

# Kitchen green waste pickup starts July 14

Starting July 14, Port Coquitlam residents can add vegetable peels, coffee grounds and other compostable kitchen waste to their green waste carts for year-round pickup by the City.

The City of Port Coquitlam is the first city in Metro Vancouver to offer kitchen green waste collection at the curb. The Kitchen Green Waste Collection Program will be open to all households that receive City green waste pickup.

The new program is an easy way for Port Coquitlam citizens to make a big difference to the environment – taking part is as simple as placing vegetable and fruit scraps, coffee grounds and other kitchen green waste in a different container rather than the garbage.

Studies show between 16-26% of residential garbage is kitchen waste suitable for composting. While backyard composting is the preferred method of handling this waste (because it addresses the waste at the source), the City realizes it may not be feasible for all residents.

Aside from sending less garbage to the landfill, the new program will reduce garbage disposal costs for taxpayers. It costs \$68/tonne – and rising – to dispose of garbage, compared to \$50/tonne to dispose of green kitchen and yard waste.

In addition, the City hopes the program will reduce the use of in-sink garbage disposals, which add significantly to the cost of treating wastewater.

The savings from garbage disposal costs will offset the cost of offering green waste collection year-round, rather than the current nine months.

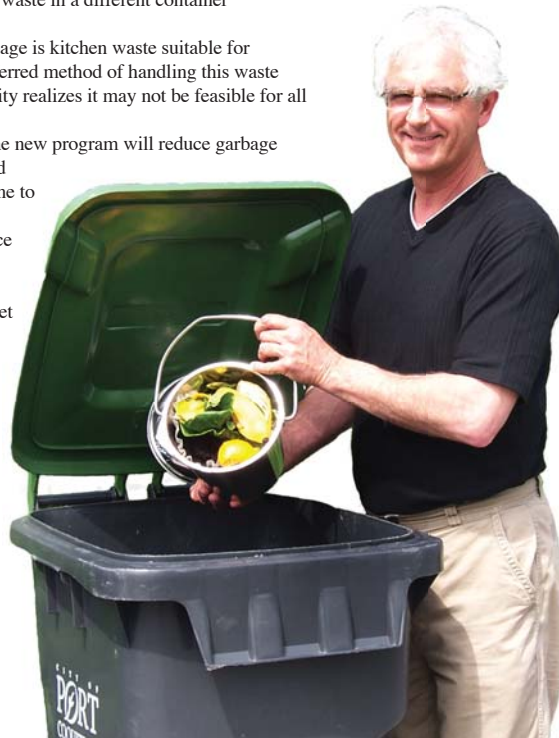
While the program is voluntary program, the more citizens participate, the greater the savings and the environmental benefits.

Decals and program information will be delivered to eligible residences before the program begins.

## More Information

More information about the program, including frequently asked questions, is available by visiting [www.portcoquitlam.ca/greenwaste](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca/greenwaste), picking up a brochure at City of Port Coquitlam facilities, or viewing displays at Port Coquitlam City Hall and local events.

PORT COQUITLAM  
**Kitchen Green Waste**  
COLLECTION PROGRAM



### ALLOWED AFTER JULY 14

- ✓ coffee grinds and filters
- ✓ tea bags and leaves
- ✓ vegetable/fruit peels, seeds and pits
- ✓ cooked vegetables (no butter, oils or sauce)
- ✓ cut flowers

#### In addition to the following green waste:

- ✓ grass, leaves and weeds
- ✓ prunings and houseplants
- ✓ branches and lumber (up to 4" dia./40" long)

### NOT ALLOWED

- ✗ meats or fish
- ✗ bones
- ✗ dairy products
- ✗ eggshells
- ✗ grease, oil, butter, sauces
- ✗ food with grease, oil, butter or sauces
- ✗ metal or foil
- ✗ plastics of any type
- ✗ other recyclables

## MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

### Make it a terrific summer in the City

We're finally starting to see those familiar signs of summer throughout the community – as well as signs of your property taxes being put to work, in the form of new services and projects.

