

ROCKY RIDGE ROYAL OAK

VIEW

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Suburban Journal



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Community and Residents Associations

Rocky Ridge Royal Oak Community Association

403-879-2820 • communications@rrroca.org • www.rrroca.org

Rocky Ridge Ranch Homeowners Association

10709 Rocky Ridge Blvd NW
Calgary, AB T3G 4G1
403-547-6633 • info@rrrha.ca • www.rrrha.ca

Royal Oak Estates Homeowners Association

info@roeha.ca • www.roeha.ca

The Cascades in Royal Oak Residents Association

Email: contact@cascadesroyaloak.com
Website: cascadesroyaloak.com

Elected Officials

Ward 1 Councillor: Sonya Sharp
403-268-2430
ward1@calgary.ca

MLA: Rajan Sawhney
403-297-7104
calgary.northwest@assembly.ab.ca

MP: Pat Kelly, Calgary Rocky Ridge
403-282-7980
pat.kelly@parl.gc.ca

Editor & Article Submissionseditor@suburbanjournals.ca
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Phil: 403-660-7324phil@suburbanjournals.ca
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Councillor Report

Hello Ward 1! April is sure to be a busy month at City Hall. Here are the latest updates on what's affecting your ward and city:

Blanket Rezoning

The Public Hearing on blanket rezoning is happening this month on April 22. I strongly encourage everyone with an interest in this change, no matter their views, to consider registering to speak or to submit comments in writing. Sharing your feedback directly with Council will help us make an informed decision that reflects the views of as many Calgarians as possible. Visit calgary.ca/publichearing to register or submit your comments.

All landowners who are directly affected by the proposed rezoning should have received a formal notification by mail in March. You can learn more about exactly what's being proposed and view a map of the changes at calgary.ca/rezoningforhousing.

A special thanks to everyone who was able to attend my townhall in March and to everyone who has submitted feedback so far.

Drought Conditions

The City and Government of Alberta are continuing to monitor the water situation in southern Alberta. We ask all Calgarians to observe any water restrictions put into place in order to protect our ecosystems and drinking water supply. Taking steps year-round to reduce water consumption can help lessen the impact of drought and reduce the need for restrictions. Learn more at calgary.ca/droughtresilience.

River Valleys Project

The Government of Alberta recently released new draft flood hazard maps for the Bow and Elbow Rivers. These maps are used by The City to inform how land is used in areas that could be affected by flooding. The City will be updating its policies related to flooding and land use later this year. While these policies affect all Calgarians, they are especially important residents of areas like Bowness in Ward 1. Learn more at calgary.ca/rivervalleys.

Sonya Sharp, Councillor, Ward 1

Volunteer Corner

Volunteer from Home

Volunteers are always important to RRROCA as we work to make Royal Oak & Rocky Ridge an even better community. Thankfully, most of the work required can be done from your home. So if you are interested in living in a great community, and can spare a few hours in a month, please consider volunteering for RRROCA!

In addition to making an impact, you will certainly learn new skills, gain valuable volunteer experience and meet more neighbours. Please email volunteer@rrroca.org if you are interested in the following positions or have any questions about volunteering with RRROCA. Please check out our website at www.rrroca.org for all volunteer opportunities.



Programs Chair(s), and Lead(s) [CRITICAL]

The Programs team provides opportunities for the communities' diverse residents to participate in various programming and activities. The team will develop, implement and evaluate programs and activities in the community, coordinate and oversee the annual spring youth sports program (i.e. soccer, tball), and look for opportunities to expand programming (learn to skate, basketball, field hockey, etc). Planning for 2022 spring sports needs to begin immediately, if you believe you can assist, please reach out ASAP.

Time Commitment: Minimum 10 hours/month, will vary based on scheduled programming

Sponsorship Chair

This role works to help establish connections and fosters relationships with businesses and organizations in the community. By developing sponsorship opportunities that support Community Association events, programming and initiatives, and searching out partners in the community to fund or support these, the Sponsorship Chair is integral in providing services to residents, and connecting businesses to residents.

Time commitment: 10-20 hours/month

Membership Chair

The Membership Chair promotes, encourages and sees to administration tasks associated with managing the members of the Community Association. The Chair also explores and works with other committees to

implement opportunities of benefits for membership.
Time commitment: Approx 10 hours a month

Events Lead

With direction from the Events Chair, an Event Lead helps to execute specific events, from the planning stage to the wrap up.

Time commitment: Approximately 2-5 hours/month (not including event attendance)

Did You Know?

