



THE Town Beacon

NEWS & INFORMATION FROM THE TOWN OF YARMOUTH

Making connections at Connections Café

A welcoming space for older adults to connect, learn and thrive together

The Town of Yarmouth's Seniors' Safety Program introduced "Connections Café" this summer for adults aged 55 and older who are interested in meeting new people and participating in their community.

The Town Beacon (TB) spoke with Seniors' Safety Coordinator Muriel Thomas (MT) about the program and what participants can expect.

TB: What is Connections Café, and how would you describe it to someone hearing about it for the first time?

MT: Connections Café is a new community program offered through the Town of Yarmouth's Seniors' Safety Program. It brings older adults together in a relaxed environment where they can socialize, learn, take part in activities, and build relationships.

The program will include a variety of gatherings and activities focused on social connection, wellness, learning and community involvement. Throughout the year, we hope to partner with different community organizations, professionals, and groups to offer activities that are both enjoyable and practical.

The program is supported through Age-Friendly Communities grant funding. This funding helps create opportunities for older adults to stay socially connected, participate in their community, and reduce isolation.

TB: What inspired the creation of Connections Café?

MT: The idea came from seeing firsthand how many older adults experience social isolation or have limited opportunities to connect with others. This can be especially true after major life



changes such as retirement, the loss of a loved one, changes in health, or reduced mobility.

We wanted to create something that was more than simply an activity. Connections Café is intended to be a place where people can meet others, try something new, enjoy a coffee, and feel like they are part of their community.

TB: What needs or concerns among older adults is the program intended to address?

MT: Social isolation and loneliness are two of the main concerns we hope to address. We also want to help older adults stay connected to their community, learn about available resources and services, maintain their physical and mental wellness, and build new relationships.

Sometimes, simply knowing where to go or who to contact can be a barrier. Connections Café provides an opportunity to bring community resources directly to older adults in a comfortable and informal setting.

TB: How does Connections Café support the broader goals of the Seniors' Safety Program?

MT: The Seniors' Safety Program focuses on supporting older adults so they can remain safe, connected and engaged in their communities.

(Continued on Page 4)



Take the OHV Road Trails Survey

The Town of Yarmouth is seeking your feedback on proposed Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) access along designated road trails. Share your thoughts through our online survey! **Details on page 4.**



Five Cruise Ships to Visit Yarmouth

Yarmouth is heading into its busiest cruise season yet, with five ship calls this fall bringing up to 4,000 passengers and crew. **Details on Page 8.**

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

From the Mayor's Desk - Thanksgiving Message from Mayor Mood. Page 2.

Operating Budget - the operating budget for 2026-27 is balanced, with no increase to tax rates. Page 5.

Credit Union Wellness Centre Construction Update. Page 5.

Waste Not: 10 Cool Things at Yarmouth's Solid Waste Park. Page 6.

Wastewater Plant Digester Cleaning: What to Expect. Page 7.



From the Mayor's Desk



P Mood

Very soon, Canadians will celebrate Thanksgiving. Gratitude is heavy on my mind.

I'm not alone in looking at the state of the world today and being thankful I'm Canadian. Being a Yarmouthian is even better! We live in a community where people still notice and react when someone is hurting. We fill the freezer, donate the coat, raise the money, show up at the door. We don't always know each other personally, but when someone needs help, Yarmouth is known for stepping up. It's who we are. We can all be thankful for that.

That doesn't mean everything is perfect. It isn't. And gratitude should never require us to pretend otherwise.

Every day, I see and feel what is weighing heavily on people. Housing. Food insecurity. Health-care wait times. The rising cost of seemingly everything. There are people in our community making impossible choices between groceries and power, medications and rent. We can't talk about being thankful without acknowledging this first.

None of us knows what turn life may take tomorrow. And we are each different. Some have very little. Some have enough. Some have much more. There should be no shame attached to any of those circumstances, because they are just that: circumstances any of us could fall into or be lifted out of. Having less does not diminish a person's worth, and having more should not require an apology. We are all human. What matters is that we recognize our different circumstances with compassion, share when we can, and resist judging lives we have not lived.

Through my work, I've had opportunities to see parts of the world I otherwise may never have seen. I've learned so much from seeing how others live and how quickly life can change.

A couple of years ago, I travelled to the Middle East, Jordan, as part of an effort to recruit skilled tradespeople and other professionals we desperately need here. We visited extraordinary schools and universities — modern, high-tech facilities filled with students visibly proud of their chosen professions.

The next day, we visited Za'atari Refugee Camp. There I met people whose lives had been interrupted by war. Business owners, professionals, tradespeople, parents and children — ordinary people who had once been living ordinary lives. People like you and me who, through circumstances entirely beyond their control, had to leave homes, careers, possessions and communities behind. Some of the students we had met the previous day had come from that camp of 80,000 displaced people.

It reminded me that our circumstances do not necessarily define our future. Sometimes the way forward is terribly difficult and requires help from others. Hope does not erase hardship. It gives us a light to walk toward.

On another trip, my daughter and I visited Los Angeles, as she had work there. Being a bookaholic, I found my way to The Last Bookstore and happily could have stayed forever. As dusk approached, she was insistent we leave.

