

NEWS RELEASE

March 23, 2020

COVID-19 – RDN Update

The Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN) is actively monitoring information provided by federal and provincial agencies regarding COVID-19 and will continue to follow the directives of the health officials as the situation evolves. Here are the RDN's latest updates. Check <u>rdn.bc.ca</u> for previous updates.

RDN Parks and Trails

- Campgrounds (Horne Lake Regional Park and Descanso Bay Regional Park) are closed to camping, but open for day use.
- All RDN playgrounds are closed.
- All RDN sport courts, tennis courts and skateboard parks are closed.
- Our Regional and Community Parks and Trails remain open. Please ensure social distancing when
 using all parks and trails. Residents should only go out with people from their own household and
 always maintain a minimum distance of two metres from anyone else. Visit our interactive <u>Parks</u>
 and <u>Trails Finder</u> or go to <u>rdn.bc.ca/find-a-park</u>.

Regional Landfill and Church Road Transfer Station

- The RDN's solid waste facilities remain open, but at reduced capacity, with regularly scheduled hours of operation 8:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m., 7 days a week. Residential customers should expect lengthy delays and note that weekends are typically busier.
- The two facilities accept debit and credit and the public is encouraged to use 'tap.' Cash will not be accepted at this time.
- Commercial traffic is being given priority at both locations.
- Please ensure social distancing when interacting with facility staff.

RDN's essential services are operating normally and as scheduled including:

- Water supply;
- Wastewater;
- Garbage, recycling and food waste curbside collection and;
- Fire services

Burning

 The RDN is requesting residents not engage in backyard burning and limit their use of woodstoves given the respiratory impact of COVID-19. For more information on burning in the RDN, visit www.rdn.bc.ca/burning-in-the-rdn.

Get Involved RDN!

Together, we can slow the spread of COVID-19 by making a conscious effort to keep a physical distance between each other. Social distancing is proven to be one of the most effective ways to reduce the spread of illness during an outbreak. This means avoiding crowded places and non-essential gatherings; limiting contact with people at higher risk (e.g. older adults and those in poor health); and keeping a distance of at least two arms lengths (approximately 2 metres) from others.

For the most up-to-date information and resources related to COVID-19, visit <u>Public Health Agency of Canada</u>, BC Centre for Disease Control and Island Health.

For non-medical information and advice, call 1-888-COVID19 (1-888-268-4319). If experiencing symptoms or needing medical information call 8-1-1 or visit the online <u>self-assessment tool.</u>

For RDN information related to COVID-19. Please visit <u>rdn.bc.ca</u> and follow the RDN on Facebook and Twitter.

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For media inquiries, please contact: Christina Gray RDN Communications Coordinator 250-390-6502 cgray@rdn.bc.ca

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