Volunteering for RRROCA as a Board or a Committee member will:

1. gain valuable volunteering experience and essential work skills;
2. know the first-hand community news;
3. get the RRROCA membership (\$30) or one sport registration for free (~\$50 or \$65) annually;
4. the most important: help us to build a thriving community

Child Writers Wanted!

Do you have a child or teen at home who enjoys writing? Would they like to share this passion in the community newsletter? Perhaps a teen who is studying journalism, or simply loves to write in general.

Did you know that RRROCA has a number of teens volunteering within our committees today? It is such a great experience for all involved and we'd love to get more youth engaged. If this is something of interest for your child, please reach out to the Communications team at communications@rrroca.org.



Want to receive emails about any volunteer opportunities for the community association?

Please email
volunteerlead@rrroca.org
to sign up.



ROCKY RIDGE RANCH

HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

Rocky Ridge Ranch Homeowners Association

10709 Rocky Ridge Blvd NW

Calgary, AB T3G 4G1

Phone: 403-547-6633 Fax: 403-547-6634

www.rrrha.ca info@rrrha.ca

Office Hours

Updates to office hours are available online.

**ROCKY RIDGE RANCH
HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION**

2024 at Rocky Ridge Ranch:

- Babysitting Course for Youth
- Spring vendor market
- Spring Camp for ages 8 to 13
- Easter Party
- Youth Market
- Yoga
- Dance classes
- Karate Classes
- Good Food Box
- Halloween
- Holiday Market
- Christmas at the Ranch and more... Stay Tuned.

Retro Revival Party: 50's, 60's, and 70's live music

April 13, 2024, 5:00 to 8:00 pm

Live Performance by Fender bender Band

Bar will be open, snacks, and more...

\$15.00 members \$18.00 non members

403.547.6633

Little Doctor Summer Camp

July 8 to 12, 2024, 9 am to 4 pm

Join us at Little Medical School Summer Camp

- Dress up like doctors and use real medical instruments
- Discover how the body works
- Practice suturing stiches and learn basic medical techniques
- Learn skills such as CPR and the Heimlich Maneuver and more...

- Contact us for more info.
- Ages 6 to 11

YOUTH VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Do you have a teenager who is interested in volunteering? Maybe they are looking for some extra high school credits, looking for some work experience or maybe interested in making a difference in our community.

We are looking for a few teenagers in the area who would be willing to come and help with our Ranch events (such as Easter Hunts, crafts etc.). Please come into the Ranch office and talk to our Operations Manager Erika.

For more information email us to: info@rrrha.ca

Spring Soccer

Program registration is open and ongoing. Visit www.rrroca.org for more information.



Save the Date

- **Family Day:** May 25, 2024, Royal Oak Victory Church
- **Neighbour Day:** June 15, 2024, RRROCA Park
- **Parade of Garage Sales:** June 22-23, 2024
- **Canada Day:** July 1, 2024 RRROCA Park
- **Stampede Breakfast:** Jul 12, 2024, Shane Homes YMCA

Do You Have Your RRROCA Membership?

In addition to the benefits listed below, 100% of membership fees go directly into program and resources funding, and future facilities development. The greater our membership base, the more funds we will have for projects, programs, and initiatives! We need your help with funds to continue dealing with municipal and provincial issues that affect your daily life.



Please visit our membership page at rrroca.org to sign up for a membership, or email membership@rrroca.org if you have any questions.

Benefits of RRROCA Membership

Here are some of the current benefits of RRROCA membership, please visit our website regularly for updates.

- Access to RRROCA's Babysitter Registry
- Register for community events and programs such as spring sports programs for children, parade of garage sales, etc. winning one of ten \$100 to hold block parties on Neighbour Day, etc.
- Borrow materials for hosting your own block party
- Purchase discounted tickets or enter draws as available annually
- Receive free pancake breakfast at annual Stampede Breakfast event
- Provide recreational insurance at Sports Program offered by RRROCA
- Accepted by Calgary West Soccer for their program registration
- Receive product and services discounts at participating local businesses (Membership Perks). Visit our website at www.rrroca.org to review the active offerings. **

We are continuously working to expand our Membership Perks Program. If you are a business owner who would like to provide product and/or services discounts to RRROCA members, please contact our membership team at membership@rrroca.org.

RRROCA Membership Registration

One Membership per household; valid January 1 to December 31 annually.

\$30 New membership Membership Renewal

Your personal information will be used for Association purposes only and will never be given to third parties.