When we stepped outside, I understood why. What had been ordinary city sidewalks during the day had become a nighttime tent city. Tents, tarps and pieces of plastic were being arranged into shelter for the night.

Years earlier, before becoming Mayor, I travelled to New York on mission trips with my church. We fed people who were hungry, delivered blankets to people living on the streets and spent time simply talking with people whose lives had taken turns they never expected.

I share these experiences carefully. Not as a comparison. Not to say, "Look how bad someone else has it." And certainly not to diminish the very real struggles people are experiencing here. I share them because perspective matters.

Gratitude does not require us to pretend everything is fine. It asks us to recognize what is good while still seeing, clearly and

compassionately, what is not.

I believe it also asks us to think carefully about the difference between what we need and what we want both as individuals and as a community. A Town does not have an endless bucket of money. Every dollar we spend ultimately comes from someone — a homeowner, a senior, a young family, a landlord, a small business. And so, we make our decisions deliberately and carefully.

We have not raised taxes this year. Not in these circumstances. And yet it's important to keep in mind that the same rising costs affecting households affect the Town of Yarmouth. Insurance, fuel, construction and services all cost more. Much more. I often lose my breath as I sign cheques weekly.

At the same time, the asks continue to grow. Because we've grown so much, done so many amazing things, continue to build, at times we forget everything we do has a cost. Every ask from another crosswalk or light, sidewalk or street paving, more signage or garbage cans, or the bigger asks like the Rec Plex - all worthy - all attached to costs.

The asks are welcome. Always. What we have to do in turn is separate the good ideas and wants from urgent needs. Needs must always come first.

In our own homes, we understand that we cannot buy something just because we want it, believe we deserve it or see that someone else has it. Circumstances and priorities are different. Sometimes we must wait. Municipal government has the same fundamental responsibility, only with your money.

Our job is to protect the necessities first, care for what we already have, plan for what we will need tomorrow and, when we can responsibly afford it, reach for more.

That doesn't mean we stop dreaming. Heck no! We certainly don't stop advocating for housing, better health care, stronger infrastructure, food security or opportunities for our children. One of my main jobs is advocacy. Pushing for the needs.

But let's add another element: progress isn't measured only by what we add. Sometimes it is measured by how wisely we care for what we already have, how carefully we spend what people have entrusted to us and how mindful we remain of the neighbour who simply cannot afford one more increase.

Sometimes progress happens quietly. My own children have often opened our freezer and asked,

"Where's the roast?" or the chicken or hamburger they knew was there. Then come the smiles. They know. It went somewhere it was needed more. So many of you have done this on much grander scales. Again, it's who we are in Yarmouth.

When we are thankful for what we have, gratitude has a wonderful way of turning outward. We notice. We give. We share. We help.

There is much work to do in our corner of the world. There always will be. There is also so much to be thankful for. Those two truths can live together. We can be ambitious and grateful at the same time.

We can want smoother streets while being thankful we have streets beneath our feet. We can dream about what comes next while taking care of what generations before us built. We can celebrate exciting new things in our community while understanding that the necessities must come first.

We can work relentlessly to help those who are struggling while recognizing how fortunate many of us are. When we see organizations and individuals feeding people every day, gratitude can become more than a feeling. It's an action. We can donate. Volunteer. Help fill the shelves. Give what we can.

Because perhaps the best expression of gratitude is generosity.

Gratitude isn't settling for less. It isn't ignoring what is wrong or asking people who are hurting to simply be thankful for what they have. No. It is recognizing the value of what we have while thoughtfully, patiently and responsibly building what comes next, knowing we can't have all we want at once. There is not one of us who does not have much to be thankful for, regardless of our circumstances.

This Thanksgiving, wherever you find yourself — with a little or a lot, in a season of struggle or a season of plenty — I hope we can each find something for which to be thankful, and someone with whom to share it.

We are not perfect. We are perfectly imperfect — and always working towards better.

For that, and for each of you doing your part to make our little corner of the world better, I am deeply thankful. Count your blessings and more will be on the way.

Happy Thanksgiving all!



From Town Hall



COUNCIL MEETINGS ROUNDUP

Here's a quick roundup of some key discussions and decisions from the July, August, and September Town Council meetings. You can find **more detailed information on all of these items** and other decisions made by accessing minutes from each meeting at www.townofyarmouth.ca

July 9th

- Council passed second reading to approve the new Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use Bylaw.
- Council approved a proposed Development Agreement to allow for a short-term rental, without the operator residing on the property, at 150 Water Street.
- Council awarded the tender results for paving of Town owned Route 304 and Truck 1 (Vancouver and Main Streets) to Aberdeen Paving Ltd in the amount of \$1,181,738.36 + HST.
- Council awarded the request for proposals for CAO Recruitment Services

to Harbourside Executive Search in the amount of \$26,500 plus HST.

August 13th

- Council approved amending a Development Agreement for "Lot LP-2, Clements Avenue" (PID# 90217712) to provide greater flexibility in future site and development design while maintaining the overall intent for the site approved by Council in 2022.
- Council accepted a balanced budget with revenues and expenses in the amount of \$28,710,919 resulting in a surplus of \$0 for its general operations for the year ended March 31st, 2027. For more budget details, please see article on page 5.
- Council awarded the tender for the 2026 sewer flushing, vacuum cleaning, and video inspection to Loomer's Pumping Service.

