



The Town of Flatrock

663 Wind Gap Road
Flatrock, NL
A1K 1C7

PHONE (709) 437-6312
FAX: (709) 437-6311

www.townofflatrock.com

March, 2015

Motorized Vehicles

The Town Council of Flatrock has an update on the ban on all motorized vehicles on all ponds in the Town of Flatrock as they are part of the town's water shed area.

In our last newsletter the council said that all motorized vehicles were banned from all ponds in our town. Since the newsletter went out we have been getting a lot of feedback from concerned residents who use our ponds for recreational purposes. The Town of Flatrock would like to clarify and adjust our statement to the following, the ban of motorized vehicles, at this time, only refers to **what exists under our 2001 Municipal Town Plan.**

In saying this, recreational use of all ponds is still permitted: fishing, canoeing, paddle boat/row boat, electric trolling motors, winter recreation like skidooing, quads, ice trouting etc. is also permitted.

The Town Council is in the process of reassessing the watershed zonings in the town.

The Town of Flatrock would like to remind all users of any ponds in Flatrock to keep them clean, take any trash back out with you when you are leaving, let others know to take their trash as well and if you see someone littering in and around our ponds, report them to the town office.

If there are any questions or concerns please contact the Town Office, Monday to Friday 8:30 - 4:30.

2015 Property Taxes

2015 Property taxes are in the mail.

If you did not receive your invoice please contact the town office even if your taxes are paid by a bank, you would still receive a copy of the invoice. Tax payments can be made by monthly instalments. Payments are accepted by Visa, Debit, MasterCard, cheques and cash as well as post - dated cheques, at the town office between the hours of 8:30 to 4:15, Monday to Friday. The office does not close for lunch.

The Town Council has a ten percent seniors discount in place, if you are a homeowner and 65 or older you need to bring identification to the town office with your date of birth on it. If you are already the registered home owner and paying taxes, you will only need your ID. If you are not the registered home owner then you would need a copy of your deed showing you as the owner plus your ID.

Student Summer Employment

Resumes and Applications are now being accepted for summer employment with the town and it's non – profit organizations. Positions are available in the following departments:

- Recreation
- Maintenance/Public Works
- Heritage/Museum

Residents are advised that all positions are subject to funding approval from all sources.

Please mail completed applications to:

Town of Flatrock
663 Wind Gap Road
Flatrock, NL, A1K 1C7

Hand deliver to: Town of Flatrock

E-mail: info@townofflatrock.com

DEADLINE for applications: 3 pm on Thursday, April 30, 2015

Hiring Practices for Summer Students

The Town of Flatrock avails of government funding from federal and provincial sources for summer student's positions. As per summer employment positions policies all employers MUST post on JobsinNL.ca for a minimum of three days to ensure fair and equitable access to all students seeking employment. With each funding source there are different requirements that we must follow when selecting students. Some positions are post-secondary only, while others can be secondary or post-secondary.

When completing the application form, students are asked to check what positions they are interested in. From here, all applications are copied and given to each committee. For example, if John Doe applies for a position with Recreation and Heritage then his application is only given to those committees. All students will be interviewed.

Emergency Plan

If you know of anyone with an illness or who made need help during an emergency in the town. Please send the information to info@townofflatrock.com

Volunteer Week

Volunteer Week is April 12 to 18, 2015. The Town Council of Flatrock would like to thank and to recognize all of the amazing volunteers in our community for their time and talents during the year. You as Volunteers are the heart of our community and without you so many events would not take place. Thank you to all our volunteers.

ICSP

The Town Council of Flatrock would like to send a sincere thank you to Anna Kralik of Flatrock for her years of volunteering as a Community Representative for Flatrock and then as a secretary on the ICSP [Integrated Community Sustainability Plan] for the towns of Flatrock, Bauline and Pouch Cove. Council wish you well in your future endeavours.

TVFD

The Town Council of Flatrock would like to acknowledge and recognise Torbay Volunteer Fire Fighter and Flatrock resident Philip Whitten who was given a bravery award from the Town of Torbay for saving a family of four when their house caught on fire, August 2013. Congratulations to Philip on his award.