Last Name: _____

First Name: _____

Address: _____

Postal Code: _____ Phone #: _____

Email*: _____

* Please note e-mail is used to communicate your membership number. If you choose "No" for updates below, the e-mail will be on file but won't be included in our news mailing list.

Would you like RRROCA news and updates by email? Yes No

Send form and cheque to: **RRROCA Membership**
P.O. Box 91009, RPO Royal Oak
Calgary, AB T3G 5W6

Important Phone Numbers

If you require emergency supports to meet basic needs, Income support is available 24-7.

- Income Support Contact Centre: 1-866-644-5135

For anyone facing family violence, bullying or abuse, the following resources are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, in more than 170 languages:

- Family Violence Info Line: 310-1818
- Child Abuse Hotline: 1-800-387-KIDS (5437)
- Bullying Helpline: 1-888-456-2323

Help is also available 24-7 for anyone dealing with mental health challenges.

- Mental Health Helpline: 1-877-303-2642

You can also contact the Alberta Supports Contact Centre at 1-877-644-9992 (toll free) for information regarding AISH, Child Care Subsidy, Disability Supports, Financial Supports, Health Benefits, Career Information, Seniors Benefits, Public Guardian/Trustee.



311 Calgary Introduces New Call Back Feature to Reduce On-hold Wait Times

The City of Calgary has launched a new feature for its 24/7 services and information line. When you call 311, you'll be notified of the wait time, and you can choose to receive a callback if it is longer than one minute.

If the expected wait is longer than one minute, the system will advise on the estimated wait time before providing the option for a call back.



The call back feature is available on the 10-digit 403.268.CITY (2489) and 311 lines between the hours of 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., seven days a week. These hours of operation experience the highest volume of call demand, often resulting in longer wait times.

“This technology allows for 311 to strengthen our commitment and focus on providing enhanced customer service to our citizens,” says Clarke Bellamy, Manager, 311, Customer Service & Communications. “We anticipate this new feature will provide additional options to callers that prefer not to wait on hold.”

The City of Calgary is the first 311 service in western Canada to offer a daily callback feature.

Contact 311 via mobile app and by phone for City information and non-emergency services, such as bylaw-related issues, snow removal concerns, potholes, street cleaning and tax account inquiries. Language translation and accessibility services are available. Find out more at calgary.ca/311.

City of Calgary

St. Sylvester News

April is Earth Month, a time to raise environmental awareness and create consciousness around the effects that nature endures in today's society. Every April, leaders, and environmental activists from all over the world join hands to create sustainable development and offer climate solutions, to minimize our carbon footprint and prevent further harm to our planet's natural resources.

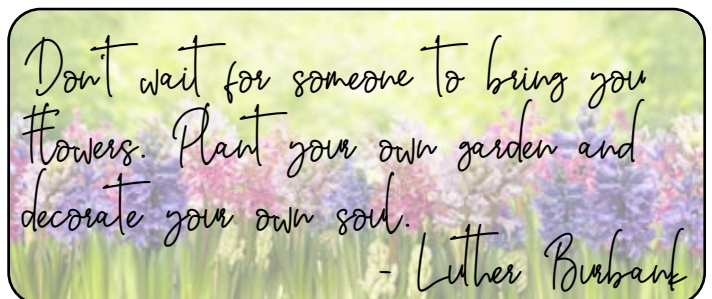
On March 27, our students reviewed the Stations of the Cross to remind them of the sacrifice that Jesus made for us. They attended, on March 28th, Holy Thursday Liturgy and were off school on Good Friday onward for the Easter break.

Green Shirt Day is on April 12, to bring awareness to Organ donation. It is estimated that in the weeks following the Humboldt Broncos crash in 2018, more than 150,000 signed up to be organ donors. Logan Boulet was a Humboldt Bronco player who was critically injured in the crash. His parents fulfilled his wish to be an organ donor. This selfless act provided 6 other people a chance at life and triggered the landslide of selfless donors to become organ donors, known as the Logan Boulet effect.

Our students will celebrate the coming of Spring on April 18th, with a Spring Concert where the children will perform their very best, and it will sure to be a packed house.

Other dates to note in April include Administrative Professional day on April 24th, a day to say a big thank you to all of our administrative personnel at St Sylvester, we are forever thankful for all you do.

St. Sylvester offers Kindergarten AM, PM, and Grades 1-6 programs. Childcare may be needed for your family. Please contact the school for further details. Many of our staff at St Sylvester would be happy to talk about what St. Sylvester means to them. St. Sylvester is... the heart of Silver Springs.



École Tuscany School

Spring is in the air and the warmer weather and longer days are something to look forward to, so let's get outside and enjoy this time of year!!!!