September 10th

- Council approved a temporary borrowing resolution of up to \$3 million for the Mariners Centre project, subject to provincial approval. The funds

may be borrowed for up to 12 months and will be repaid through the future issuance of debentures.

- Council awarded the tender for digester cleaning to Entec Waste Management Inc for \$237,650.00 plus HST (see details on page 7).
- Council awarded the tender for the annual alum sludge dewatering to GFL Environmental Services Inc for \$158,550.00 plus HST.
- Council awarded the tender for the Town Hall heat pumps replacement to GPK Refrigeration for \$143,556.23 plus HST.
- Council adopted the Community Advisory Committee as presented.
- Council approved the Communities in Bloom budget request to attend the 2026 CIB National Symposium & Awards in Rosemère, Quebec.



TOWN COUNCIL

Mayor PAM MOOD

mayor.mood@townofyarmouth.ca
902-742-8565

Deputy Mayor STEVE BERRY

councillor.sberry@townofyarmouth.ca
902-746-3731

Councillor KELLEY BISHARA-LACROIX

kelley.bisharalacroix@townofyarmouth.ca

Councillor WADE CLEVELAND

councillor.cleveland@townofyarmouth.ca
902-774-2943

Councillor GIL DARES

gil.dares@townofyarmouth.ca
902-740-5125

Councillor BELLE HATFIELD

belle.hatfield@townofyarmouth.ca

Councillor DEREK LESSER

derek.lessor@townofyarmouth.ca
902-774-2703

You can find more information about our Mayor and Council at:
www.townofyarmouth.ca/council

Town Receives Award of Distinction

In August, the Town of Yarmouth was awarded the **2026 Communities in Bloom Award of Distinction**, initially presented at the 2026 National Awards of Landscape Excellence by the Canadian Nursery Landscape Association in St. John's, Newfoundland. At the September 10th Council meeting, Dave Warner and Monica Brennan from Communities in Bloom Yarmouth presented the award to Mayor Pam Mood.



From Communities in Bloom Canada:

"Yarmouth's commitment to creating beautiful, sustainable, and welcoming spaces is a true reflection of the Communities in Bloom spirit. Through collaboration between municipal staff, volunteers, businesses, and residents, the town continues to enhance its public spaces, streetscapes, and gardens while celebrating its heritage, advancing environmental initiatives, and strengthening community pride."



QUICK CIVIC TIP Operating Budget vs. Capital Budget: What's the Difference?

Did you know that the Town of Yarmouth prepares both a capital budget and an operating budget? Each one helps the Town plan for a different type of spending.

The **capital budget** supports larger projects, major repairs, new equipment, and improvements that benefit the community for many years. The latest capital budget includes important investments in municipal infrastructure, facilities, equipment, and other community assets. This includes continued investment in the Mariners Centre and the Credit Union Wellness Centre now under construction on the Credit Union Recplex campus.

The **operating budget** covers the Town's "day-to-day" operations. It covers the regular costs of delivering municipal services, such as policing, transit, recreation, snow clearing, waste and sewer services, staffing, insurance, fuel, and routine maintenance. When developing the operating budget, staff focuses on maintaining services while managing costs responsibly.

A simple way to understand the difference is to think about a Town vehicle. Purchasing the vehicle is a capital expense. The fuel, insurance, and regular maintenance needed to keep it on the road are operating expenses.

In short, the capital budget invests in the community's future while the operating budget helps run Town services today. Both play an important role in maintaining reliable services, supporting growth, and improving quality of life.

The Town has been debt-free since 2023-24 and continues to focus on responsible financial management, particularly during a period of rising costs and global economic uncertainty.

Council recently approved the 2026-27 operating budget—you can find details on page 5. To learn more about the Town's budgets and municipal finances, visit www.townofyarmouth.ca/budgets



From Town Hall

(Connections Cafe - cont. from Page 1)

The program supports these goals by creating opportunities for social connection and helping participants learn more about the supports, services, and resources available to them. Building relationships and reducing isolation can also help people feel more comfortable reaching out for support when they need it.

TB: What makes this program different from other local activities or social opportunities for older adults?

MT: One of the things that makes Connections Café unique is its variety. Rather than being one specific activity or program, we want to bring different experiences, people, organizations and resources together.

We hope to offer everything from wellness and movement activities to educational sessions, technology workshops, creative activities and opportunities to connect with other generations in our community.

We also want participants to have a voice in the program. If there is something they would like to learn about, an activity they would like to try or someone they would like to hear from, we want to hear their ideas.

TB: How has the response been so far?

MT: The response has been very encouraging. We are still in the early stages of the program, but we have seen a great deal of interest from older adults and community partners, and we are excited to continue building awareness.

Our goal is to grow the program organically and create something that participants look forward to attending regularly.

Who is invited?

TB: Who is eligible to attend Connections Café?

MT: Connections Café is intended primarily for adults aged 55 and older in Yarmouth and the surrounding area.

TB: Is the program open to everyone?

MT: Yes! We want Connections Café to be inclusive and welcoming. Participants do not need to receive services through the Seniors’ Safety Program in order to attend.

Whether someone already knows people in the community or is looking for an opportunity to meet new people, we want them to feel comfortable joining us.