A noteworthy new service is the introduction of kitchen green waste pickup. Starting on July 14, Port Coquitlam residents can put vegetable peels, coffee grounds and other compostable items into their green waste carts. As part of the new program, green waste collection will be extended to 12 months a year from the current nine. See the article on this page for details, or visit [www.portcoquitlam.ca/greenwaste](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca/greenwaste).



A variety of capital projects are also in progress around the City, but certainly the largest on our books right now is the Coast Meridian Overpass. On track to open in early 2010, this critical piece of transportation infrastructure will have a significant positive impact on everyone who travels around the community and region.

#### Summertime Fun

We've been waiting a long time for summer to arrive – and this year, the City is making sure the wait will have been well worth it.

Summer is always a terrific time to enjoy Port Coquitlam, with the outdoor concerts at Leigh Square and Lions Park, numerous fun community events, our pools and parks, and our extensive trail network.

There's even more in store this year, with Summer in the City: A Festival of Music, Arts and Culture. Supported by funding from the Spirit of Port Coquitlam Committee and BC 150, this festival will include several new events that will give you even more reasons to explore your community. Outdoor films, twilight concerts and open mic nights are just a few examples of the wonderful activities planned for this summer. Turn to the next page to find out more, or visit [www.portcoquitlam.ca/arts](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca/arts).

#### Staying Connected

Wondering how to stay informed about what's happening around Port Coquitlam? The City's website, [www.portcoquitlam.ca](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca), provides a wealth of information about local events, the community, and civic services, programs and news.

You can also sign up online to receive monthly *E-Update* newsletters in your e-mail inbox – just click the 'Sign up for Email Updates' link.

Take advantage of our many local events, programs and services to make it a terrific summer in the City!

Mayor Scott Young



## Celebrate with us!

Port Coquitlam is proud to host many community events. Please mark your calendar with these upcoming dates:

### Canada Day – Tuesday, July 1 at Lions and Castle Parks

Start your day at Lions Park with a free fishing derby for kids under 12 (8-11 a.m.) and the annual Lions Club pancake breakfast (\$4 each, \$2 for kids under 12).

Then head to Castle Park from noon to dusk for a variety of activities, including opening ceremonies, a community showcase, international bazaar, multicultural displays, food vendors and fireworks at dusk.

Strict parking restrictions are in effect around Castle Park from 4 p.m. to midnight – please visit [www.portcoquitlam.ca](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca) for details.

This year, save yourself the hassle and take the free shuttle that will be running every half hour from the West Coast Express Station from 11:30 a.m. to midnight.



### Downtown BIA Car Show – August 17 in downtown Port Coquitlam

More than 200 unique, vintage and custom cars, trucks and motorcycles will line Shaughnessy Street for this annual event that is a real crowd pleaser.

### Terry Fox Hometown Run – Sept. 14, 10 a.m. at Hyde Creek

The Hometown Run is a non-competitive event aimed to raise money for cancer research in Terry's name.

Run, walk or wheel your choice of a 2.5 km, 6 km or 10 km route that start and end at Hyde Creek Recreation Centre. Registration begins at 8 a.m.

### Rivers and Trails Festival – Sept. 28, 12-4 p.m. at Peace Park

Visit beautiful riverside Peace Park to enjoy a working boat parade, paddlewheeler trips, community displays, children's activities and more.

### Trail River Run – Sept. 28, 8 a.m.

This annual run/walk celebrates Port Coquitlam's beautiful trails. The half-marathon walk starts at 8 a.m., and the 10 km run and half-marathon run start at 9 a.m.

For details about these events, visit [www.portcoquitlam.ca](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca).

## New festival promotes arts

A new summer festival will bring a variety of arts and cultural activities to Port Coquitlam this summer.

Summer in the City: A Festival of Music, Arts & Culture – a project of the Port Coquitlam Spirit of BC Summer Arts Festival Sub-Committee – will showcase all of Port Coquitlam's arts and cultural activities under one umbrella, including some new ones.

Port Coquitlam already has a wealth of wonderful summer events, with its Canada Day celebration, Music in the Park, Downtown Port Coquitlam Car Show, Live at Leigh Square, Beanstalk Folk Fest and Art in the Garden.

