STORMWATER RATE HEARING

Since July 2013, Halifax Water has had a separate stormwater charge as approved by the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board (NSUARB). Previous to this date, stormwater was included in a combined wastewater/stormwater charge initially levied by HRM in 1997 and continued by Halifax Water in 2007 after wastewater and stormwater assets were transferred from HRM.

On October 31, 2016 Halifax Water filed an application with the NSUARB to adjust the rates, rules and regulations regarding stormwater service to reflect a new cost of service approach. If this application is approved, many customers will see their rates decrease based on a new tier level system.

A public hearing will take place the week of January 23, 2017. For more information, see their [website](#).

How billing of the stormwater Right of Way charge, currently charged through your property tax bill, is paid is being reviewed by Regional Council. You can find the most recent staff report [here](#).

OFF SEASON BURNING RULES

October 16th to March 14th is the off-season for outdoor burning restrictions. During this period, the provincial burn map is not active but there are off-season burning restrictions in place.

Take a moment to find out whether your property requires a permit to burn by checking out our [website](#). If your property is serviced with municipal water and sewer, then you are in a Permit Required Zone. If you are in a Permit Required Zone, you must print and fill out a [municipal burn permit](#) or [campfire permit](#) and have it with you while burning. You must also have 23 metres' clearance from any building and burning can only take place from 8:00 a.m. until midnight.

If you live in rural parts of the municipality (No Permit Zones), campfires are allowed throughout the year and would need to be a minimum of 4.75 metres from any dwelling or accessory building. Campfires cannot be larger than .5 metres (1.6 feet) in diameter.



Route 330 Tantallon—Sheldrake Lake:

An **extra trip** has been added in the morning and afternoon on the Route 330 Tantallon—Sheldrake Lake.

330 Tantallon—Sheldrake Lake

To Downtown Halifax			To Sheldrake Lake—Tantallon		
Tantallon Park & Ride	Sheldrake Lake	Albemarle	Albemarle	Sheldrake Lake	Tantallon Park & Ride
6940	7618	Arrive	9061	7618	Arrive
Monday to Friday			Monday to Friday		
550a	558a	626a	145p	205p	221p
625a	-	656a	240p	300p	316p
-	642a	718a	320p	340p	356p
655a	-	736a	345p	-	422p
-	712a	750a	410p	-	455p
710a	-	751a	417p	452p	-
720a	-	801a	420p	-	505p
735a	-	816a	437p	-	522p
-	740a	818a	445p	-	530p
740a	-	821a	447p	522p	-
805a	-	846a	515p	-	600p
1255p	103p	140p	517p	552p	-
230p	238p	315p	545p	605p	633p
325p	333p	407p	615p	635p	651p
-	-	-	740p	800p	811p

No service Saturday, Sunday and Holidays.

View the updated 330 Tantallon—Sheldrake Lake schedule in the Riders' Guide or online at halifax.ca/transit/Schedules/documents/Route330.pdf.

HAMMONDS PLAINS HISTORICAL SOCIETY GENERAL MEETING AND PRESENTATION

The Hammonds Plains Historical Society will be holding it's November meeting and presentation on Monday November 28th at the Cornerstone Wesleyan Church at 7:00 p.m.

The presentation for the evening will be 'Life in Hammonds Plains during WW2'. Everyone is welcome to enjoy refreshments and this engaging talk. Check out their [website](#) for more information.





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CHRISTMAS' IN THE BAY

The St. Margaret's Bay Chamber of Commerce will be hosting a series of events from Friday November 25th to Sunday November 27th including various business specials, entertainment and activities. Check out their [website](#) for more details.

You can also stop by the Estabrooks Community Hall for their Christmas in the Bay celebration from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Saturday November 26th.

CHRISTMAS DINNER THEATRE

St. Nicholas Anglican Church will be performing "Christmas at Uncle Phil's Diner," a dinner theatre production that will take you back to the swinging 50's. The show runs at 6:15 on Friday November 25 and Saturday November 26. For tickets and information, see their [website](#).

HALIFAX CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING

Bring the whole family to enjoy the Halifax Christmas Tree Lighting at Grand Parade on Saturday November 26th from 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Give a donation for Feed Nova Scotia, enjoy live family entertainment and watch Santa Claus light our tree and few fireworks too.

CHRISTMAS AT THE BARN

Find the perfect gift for anyone on your holiday list by checking out Christmas at the Barn, a holiday market with plenty of unique vendors to stuff your stockings and fill your table.

The market will be open from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. November 26th, December 10th and December 17th. Check out their [website](#) for a full list of vendors and more details.

SANTA DRIVE-BY

Keep an eye out for the fire truck and listen for the music. The Hammonds Plains Fire Department will be giving out candy canes and accepting food and toy donations for our local food bank on December 4th from 8:00 am. – 4:00 p.m. Please give generously for those in need this holiday season.



November 27 / 5pm-7pm / Hammonds Plains Community Centre

Hammonds Plains Christmas Tree Lighting Celebration You're Invited!

Sunday November 27, 2016 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm
Hammonds Plains Community Centre, 2041 Hammonds
Plains Road

Come welcome Christmas into the community of
Hammonds Plains

- Enjoy Carol Signing
- Lighting of the 15 foot Christmas Tree
- Emmanuel Baptist Church Choir – Carol Signing
- Hot chocolate, cookies and candy canes for the children
- Donations of non-perishable food items to Feed Nova Scotia accepted
- Drop off letters to Santa Claus – Santa is planning on making an appearance!

COUNCILLOR MATT WHITMAN DISTRICT 13 HAMMONDS PLAINS – ST. MARGARET'S

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