



TOWN OF **DIAMOND VALLEY**

DIAMOND VALLEY VISTA

MUNICIPAL UPDATES AND INFORMATION

March / April 2024

Upcoming

Council Meetings

Regular Meetings:

First and third Wednesdays
at 6:30 pm
March 6 & 20
April 3 & 17

Committee of the Whole:

March 13 - 6:00 pm
April 9 - 6:30pm

Agendas, Minutes and Video Links at
DiamondValley.town/Council

Welcome new CAO Adam Davey

The Town of Diamond Valley Council is pleased to announce the appointment of the incoming Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), Adam Davey, who has taken the senior leadership position as of March 1, 2024.



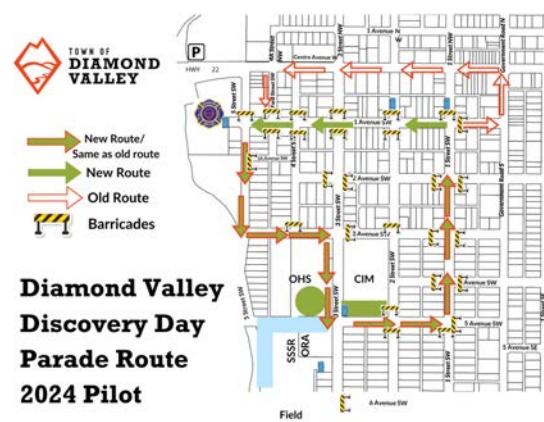
Diamond Valley Discovery Day Parade Route Change

The Diamond Valley Parade has been a cherished community event for 56 years, taking place on the first Saturday in June. This year, due to major road construction on 1 Ave NE-NW (the usual traffic detour route north of Centre Ave), Council approved a pilot-project route change for the June 1, 2024 parade.

The parade will travel north on 1 Street SW and turn west at 1 Avenue SW instead of east; it will not travel on Government Road and Centre Avenue.

This change will minimize traffic congestion in the main downtown area and provide street parking availability. Those directly affected by the change have been notified.

Learn more about the new parade route and all the fun Diamond Valley Discovery Day activities by visiting DiamondValley.town/Parade.



**Diamond Valley
Discovery Day
Parade Route
2024 Pilot**

Rain Barrels and Totes

Water conservation is top of mind in Southern Alberta this year as drought conditions persist.

Residents can purchase 250L rain barrels for \$75+GST and 1000L Rain Totes for \$175+GST at the Municipal Office. Supply may be limited this year, so consider setting up your water harvesting equipment early this season and catch some spring rain for your gardens, yards and trees!

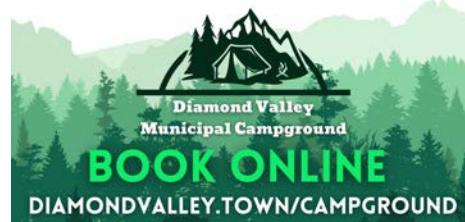
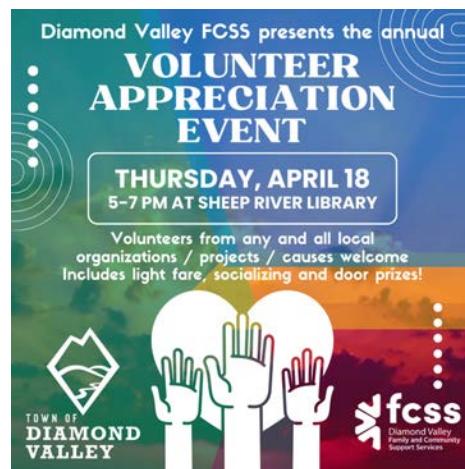
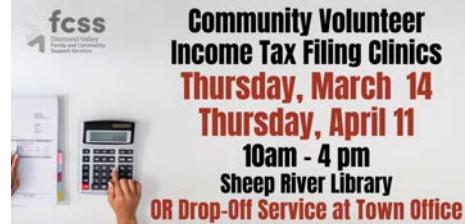


