



## Fire Prevention Week

# Help Prevent False Alarm Fire Calls

It's Fire Prevention Week (October 9 – 15) and the Town of Ponoka is asking citizens for their assistance in reducing the number of false alarm fire calls in the community.

Fire alarms are a serious safety issue because firefighters and equipment have to be sent to a situation where they aren't needed, which makes them potentially unavailable for a true emergency if one were to happen at the same time as a false alarm.

Many false alarms are due to placement of smoke detectors too close to the stove, oven or shower. Quite often smoke alarms can be accidentally triggered by security systems that are linked to a fire alarm.

### How Can Residents Prevent False Alarms?

#### Tip #1: If Your Smoke Alarm is Accidentally Triggered

- If you have a security system that is linked to your smoke detector and the alarm system has been accidentally triggered, please call your alarm monitoring company immediately to cancel the false alarm and prevent fire crews from being dispatched.
- Some monitoring companies will try phoning you before they dial 911 to ensure the alarm is a real emergency. Please be sure to answer their call right away.

#### Tip #2: Correct Contact Information

- Contact your security and/or fire alarm monitoring company before you do maintenance, test or repair your smoke alarm.
- Your security and/or fire alarm monitoring company should have your most up-to-date contact information.

#### Tip #3: Regular Maintenance

- Smoke alarms should be tested once a month and every time you change the batteries.
- Replace your smoke alarm batteries twice a year in the spring and fall when you set your clocks back or ahead for daylight savings.
- A smoke alarm should be replaced if it is more than 10 years old.

#### Tip #4: Proper Placement

- Smoke alarms should be at least 10 feet away from the stove and oven.
- Smoke alarms should not be placed in bathrooms or garages to avoid shower steam and dust. Research shows it's best to have an interconnected smoke alarm in every bedroom.

#### 'Fire Won't Wait. Plan Your Escape.'

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) announced the theme for this year's Fire Prevention Week is 'Fire Won't Wait. Plan Your Escape,' which focuses on the critical importance of developing a home escape plan with all members of your household and practising it regularly.

For information on how to create your home escape plan, please visit [www.nfpa.org/Events/Events/Fire-Prevention-Week](http://www.nfpa.org/Events/Events/Fire-Prevention-Week).



## Join the Ponoka Jubilee Library Board



The Ponoka Jubilee Library Board is seeking applications for enthusiastic and community-minded individuals to join the Library Board.

The Board is responsible for the management, organization, promotion and maintenance of comprehensive and efficient library services in the municipality.

Please refer to Bylaw No. 366-16 for additional information.

Any persons interested in serving on the Library Board are requested to submit a completed Board Application Form to the Town of Ponoka on or before October 19, 2022. Board Application Forms are available on the Town's website at [www.ponoka.ca](http://www.ponoka.ca).



## ~ TOWN NEWS ~

- **It's Kick It to the Curb Week** – Citizens are invited to turn unwanted items into somebody else's treasure during Kick It to the Curb week. Place items you wish to give away in your front yard with a 'FREE' sign on them. People can then come by and pick up any items they would like. Full details at [www.ponoka.ca](http://www.ponoka.ca) under 'Latest News and Notices.'
- **Early Bird Animal Licensing Rates Now Available** – Pet owners in Ponoka can now take advantage of early bird discounted rates for animal licences. Residents will be able to access the early bird rate by renewing their animal licences for the 2023 year between October 1 and December 31, 2022. Full details at [www.ponoka.ca/p/dog-cat-licences](http://www.ponoka.ca/p/dog-cat-licences)
- **Recently Issued Development Permits** – To view a list of the most recent development permits, please visit the Town's website [www.ponoka.ca/p/development-permits-and-decisions-issued](http://www.ponoka.ca/p/development-permits-and-decisions-issued)
- **Green Carts Switch to a Winter Pick-Up Schedule** – Green Carts for compostable yard and kitchen waste will continue to be emptied weekly for the month of October. Starting November 1, 2022, curbside pick-up of Green Carts compost waste will be every second week until April 30, 2023.
- **Waste Transfer Station Switches to Winter Hours** – As of November 1, 2022, the Waste Transfer Station will change to winter hours, which are Tuesday to Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- **Green Carts and Recyclable Materials** bundled in clear or blue transparent plastic bags should be placed at the curb for pick up on October 12, 13 and 14 – depending on what Zone you live in.
- **Grey Carts and Green Carts** should be placed at the curb for pick up on October 19, 20 and 21 – depending on your Zone.

## ~ UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS ~

- **Next TOWN COUNCIL MEETING: Tuesday, October 25 at 6 p.m.**
- **Next PRIORITIES AND INITIATIVES MEETING: Tuesday, October 18 at 6 p.m.**
- **2023 BUDGET DELIBERATION DATES: Tuesday, November 1 and Wednesday, November 2** (stay tuned for more details).
- The public is welcome to attend all Council meetings. Meetings and budget deliberations will be held in Town Council Chambers on the third floor of the Ponoka Civic Centre (5604 50 Street).



# Hometown Weekly

Town of Ponoka News and Events

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