Program schedule and registration

TB: How often will Connections Café gatherings take place?

MT: Connections Café will run regularly, with gatherings planned throughout the year. The schedule and activities will vary depending on upcoming speakers, community partners and participant interests.

Upcoming dates and activities will be shared through the Town of Yarmouth website and social media channels, and through other community communication channels. We will also communicate directly to people who have pre-registered and provided contact information.

TB: How can someone register?

MT: Registration will be available for individual events, allowing participants to choose the activities and sessions that interest them. Details about registration will be included with each event announcement.

We want the process to be as simple and accessible as possible so registration does not become a barrier to participation. Pre-registration for the program is now open online at: www.townofyarmouth.ca/connectionscafe

For more information, contact Muriel by phone: 902-742-4862 or by email at Muriel.Thomas@townofyarmouth.ca.

REMINDER: DO NOT FEED DEER

Please be reminded that feeding wild animals in the Town of Yarmouth is not allowed under bylaw TOY 71 – “Feeding Wild Animals Bylaw”. A key purpose of the bylaw is to prevent the feeding of deer. Feeding deer causes them to gather in unnaturally large groups, increasing the risk of disease, predator attacks, aggression, injury, and death. It also leads to over-browsing of vegetation and gardens and increases deer-vehicle collisions. Feeding deer could lead to a fine of up to \$1000.

Have Your Say: Share Your Feedback on OHV Road Trails in Yarmouth

The Town of Yarmouth is seeking residents’ input on the impacts and potential benefits of allowing off-highway vehicles (OHVs) to travel on designated Town roads. OHVs include a variety of motorized vehicles, such as ATVs, dirt bikes, and side-by-sides.



Water Street was designated as a road trail in 2023, connecting two established rail trails. Since then, the Town has been asked to consider opening more streets to OHV use to provide access to local businesses and services. Your feedback will help Town Council understand community experiences, concerns, and perspectives as it considers the future of road trails in Yarmouth.

TAKE THE SURVEY

Please share your feedback by completing the online survey at: www.getinvolvedyarmouth.ca/ohv-survey For your convenience, you may also scan the QR code. Thank you for sharing your views!



UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

Yarmouth’s Town Council meets on the second Thursday of every month at 6:30 PM in the Council Chambers at Town Hall, 400 Main Street. Everyone is welcome to attend. You can also watch our regular monthly council meetings live on Eastlink Community TV, or through our livestream service on our website at www.townofyarmouth.ca. “Committee of the Whole” meetings are open to the public, and available to watch through our livestream service.

Thursday, October 8, 6:30 p.m. Regular Town Council Meeting	Thurs., November 26th, 6:30 p.m. Committee of the Whole Meeting
Thursday, October 22nd, 3:30 p.m. Committee of the Whole Meeting	Thurs., December 10th, 6:30 p.m. Regular Town Council Meeting
Thurs., November 12th, 6:30 p.m. Regular Town Council Meeting	There are no Committee of the Whole meetings in December.

Please Note: meeting dates are subject to change. When dates change, we issue notices on our website, through our “Alertable” community notifications service, and on our Facebook page. If you can’t make it to a meeting, video and minutes can be found on our website.

Happy Thanksgiving

Wishing you and your loved ones a happy Thanksgiving from the Town of Yarmouth Staff and Council!

Please note: Yarmouth Town Hall and administrative offices will be closed and transit service will not be in operation on Thanksgiving Day, Monday, October 12th.

Yarmouth
ON THE EDGE OF EVERYWHERE
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Your Town News

2026–27 Operating Budget Recap

Yarmouth Town Council recently approved a balanced 2026–27 operating budget of \$28.7 million, with **no increases to municipal tax rates**, garbage rates, or sewer rates.

The budget responds to rising costs for fuel, materials, insurance, policing and education while maintaining reliable municipal services. Growth in the Town’s assessment base is expected to provide approximately \$867,718 in additional revenue, helping offset these pressures.

Key budget highlights include:

- **Balanced operating budget:** \$22,710,919 in projected revenues and \$22,710,919 in expenses. The budget also reflects \$6,000,000 in donations received for the Credit Union Wellness Centre (Mariners Centre expansion) and a corresponding \$6,000,000 payment toward the project. Including these pass-through amounts, total budgeted revenues and expenses are \$28,710,919.
- **Residential tax rate remains at \$1.71;** commercial rate remains at \$4.35
- \$4 million allocated for new capital work, including the Credit Union Wellness Centre
- \$2.4 million set aside for depreciation reserves
- \$3.3 million budgeted for policing
- \$215,000 for paving and patching
- Increased Façade Program funding of \$35,000
- Continued **free public transit**
- \$20,000 for the low-income tax rebate program
- No debt payments, as **the Town has been debt-free since 2023–24**
- The residential **garbage rate remains \$205** per unit, sewer rates remain unchanged, and interest on overdue tax accounts remains at 14%.

The full 2026–27 operating

budget is available at:
www.townofyarmouth.ca/budgets

New Accessible Bus Shelters Improve Transit Experience



Above: bus shelter at RBC on Main St.
Below: bus shelter at the Korean War Memorial on Pleasant St.



