



PORT COLBORNE

CITY HALL NEWS

A newsletter for the residents of Port Colborne

MAY 2023

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Ways to #PORTicipate in May:

Community Safety Day & Bike Rodeo

Port Colborne Fire & Emergency Services presents the Annual Community Safety Awareness Day & Bicycle Rodeo on May 13 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Port Colborne Fire Hall, 3 Killaly St., West.

This is a FREE event with plenty of activities, including a bike rodeo with Port Colborne Optimist Club, interactive fire displays, exhibits and demonstrations, and complimentary snacks and refreshments.



Clean Community Day

Do your part to help keep Port Colborne clean and beautiful by maintaining your property and keeping things tidy. Drop off your refuse and debris at one of our Clean Community Days for free.

- Saturday, May 27
- Saturday, September 16



Downtown Cruise Nights

The Downtown Cruise Nights are starting up again beginning on Thursday, May 18 and will continue to run every Thursday until Thursday, August 24. Come visit the weekly car shows in our downtown core. Each night has a different theme.

Visit @CruisersPC on Facebook for more information.



Community Grant Program

Applications for the second allocation of the City's grant program will be accepted until June 30.

The City of Port Colborne welcomes non-profit organizations serving the needs of Port Colborne residents to apply for a discretionary grant based on provisions included in the Grant Policy, which can be found on the city website.

Please visit the City's grants page for details, or call Gail Todd 905-835-2900 x301

Nickel Beach

Nickel Beach re-opens for the season on Friday, May 19. There's no shortage of exciting new enhancements planned for beachgoers at Nickel Beach this season, including new washroom facilities, parking and access, and weekly programming.

We are also excited to welcome back Splashtown Niagara in 2023. Splashtown opens Friday, June 30.

Please visit www.portcolborne.ca/nickelbeach to monitor all changes and information.



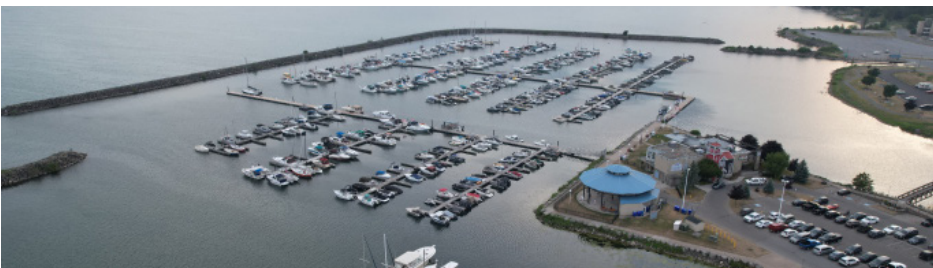
Sugarloaf Marina & Public Boat Launch

What is summer without time on the water in Port Colborne. Sugarloaf Marina is now in full swing, and seasonal spots are still available. Please call the marina at 905 835 6644, or email marina@portcolborne.ca for more information.

The public boat ramp opened in early April and is available to use seven days per week. Please visit Honk Mobile and search Port Colborne to see the boat ramp parking zone for daily or seasonal pass purchases.

Feel free to take a ride on the water and tie off in the canal to enjoy all that the downtown core has to offer! The municipal docks off of West St. are installed and available for use for the season.

We encourage everyone to be safe and responsible while out on the water. Have questions? Please reference the latest copy of transport Canada's safe boating guide at tc.canada.ca.



Water Wednesday

#WaterWednesday is a new weekly feature to showcase water, wastewater and stormwater people, programs and projects in Port Colborne.

We share new info each week on our Facebook and Instagram channels to help you learn about all things water in Port Colborne! Follow us to learn more.



Spring Street Sweeping Operations

Our annual street sweeping operations are underway.

Staff are currently focusing on the downtown core and will then shift to primary and secondary roadways across the city.