Easter Colouring Contest

The Town of Flatrock is having an Easter Coloring Contest. The picture is attached to this newsletter. We will be picking one winner from four age groups: 2 years and under; 3 to 5 years; 6 to 8 years and 9 to 12 years. You can drop off your picture to the Town Office from Monday to Friday between 8:30 to 4:00 pm. or after hours it can be put in the mail slot outside the office door. The deadline will be Friday, March 27th, 2015 at 3:00 pm. The winners will be selected at the council meeting on March 30th, 2015 and will be notified the next day. The winners will receive a gift card from Chapters.

House Numbers

The Torbay Volunteer Fire Department has requested that if possible all residents have visible house numbers placed on their homes in case of emergency.

Neighbourhood Watch

The Town Council of Flatrock is working with Royal Newfoundland Constabulary and the [ICSP] Integrated Community Sustainability Plan Committee to start a Neighborhood Watch Program in the Town Of Flatrock. The town is looking to set a committee of interested residents. If you are interested please contact the town office.

Flatrock Community Center

The Flatrock Town Council is looking for **expressions of interest to have some pictures painted on one wall** in the community center. The Council will provide some ideas. If you are interested please contact the town office 437-6312 or email:

info@townofflatrock.com

Please note that **Security Cameras are in place at the Flatrock Community Center 24 hours a day, seven days a week.**

Museum

The Town Council of Flatrock would like to acknowledge and thank Ed Wade for the two books he compiled and donated to the Flatrock Museum for everyone to access. "Flatrock Starting your Family Tree" and "Flatrock Record of Deaths 1891- 1936".

SAM Stewardship Association of Municipalities

The Town Council of Flatrock will be hosting the SAM Board of Directors meeting May 22 to 24, 2015 at the Flatrock Community Center. The town is looking for any local businesses who would like the opportunity to supply an item ** advertising your company information on it, for the gift bag to present to all visiting members from across Newfoundland and Labrador. **Please contact the office for details. Phone 437-6312 or info@townofflatrock.com.

Snow Clearing

The Town Council would like to remind residents **NOT to park on sides of road** so our snow clearing equipment can have room to clear the town roads. Remember you are **NOT allowed to shovel snow** out in to the road or across the road to cause an obstruction to traffic, **this is a safety issue to everyone**. The Town is not responsible for any damages incurred to any fence or garbage box that is not set back 17.5 ft. from center of any local road and 33.5 ft. from any highway. The town has a priority list of roads to follow and our children's safety and school bus runs are at the top. Please **watch for children waiting for school buses** during our snow season, remember "**Snow means Slow**".

Pests

The Town Council of Flatrock has received some concerns from residents regarding garbage being left around on properties that is attracting rodents, please try not to leave garbage around and to use a garbage box if possible.

Home Renovations

The Town Council of Flatrock now has a Renovation Permit for all renovations in the Town Of Flatrock. You will need to fill in an application stating what renovations you are having done. The application does not need to go to a Council meeting. You pick up your Renovation Permit for a fee of \$25.00.

Permits

Permits are needed for all sheds even movable sheds, please contact Town Office for details. If you have a shed on your property the permit application is \$10.00 and permit costs 20 cents a square foot with a minimum cost of \$30.00. You can be asked to remove a shed if you do not have a permit for it.

Sports

Congratulations to Flatrock residents:

If anyone has an acknowledgement of any **sports accomplishments** that they would like to have in the town newsletters, please send the information to info@townofflatrock.com.

Soccer

Please be advised that the soccer registration for the children will take place at the Town Hall in April. Further details to follow.

Soiree

The date for the 2015 Flatrock Soiree is July 24th to 26th.

Tourism Committee

The date of the next Tourism Meeting will be posted on the town website.

Heritage Committee

The date of the next Heritage Meeting will be posted on the town website.