The Town of Yarmouth completed the installation of four new accessible bus shelters over the summer, with one additional shelter to be installed at Yarmouth Regional Hospital once nearby construction is complete.

The project improves safety, comfort and accessibility for transit riders and was funded through the Government of Canada’s Rural Transit Solutions Fund, with contributions from the Province of Nova Scotia and the Town of Yarmouth.

Project Highlights:

- The shelters feature **solar lighting**, which improves evening visibility and safety
- Concrete shelter pads **improve accessibility** for people with mobility challenges
- **Locations:** Main Street at Freshmart, Main Street at RBC, Main Street at Coronation Park, Pleasant Street at the Korean War Memorial, Yarmouth Regional Hospital (to be installed later)

The new shelters support the Town’s **free public transit** service, which has seen **increased ridership** over the last two years. They provide protection from the weather and make daily travel safer and more welcoming for residents of all ages and abilities.

Credit Union Wellness Centre Construction Update



The Town Beacon (TB) did a quick check-in with Project Manager, Marc Brophy (MB), for an update on what is now called the “**Credit Union Wellness Centre**”.

TB: Are we still on track for an early-year opening, without committing to a date?

MB: Yes. The Mariners on Main crew needs time to move equipment, set up desks, and install computers and other systems. At the same time, building operations staff will complete commissioning and training for the pool’s complex mechanical and electrical systems. These steps are essential for safe operations before occupancy. We remain on track to begin moving in early in the new year for a spring opening.

TB: What major work was completed over the summer and what remains for the final months?

MB: Mechanical and electrical rough-ins above ceilings and behind walls have been completed, along with the ceramic tile installation in the change rooms. Landscaping is complete, and the grass is starting to grow. Asphalt work has started.

Waterproofing of the pool tanks is about to begin, followed by ceramic tile installation. Plumbing, ventilation, and electrical work are also progressing at a very busy pace. The changeover from temporary to permanent power has been completed. The pool structure has been painted, and lights and sprinkler piping are in place.

TB: Did you hit any significant roadblocks or construction issues? If so, how were they addressed?

MB: No major roadblocks. All key equipment is on site. With that said, the final 5% of any project is the most challenging because of final inspections and commissioning.

(Cont. on Page 6)

TOWN CONTACTS

GENERAL INQUIRIES / TOWN HALL (Reception)
Phone: 902-742-2521

OPERATIONAL SERVICES
Office: 902-742-9423
After-Hours Emergency: 1-833-460-8709

Services: streets and sidewalks, traffic lights & signs, water, sanitary & storm sewers, snow removal, parks and trees, infrastructure, waste collection, transit.

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION
Phone: 902-742-2521
Services: Taxes, billing (water, sewer & solid waste), utilities, financial services, general management.

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT
Phone: 902-742-1505
Services: Planning, zoning, development & building permits.

FIRE SERVICES
Phone: 902-742-7411
Services: Fire protection, prevention & safety.
For fire emergencies, call 911.

FIRE & LIFE SAFETY
Phone: 902-740-5706
Services: Fire inspections, public fire safety education, code compliance, and enforcement.

WASTE COLLECTION
Phone: 902-742-9423
Services: Garbage, recycling, compost pickup schedules and inquiries.

BY-LAW ENFORCEMENT
Bylaw & Parking Enforcement - 902-742-4860
Building Issues – 902-742-1505
Property Issues – 902-742-1505
Services: Municipal by-law enforcement, parking enforcement, taxi licensing.

SENIORS’ SAFETY PROGRAM
Phone: 902-742-4862
Email: muriel.thomas@townofyarmouth.ca

YARMOUTH RECREATION
Phone: 902-742-8868
Email: yrec@munyarmouth.ca

FREE TRANSIT SERVICE
Phone: 902-742-9423
Services: Local bus schedule, route information.

For more information on all of our Departments and Services, please visit our website at: www.townofyarmouth.ca





(Cont. from Page 5)

TB: Have there been any changes to the budget, funding or naming agreements since spring?

MB: No changes. The project is tracking on budget and remains well within contingency funds.

TB: Any last-minute accessibility, safety or operational features residents should know about before opening?

MB: No concerns. The building is single-storey with ramps to the pools and a wheelchair lift to the spectator gallery. Water wheelchairs will be available. The roof has 400 solar panels to reduce electricity costs. The water slide will be delivered soon.

The Beacon will check in again with Brophy for the winter newsletter in December. In the meantime, learn more about the project, stay up to date, and donate by visiting www.marinerscentre.com



Your Town Services



Solid Waste Park

Waste Not:

10 Cool Things Happening at Yarmouth's Solid Waste Park

The Yarmouth County Solid Waste Park is much more than a place to drop off garbage. It is a busy operation focused on reuse, recycling, composting and environmental protection. Here are 10 cool things happening at the Waste Park that you may not know.

1. The Reuse Centre supports local charities

In its second year, the Reuse Centre has sold approximately 34 tonnes of products and raised \$22,900 for charity. Twenty organizations have benefited, including Camp Peniel, Yarmouth Ground Search and Rescue, Aidaen's Place Youth Support, and Seniors Second Chance.

Usable items get a second life, while the proceeds support important community programs.