This year, Summer in the City will add some new events to the mix – with funding support to augment and develop new activities coming from the Spirit Committee and a grant from BC 150.

Here's a sample of festival events to enjoy this summer:

### Cinema Under the Stars – Thursdays, 8 p.m.

First-rate family films will be showing this summer at a park near you. Towering 26 feet tall, an enormous silver screen will be traveling around the City.

- July 3 – Castle Park
- July 17 – Sun Valley Park
- July 31 – Lions Park
- August 14 – Gates Park
- August 28 – Leigh Square

### Leigh Square Open Mic – Fridays, 7 p.m.

The Arts Village Performing Arts Open Mic is for poets, musicians, singers, actors, comedians or performance artists. Artists will be able to sign up for this acoustic open stage starting at 7 p.m., with the show starting at 7:30 p.m. The Downtown Business Improvement Association is sponsoring the recording of original works at these sessions, and highlights from the entire summer's performances will be made into a compilation CD. The Open Mic nights are:

- June 13 and 27
- July 11 and 25
- August 8 and 22

### Twilight Concerts – Wednesdays, 7 p.m. at Leigh Square

Come and relish the magic hour while being serenaded by local musicians, or meander through the City's Artisan Market – see the Art PODS in action!

### Connections – The Exhibition

Don't forget to take advantage of the many workshops associated with Connections – The Exhibition.

Designed to connect artists and non-artists to create works for display in the Arts Village, this exhibit is running until Aug. 31.

Information on how to become "connected" is available at



Coming to a park near you.

# Summer in the City

a festival of Music, Arts & Culture



Open mic nights will take place Friday evenings this summer as part of the Summer in the City festival.

[www.portcoquitlam.ca/arts](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca/arts), by calling 604-927-8441 or by emailing [arts@portcoquitlam.ca](mailto:arts@portcoquitlam.ca).

### Live @ Leigh Square – Saturdays, 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Free summertime Saturday afternoon entertainment by local talent will be presented at the Leigh Square bandshell. There are still openings for musicians of all sorts: comedians, theatre groups, dancers and more.

### Music in the Park – Sundays, 2-4 p.m. at Lions Park

These free Sunday afternoon concerts will feature some of B.C.'s finest artists:

- July 6 – Kutapira (Afro/Latin Marimba)
- July 13 – Delhi 2 Dublin (World)
- July 20 – Angela Harris Band (Traditional Country/Folk)
- July 27 – Mud Dog (Blues)
- August 3 – Pancho & Sal (Latin)
- August 10 – Coco Love Alcorn (Soul/Funk)
- August 17 – Los Dorados (Mariachi)
- August 24 – Yael Wind (Roots)
- August 31 – Crossroads Hospice Showcase (Folk)

For more information, pick up a Summer in the City brochure at the Leigh Square Community Arts Village and throughout the City, or visit [www.portcoquitlam.ca/arts](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca/arts).

## BAIT LOCKERS DETER THEFTS AT HYDE CREEK

The new Bait Locker Program in the changerooms of the Hyde Creek Recreation Centre is making would-be thieves think twice before breaking into a locker. Bait lockers are equipped with a loud alarm that immediately alerts staff if someone tries to break into a locker. The program uses existing lockers in the facility's changerooms, so any locker could be a bait locker.

Other communities have similar successful programs. "Bait lockers have proved the best method of deterring thefts from occurring that we have found over the years," said Corrine Skea, Community Services Coordinator at North Surrey Indoor Pool. "The program is inexpensive, efficient and practical while being easy to maintain."

# PROPERTY TAXES DUE WEDNESDAY, JULY 2, 2008

To avoid penalties, Port Coquitlam property owners must ensure their property taxes are paid by July 2 – even if they have not received a tax notice. Late payment penalties:

A 5% penalty will be added to 2008 current property taxes outstanding after July 2, 2008. A further 5% penalty will be applied after August 15, 2008.

**EXTENDED HOURS AT CITY TAX OFFICE:  
JUNE 16 TO JULY 2, 8 A.M. – 5 P.M.**

## Six ways to pay your property taxes

### 1. PAY AT YOUR BANK

Save time. Pay your tax notice and other bills while banking.