The Casino Funds and work done through the TSES make a huge impact. However, if we don't have enough volunteers we would lose the Casino date completely. We need you! Guardians, grandparents, friends, neighbours, and community members can all volunteer for a shift. Please consider signing up for a shift using the following link: <https://m.signupgenius.com/#/showSignUp/8050F4BA9A72AA5F49-47331034-tuscany> - A huge thank-you to all those who have already signed up!

Tuscany School relies heavily on the Casino funds to be able to support programs for students and provides excellent resources and unique experiences for our children. The funds raised are spent in accordance with the AGLC regulations and the approved proceeds list on enhancing the needs of our students. Just this year, our Casino funds subsidized the Evergreen Theatre in support of our school's Artist in Residency Program and helped to reduce the cost to parents significantly. We were also able to support our school by purchasing musical instruments including a Digital Stage Piano, as well as purchasing resource and technology materials. These funds are also helping to offset some of the busing costs for our Grade 4/5 skiing activities, our Grade 1-3 swimming adventures and a special Kindergarten spring field trip.

Our three community school parent councils are once again combining our Alberta School Council Grants to bring a presentation to all our parents. This year, we have been fortunate enough to book a presentation from registered dietician, Andrea Holwegner which will be held on April 17th. The presentation is free for all parents of Tuscany School, Eric Harvey School, and Twelve Mile Coulee School. Presentation details and registration information will be sent out to parents closer to the date.

Our upcoming FUNdraiser Treat day is Friday April 26th (Kernel's). The next Fun Lunch (Tim Horton's) for Grades 1-6, as well as Kinder Snack Day, is on Thursday April 11th. Please log into www.healthyhunger.ca (Grade 1-6 students) and submit your orders the Friday before to ensure your child can participate. Don't forget to wear your Spirit Wear! A big thank you to our fabulous volunteers who make these Fun Lunch and FUNdraiser Treat days possible for our kids. All volunteers must have a valid CBE Security check prior to signing up to volunteer.

Other Important Dates for April:

- Classes resume April 2nd;
- Non-instructional Day – No school April 19th;
- Grade 1-3 Swimming classes end of April/beginning of May.

As the weather turns warmer and our kids start spending more time outside, we would like to remind everyone to keep our children's safety in mind when driving near the community's schools. If community members see unsafe vehicular behaviour around the schools, please report it through the Calgary Police App.

We are currently on the lookout for some new, equally awesome members to fill a few vacant parent council positions. Here is your big chance see if there is a position that you might like to jump into! Volunteers at Tuscany School play a very special part in our educational programs. Your help enables us to enrich learning and teaching in a number of ways. Volunteering is a great way to be involved in the school and many of our activities would not be possible without volunteers.

Our Event committee is busy planning our annual year end BBQ, and we are looking for volunteers to help with some of the planning and organizing. If you are interested in helping our amazing Events team, please reach out to them at tuscanyeventsteam@gmail.com.

April is Autism Awareness Month, and we will be celebrating in our school starting April 2nd creating awareness and promoting understanding and inclusion.

Our next council meeting of the 2023-24 school year will be held on Thursday, April 11th, at 6:30 p.m. in person at the school and via TEAMS. Please check out our website at www.tuscanycouncil.ca for up-to-date info, and follow us on social media Facebook www.facebook.com/tuscanycouncil; Instagram @tuscanycouncil and twitter @TuscanyCouncil for reminders and photos of our adventures together. If you have any questions about becoming involved with the School Council or volunteering for a committee, please email tuscanycouncilchair@gmail.com.

You can also follow Tuscany school on Twitter @Tuscany_cbe.

Calgary's Filipino Heritage

Many communities from around the world now call Calgary home. In the 2021 census, there were approximately 84,000 Filipinos in Calgary.

The first arrivals in Alberta took place in the 1960s and 1970s. Among the first were skilled workers, as allowed by immigration law at the time. For example, three teachers arrived in 1965, one heading to Lethbridge, another to Fort Macleod and Aurora Dacanay settling in Taber. Others arrived throughout the late-1960s and became nurses or engineers.

Economic and political upheaval in the Philippines, including the 1972 declaration of martial law, saw an increase in Filipinos seeking opportunities in Canada. Changes to Canadian law also spurred the arrival of newcomers. Between 2011 and 2016, Philippines was the most common country of origin for immigrants to Canada.