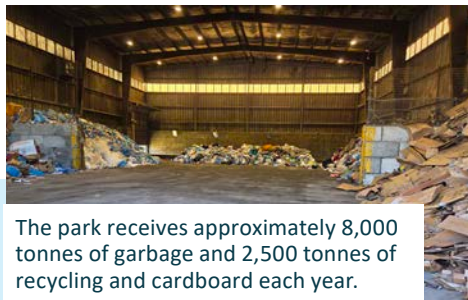
2. Thousands of tonnes become compost

The Compost Facility receives approximately 3,600 tonnes of green-cart material from Yarmouth County, Clare, and Digby County each year. It also processes about 1,500 tonnes of commercial organics from the surrounding region, along with 450 tonnes of lobster and fish waste.

The facility sold approximately 900 yards of finished compost in the last year.

3. Brush is put to good use

The Waste Park receives approximately 355 tonnes of brush each year. The brush is chipped and mixed with other organic materials to help create



The park receives approximately 8,000 tonnes of garbage and 2,500 tonnes of recycling and cardboard each year.

finished compost for sale.

This turns a material that might otherwise be discarded into a useful product for gardens and landscaping.

4. Fishing rope can become fuel

Fishing rope is difficult to handle, so the Waste Park designed a machine to cut it into manageable pieces. The rope is then sent to Sustane Technologies in Chester for processing.

For every tonne of rope processed, approximately 1,000 litres of biodiesel fuel are produced, along with other gases. Some are used to operate the facility, while others are sold.

5. Household hazardous waste disposal is free

Yarmouth County residents can dispose of household hazardous waste at no charge. The facility accepts items such as old paint, gasoline, used oil, cooking oil, batteries, chemicals and household cleaners.

The material is sorted into 10 categories before being shipped for proper disposal.

6. Almost 1,000 kilograms of batteries are recycled

Batteries, including AA, AAA, 9-volt and D batteries, are accepted through the household hazardous waste program.

Last year, the Waste Park shipped 45 boxes of batteries for recycling, weighing approximately 1,000 kilograms.

7. Contaminated soil is cleaned and reused

The Waste Park receives between 3,000 and 5,000 tonnes of hydrocarbon-contaminated soil each year. The soil is turned several times to help remove the contamination.

Once cleaned, it is reused for coverage and sidewalls at the Construction and Demolition Facility.

8. Wood and shingles help maintain the site

Approximately 2,500 tonnes of wood and shingles are received annually. These materials are ground up and used for road maintenance and coverage in the construction and demolition cell.

9. The facility handles a wide range of materials

The Waste Park receives approximately 8,000 tonnes of garbage (residential and commercial), 2,500 tonnes of recycling and cardboard, 1,500 tonnes of Construction and Demolition material, and 500 tonnes of metals and white goods each year. Refrigerant is removed from appliances before they are recycled.

It also accepts asbestos in sealed containers which is then trucked to Arlington Heights C&D Landfill for disposal. Approximately 4,000 tires are received annually, which are picked up by the tire recycling program of Nova Scotia.

10. It is a very busy operation

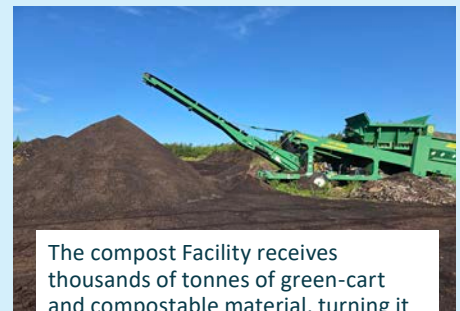
The Waste Park has six full-time employees and two seasonal employees, while the Compost Facility has five full-time employees.

In a typical year, over 38,000 vehicles visit the scales, delivering approximately 25,000 tonnes of material.

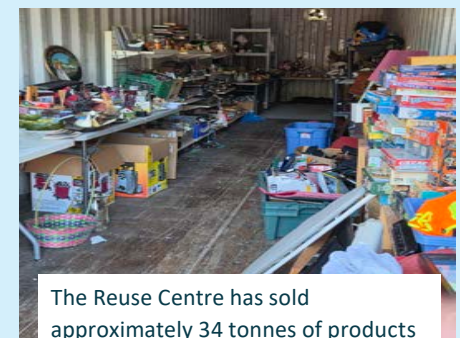
Yarmouth's Solid Waste Park is more than a drop-off location. It is a place where waste is reused, recycled, composted, cleaned and transformed into new resources, often in ways that visitors may not expect.



Rope cutter. Fishing rope is sent to Sustane Technologies in Chester to be processed into biodiesel fuel and other gases.



The compost Facility receives thousands of tonnes of green-cart and compostable material, turning it into quality finished compost.



The Reuse Centre has sold approximately 34 tonnes of products and raised \$22,900 for charity.

Visit the park's Facebook age at www.facebook.com/YarmouthCountySolidWastePark



Waste Collection



RECYCLE YOUR BATTERIES CANADA!



Collect, protect, and recycle by dropping them off

Why should you recycle your batteries?

- **SAFETY:** each year, millions of batteries are disposed of. Even used batteries retain energy, so if they are improperly stored or disposed of, they can cause a fire.
- **PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT:** Properly recycling household batteries can divert them from landfills, keep toxic chemicals from harming the environment, and reclaim rare metals. This will reduce the need to mine new raw materials and make new products.

