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Remember the rule of three

Only flush pee, poop and toilet paper down the toilet. Anything else can lead to blocked pipes, sewer backups and costly repairs.

What not to flush

Protect your home and the wastewater system from clogged pipes by keeping these common culprits out of your toilets, sinks and drains:

- Wipes, paper towel, facial tissue
- Hair and medication
- Household hazardous waste
- Feminine hygiene products
- Diapers, wet wipes, rags, bandages
- Cotton swabs, condoms, cosmetics, dental floss

Learn more at calgary.ca/whatnottoflush

Celebrate Neighbour Day!

Get ready to celebrate [Neighbour Day](#) on **Saturday, June 20!** Gather your neighbours, fire up the BBQ and bring your community together for some fun.

Neighbour Day is our city's annual celebration of community spirit and connection. Held every year on the third Saturday in June, it's a chance to connect, meet new faces and strengthen the sense of community where you live. Whether it's a quick hello, sharing food or helping a neighbour out, those small connections can spark meaningful connections.

On June 20, in addition to Neighbour Day events, Sport Calgary's All Sport One Day will give children a free opportunity to try a new sport at sites across Calgary.

Show us how you're celebrating! Share your Neighbour Day moments on social media using

[#YYCNeighbourDay](#).

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To find Neighbour Day events happening near you, visit calgary.ca/NeighbourDay

Where there's water, there's risk

With summer finally approaching, the Calgary Fire Department is urging Calgarians to stay safe when enjoying our city's rivers and lakes.

Each year, we respond to a lot of calls to help citizens on our waterways, so we have compiled some information to help you stay safe.

Always **SCOUT**, **ASSESS** and **DECIDE** from shore before going on the water.

Scout the waterway for potential hazards, check weather and water conditions.

Assess the level of danger and assess the swimming and paddling skills of your group.

Decide if it is safe to swim, raft, boat or paddleboard.

Bring the right supplies:

- Watercraft suitable for the body of water and conditions
- Properly fitting life jackets for everyone on board
- Water, hats and sunscreen
- Cell phone to call for help in case of emergency
- A complete water safety kit

What's in a water safety kit?

Water safety kits are required on all types of watercraft, including kayaks, paddleboards, canoes, dinghies, inner tubes and rafts.

Water safety kits should include:

- **Water bailing devices** to remove water from inside the watercraft
- A **sound-signaling device** (portable air horn, whistle, mechanical whistle or bell) to alert others of your approach, or in case of emergency
- At least **15 metres of heaving rope**, towing line or floating line to help pull your watercraft to safety
- **Waterproof LED flashlight and SOS mirror** to call or signal for help in an emergency

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To learn more about water safety, visit calgary.ca/watersafety.

Help Grow Calgary's Urban Forest

Trees play an important role in making Calgary a healthy, livable city. They provide shade and cooling, improve air quality, support wildlife, and contribute to our overall well-being.

The City of Calgary is updating its Urban Forest Strategic Plan to help guide how trees are planted, protected and cared for across the city and we want to hear from you. An important part of this work focuses on private property where residents, businesses, and communities can have a major impact.

To reach Calgary's goal of 16% canopy cover by 2060, we need to better understand what supports Calgarians need to plant and care for trees on their property. Your feedback will help identify barriers and shape programs, incentives, resources and education to help make tree planting and care easier and more accessible.

Your input will directly inform updates to the Urban Forest Strategic Plan and help guide future decisions.

Share your thoughts between May 25 and June 26 at engage.calgary.ca/UrbanForestPlan.

Property tax is due Monday, June 30, pay or join TIPP by then to avoid late payment penalties

Property tax bills were mailed out in May, with a **payment due date of Tuesday, June 30**.

Property owners can also access online their current year's tax bill, and four previous years, through the City Of Calgary's secure website, calgary.ca/mytax.

The City's Tax Instalment Payment Plan (TIPP) is the most popular payment method. You pay the same amount as your annual property tax bill, but instead of one large lump sum payment in June, you pay smaller monthly instalments. TIPP makes budgeting easier, and you reduce the risk of late payment penalties.

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Signing up for TIPP is easy and you don't need to re-apply each year. The easiest and fastest way to join is using TIPP Online. It's easy, safe and secure. Through TIPP online, your customized agreement will be processed automatically. Once you submit, you will receive an email confirming your enrolment. To access TIPP Online, go to [Calgary.ca/TIPP](https://calgary.ca/TIPP) and click on the Join TIPP box.

Plan enrolment must be completed by the due date shown on your tax bill to avoid a late payment penalty.

If you're already on TIPP, you can visit calgary.ca/TIPP to learn how your monthly TIPP instalments are calculated and adjusted.