DiamondValley.town/WaterConservation

Dog Park Updates



A portion of the north end of the Black Diamond Dog Park will be closed beginning March 4 and throughout the summer of 2024. The closure is in effect to protect bird habitat during construction on the Westend Sewage Lagoon. Fencing and signage will be in place to advise users of the closure. Dog lovers may like to take their doggos to the new Turner Valley Dog Park as an alternative. Find details and maps at DiamondValley.town/DogParks





MAYOR'S MESSAGE

MAYOR BARRY CRANE



As the days stretch longer and warmer temperatures beckon, we begin to look forward to the promise of spring. Though winter may still have a few surprises up its sleeve, we will soon be able to drop the parkas and put on our shorts and t-shirts to welcome the changing season.

This year, however, there's a more serious note to our anticipation of warmer weather. The snowpack in the mountains is at record lows, signaling a severe threat of drought for southern Alberta. At the Province's request, the Town is launching a comprehensive water conservation campaign, and we are urging everyone to adopt smart water practices at home and in the yard and garden. We all know that water is a precious resource, and your conservation efforts can make a big impact.

In our ongoing commitment to wise water use, the Town employs various measures, such as using backwash water from water treatment operations for municipal garden and planter watering, and ensuring that sites are equipped with smart water meters that help us identify and respond to leaks within homes and businesses. This year, we're also launching an aggressive leak-detection campaign, pinpointing areas for infrastructure improvement to address outdated and damaged water and sewer lines.

An upside to water conservation is that it helps to keep the water bill costs down. You will notice that this current utility bill reflects the new rates for water, sewer & stormwater services. There will also be a \$4.52 increase over the two-month billing for the compost and recycling portions of the three-stream waste services program, a change which took effect March 1 and will be reflected on the next utility bill. We understand these changes have an impact on household budgets, but the alignment of rates between the two communities needed to be done, and inflationary pressures continue to affect operations.

Council and administration are actively examining the water and wastewater rates as we consider full-cost recovery and the need to build reserves for future infrastructure needs. Fixing underground leaks makes a huge difference in our water conservation efforts, and we have to keep working on capital projects that target areas of water loss from leaking pipes.

On a positive note in this regard, Council has approved replacement of water and sewer lines complete with road and sidewalk paving along the stretch of 1 Avenue NE-NW in the Black Diamond community in the 2024 budget. Construction should begin in this area as soon as the ground thaws, and will improve over five (5) blocks of infrastructure in a core area of Town.

Because of this construction, the usual detour route traditionally used to bypass the Town when the Diamond Valley Discovery Day Parade happens will be under construction. Council has approved piloting a change to the parade route, moving it off the main streets of Government Road and Centre Avenue; this year it will take place wholly within the residential area. We know parade goers will still be parking on the streets in the downtown, so we trust they will continue to support the local businesses as they enjoy the festivities of the day. We anticipate that this change will actually help reduce some of the traffic congestion we typically see after the parade.

Council is pleased to welcome our new Chief Administrative Officer, Adam Davey, who has taken the helm of the organization as of March 1. Adam brings many years of valuable municipal experience, and we're confident his leadership will guide us on a bold path forward as a united community.

Volunteer Week is just around the corner, running from April 14 to 20. This year's theme for Volunteer Week, "Every Moment Matters," highlights the unique contributions each volunteer makes, especially during times when support is needed more than ever in our communities. Our annual Volunteer Appreciation Event, coordinated by the Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) department, will be held on Thursday, April 18 from 5-7pm. This is an opportunity to recognize and thank all volunteers who contribute to our community's well-being. Everyone who volunteers for *any organization in any capacity* is invited to attend for some light fare and refreshments, great company and door prizes! Businesses interested in contributing door prizes for this event can call or email Sue at the Town Office 403-933-4348 or suzann@diamondvalley.town.

Thank you to everyone for doing your part and making Diamond Valley the remarkable place it is.

As always, be safe, be kind, and be courteous.

Barry Crane