Environment Committee

Hike on April 11th with the 18th being an alternate in case of weather. It will be on East Coast trail starting at 10am on Red Head and ending at Satellite Road. Bring own water and a mug. Healthy snacks encouraged. Committee will provide some.

Hike on July 11th with the 18th being an alternate in case of weather. Lookout Trail awareness hike with some refreshments will start at 10am from Wade's Farm Rd. The goal of this hike is to help with prep and maintenance of the trail. More info will follow as we get closer to the date.

Hike on July 23rd to be in association with the Soirée. It will start at Wade's Farm Rd and proceed along the East Coast trail to the Beamer. Some snacks and refreshments will be provided. More info will follow as we get closer to the date.

Next Environment Committee meeting will be on April 8, 2015 at 7:00pm in the Community Center. Everyone welcome.

Any questions please contact Robert Schmiedendorf at email rschmiedendorf@yahoo.ca.

Important Dates

International Day of the Forests is March 21, 2015.

Earth Day is April 22, 2015.

Arbor Day in NL is June 1, 2015.

Flatrock Recreation

Information attached.

Flatrock 50 + Club

Information attached.

Food Bank

The Town Council will accept non-perishable food items for the local food bank year round. If you would like to donate to the food bank you can bring the non-perishable food to the town office Monday to Friday between 8:30am and 4 pm or anytime the town hall is open for functions or any activities.

Pole Lights

If any pole lights are out near your home you may contact the Town Office and we will let Newfoundland Power know of this situation. If you can provide the number that is on the pole to the council office, this will speed up the process of getting the light replaced.

Holidays

Please be advised that the Town Hall will be closed on:

April 3 for Good Friday and

Monday, April 20 for St. George's Day.

BIZPAL

BizPaL is an online service, www.bizpal.gov.nl.ca providing permit and licence information to help entrepreneurs start and grow their business. BizPal provides integrated information on permits, licences and other regulatory requirements across three levels of government. BizPal's web-based, self service application is practical, free and easy to use. Using a question and answer format, BizPal generates an accurate, timely and customized list of permits and licences that entrepreneurs may require for starting or growing a business.

Dog Tags

If you would like your dog or even your cat registered in the town, so we would know who owns the pet if it should get out, then just drop by the town office and get a license for your pet, they are **FREE OF CHARGE**.

Animal Control

The Town of Flatrock has Meagan Battersby, the animal control officer for the town of Torbay working animal control for Flatrock. If you need to contact Meagan regarding an animal issue you may contact her at 437-6532 (ext 285), or call the Flatrock Town Hall at 437-6312.

Town Council Meetings

Deadline for applications or correspondence for Flatrock Town Council meetings are noon on the Thursdays before the meeting. The Town Council meets every second Monday and is open to the public at all times. If you wish to speak to Council on a matter, please call ahead of time so we can put your name on the agenda. The next council meetings are: Monday – March 30, Monday- April 13 and Monday – April 27.

Recycling

Residents are asked to have your recycling out with your garbage by 8:00 am on those dates. Remember **greasy containers** such as chicken boxes and buckets as well as pizza boxes are **not** recyclable. **Styrofoam and wrapping paper** are **not** recyclable items either. Just a reminder, you can drop off your recyclables, the ones you pay a deposit on, to the Town Hall. These recyclables [remove corks and covers] are going into an account at the Evergreen Recycling Depot and all money raised will go to the Flatrock Recreation Program. If you would like to donate your recycling to the Flatrock Recreation Program, drop them off at the Evergreen Recycling Depot marked "**Town of Flatrock**".

Compost Bins

Compost bins are available for anyone interested in having one. Cost is \$21.99 plus \$2.86 tax, total \$24.85 each. If you would like to have a compost bin you can drop by the town office and pick one up.

Diabetes Containers

There are two red containers for clothing donations to the Diabetes Association located at the Flatrock Town Hall.

