**Keeping you moving safely: online map shows Calgary’s traffic information**

Back to school time is just around the corner and that means Calgary’s roads will start getting busier again. We have created a map to show you the location of construction detours, traffic incidents and traffic cameras within Calgary. The information in this map can help you plan your route and look for alternative routes, if you need to. It is located at <https://maps.calgary.ca/>.

The Calgary Neighborhood Speed Map shows where the default unposted speed limit within city limits has been changed to 40 kilometres an hour. This change affects many residential roads and is a great map to be aware of at this time of year when schedules start to get packed.

Additional information about all-things related to The City of Calgary’s transportation network can be found on [www.calgary.ca](http://www.calgary.ca/) on the Transportation page.

**Understanding rights-of-way and your property**

 *Did you know that part of your yard is made up of rights-of-way, and your property line doesn’t begin at the edge of the road or sidewalk closest to your home?*

The City of Calgary is responsible for managing access to municipal rights-of-way in Calgary. A right-of-way is an area that gives The City space to install infrastructure (i.e. street light poles and trees), while also giving shallow utilities (i.e. power, gas and telecommunications providers) a place to install and maintain their critical infrastructure.

When utility work is required in your community, crews can apply for the permits required to access the right-of-way to install infrastructure, both above and below ground. All properties contain a road right-of-way, but only some properties have a utility right-of-way on them. In most cases, the utility right-of way starts at your property line and extends inward, toward your home. The space the right-of-way takes up in a yard will vary and it can also be located along the side of your home or at the back.

As a homeowner, you are responsible for mowing and general maintenance, but it is technically the road right-of-way and is considered public land.

For more information or to learn where the right-of-way is located on your property, visit [calgary.ca/row](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Ccdavis%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CMicrosoft%5CWindows%5CINetCache%5CContent.Outlook%5CUYGHY28Z%5Ccalgary.ca%5Crow).

**Elect to help**

Elections Calgary is hiring! We are recruiting people to work during the advance vote (Oct. 4-10, 2021) and on election day (Oct. 18, 2021) for the 2021 general election.

There are a variety of positions available, including: presiding deputy returning officer, deputing returning officer, ballot clerk, tabulator clerk and information officer. You must be at least 16 years old to apply for the role of information officer, and 18+ years old to apply for all other roles.

Election workers are paid positions. The pay will vary depending on the position.

Visit [electionscalgary.ca](https://www.calgary.ca/election/for-workers/default.html)for more information and to [sign up](http://calgaryelections.s3-website-us-east-1.amazonaws.com/prod/registrationform.html) for the Elections Calgary eNewsletter for election job updates.

**A healthier yard and watering wisely go hand-in-hand**

During the summer, water use in Calgary communities can increase by 20 to 30 per cent. This increase is due in large part to our watering of gardens and grass. Increased demand for water places a strain on our rivers – the source of our drinking water – and water treatment plants. Being mindful of the water we use outdoors can reduce the impact of hot and dry weather on our yards and gardens.

Adopt these simple tips to ensure you’re using water wisely:

* Watch your weather forecast and skip watering when it has rained or is forecast to rain.
* Avoid watering in the heat of the day (10 a.m. to 3 p.m.). The best time to water is early in the morning.
* Use the right watering tool for the job. A soaker hose, drip irrigation and a watering can direct water where it is needed most – at the plant roots.
* Capture free rainwater in a rain barrel and use it on your trees, shrubs and flowers.
* Keep your lawn at least three inches high. Taller grass shades the soil, requiring less water and staying healthier.
* Add bark, wood chips or stones to reduce water evaporation from your soil.

Visit calgary.ca/waterguide for information on how to create a water efficient yard including Watering 101 for plants, shrubs and trees, lawn care and irrigation systems.

**Stay safe, stay out of storm ponds**

Stormwater, from rain and melting snow, washes away from rooftops, driveways, lawns, streets and sidewalks. Along the way, it collects dirt, pet feces, fertilizer and other pollutants while travelling to the nearest storm drain. In Calgary’s newer communities, large underground pipes carry this stormwater to storm ponds.

Think of a storm pond as a natural water treatment facility. Without the treatment a storm pond provides, this water would head untreated to our rivers. Instead, storm ponds help keep our rivers, creeks and streams healthier by allowing sediment and contaminants that have come in to be filtered out before being discharged into the Bow and Elbow Rivers.

Keep your family and pets healthy and safe by keeping them out of storm ponds. Although they often look like natural small lakes, storm ponds have an important job to do. They protect our communities from flooding and they help to clean stormwater. Because of poor water quality and the potential for rapidly changing water levels, a storm pond should never be used for recreational purposes like wading, swimming, boating or fishing.

Learn more about storm ponds at [www.calgary.ca/stormponds](http://www.calgary.ca/stormponds).