Seniors' Week celebrates 40 years of connection, contribution, and community

Seniors' Week is celebrated across Alberta from June 1 to 7. In Calgary, the theme is "40 Years of Connection, Contribution, and Community," marking the 40th anniversary of Seniors' Week in Alberta. This week is an opportunity to express our gratitude for older adults and acknowledge the invaluable contributions they make to our communities. Older adults are dynamic and integral members of community life. They support their families and friends, contribute their time and expertise through volunteering and work, and play a crucial role in enriching our communities.

Seniors' Week is for everyone. Senior-sector organizations, non-profits, and Calgarians from all walks of life come together to host fun, welcoming, cross-cultural, and multi-generational events across the city.

Get involved—drop into any Seniors' Week event, meet older adults in your community and enjoy the celebrations. Event listings and updates will be posted at calgary.ca/seniorsweek.

Keeping driveways clear near schools

As weather improves and school activity continues, neighbourhood streets near schools often experience increased congestion. One common issue is vehicles blocking residential driveways during drop-off and pick-up times.

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Parking too close to driveways can prevent residents from entering or leaving their homes and can delay service or emergency vehicles. These rules exist to protect access and safety for everyone—not just drivers.

When school areas feel crowded, parking a little farther away helps prevent spillover into neighbourhood streets. Respecting driveways, crosswalks and safety zones reduces conflict and keeps traffic moving more smoothly.

Safe parking helps create respectful, accessible neighbourhoods for families, students and residents alike. Learn more: <https://calgaryparking.com/safeschools>.

New City services now available in Shawnessy – South Calgary

Residents in south Calgary can now access Fair Entry and Calgary Transit services closer to home at the Shawnessy location.

The new site is located at 333 Shawville Blvd. S.E. (East Entrance) and offers:

- **Fair Entry services: Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.**
- **Calgary Transit services: Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.**

The Shawnessy location is easy to access, with free parking, close proximity to the Somerset–Bridlewood C-Train station and full accessibility for all visitors.

In addition to visiting Shawnessy, residents can access services at other Fair Entry locations across the city. A limited number of daily online appointments are available at all locations to help reduce wait times and make visits faster and easier.

Learn more, find a location or book an appointment at calgary.ca/fairentry.

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Spring gardening tips for a beautiful yard

The City of Calgary's YardSmart program offers free, local gardening advice from local experts – Calgary Horticultural Society. Here are three ways to get your yard summer-ready:

1. **Have good soil – and lots of it.** Add a base of at least 8 inches of good quality soil for a healthy garden or lawn. You can also improve your soil by adding compost.
2. **Add a garden bed.** Replacing a small part of your lawn helps your yard stay beautiful longer and use water wisely. Follow these YardSmart Basic steps for success:
 - **Start with lots of good soil.** “Soil is the foundation of a sustainable garden. It plays a vital role in supporting plant growth, improving water retention, and enhancing overall landscape sustainability,” says Kath Smythe, Calgary Horticultural Society.
 - **Design your garden to save water.** Direct your downspouts to tree wells or garden beds, and group plants with similar water needs together.
 - **Put the right plant in the right place.** Explore YardSmart's plant lists for plants that thrive in Calgary and where to plant them.
 - **Add mulch** to garden beds to prevent evaporation and keep weeds in check.
 - **Water wisely.** New plants need lots of water to get established, consult plant tags for specific directions and consider installing a rain barrel.
3. **Get local gardening advice to help your yard thrive.** Local experts know what works in Calgary's climate – saving you time, water and effort.

Visit calgary.ca/yardsmart to explore YardSmart's free plant lists, design layouts, how-to videos and yard care tips.

Village Square Leisure Centre will close for repairs and upgrades on Aug. 31 until the end of 2027

Village Square Leisure Centre (VSLC) has been a vital hub for people across Calgary for over 40 years. Most of the building's systems are original to the building and past their expected useful life. The City is

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investing in essential repairs and improvements to ensure this aging facility remains a safe and functional space for people to swim, be active, play, practice and gather.

VSLC will close for a service cycle upgrade and other required repairs **beginning Aug. 31**. It is expected to reopen by the end of 2027.

The facility will be closed during this time, with the following areas remaining open:

- Calgary Public Library and the Alberta Health Services Community Health Centre will remain open, with a short closure period planned. Timing is to be confirmed.
- The arenas will remain open until March 2027. They will then close for construction and reopen in mid-September 2027.
- We are working closely with Calgary Transit, Fair Entry and Centre for Newcomers to plan alternative access to services where possible. More information will be available in the coming months.