Breakfast with the Easter Bunny

Flatrock Recreation will be holding our annual Breakfast with the Easter Bunny on Saturday, March 28th, at the Flatrock Community Centre from 9:30 am to 11:30 am. Tickets are \$5 per adult and \$3 per child. Children aged 2 and under do not require tickets. Tickets are now available for purchase at the Flatrock Town Hall or Wilkinson's Convenience. Don't forget to bring your camera for a picture with the Easter Bunny.

Find your Fit! 30 Day Challenge

Find Your Fit! is a province wide physical activity campaign designed to get individuals motivated and moving towards healthy, active living. During the month of April, Recreation NL will be holding a 30 Day Community Challenge with the goal is to engage as many people in the province to participate in some sort of physical activity. The Town of Flatrock have registered for this challenge and we are currently developing a variety of activities to occur during the duration of April. Please check our Facebook page and website updates. We have an opportunity to win a prize value at \$2,500.

New Members

Flatrock Recreation is currently looking for new members to join the Recreation Commission. If you are looking to volunteer and help grow your community then the recreation commission may be a perfect fit for you. We meet once a month (second Tuesday in the month) and hold a number of activities and events throughout the year. For additional information, please contact the Regional Recreation Coordinator at 335 2848 ext. 4 or via email at recreation@townofflatrock.com.

2015 Killick Coast Games

The Town of Portugal Cove – St. Phillips will be hosting the 2015 Killick Coast Games from July 26th to July 30th. Details regarding registration will be posted as we get closer to the date of the games.

2015 Snowfest Celebrations

Thank you to the many individuals and organizations who helped to make our 2015 Snowfest Celebrations a great success. All events were well attended and lots of fun was had by young and old alike. Hope to see you all again next year!

The winners of the Snowfest Prizes are:

Card Game Door Prize \$100.00 # 51 Mary Ann Morey

Card Game 50/50 Carm Martin

Easter Basket # 72 Leni Wade

NL Basket #710 David Colbourne

Night on the Town # 443 Tanya Power

Dance 50/50 Dianne M Stamp

All prizes have been claimed.

Flatrock Fifty Plus Fun Club

Well, winter is coming to an end, the evenings are getting longer and we are all happy to see an end to the cold weather.

Our club has been active all winter, taking part in all kinds of activities. We have a busy schedule for the next couple of months.

One of our members, Dianne Stamp, has started a Knit for Kids project, (You can check out her Facebook page, Knit for Kids). Her challenge is to get as many knitted items as she can to donate to a worthwhile organization by November. She has the seniors at North Pond Manor in Torbay involved, as well as members of our fifty plus group. If you're interested in getting involved please contact Dianne through the face book page if you want to donate some wool or if you want to get involved. She has patterns and lots of good ideas.

We are also working on a project with the Torbay Pathfinders Group. They are collecting pillow slips which will be made into dresses to send to a childrens aid group in Africa. If you have any pillow slips lying around in your closet, too good to throw out, but that you don't need, please send them along. You can contact Carm Martin to arrange drop off or pickup, or our next meeting is at the Community Centre on Thursday, March 26, you can drop it off there.

We had a very successful card game in early March, as part of Snowfest 2015 and would like to thank all who attended and all who helped out. We have another bowling night planned for April 11.

We have a Mothers Day Dinner and Dance planned for May 2 at the Community Centre. Tickets are \$30.00 each and include 3 course buffett meal with your choice of beef, chicken or salmon, tea / coffee, wine with your meal. There will be a dance following dinner, with bar service. Tickets have to be picked up by April 20 and you can call any member of the executive, phone numbers listed below to order.

We also have a fun weekend planned for August 28, 29 and 30 at the Celtic Rendezvous in Ferryland. An evening at the Dinner Theatre in Ferryland and lunch at the lighthouse in Ferryland are just a couple of the events planned for the weekend, plus lots of laughter and good times.

A reminder, our group meets every second Thursday at the Community Centre, our next meeting is March 26, so please feel free to drop by.