Here are a few ways you can help city staff:

- Minimize street parking where possible
- Do not sweep your driveway and sidewalk debris onto the road
- Leave road debris from the gutter or edge of the road where it is
- Remove hockey and basketball nets from the edge of the road



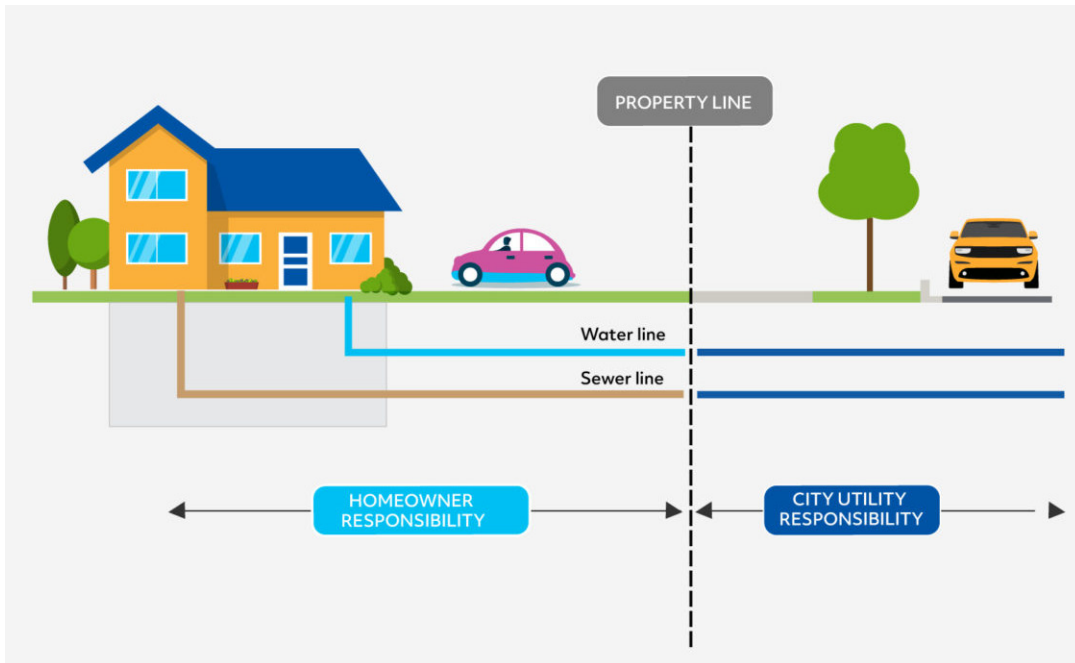
Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) new online School Support Portal

The portal enables residential property owners to add or update their school support designation information through AboutMyProperty. By making this process electronic, they have improved the process for obtaining and accurately recording school support direction. It will also help improve the quality of school support data on the assessment roll.

Visit www.mpac.ca for more details.

Water Service and Sewer Lateral Replacement Grants and Loan Program:

As part of the 2022 Water and Wastewater Budget, City Council approved a grant and loan program to assist residents with the cost to replace their water line and/or sewer line. As shown in the picture below, the City is responsible for the water and sewer lines extending from the watermain or sewermain in the road to your property line; however, property owners are responsible for the water and sewer lines that run from your property line to your home.



Why replace a water or sewer line?

While the private water and sewer lines are the responsibility of the property owner, when any of the issues listed below become known on the section which is owned and maintained by the City, the City or one of their approved contractors, will repair or replace the City's side of the line(s).

There are many different reasons a property owner may need to replace their water or sewer line:

- When a water or sewer line is found to be damaged, leaking, deteriorating, or is undersized
- If the water line is constructed with lead pipe

All residential property owners who receive a water/wastewater bill are eligible to apply for and receive the following grant(s) and/or loans:

Replacement Grants:

Water Line	\$1,000
Sewer Line	\$1,000

Replacement Loans:

Water Line	\$2,500
Sewer Line	\$2,500

If you are interested in learning more about the program and the eligibility requirements, please visit www.portcolborne.ca/watergrantsandloanprogram, scan the QR code, or request a hard copy information and application package by calling our Customer Service Representatives at 905-835-2900 or by visiting City Hall.



Holiday Hours:

The library will be closed: Monday, May 22 (Victoria Day).

Big Library Read: Tastes Like War by Grace M. Cho May 3 – 17

Join the world's largest online book club. Big Library Read is a reading program through your library that connects readers around the world with the same e-book at the same time, without any wait lists or holds. Join the conversation online at: www.biglibraryread.com.

