

# Colwood Collects the Sun SOLAR COLWOOD

## The Colwood Connection

Havenwood Park Looking South from the upper lookout

Gary Neilson, friend of Havenwood Park, has started a "Friends of Havenwood Park" blog at <http://havenwoodpark.wordpress.com>

### Check out the Solar Savings

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Rob  
Sophonow  
25 years  
At the  
City!



Are you a Colwood homeowner or business owner? Are you concerned about rising energy prices? Check out the new **Solar Colwood** program.

Solar Colwood is providing incentives for up to 1,000 homeowners and businesses to install solar hot water systems over the next three years. Solar hot water is a tried and true technology that works very well in this region, reducing the costs of hot water heating by as much as one-half. The program will also support the installation of ductless split heat pump systems—an energy saving retrofit that works well for homes currently heated by electric baseboards. The Solar Colwood program will help homeowners to identify other opportunities to reduce

energy costs in their homes, and direct residents to other grants and opportunities to finance the costs through their energy savings.

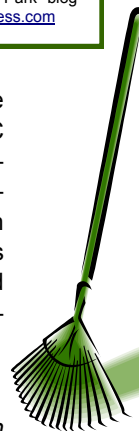
As part of this three-year program, the City of Colwood will be leading the way with the installation of solar hot water and solar photovoltaic (to produce electricity) at the Colwood Fire Hall. The Solar Colwood program will also include demonstrations of solar and smart grid technologies at the Colwood Corners re-development, as well as electric vehicle charging stations at various locations.

Solar Colwood is funded in large part through a grant from Natural Resources Canada. Other Solar Colwood partners include the Province of British Columbia, Royal

Roads University, T'Souke Nation, BC Hydro, FortisBC (formerly Terasen Gas), SolarBC, the WestShore Chamber of Commerce, Horizon Technologies, League Assets Development Corporation and the New Car Dealers Association of BC.

Interested? You can learn more — and sign up for additional information — at [www.solarcolwood.ca](http://www.solarcolwood.ca). You can also call 250-478-5999 to book an appointment with the Solar Colwood Coordinator.

**SOLAR  
COLWOOD**



1st and  
3rd  
Saturday  
Of each  
Month  
Branch  
Drop-off  
Colwood  
Public  
Works  
Yard

### 2011 Notice of Real Property Taxes

The 2011 budget is good news for Colwood Residents: an average homeowner in Colwood with a 5% increase in their property assessment can expect a zero dollar increase in the municipal portion of their tax bill.

The 2011 Property Tax Notice has been mailed to all homeowners.

Property tax payments must be received at City Hall by 4:30 p.m. on Monday, July 4, 2011 to avoid the 10% late payment penalty. If eligible, please complete and sign the Home Owner Grant application on the property tax notice or online at [www.colwood.ca](http://www.colwood.ca) (you can do this at City Hall if you do not have access to a computer).

The Homeowner Grant application deadline is the same as that for property tax payments. If you have not received your notice, please contact the Finance Department.

Phone: 250 478-5999

Email: [finance@colwood.ca](mailto:finance@colwood.ca)



#### CYCLISTS:

Do you care about issues affecting cycling?  
Interested in serving your community?

Contact the Planning Department

Email: [planning@colwood.ca](mailto:planning@colwood.ca)

Phone: 250 478-5999





## Burning Restrictions in Effect

### Burning Restrictions

In an effort to improve air quality for the health and well being of all our citizens, Colwood Council passed a bylaw known as the Outdoor Burning Restriction and Regulation Bylaw No. 931. This bylaw prohibits all open yard fires, beach fires, campfires, land clearing, demolition and construction waste fires in the City. It does not affect the use of charcoal briquettes, gas barbeques, portable gas campfires, or smokers used for the curing of food.

Under the bylaw, chimeneas or similar types of contained

patio fire appliances are permitted for residential use. **Some safety requirements are in effect for the placement of these units. Permits are not required but their use is restricted to the hours between dawn and 10:00 p.m. and they are not to be used when the forest fire rating is at high or extreme.**

For more information about the burning regulations and the guidelines for the safe use and installation of outdoor fire appliances, please call the Colwood Fire Station at 250-478-8321 or visit the City website at [www.colwood.ca](http://www.colwood.ca) (Click on the Public Safety Link and

navigate through the Fire Department Home page to the Burning Regulations section.)

**Council and Committee Agendas are posted near the front door at city hall, in the Sunday edition of the *Victoria Times-Colonist* newspaper (Classified Section), and on the city's website: [www.colwood.ca](http://www.colwood.ca)**



### Bus Benches

The City of Colwood is partnering with Creative Outdoor Advertising to provide benches with advertising on them at 25 bus stops. The benches are to be installed in July. For more information, contact Helen Lockhart at 250-478-5999 or

[hlockhart@colwood.ca](mailto:hlockhart@colwood.ca).