### 2. PAY BY PHONE/INTERNET

Check with your bank or credit union to see if it offers this service. You can also claim your Home Owner Grant online at [www.portcoquitlam.ca/e-hog](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca/e-hog).

### 3. PAY BY MAIL

Mail your cheque or money order to City of Port Coquitlam, 2580 Shaughnessy Street, Port Coquitlam BC V3C 2A8. Cheques post-dated up to July 2, 2008 are accepted.

### 4. 24-HOUR DROP-OFF

Drop your payment in the mail slot to the right of the main entrance to City Hall. Cheques post-dated up to July 2, 2008 are accepted.

### 5. PAY IN PERSON

Bring your payment to the Tax Office on the main floor of City Hall from Monday to Friday (excluding statutory holidays), 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. *Extended tax office hours from June 16 to July 2: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.* Please be prepared to wait in line. Cheques post-dated up to July 2, 2008 are accepted.

### 6. FOR NEXT YEAR

Consider joining our Pre-Authorized Payment Plan for property taxes and utilities. More information is available from the Tax Office (604-927-5425) or [www.portcoquitlam.ca](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca).

*Credit Card Payments: The City of Port Coquitlam does not accept credit card payments for property taxes or utilities.*

## Save time: claim your grant online



Skip the lineups and save a stamp. City of Port Coquitlam residents who are eligible for Home Owner Grants can claim them through the City's website.

All you need is the Folio Number and Access Code on your tax notice. Simply:

1. Go to [www.portcoquitlam.ca/e-hog](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca/e-hog)
2. Click on Online Payments and Services and follow the prompts.

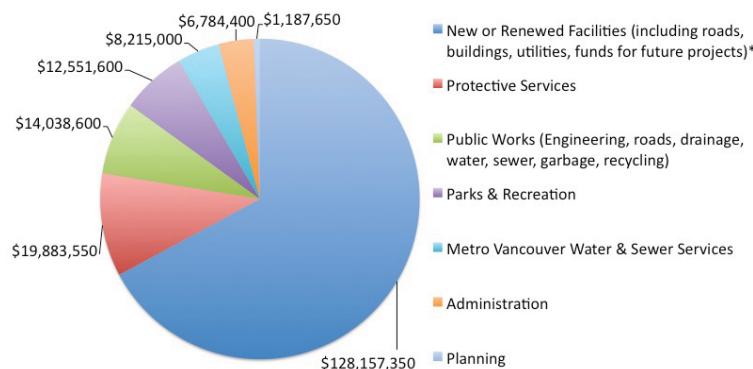
## BUDGET 2008

# Where did your taxes go?

In 2008, an average Port Coquitlam single family home assessed at \$440,289 paid \$2,292.79 in taxes and levies, an increase of 5.49% over 2007.

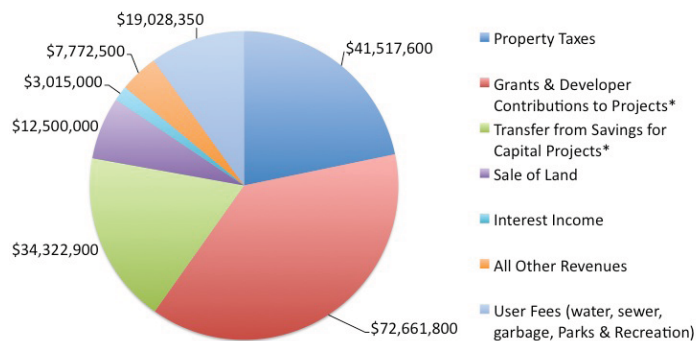
The 2008 budget includes more than \$190 million of expenditures, of which about 22 per cent is funded through municipal property taxes. The charts below show the services the City provides, and how it funds them.

### Services Provided to our Community



\* includes the Coast Meridian Overpass project.

### Source of Funds for City Services



\* includes the Coast Meridian Overpass project.

## Progress continues on Coast Meridian Overpass

Construction continues on the City's largest ever capital project – the Coast Meridian Overpass. Set to open in early 2010, the overpass will provide a third link between north and south Port Coquitlam and improve access around the community and throughout the region.