Sincerely

Flatrock 50 Plus Fun Club

Carm Martin, President 437-6921

Patsy Bishop, Vice President 437- 2352

Danny Kavanagh, Second Vice President 437-6902

Marg Parson, Secretary 437-5789

Michael Wade, Treasurer 437-6079

After Hours Emergencies

Town staff is NOT to be called after hours; they can be reached through the Town office Monday to Friday from 8:30 am to 4:15 pm.

For after hour emergencies the Town Council can be reached at the following numbers:

Mayor Darrin Thorne	Finance/ Roads/ Arena/ North East Avalon Joint Council NEAJC	437-5654
Deputy Mayor Terry Humber	Tourism/ Planning/ Community Center/ Soiree/ Killick Coast Games	437- 6634
Marion McCarthy	Recreation / Heritage / Soiree/ Killick Coast Games	437-6945
Michelle Martin	Recreation / Heritage / ICSP/ Volunteer Fire Dept liaison/ Killick Coast Games	437-5016
Paul Burton	Tourism/ Streetlights/ Roads/ Animal & Garbage Control/ Killick Coast Games	727-6640
Catherine Houlihan	Environment/ Heritage/ Soiree/ Stewardship Association Of Municipalities SAM/ North East Avalon Joint Council NEAJC	437-1452
Bob Schmiedendorf	Environment/ICSP Integrated Community Sustainability Plan	437-6255

Kevin Parsons MHA

Kevin Parsons MHA contact information: phone 729-6979, fax 729-5774,
Email: kevinparsons@gov.nl.ca

Jack Harris MP

Jack Harris MP contact information: phone 772-7171, email: Jack.Harris@parl.gc.ca

Facebook and Twitter

To keep up to date on what is happening in the Town!

Like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/townofflatrock or follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/townofflatrock

Household Hazard Waste:

The Household Hazardous Waste drop-off at the Regional Facility located at Robin Hood Bay operates every Saturday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. from June to November. For more detailed information on the materials accepted there, please visit:

www.curbitstjohns.ca/?Content=Residents/Household_Hazardous_Waste

eWaste NL [Electronics Waste]

There are electronics recycling depots for TV's, computers, etc. in St. John's. The contact information is: eWasteNL@gmail.com or phone 689-7402.

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Starting to Compost?

Complete Compost Guide

DECIDE ON A COMPOST BIN AND LOCATION.

Wondering what sort of compost bin or pile to start. You should first determine how much organic waste you have, how much effort you are willing to put into maintaining the pile, how quickly you want a finished product, and whether you want to build or buy a bin.

Location! Location! Location!

Inside: You can conveniently store kitchen waste under the sink in a small, covered container. Be sure to empty it into your outside compost bin frequently to reduce smells inside your house.

Outside: Place your compost bin in a sunny area with good drainage. Make sure that the location is convenient and accessible year round.



Let's get to half. GetToHalf.com



THE RECIPE FOR SUCCESSFUL COMPOST.

The five essential elements for successful composting are: food, water, oxygen, surface area, and volume.

- Food:** It is important to maintain a suitable carbon-to-nitrogen ratio in the pile, or brown-to-green wastes. A good mixture of material consists of 50% brown and 50% green materials (by weight, not volume).

Put in:

From the house:

fruit and vegetable matter (green)
coffee grounds and filters (green)
tea leaves and bags (green)
rice, oats, and other grains (brown)
dried corn stalks (brown)
pasta (brown)
peanut shells (brown)
bread and other baked goods (brown)
egg shells (neutral, but a good source of calcium)
paper including egg cartons, paper towels,
toilet paper rolls and cereal boxes (neutral)

Keep out:

From the house:

all meat, including chicken
fish and shellfish
bones
fat, grease, and oils
all dairy products

Put in:

From the yard:

fresh grass clippings (green)
dry leaves (brown)
dried and untreated grass clippings (brown)
twigs, small branches, and sawdust (brown)
non-diseased plants (brown)

Keep out:

From the yard:

weeds that have gone to seed
diseased plants
dog and cat waste
plants previously sprayed with
non-degradable pesticides