## Secondary Suites Legalization Program Update

The initiative to legalize existing secondary suites (begun in January, 2010) has been a resounding success with an estimated 82% of all existing suites owners in Colwood registered under the program. Those who did register their existing suite prior to the application deadline on February 28, 2011 are not required to upgrade the suite to comply with the B.C. Building Code, provided the permit is renewed annually.

Staff are currently working hard to issue Secondary Suite Permit certificates for the hundreds of approved applications. These will be forwarded to applicant property owners by mail along with a reminder that all permits issued since January, 2010 will expire on June 30, 2011. The renewal fee of \$50.00 must be submitted to the City on or before this expiry date. Billing for this renewal fee will be forwarded by the City.

For more information, please contact the Planning Department at 250-478-5999 or by email at [planning@colwood.ca](mailto:planning@colwood.ca)



*How suite it is!  
Go Legal.*

## COLWOOD SEWERS

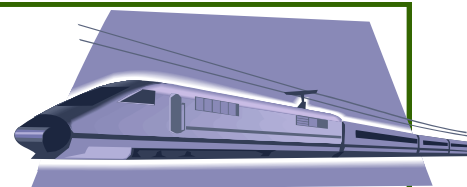
An average annual decrease of \$132 in sewer taxes. That is what the average single family homeowner in the Royal Bay Phase 4 (Bylaw 602) area will see. That area has been converted from a tax based on the assessed value of the land to one based on the development potential of the property. This results in a more stable and predictable tax in the future for all property owners. This area was converted to parcel tax for 2011 and the City is expecting to be able to convert all serviced areas to parcel tax in 2012.

Property owners in the Lagoon local service area (Bylaw 657) have started paying sewer taxes for the first time since the sewers in the area started construction in 2003. At \$715 for the average single family dwelling these taxes are lower than any of the original estimates and will be lower still for 2012 if the local service areas can be combined as planned. This was always planned to be a parcel tax and has been implemented on the same basis as the Royal Bay parcel tax. All sewer tax payers will see on their tax notices for 2011 that the sewer taxes are listed with the applicable phase and bylaw numbers. This makes it much easier for property owners to see what they are paying for.

**All property owners with a municipal sewer near them are invited to consider connecting.** If you are interested please contact the Engineering Department for information on how close the sewers are to your property and an estimate of the costs to connect.

If you have any questions please contact the Engineering Department.

## Light Rapid Transit (LRT)



The Victoria Regional Rapid Transit project has recommended Light Rapid Transit (LRT) to connect Victoria and the West Shore. For more information or to provide your comments visit:

[www.transitbc.com/vrrt/](http://www.transitbc.com/vrrt/)



## Esquimalt Lagoon now free of Scotch Broom

Esquimalt Lagoon is now free of Scotch broom for the first time in years. Many thanks to the Esquimalt Lagoon Stewardship Initiative (ELSI) members, 10th Juan de Fuca Scout Troop and the many citizen volunteers who gave their time to remove this invasive plant from the lagoon area.

Thanks also to Colwood Public Works for the loan of their broom pullers. Future invasive plant removals will take place in other Colwood Parks and people interested in taking part

should check the City's website or call the Planning Department at 250-478-5999 to be added to the volunteer list.

Aeewaaaak! Thanks to all the broom pullers. This place is getting better all the time!



Blue Heron at the Lagoon

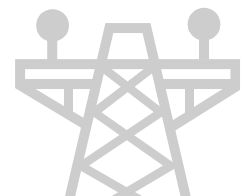
## Thanks to the Habitat Stewards

This summer Habitat Acquisition Trust (HAT) will recognize over thirty outstanding families as Habitat Stewards in the Bilston and Latoria Watersheds of Colwood, Langford, and Metchosin (sign pictured). HAT's award-winning Good Neighbours stream protection project helps local landowners maintain their trout streams, meadows and forests through free family workshops at local parks and free land care visits with homeowners. Families from Happy Valley to Havenwood can request

confidential property walkabout visits with staff biologist Todd Carnahan who recommends solutions to invasive pests, drought-stricken gardens, soil erosion, landscape and tree concerns.

Call HAT for your free Bilston~Latoria info package or private consultation: 250 995 2428 [hatmail@hat.bc.ca](mailto:hatmail@hat.bc.ca). Visit HAT's website for a list of free family events this summer ([www.hat.bc.ca](http://www.hat.bc.ca)).

**HABITAT**  
Steward



**Are you experiencing interference from the transmission towers on Triangle Mountain?** To collect information on this issue, a questionnaire was sent out to 840 homes in the area of the towers. If you would like to participate in the survey, please email Barb Cordeiro at

[bcordeiro@colwood.ca](mailto:bcordeiro@colwood.ca).