FREE Comic Book Day

Sat. May 6, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Drop by the library to pick up a free comic book, thanks to our friends at Sketchbook Comics & Games. Spin the prize wheel to win an extra prize. Available while supplies last. Feeling SUPER? Dress up like your favourite Superhero and have your photo taken in our Green Screen studio between 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. All ages.



Service Canada

Mon. May 9, 1 – 5 p.m.

Learn more about the Canada Pension Plan and Old Age Security. Service Canada will be here to discuss when to apply, how to apply, and the ins and outs of ensuring you receive all the appropriate benefits. Free.

Science Meets Art! (Virtual Program)

Thurs. May 11, 5 – 6 p.m.

Discover what happens when science meets art. Explore perception as you use shadows, colour, motion, and light to create art from science. You'll make a puppet, a spinning top and a kaleidoscope, as well as design your own galaxy. Register to pick up your supply kit, and then log on to enjoy a one-hour hands-on science adventure. Ages 4-12. Free.

Community Safety Day

Sat. May 13, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

We are popping-up at the Port Colborne Fire and Emergency Service's Community Safety Day. Hope to see you there.

Baby Time

Tuesdays, May 16, 23 & 30, 10:15 – 10:45 a.m.

Songs, stories, and rhymes with your little one. For ages 0-2. Pre-register. Free.

Adult Painting Class: On the Line

Thurs. May 18, 1 – 2:30 p.m. & 5:30 – 7 p.m.

In this acrylic painting workshop, embrace your creative side using vibrant colours, fun patterns, and designs. On the uniquely sized, 10 x 20 " canvas, paint a springtime clothesline blowing carefree in the wind. Explore brushwork techniques to create the illusion of movement and flow. Pre-registration is required. Please contact the library for more information. COST: \$15 per person.



PD Day Activities

Fri. May 19, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Families are invited to drop by to try our Library of Things. We have Gravitrax, Electric Snap Circuits, a LiteBrite, and more! For all ages. No registration required. FREE.

Noticing Nature (Virtual Program)

Thurs. May 25, 5 – 6 p.m.

Chicka-dee-dee-dee. Who was that? Play a game to discover nature sounds around us. Buzz your newly created bee around flowers to pollinate them. Investigate seeds and make a seed caterpillar that will grow over time. Register to pick up your supply kit, and then log on to enjoy a one-hour hands-on science adventure. Ages 4-12. Free.

Meet us at the Market

Fri. May 26, 9 – 11 a.m.

We are popping-up at the City of Port Colborne's Farmers Market. Hope to see you there.



310 King Street, Port Colborne, ON | 905-834-6512 | portcolbornelibrary.org | library@portcolborne.ca


 @PortColborneLib
 
 @PortColbornePublicLibrary

Music Makerspace

Wednesdays, May 3, 10, 17, 24 & 30, 3 – 4:30 p.m.

Families and individuals can reserve 30-minute time slots to play our musical instruments. We have a guitar, digital piano, electric drums, ukuleles, and bells and shakers. Free with an adult Port Colborne Public Library card. Please call the library to register.



Green Screen Photography

Mon. May 29, 5 – 7 p.m.

Have your photo taken in our green screen studio. We will magically drop you into your choice of background and deliver the photo to you by email. Free. Photography waiver required.

Chess Table

Sat. May 6, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Do you enjoy playing chess? Did you know that you can play for free at the library anytime during any regular library hours?

Tot Time

Thursday, May 4, 11, 18 & 25, 10:15 – 11 a.m.

Enjoy stories, crafts, and a circle-time. For ages 2 to 5 accompanied by a parent/caregiver. Pre-register. Free.

Create our June Bookmark

During May, we are calling all kids to create a bookmark for the library. Make it at home or at the library—we'll supply the paper. Submit your design by May 31, for a chance to be our featured artist for June. The theme is "Dreaming of Summer" Available in the Children's Room. Free.

Employment Opportunities and Job Training with PC Works

Tuesday, May 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Drop by the library and talk to a team member from PC Works. Learn more about computers, academic upgrading, employment opportunities, and job training within the Niagara Region. PC Works can answer your questions and help you on your career path. Services provided by PC Works are free.