- Water:** Keep the compost moist. When you touch it, it should feel damp, but when you squeeze it no liquid should come out.
Tip: Green material has high moisture content so when you are adding greens you are adding water.
- Oxygen:** For composting to take place, oxygen must get to the bottom and centre of the pile. Turn the compost by moving material from the outside to the centre, and from the bottom to the top and vice-versa.
Tip: Turn the pile as food wastes are added. This will help the material to compost more quickly and reduce fruit flies.
- Surface Area:** More surface area contributes to faster decomposition.
Tip: Cutting up materials, especially hard items like cabbage and watermelon rinds, before adding them to your bin will increase the surface area.
- Volume:** The pile should be large enough to hold the heat in, but small enough to let air into the centre
Tip: For home composting it is recommended that the pile or bin should be no smaller than 3' x 3' x 3' and no larger than 5' x 5' x 5'.



Let's get to half. GetToHalf.com



IT'S TIME TO ADD THE FIRST MATERIALS

Don't worry if you do not have a lot of materials in the beginning. Although a compost pile needs a certain amount of bulk to get working, you'll soon be adding lots of material to the pile.

Step 1: Turn the soil in the location where the compost bin will be placed.

Step 2: Cover the ground with a layer of small branches and then place the compost bin on top of the branches.

Step 3: Build your compost pile. Start by layering brown (e.g., yard material) and green (e.g., kitchen scraps) materials. Begin with a layer of browns, then add

a layer of greens, finish by covering with a layer of browns ensuring that the materials are fairly evenly balanced by weight. As you add to the pile throughout the season, continue alternating layers of browns and greens, always finishing with a layer of browns on top.

Step 4: Sprinkle with water (if necessary).

Step 5: Add a couple of shovels of soil, and mix everything together.

Tip: If available, add some finished compost, garden soil, or a compost starter to the pile. This helps speed up the start of the composting process.

Maintaining Your Compost Bin

- Collect kitchen scraps and add them to your compost pile.
- Do not leave kitchen scraps on the top of your compost pile. Each time you add green materials, cover with a layer of brown materials.

Tip: Keep a bag of leaves or shredded paper near your bin and throw in a few handfuls each time to cover the greens.

- Make sure the compost pile has enough moisture. If it is too dry, add water; or too wet, add brown material.
- Keep the pile aerated. To add air to the pile, turn the material over.

To sum it up - your job is to add the material, turn the pile occasionally, and keep the pile damp.

Trouble Shooting – Common Problems and Solutions

Occasionally, a compost pile's performance is less than optimal. If your pile is:

- Too wet - turn, add dry materials, and cover
- Too dry - turn, add water, and mix thoroughly
- Too warm to the touch - turn and add green material
- Emitting strong odours - turn the pile and add brown materials
- Not heating up - if the pile is damp and sweet smelling but not heating, it may need nitrogen. Add grass clippings, table scraps or a small amount of organic fertilizer.
- Attracting pests - make sure you have not put meat, dairy, or fat products into your compost bin. Keep the pile covered, well aerated, and turn food scraps into the pile.

USING YOUR FINISHED COMPOST MATERIAL

The composting process can take from two months to two years, depending on the materials used and the effort involved.

Compost is ready to use when it looks dark and crumbly and none of the original materials (food scraps) are visible.

Tip: A simple way to test if compost is finished is to seal a small sample in a plastic bag for 24 to 48 hours. If no strong odours are released when you open the bag, the compost is done.

Compost can be used around the home for fertilizing flower beds, vegetable gardens, adding with soil on newly seeded lawns, or as mulch around plants and established lawns. By using compost, you can improve the soil and reduce your use of fertilizer and water. Compost will make your grass healthier. You can also use it indoors on your potted plants. Or you can always give compost to a gardener.

SOURCES FOR COMPOST BINS

For plans to build your own compost bin call **MMSB at 753-0948 or toll-free at 1-800-901-6672 or visit www.mmsb.nl.ca**

To purchase a compost bin visit your local hardware or gardening store.



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NAME:

AGE:

TELEPHONE #

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