The project will:

- Extend the facility's lifespan.
- Reduce risk of unplanned shutdowns.
- Reduce annual maintenance and operating costs.
- Lower energy consumption and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Thank you for your patience as we work to extend the facility's lifespan. Details and updates on this project can be found at calgary.ca/VillageSquareRepairs. Questions can be directed to the project team at VillageSquareRepairs@calgary.ca.

Building Green Line LRT's bridges and elevated guideways

Calgarians will notice large structures taking shape along the Green Line route this summer as several bridges and elevated guideways get underway.

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Bridges allow trains to cross over roads, rivers, and other infrastructure. Elevated guideways are raised sections of track that lift trains above street level, reducing the need for street-level crossings, keeping people and traffic moving safely.

Two bridges, the 78 Avenue S.E. LRT bridge in Ogden and the Blackfoot Trail LRT bridge near Crossroads Market, are currently under construction and expected to be completed later this year.

Two elevated guideways will also be under construction this summer. The 11 Street S.E. guideway in Ramsay will carry riders between two elevated stations, 26 Avenue S.E. and Ramsay/Inglewood. A guideway over 114 Avenue and Barlow Trail S.E. will take passengers over that major intersection near Douglas Glen station.

Procurement for the Deerfoot Trail and Bow River bridges is underway, with construction expected to begin in late summer and completed in 2029. These bridges will run alongside existing Canadian National Railway bridges and connect to Refinery Park, just north of the Ogden community.

Additional bridges include the Ogden Road bridge and the Elbow River bridge, where the Green Line will cross between Victoria Park and Ramsay.

As work continues through the summer, residents can expect to see more progress above ground as key Green Line structures take shape across the southeast.

For more information on upcoming construction, visit calgary.ca/GreenLine.

A long-awaited upgrade at Weaselhead: boardwalk replacement is complete

The Weaselhead Boardwalk Replacement Project is now complete, restoring safe, year-round access through one of Calgary's most cherished natural areas while supporting the long-term health of the Elbow River Side Channel.

The new boardwalk follows the same alignment as the previous structure, a deliberate choice that allowed work to stay within an already impacted footprint and avoid disturbing new areas of land. The structure is elevated and designed to withstand seasonal flooding, improve accessibility and perform reliably in a dynamic river environment.

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Throughout the project, protecting the surrounding landscape was a priority. Construction was planned to reduce impacts in this ecologically sensitive area by working within an existing footprint and limiting the duration and intensity of on-site activity: wherever possible, preparation work was completed off-site, helping to keep on-site construction efficient and focused.

This project reflects an approach that values natural systems as part of the city's infrastructure. By managing how people move through the area and strengthening the riverbank's ability to handle erosion and flooding, the boardwalk supports both public use and long-term ecological function.

As the site continues to recover, visitors are encouraged to stay on designated trails and pathways and follow posted signage. These small actions help ensure the Weaselhead remains a resilient, welcoming place for people and nature—now and for generations to come.

<https://www.calgary.ca/parks/weaselhead-flats.html>

Celebrate Canada Day!

Come downtown on July 1 for The City of Calgary's Canada Day celebrations, a full day of fun, connection and culture for all ages.

Starting at 11 a.m, festivities take place throughout downtown, including The Confluence Historic Site & Parkland, Eau Claire Plaza, Prince's Island Park, Sien Lok Park and the Municipal Building. Each location offers unique activities and experiences that reflect the diversity of communities that call Canada home.

Featured highlights include an Indigenous spotlight and powwow, the Cultural Carousel showcasing cultural accessories, the Main Stage show with live performances and a variety of food trucks.

Wrap up the day with a spectacular fireworks show above Stampede Park just after 11 p.m.

Plan your visit with our interactive map and full event schedule at calgary.ca/CanadaDay.

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Get ready for hail season: climate ready home tips and tools

Hailstorms can cause significant damage to homes and property. Calgary is in “hail alley”, a hotspot for hailstorms in Canada, which makes all Calgary communities at risk of being hit by hail. The City’s Climate Ready Home Program shares practical guidance to help you reduce damage risk before storm season and make more resilient repair or upgrade choices.

Start at calgary.ca/ClimateReadyHome to:

- Review your home insurance policies to make sure you’re covered for hail damage.
- Monitor local weather forecasts and Alberta Emergency Alerts for storm watches/warnings, and if possible, store vehicles and belongings in a covered area.
- Explore home upgrades and resilient materials (for example, Class 4 impact-resistant roofing and hail resilient siding such as fibre cement) using Climate Ready Home resources as a guide.

These resources provide non-emergency guidance to help you take practical steps ahead of severe weather. Learn more at calgary.ca/ClimateReadyHome.