Speak with a Niagara Region Public Health Nurse

Friday, May 19, 12 – 1 p.m.

Chat with a Niagara Region Public Health Nurse from the Family Health division. Get answers to your questions about pregnancy, adjusting to parenthood, your well-being as a parent, parenting tips, your child's growth and development, and more. They can link you with services and programs in the Region.

Story Time with Shelly

Saturday, May 6, 13, 20 & 27, 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Meet us in the Children's Room every Saturday for a fun, free, family story time. All ages. Free. No registration required.

Ontario Parks Passes

Did you know you can borrow an Ontario Parks Day Pass with your Port Colborne Public Library card? These are single day-use passes that allow one vehicle and its occupants entry into an Ontario Park for free. With more than 100 operating provincial parks to choose from, you can explore hiking trails and day use beaches across our beautiful province. Free.

Documentary Films

Monday, May 29, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Join us for a screening and discussion of two documentary films: Modern Marvels: Golden Gate Bridge (2007, 60 min.) & Great Projects: Tale of Two Rivers (2002, 60 min.) Please register in advance. Free.



PORT COLBORNE
HISTORICAL & MARINE MUSEUM

MORE THAN A MUSEUM...

280 King Street , Port Colborne, ON | 905-834-7604 | portcolborne.ca/museum | museum@portcolborne.ca



@PortMuseum



@PortColborneHistoricalMarineMuseum



@PortColborneMuseum

May is Museum Month

May is Museum Month/Mai, Mois des Musées is an Ontario Museum Association program celebrated by Ontario's 700+ museums, galleries, and heritage sites. Museums make communities vibrant and vital places to live, work, visit, and invest. Celebrate by visiting your local museum.



The Port Colborne Historical and Marine Museum returns on May 1 with two brand new exhibits: Old School: Port High's 100th Anniversary and British Home Children: Local Stories. Open daily 12 to 5 p.m.

Yippy Pie Ay!

There is no sweeter way to spend a spring day than attending Arabella's Pie Social and History Fair on the grounds of the Museum. Enjoy the 29th annual festival on Sunday, May 28 from 12 to 4 p.m.

Join us on the beautifully blooming grounds of the Museum and experience traditional skills in the heritage village such as spinning, blacksmithing, printing, and demonstrations from the Antique Power Association. Don't forget to try your own skills at some heritage games, like croquet, dress-up, or buy some plants for your own garden at the Perennial Plant Sale. This year we are excited to welcome special visitor Jenny Johnson, from the History Chasers Club, who will be sharing her stories from her letters of the past year. And don't forget the pie! Make sure to stop in at Arabella's Tea Room to enjoy delicious homemade pie and beverages.



Spring Cemetery Tours – Come Walk through History

We are excited that spring is on its way, and that means the return of our popular cemetery tours.

Tours last about 90 minutes, and participants are reminded to wear appropriate clothing and shoes. Please note that the ground can be uneven in the cemeteries. Reservations for the tours must be made in advance by emailing archives@portcolborne.ca

Tour participants are asked to make a minimum \$5 donation.

Join us for a Walk through History on our

Cemetery Tours

as we explore the people, cultures, and history of our local community

Saturday May 6

9:30 am
Overholt Cemetery Part 1, (Bethel)

12 noon
St. Paul's Lutheran Cemetery & Overholt Cemetery Part 2 (Bethel)

Saturday May 13

9:30 am
Oakwood Cemetery
Lakeshore Road, Wainfleet

12 noon
"We Will Remember" Tour
at Oakwood Cemetery
to honour military service
Lakeshore Road, Wainfleet

Tours last approximately 1.5 hours

Suggested Donation minimum \$5.00 per person
Reservations must be made in Advance: archives@portcolborne.ca 905 834 7604

Limited Spots Available

A Royal Affair Opens at the Roselawn Centre

Celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III at the Roselawn Centre with the new exhibit 'A Royal Affair' open May 7 to June 25.

Visit the historic Roselawn Centre to explore how the British Royal family has influenced Canadian pop culture, style, food, and more.



