

GET IN TOUCH WITH YOUR COUNCIL



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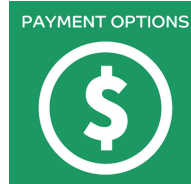


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Do You Have a Recent Change in Your Mailing Address or Phone Number? Let Us Know!

Drop by the Municipal Office at 76 Morison Drive, or call us at 902-798-8391



Check Out Our Payment Options

We offer a variety of payment options including debit, cash, cheque or through your online banking. Information can be found on your tax or water bill, or at www.westhants.ca/payment-options.html



West Hants' Emergency Management Organization

For all things Emergency Management related, visit www.westhants.ca/emo

WEST HANTS PHONE TREE

Who doesn't love a shortcut? Here is a quick reference if you need to call us!

West Hants Municipal Offices 902-798-8391

- | | |
|----------|---------------------------|
| Ext. 201 | General Inquiries |
| Ext. 107 | Water Inquiries |
| Ext. 106 | Property Tax Inquiries |
| Ext. 134 | Administration Inquiries |
| Ext. 115 | Planning Inquiries |
| Ext. 112 | By-law Enforcement |
| Ext. 125 | Public Works Inquiries |
| Ext. 128 | Waste Services Specialist |
| Ext. 124 | Community Development |
| Ext. 213 | Economic Development |
| Ext. 215 | Community Centre |
| Ext. 217 | West Hants Sports Complex |



West Hants
something inspiring awaits

INSPIRED
APRIL 2025

Message from the Mayor, "Spring is Here!"



Dalhousie University hosted a Community Engagement Day in West Hants on March 20. Round table discussions focused on opportunities and challenges facing Nova Scotia communities. The morning session was led by Mayor Zebian (right) and Dalhousie University's President and Vice-Chancellor, Kim Brooks (left). Discussions included local property developers, the Windsor Agricultural Society, Healthcare, the Avon Chamber of Commerce, the Windsor Township Business Association, business owners and operators, and students.

The days are getting longer, more sunshine is arriving, temperatures are rising, flowers are blooming. Our communities are coming alive with outdoor activities that bring smiles to all.

The arrival of spring signals the beginning of budget deliberations for our municipality. Over the next several weeks, our council will review both the operating and capital budgets, ensuring we prioritize balanced investments in crucial areas such as infrastructure, transportation, recreational amenities, and community safety. It remains our steadfast goal to produce a budget that not only addresses the needs of our growing community but also keeps affordability at the forefront of our discussions.

In West Hants, we take immense pride in providing dynamic recreational facilities and opportunities for all residents, from our enthusiastic youth to our respected seniors. I encourage everyone to take full advantage of the beautiful walking trails, lush parks, and our state-of-the-art sports complex, which truly offer something for everyone.

On a personal note, I'd like to highlight that April is Autism Awareness Month. We must raise our awareness and understanding of autism to help end stigma and discrimination and extend compassion to those affected by autism in our community.

Shopping Local Supports Your Community

In West Hants we are blessed to have an array of unique small businesses that offer exceptional and delicious products and foster a strong sense of community. The presence of the Canada Flag and Nova Scotia Loyal symbols is an invitation to buy local. Supporting our local businesses means reconsidering our purchasing habits, especially when it comes to online orders. Our locally owned franchises contribute to our economy by generating jobs, increasing commercial taxes, and bolstering community support.

I would also like to highlight the incredible generosity and community spirit demonstrated by our small businesses. They have BIG HEARTS, as seen in their unwavering support for local schools, not-for-profits, and our sports teams. Their commitment enhances the quality of life for all residents in the area.

Let's work together to ensure our community remains vibrant and resilient in these trying times by prioritizing local shopping and supporting our amazing business community.

Keep Inspiring West Hants!"
~Mayor Abe

Earth Day is April 22!

Take time to appreciate your natural environment and the things you can do to improve it.

Consider:

- Organize a litter clean-up in your community; www.westhants.ca/plan-a-community-litter-clean-up.html
- Turn off your lights, turn down the thermostat to save on heating, and take a shorter shower to conserve water.
- Efficiency Nova Scotia offers rebates, grants, and technical assistance at: www.energycyns.ca

The West Hants Regional Municipality strives to promote both an economically and environmentally viable community, now and for future generations.

Reduce, reuse, recycle every day!



Planning and Development

Building and Development Permits:

Are you looking to build on or renovate your property? Development and/or building permits are required for most construction projects in WHRM. If you are renovating an existing building, constructing a new building, or putting up a storage shed, you need to obtain a permit before starting the job - even when under 100 sq. ft.

Permits are also needed for small projects such as signs, awnings, decks, porches, swimming pools, fences, and garden sheds and for repairs, alterations, additions, or demolition of existing buildings.

Please note that the issuance of a permit can take between 4-6 weeks from the time all required application material has been received by staff.

When in doubt whether a permit is required, please reach out to the Planning and Development Department before beginning your project at 902-798-8391 ext. 115 or at planning@westhants.ca



Switch West Hants can help YOU finance energy upgrades to your home like solar panels, heat pumps, insulation, and more! We have made some important program changes including:

- A lower interest rate (Prime Plus 2.5%) fixed for the loan term upon signing your participation agreement
- Solar loan terms have been extended from 10 to 15 years to reduce monthly payments and make solar upgrades more affordable

If you have questions about improving the efficiency of your home, our Energy Concierge team is available to help.