For more information or to find a drop-off location near you, please visit: www.recycleyourbatteries.ca



Your Town Services



Fire Services

Fire Prevention Week: Safe Charging Is a Superpower!

The Yarmouth Fire Department is teaming up with NFPA to promote this year's Fire Prevention Week™, October 4 -10, **Charge into Fire Safety™: Safe Charging Is a Superpower.** Help us spread the word that everyday actions can help prevent lithium-ion battery fires. Use your charging superpower by making smart choices every time you plug in.



For more info including safety tips, family activities, and helpful videos, please visit: www.fpw.org.



Recreation

Summer has come and gone, but there are still plenty of fun events and activities planned for all ages this fall through Yarmouth Recreation.

Weekly Programs

- Child Camp (ages 5-7) at Meadowfields Community School
- Strides Together Walking Club meets Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. at Shoppers Drug Mart (moves to the Mall entrance by Dollarama during poor weather).
- Seniors' Walk Series takes place Fridays at 8:00 a.m. at Bunker's Island, meeting at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.
- Nerf Wars for youth runs Tuesdays from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Yarmouth Elementary School. Cost is \$5 per person.
- Teen Drop-In Basketball is offered Tuesdays from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Yarmouth Elementary School. Free to attend.
- Neighbourhood Play Nights take place Wednesdays from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. in communities throughout Yarmouth Town and County.
- Beginner Pickleball is available Tuesdays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Port Maitland Consolidated Elementary School. Cost is \$2 per person.
- Recreational Pickleball (18+) is offered Mondays and Wednesdays at NSCC from

6:00 to 7:30 p.m. and 7:30 to 9:00 p.m., as well as Saturdays from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Cost is \$3 per person.

- Seniors Badminton (50+) is held bi-weekly on Fridays from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. at Mariners on Main. Cost is \$2 per person unless you are a Mariners Centre member.
- Equipment Loan Program is available Monday to Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. through the Recreation Office. Equipment loans are free for all ages.



Upcoming Events

- Jack-o-Lantern Parade | October 23 at 6:00 p.m.
- Haunted Hike | October 30 from 3:00 to 9:00 p.m.
- Town of Yarmouth Tree Lighting | November 27 at 6:00 p.m.
- For more program and event details, visit: www.yarmouthrecreation.ca



Wastewater Treatment Plant

Anaerobic Digester Cleaning: What to Expect

The Town of Yarmouth will soon complete maintenance work at the wastewater treatment plant at 1 Water Street. The work will clean a structure called an "anaerobic digester." **Residents may notice temporary odours, noise and other impacts during the work.** The following FAQs explain what to expect.

What work is planned?

A contractor will clean the anaerobic digester at the wastewater treatment plant. The work will involve:

- Opening the digester;
- Removing its liquid contents; and
- Extracting solids that have accumulated on the bottom.

Why is this work needed?

Solids naturally build up in the digester over time. This reduces its available capacity and affects its performance. Cleaning the digester will restore its operating capacity and help the plant continue treating the community's wastewater effectively.

When will the work begin, and how long will it last?

Cleaning is planned to begin the week of **October 19** and is expected to last two to four weeks.

What will the work hours be?

Work is expected to take place six days per week, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. each day.

What impacts should I expect?

The work may result in temporary:

- Odours from the digester-cleaning process;
- Noise from generators, pumps, trucks and other equipment;
- Increased vehicle activity; and
- Access restrictions around the work area.

The **impacts will likely be most noticeable near the wastewater treatment plant.** Depending on wind direction and other weather conditions, odours may also be noticeable in other parts of Yarmouth.

What odour impacts should I expect?

Opening and cleaning the digester will result in temporary odours. Their intensity and location will vary depending on wind direction, wind speed, temperature and other weather conditions.

Will nearby trails be closed?

A full closure of the Yarmouth County Rail Trail is not currently expected. The trail passes directly by the plant, but it may be partially



blocked at times. Users should be prepared for strong odours and noise when passing by the plant.

The Town will monitor conditions during the work. If odours in the immediate area become too strong, the Town may announce a temporary closure of the nearby section of the trail. Users should use the trail based on their own comfort and judgement during the project.

Why is it important to follow posted closures?

Opening and cleaning an anaerobic digester can release gases and odours. The contractor will establish and maintain controls around the work area to protect workers and the public.

Please follow all posted signs and barricades, follow directions from the contractor or Town staff, and do not enter restricted work areas.

Will there be noise?

Temporary noise is expected from equipment, pumps, trucks and other machinery used during the work.

Will wastewater service be interrupted?

No interruption to regular wastewater service is expected.

What is the Town doing to minimize impacts?

The Town and contractor will work to:

- Complete the work as efficiently and safely as possible;
- Follow applicable health, safety and environmental requirements;
- Manage access around the work area;
- Minimize unnecessary noise and odours where practical; and
- Keep the community informed about significant changes or disruptions.

How will the Town provide updates?

Necessary project updates will be shared on the Town of Yarmouth website and social media channels, through the Town's Alertable community-notification service, and through other communication methods as needed.

