

Help Prevent False Alarm Fire Calls

It's Fire Prevention Week (October 6 to 12) and the Town of Ponoka is asking for your assistance in reducing the number of false alarm fire calls in our community.

Many false alarms are due to the placement of smoke detectors too close to the stove, oven or shower. Quite often smoke alarms can be accidentally triggered by security systems that are linked to a fire alarm. How can you prevent false alarms?

1 Regular Maintenance



Smoke alarms should be tested once a month and every time you change the batteries. You should replace your alarm if it is more than 10 years old.

Replace your smoke alarm batteries twice a year in the spring and fall when you set your clocks back or ahead for daylight savings.

2 Proper Placement



Smoke alarms should be at least 10 feet away from the stove and oven. Alarms should not be placed in bathrooms or garages to avoid shower steam and dust. Research shows it's best to have an interconnected smoke alarm in every bedroom.

3 Correct Contact Information



Your security and/or fire alarm monitoring company should have your most up-to-date contact information so they can contact you to confirm if an alarm has been triggered accidentally or if it's a true emergency.

Contact your security and/or fire alarm monitoring company before you do maintenance, test or repair your smoke alarm.

If Your Smoke Alarm is Accidentally Triggered



Please call your alarm monitoring company immediately to cancel the false alarm and prevent fire crews from being dispatched. Some monitoring companies will try phoning you before they dial 911 to ensure the alarm is a real emergency. Please be sure to answer their call right away.

False fire alarm calls are a serious safety issue because firefighters and equipment have to be sent to a situation where they aren't needed, which makes them potentially unavailable for a real emergency if one were to happen at the same time as a false alarm.

TOWN OF PONOKA FACILITY HOURS FOR THANKSGIVING DAY (MONDAY, OCTOBER 14)

- The **Town of Ponoka Office** at the Ponoka Civic Centre will be temporarily closed on Monday, October 14. Regular hours will resume on Tuesday, October 15.
- The **Waste Transfer Station** will be open on Saturday, October 12 and will be temporarily closed on Sunday and Monday, October 13 and 14. Regular hours will resume on Tuesday, October 15.
- The **Ponoka Arena Complex** will be closed on Monday, October 14. Regular programming will resume on Tuesday, October 15.
- The **Ponoka Aquaplex** will be open on Monday, October 14 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Regular hours will resume on Tuesday, October 15. To view the Aquaplex schedule, please visit the Town of Ponoka website at Ponoka.ca/p/recreation

Annual Fall Clean Up Starts Tuesday, October 15



The Town of Ponoka's annual back alley collection of compostable yard waste begins after the Thanksgiving long weekend on Tuesday, October 15 and will continue until each back alley is completed.

Ponoka residents are asked to place all materials for pick up in a pile at their back alley no later than Monday, October 14. Residents who do not have a back alley can place yard waste near the curb at the front of their property, ensuring the materials are visible for pick up.

The Town of Ponoka will make one pass down each back alley to collect yard waste (grass clippings, leaves, weeds and branches less than five feet) in excess of what will fit in your Green Cart.

Items That Will Not Be Picked Up

Yard waste set out for collection should not be bagged. To avoid contaminating the compost pile at the Town's Waste Transfer Station, bagged material will not be picked up. Other items that will not be picked up include: rocks, construction material, wood, household waste, plastic and pet excrement.

For more information on the Annual Fall Clean Up, please visit: Ponoka.ca/p/back-alley-pick-up

~ TOWN NEWS ~

- **Green Carts and Recyclable Materials** bundled in clear or blue transparent plastic bags should be placed at the curb for pick up October 9, 10 and 11 - depending on your Zone.
- **Grey Carts and Green Carts** should be placed at the curb for pick up on October 16, 17 and 18 – depending on your Zone.

~ UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS ~

- **Next TOWN COUNCIL MEETING:** Tuesday, October 22 at 6 p.m.
- **Next PRIORITIES AND INITIATIVES COMMITTEE MEETING:** Tuesday, October 15 at 6 p.m.
- **2025 Budget Deliberation Dates:** October 29 and 30 starting at 9 a.m. The public is welcome to attend all Council meetings. Meetings will be held in Town Council Chambers on the third floor of the Ponoka Civic Centre (5604 50 Street).



Hometown Weekly
Town of Ponoka News and Events

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