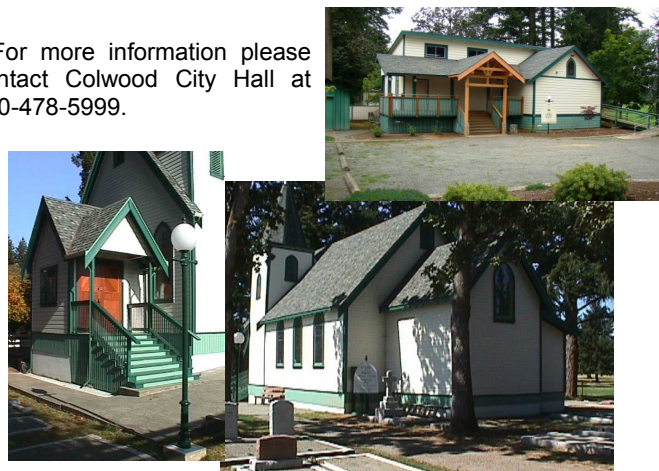
## St John the Baptist Heritage Church and Emery Hall 537 Glencairn Lane - Colwood's

Did you know that Colwood has a Heritage Church and Hall available for rent?

St. John the Baptist Heritage Church was built in 1913 and seats 85 comfortably. The Church is available for weddings and other events. Emery Family Hall, located beside St. John's is perfect for any type of reception and includes a full kitchen.

St. John's is meant to be enjoyed by all. Both the church and the hall are available for use at a very reasonable rate.

For more information please contact Colwood City Hall at 250-478-5999.



St Johns Church and Emery Hall



**Our Vision:** The West Shore will become a safe, tolerant and inclusive place for all people of all ages and abilities to live, work and play. Meet the committee on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 7:00 at Colwood City Hall. Check us out at [colwood.ca/residents/disabilities](http://colwood.ca/residents/disabilities) or Email [meteach@telus.net](mailto:meteach@telus.net)





## Development Updates

The **City Centre development** project is anticipated to break ground later this year with the initial component of the first phase commencing in the vicinity of the intersection of Sooke Road and Colwood Crescent. Overall, the first phase will ultimately consist of approximately 7,560 m<sup>2</sup> of retail floor space, 4,840 m<sup>2</sup> of office space and 26,710 m<sup>2</sup> of residential floor area, all in accordance with the existing CD7 zoning on the subject properties.

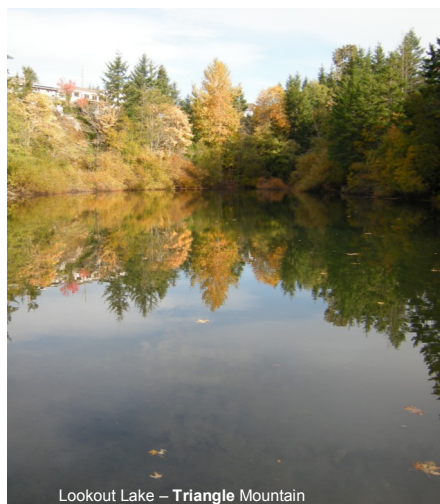
**7- Eleven** The next commercial building within the development site at 310 Wale Road is now at the building permit stage. The proposed uses include a 7-Eleven store along with approximately 278 m<sup>2</sup> of additional retail or restaurant space.

**591 and 595 Latoria** An application for a building permit has been received for the first phase of 12 townhouse units at 591 and 595 Latoria Road. It is expected that this first phase will be followed soon after by another 12 townhouse units and a mixed residential / commercial complex comprising 29 rental apartment units, a 220 m<sup>2</sup> brew pub and approximately 412 m<sup>2</sup> of additional commercial space.

## City Centre Development



## GREEN MAP



Lookout Lake – Triangle Mountain

### Colwood Community Green Map

Looking for a place to walk, heritage places to discover, local artists, or good places to eat? Check out the new Colwood Community Green Map, available from city hall or the WestShore Chamber of Commerce HIVE (2830 Aldwynd Road). This artful map was created in celebration of Colwood's Silver Jubilee with extensive input from community members.



## What is Going on in Colwood?

**A new map showing active Subdivision, Development Permit, Rezoning and Development Variance applications will be on the Colwood Website this summer. [www.colwood.ca](http://www.colwood.ca)**

This map will show areas in Colwood where active applications are in the process. Some development projects take years from their inception to the final product and others will come and go on the map within a short time.

The city will have the first version of this map on the Colwood Website by early summer.



## Celebrate the positive!

The City of Colwood would like to celebrate the efforts and good deeds of the city's residents. The **"Pay it Forward"** program is designed to acknowledge and encourage acts of kindness, generosity, selflessness or outstanding support and contribution to the community. We are looking for anyone under the age of 18 who has decided to **"Pay it Forward"** in the City of Colwood. Please visit [www.colwoodpayitforward.ca](http://www.colwoodpayitforward.ca) to submit your nomination and view our previous winners.