****Please note:** the above information is subject to change. Updated FAQs will be online at www.townofyarmouth.ca





Around Town



COMMUNITY EVENTS

There’s always something happening on the edge of everywhere! Here’s a list of a few upcoming community events, plus where you can find more details and stay up to date on what’s happening in the Town of Yarmouth.

Yarmouth Mariners Season - Friday, September 11, 2026 to Friday, March 5, 2027

Is he Dead again? presented by TH’Yarc - October 8, 9, 10, 15, 16 & 17

The Inheritance! Murder mystery at Yarmouth County Museum - October 16 & 17 - 6 p.m.

2026 Sou’West Colour Walk - family-friendly fundraiser is happening on Saturday, October 17th (rain date October 18th) at Gateway Park

Bee Gees Revisited Live at Th’YARC - Tuesday, October 20

Fiddles & Feet at Th’YARC - Sunday, October 25

One Meter Up Halloween at the Legion - Saturday, October 31

Yarmouth’s Battle for Recovery at the Yarmouth Fire Hall - Friday, Nov. 6 - 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. A day of community healing, inspiration and empowerment, put on by Justin’s Crew Addiction Awareness Society, the Empower2Recover Foundation and the No Matter What Happens project.

Remembrance Day Services - Yarmouth Cenotaph and Mariners Centre - November 11, 10:45 a.m.

14th Annual Deck the Halls Craft Market at Rodd Grand - Saturday, November 14

14th Annual “It’s A Grand Christmas” Market - 14th Annual “It’s A Grand Christmas” Market - Saturday, November 21

Annual Tree & Frost Park Lighting - Friday, November 27, 6 p.m.

Merry Madness 2026 - Downtown Yarmouth - Friday, December 4

Build & Bake: Gingerbread House Workshop w/ Minds Eye Baking - Beacon United Church Kitchen - Monday, December 21

Buche de Noël (Yule Log) Baking Workshop w/ Minds Eye Baking - Tuesday, December 22

For more events and detailed information, please visit:
www.yarmouthandacadianshores.com
www.townofyarmouth.ca/events

Please note: event dates and times are subject to change. This is not a complete list of events happening in the Town of Yarmouth.

Yarmouth Farmers’ Market
Open Saturdays,
9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
15 Hawthorne Sreet



Five Cruise Ships Set to Visit Yarmouth and Acadian Shores This Fall

The Town of Yarmouth is pleased to share that **five luxury cruise ships will visit Yarmouth and Acadian Shores this fall**, arriving on September 24 and October 8, 10, 11 and 12.



Although Yarmouth is a small port town, it has the infrastructure needed to welcome cruise ships. The Port of Yarmouth is one of only three ports in Nova Scotia designated by the Canada Border Services Agency for Cruise Ship Operations, with customs and border facilities that also support the CAT Ferry’s international service to Bar Harbor, Maine.

According to Yarmouth and Acadian Shores Tourism Association (YASTA), cruise tourism in the region is the result of steady, long-term work to establish and grow a cruise market. This fall’s five scheduled visits represent the most cruise ships ever welcomed to the port, with more planned for the future. The visits will bring up to 4,000 passengers and crew through the region.



As the cruise market continues to develop, our community, tour operators and **local businesses are gaining new opportunities to participate in and benefit from tourism growth**. This deliberate and measured approach will help support continued expansion in the years ahead.

When the ships arrive, passengers will have the opportunity to discover what makes Yarmouth and Acadian Shores special, including our vibrant cultures, scenic coastline, world-class seafood and welcoming communities. **Each visit also gives local businesses an opportunity to showcase the region’s unique offerings to visitors from around the world.**

The Town of Yarmouth is proud to support the steady, sustainable growth of the cruise market and looks forward to welcoming these remarkable ships and their passengers to our shores this fall. We thank YASTA and our regional partners for their continued efforts to promote Yarmouth and Acadian Shores as a destination for cruise visitors.

Here’s a brief rundown of the vessels visiting Yarmouth:

Date	Arrival	Departure	Ship	Cruise Line
September 24	1:30 p.m.	6:00 p.m.	Silver Wind	Silversea
October 8	8:00 a.m.	5:00 p.m.	Crystal Symphony	Crystal Cruises
October 10	11:00 a.m.	8:00 p.m.	Crystal Symphony	Crystal Cruises
October 11	12:00 p.m.	6:00 p.m.	Le Bellot	Ponant
October 12	2:00 p.m.	11:00 p.m.	Le Lyrial	Ponant

Please note: this schedule is subject to change



STAY CONNECTED

YARMOUTH TOWN HALL

400 Main Street
Yarmouth, NS B5A 1G2
Tel: (902) 742-2521
Email: admin@townofyarmouth.ca



TownOfYarmouth.ca



GetInvolvedYarmouth.ca



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[@townofyarmouthnovascotia6672](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)



Receive Community Notifications in real-time using “Alertable”.
Sign up at: townofyarmouth.ca/Alertable

Do you have feedback or suggestions for future issues? Please email comms@townofyarmouth.ca, or drop off your comments at Town Hall, 400 Main Street.



Remembrance Day Services

November 11, 2026 - 10:45 am

Locations:

Yarmouth Cenotaph, Main Street
Mariners Centre, 45 Jody Shelley Drive



PLEASE NOTE: Guests planning to attend either of these services are asked to arrive between 10:30 and 10:45 am.