Port Colborne property owners have a responsibility to destroy noxious weeds by May 1, 2023

- Where:** All residential properties within Port Colborne's city limits.
- Who:** Anyone who owns a property in Port Colborne that is 10 acres or less.
- When:** By May 1, 2023 and throughout the season.
- What:** Port Colborne property owners with properties 10 acres or less are required to destroy all noxious weeds on their land by May 1, 2023 and throughout the remainder of the summer season.

Property owners who do not destroy noxious weeds will be charged the cost for the City to complete the weed removal work on the property.

These requirements and authority are noted in Province of Ontario's Weed Control Act (1990).

More info: For the 2023 season, noxious weeds include: Black Dog-Strangling Vine, Bull Thistle, Canada Thistle, Coltsfoot, Common Barberry, Common Crupina, Cypress Spurge, Dodder, Dog-Strangling Vine, European Buckthorn, Giant Hogweed, Jointed Goatgrass, Knapweed, Kudzu, Leafy Spurge, Poison Hemlock, Poison Ivy, Ragweed, Serrated Tussock, Smooth Bedstraw, Snow Thistle, Tansy Ragwort, Wild Chervil, Wild Parsnip, and Woolly Cupgrass.

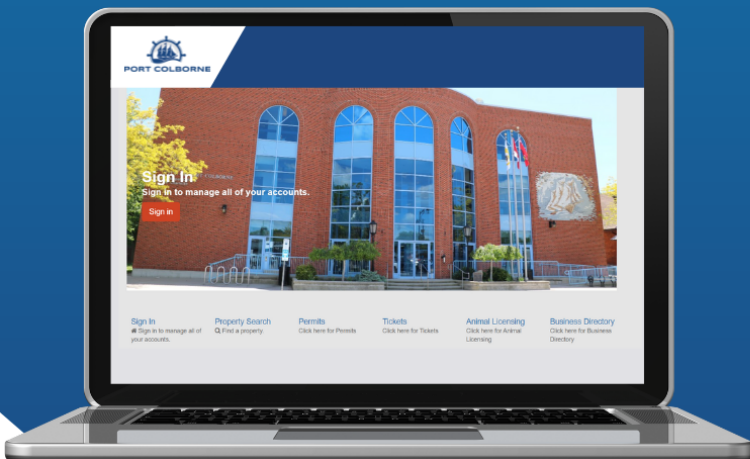
The City of Port Colborne also has a Lot Maintenance By-law, which regulates grasses/weeds. This by-law applies to all properties within the City and requires owners to comply by removing weeds before May 1 and throughout the season until October 31 or first frost, whichever occurs first.

Staff contact: By-law Services 905-835-2900 ext. 200



PORT COLBORNE

VIRTUAL CITY HALL



CITY HALL IS NOW AVAILABLE VIRTUALLY!

You can manage property taxes, water and wastewater bills online with the City's launch of Virtual City Hall.



24-HOUR ACCESS

Create a secure and confidential online account, that can be logged into 24 hours a day/seven days a week, to manage property tax bills, water and wastewater bills, in addition to account receivable invoices in real time.



GO PAPERLESS

Sign-up for paperless billing. Anyone who activates paperless billing will receive a one-time credit up to \$25 (\$10 for property taxes and \$15 for water/wastewater). The incentive has been extended until Dec. 23, 2023. Also, if you set up pre-authorized payments for your property and water/wastewater accounts you can also receive an additional one-time credit up to \$25.



REGISTER FOR PRE-AUTHORIZED PAYMENTS



UPDATE INFORMATION

Update mailing address and contact information.



ACCESS PROPERTY INFORMATION

Access property information that is provided to the City by Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC), including searching for properties to view assessments and tax information.

Note: When creating your account, please use the name exactly how it appears on your bill.



NEW PAYMENT METHOD

Use a credit card to make full or partial payments directly to property and utility accounts (a convenience fee will be charged for any online payments made with a credit card through the third-party merchant Paymentus).

To get started creating your account, or for more information, including 'how to' videos, visit our website www.portcolborne.ca/virtualcityhall or scan the QR code.

Require assistance? The City's customer service representatives are available Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. either by phone at 905-835-2900 or by emailing customerservice@portcolborne.ca.