Construction began in March and is progressing very well. Works this summer will include road reconfiguration and utility construction on the west side of Coast Meridian Road north of Lougheed Highway, and on Lougheed Highway east and west of Coast Meridian Road.

Work on the overpass' south approach has also begun. Crews have completed the preloading of the south embankment and will be installing the first set of piles for the south bridge abutment. Some utility and roadworks will also take place on Broadway and the south side of Kingsway this summer.

The construction activities may result in some traffic delays. For details, visit [www.portcoquitlam.ca/cmo](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca/cmo) and click on Construction Updates.

The CMO project budget is \$132 million, about half of which is paid by grants from TransLink and other agencies. The annual budget impact for the City is \$1.03 million, which includes a .94 per cent overall tax increase in 2008 and 2009. For the average Port Coquitlam home worth \$440,289, this resulted in about a \$20.50 increase this year.



### More CMO information

Construction and traffic updates are posted on the project website at [www.portcoquitlam.ca/cmo](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca/cmo). Project contractors SNC-Lavalin Constructors (Pacific) Inc. have established a CMO Construction Information Line at 604-648-6415, and individuals can also contact [info@coastmeridian.ca](mailto:info@coastmeridian.ca) with questions or to sign up to receive e-mail notices and project updates.

The next public open house is planned for the fall.

## CAPITAL PROJECTS FOR 2008

To many of us, the most anticipated document in the budget is the list of capital projects to be constructed in our communities each year.

Preferred projects by the residents are often recreational in nature, or they address a problem such as transportation or safety.

Recently, cities have identified another need that has begun to take precedence over building new assets – to fund replacement of our existing assets as they deteriorate. The larger of these assets include City facilities, roads, sewer systems, water infrastructure and drainage.

After funding the Coast Meridian Overpass in 2008, the City has dedicated the remaining capital funds to the upkeep of our large assets and infrastructure.

### 2008 projects include:

- Coast Meridian Overpass \$70.3M
- Roads and Drainage Upgrades \$ 4.7M
- Engineering Equipment Replacement \$ 1.3M
- Sewer System Replacements and Upgrades \$ 1.0M
- Water Systems \$ 0.8M
- Athletic Field Upgrades \$ 0.3M
- Information Systems Software \$ 0.3M

# Fire truck has new technology

Port Coquitlam Fire & Emergency Services has acquired its first truck with state-of-the-art compressed air foam technology.

The 2008 Smeal Rescue/Pumper, which replaces an older pumper, features a compressed air foam system that uses less water but is more effective in fighting fires. The pumper holds 800 gallons of water and has a full set of auto extrication rescue tools (jaws of life).

Firefighters will be trained on the equipment in July and August, and the pumper will hit the streets in September. It will be stationed on the north side of the City at #2 Fire Hall.



New pumper has a compressed air foam system.



This house on Fortress Drive was a winner in the 2007 awards.

## Nominate your favourite garden

The 12th Annual PoCo Pride Residential Garden Awards are a great opportunity to build community pride, promote neighbourly interaction and friendliness, a healthy environment, and to enhance the beauty of our City.

To participate, just nominate a local garden for the awards before the deadline on July 16.

Categories include single-family residences, multi-family residential developments, and balcony gardens.

The awards are intended to promote awareness and beautification of our community. Judging will be based upon front yard street appeal and take into consideration effective use of colour, space, and maintenance of plant and landscape materials. Judges will also designate a "Best Block" classification to a street where local residents have contributed to the greening of the streetscape.

After residences are nominated, the homeowners will be given a nomination sign to display in their yard.

Nomination forms will be available at civic buildings and local garden supply businesses in Port Coquitlam, and on the City website at [www.portcoquitlam.ca](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca).

To place a nomination by phone, or to receive additional information, please call 604-927-5480. Nomination forms can also be faxed to 604-927-5408.

## Invite the fire crews to visit on a Hot Summer Night

Over the summer months, Port Coquitlam's fire crews visit neighbourhoods to talk to youth about bike and skateboard safety and provide homeowners with fire safety information.