Call 902-334-4100 or email info@switchwesthants.ca for support and keep an eye on the website (www.switchwesthants.ca) for details about an upcoming Homeowner Information Session.

Let's Stay In Touch

We want to hear from you. It is important that we stay in touch, and you get the responses that you need. Submit your questions using our on-line feedback form. www.westhants.ca/feedback

All Council and Committee meetings are live streamed on our YouTube Channel. It's easy to find. Just click on the link on our website or subscribe: www.youtube.com/@westhantsregionalmunicipal6378

www.westhants.ca

Solid Waste Bylaw Updates

Updates to the West Hants Regional Municipality Solid Waste Bylaw aim to reduce the amount of waste being sent to the landfill that's generated in West Hants. These changes promote recycling and composting, minimizing environmental impact, and foster a culture of responsibility and sustainability within the community.

The following are curbside collection Solid Waste Bylaws for all of WHRM (based on per unit):

- Maximum of five (5) residual waste regulation bags
- Residual waste must be placed in watertight clear, transparent bags with an overall length of not more than 3.28 ft (1m) when empty and requires sufficient thickness to prevent breakage, tearing or splitting upon collection
 - One small solid-coloured privacy bag no larger than 22 x 24 inches may be placed in each clear bag
- Maximum of six (6) paper bags of leaf and yard waste in addition to the organics cart year round
 - **Windsor residents please note, we have discontinued the leaf and yard waste special collection, running from April to November**
- Bulky items - certain large items, such as furniture, may weigh up to 75kg (165lbs). Items weighing more than 75kg will not be collected



Help Shape Our Future

Did you know that West Hants Regional Municipality has several Advisory Committees to Council?

Advisory Committees are crucial for municipal councils as they provide valuable resident input, expertise, and diverse perspectives on specific issues, helping councils make informed decisions and enhance community engagement. They are an opportunity for residents to learn about topics they care about and participate in ongoing discussions that contribute to important decisions affecting their community.

Want to make a difference in your community?

Consider applying for a vacancy on one of our advisory committee boards.

- Accessibility Advisory Committee
- Audit Committee
- Climate Action Committee
- Diverse and Inclusive Communities Committee
- Planning and Heritage Advisory Committee
- Police Advisory Board

Have a question or want more information on current vacancies, reach out to Deanna dsnair@westhants.ca 902-798-8391, ext. 134



Community Development

Get ACTIVE West Hants! FREE Equipment Loan Program

West Hants offers a FREE Equipment Loan Program, including Adaptive Equipment!

- Canoes • Kayaks • Paddle Boards • Bikes • Bike trailers • Hippocamps - including trail wheels • Adult tricycles • Walking poles • Indoor walking - WHRM Sports Complex

Book your equipment today!
Email: programs@westhants.ca
or call: 902-798-8391 ext 214



When you see this window decal at a local business you can feel proud of supporting a business who in turn supports your community, your kids, and our local not-for-profit organizations. Be proud of these businesses and say thanks!

Information:
<https://westhants.ca/inspiring-business.html>

Are You Hosting an Event in 2025?

A Special Event Permit may be required if hosting a large event in West Hants, on private or public property. Likewise, a parade, procession or a walkathon, on a WHRM Street or provincial roadway, requires a Street Event application be submitted to the Municipal Traffic Authority or to NS Department of Public Works.

For information and assistance, contact:
VanEssa Roberts at 902-798-1708
email: vanesa@westhants.ca

www.westhants.ca/forms-and-applications.html

REBATE

2025-26 ASSISTANCE REBATE PROGRAMS

Forms Now Available!

- **APPLICATION DEADLINE: JULY 31, 2025**
- Property Tax Assistance Rebate
- Utility Assistance Rebates (sewer, bulk water purchases)

If household total income does not exceed \$46,414 for 2024, property owners, sewer customers and bulk water purchasers may be eligible for a rebate (additional qualifiers apply). Applicants must reapply every year.



Look for this icon at westhants.ca for more information and to download the application form.

Questions?
Call 902-798-8391, Ext. 138 or email: jdrysdale@westhants.ca

Questions or Concerns about WHRM or Provincial owned roads and infrastructure?

West Hants Regional Municipality is responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of transportation systems that are owned by the Municipality, while the remaining roads and sidewalks are managed by the Province - NSPW

WHRM: kritchie@westhants.ca or 902-798-8391 Ext. 125.
Provincial: DPW-OCC@novascotia.ca or 1-844-696-7737
Note: Provincial rules & regulations may differ.

Who owns my road?
<https://www.westhants.ca/municipal-maintained-roads.html>

ALWAYS CHECK BEFORE YOU BURN!
UPDATED 2 PM DAILY
www.novascotia.ca/burnsafe or 1-855-564-2876(BURN)

BURN BURNING IS PERMITTED 2 PM - 8 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY	RESTRICTED BURN BURNING IS PERMITTED 7 PM - 8 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY	NO BURN BURNING IS NOT PERMITTED
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Cellular for Nova Scotia Program
Commitment to Connectivity

No Signal or Unreliable Coverage?
Let Us Know.
<https://bit.ly/CFSNP-Survey>