If you're planning a block party or neighbourhood gathering, invite the fire crews to stop by through the Hot Summer Nights program.

This year's program kicked off on June 14, when the crews attended a block party held on Amazon Drive.

After the successful event, one of the block party organizers wrote: "I just wanted to extend a

big thank you to the two crews that came out to our block party on Saturday night. All the children and mothers were very excited to see the firemen and the trucks. We appreciated their time and expertise. Thank you also for the pamphlets and batteries that were left behind for distribution. Our cold summer night turned into a hot summer night when the fire department showed up!"

For information about Hot Summer Nights or to book a visit, call 604-927-5666 or send an email to [fire@portcoquitlam.ca](mailto:fire@portcoquitlam.ca). Information is also available at [www.portcoquitlam.ca](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca).

### We're Voting Are You?



**MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS**  
**08 Sat. NOV. 15**  
**8 am - 8 pm**

## Are you registered to vote in the election this November?

Voters will head to the polls on Saturday, November 15 to elect their local mayor, city councillors and school board trustees.

Municipal elections are your chance to have a say about who makes the decisions that affect your property taxes, development in your community, the City services you use and your child's school. By voting, you're helping shape the community you live in.

To cast your vote, you must be on the Province of BC Voters List. Visit Election BC's website ([www.electionsbc.ca](http://www.electionsbc.ca)) before **June 30** to ensure you are on the list or find out how to register.

More details about the municipal election will be made public closer to the date.

## LAWN SPRINKLING RESTRICTIONS IN EFFECT

The following lawn sprinkling regulations are in effect from June 1 to September 30:

- Sprinkling is only allowed from 4-9 a.m. and 7-10 p.m.
- Wednesday & Saturday: EVEN numbered houses
- Thursday & Sunday: ODD numbered houses

For more information and tips on water conservation, visit the Metro Vancouver website at [www.gvrd.bc.ca/water/conservation.htm](http://www.gvrd.bc.ca/water/conservation.htm)



use what you know

Let your skills make a difference.

## Consider a career with the City

Are you looking for a job that is close to home, rewarding and allows you to use your skills and experience?

The City of Port Coquitlam offers a dynamic work environment for motivated individuals in all fields who want to be challenged, to learn and to be part of a team that takes pride in providing stellar service to our community.

For details and opportunities, visit [www.portcoquitlam.ca/jobs](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca/jobs)



[www.portcoquitlam.ca/jobs](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca/jobs)

### CITY CONTACTS

AFTER HOURS EMERGENCY CONTACT	604-543-6700	FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES	604-927-5466
BUILDING PERMITS & INSPECTIONS	604-927-5444	<i>Emergency Calls Only</i>	9-1-1
24-Hour Request Line	604-927-5445	GARBAGE/RECYCLING COLLECTION	604-927-5488
BUSINESS LICENCES	604-927-5238	HYDE CREEK RECREATION CENTRE	604-927-7946
BYLAW ENFORCEMENT	604-927-5440	LEIGH SQUARE COMMUNITY ARTS VILLAGE	604-927-8400
CEMETERY	604-927-5251	MAYOR & COUNCILLORS	604-927-5410
COMMUNITY POLICE STATIONS		OPERATIONS (Drainage/flood control; roads & lanes; sanitary, sewer; sidewalks, street lighting & traffic; signal outages, traffic inquiries, water system)	604-927-5488
3312 Coast Meridian	604-927-5451	<i>Emergency - After Hours</i>	604-543-6700
2581 Mary Hill Road	604-927-2383	POLICE (RCMP)	604-945-1550
DOG LICENCES	604-927-5425	<i>Emergency Calls Only</i>	9-1-1
EMPLOYMENT INQUIRIES	604-927-5479	PORT COQUITLAM RECREATION COMPLEX	604-927-7970
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COORDINATOR	604-927-5466	PROPERTY TAXES & UTILITY PAYMENTS	604-927-5425
FACILITY BOOKINGS	604-927-7903	VECTOR CONTROL (Pest Control)	604-927-5447
FIELD CLOSURES	604-927-5455	WILSON CENTRE (Seniors Centre)	604-927-7970



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