In 2018, June was declared Filipino Heritage Month by a unanimous vote in the House of Commons. Also in 2018, Alberta received two proposals for a Philippine Heritage Month, one for June and the other for September. June makes sense, as it coincides with Philippines Independence Day: June 12th, 1898.

The community's contributions to Calgary's heritage continue to grow. Spearheaded by the Philippine Tourism Department and Consulate General in Calgary, April is marked as Filipino Restaurant Month. The 2023 iteration occurred in 19 Canadian cities. Calgary, with eight restaurants, had the most participating locations of any city.

In 2021, human rights advocate Marichu Antonio became the first Filipino Canadian to receive the City of Calgary's Citizen of the Year Award. The Award was established in

1994 to recognize Calgarians for their achievements and contributions to the community.

Also in 2021, a bust of Philippines national hero Dr. Jose Rizal was unveiled in Airdrie's Nose Creek Regional Park to mark the 160th anniversary of his birth. Dr. Rizal was an eye doctor who was executed for rebellion by the colonial government. He had turned to writing to advocate for self-government through peaceful reforms, which inspired the Philippine Revolution.

Today in Calgary and across Alberta, free peoples gather from all over the world to live and work (and eat) together. See you at Fiesta Filipino!

Anthony Imbrogno is a volunteer with The Calgary Heritage Initiative Society/Heritage Inspires YYC

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To discover more about Calgary's heritage, visit:

HERITAGE *inspires* YYC.org



The Royal Filipino Orchestra on Prairie Circuit, 1922 (Libraries and Cultural Resources Digital Collections, University of Calgary)



Dr. Jose Rizal Monument, Airdrie, 2023 (Anthony Imbrogno)



Dr. Jose Rizal Monument, Airdrie, 2023 (Anthony Imbrogno)



Max's Restaurant, 3581 20 Ave NE, 2023 (Anthony Imbrogno)

Calgary Robins: Nesting

Beginning in March and April, an American robin pair will work together to gather materials that include grass and mud. The male helps bring materials, and the female usually constructs the nest. The female robin uses her wrist (mid-joint on the wing) to press the grasses into an outer circle. The inner layers of the nest are made of a mud cup and some finer grass or materials. This process can take a few days to a couple weeks to complete depending on whether it rains (making available mud).

A little variety in the nesting materials is normal, however, synthetic materials, especially strips from tarps for example, are often lethal to hatchlings (baby birds). The fine strips of plastic entwine themselves around their legs, hindering their development and ability to leave the nest. Keeping natural areas free of garbage and putting away old tarps that birds might pull threads from, can help prevent the hatchlings from becoming ensnared in the nest.

Once the nest is complete, 3 to 4 light blue eggs are laid. The female will incubate them for about 13 days. American robin hatchlings are blind, featherless, and helpless. This type of young is called altricial. Both parents help feed the hatchlings until they develop feathers and their flight muscles, as they prepare to leave the nest.

American robin young, who are preparing to leave the nest, are called fledges. They cannot yet fly but will hop or do short flapping flight attempts. Learning to fly takes around two weeks. Fledges are at risk for predation, so keeping pets indoors or on leash can improve their survival chances.

It's easy to mistake fledges learning to fly for birds who cannot fly (due to injury or illness). Healthy fledges have a parent checking in with them every fifteen minutes



to an hour and overall appearance is uninjured, alert, and active. Fledglings that need help have been handled by a cat (even if no injury is visible, the bird will need treatment), have obvious injuries, or the parent has been absent for longer than a few hours.

How do we tell fledges from adults? Fledglings often have shorter tails, a few remaining fluffy down feathers on their head or wings, and bright yellow edges on their beak (gape flanges). American robin fledges are also distinguished from adults by a speckling of dark brown spots on their chest feathers, which help with camouflage.

What are the robins doing in your neighbourhood? Do they have a nearby nest?

Uncertain whether wildlife needs help? Found injured or orphaned wildlife? Please call Calgary Wildlife at 403-214-1312.

Calgary Wildlife





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Keeping Storm Drains Clear This Spring

Storm drains are a part of Calgary's stormwater system. There are about 60,000 storm drains in Calgary working to capture water and melting snow off sidewalks, streets and roads.

If it's safe and possible to do, remove debris or snow blocking the drain. Create a channel, if need be, to help water flow.

Pooled water on your street

In communities built after 1990, The City installs devices in the storm drain to control how fast water flows into the system. During and after a rainfall event, these devices allow water to pool on the road (usually in a depression or low spot, called a trap low), until the stormwater system can accept the extra water.

Take a picture

If the storm drain remains submerged for more than 90 minutes or you cannot safely clear ice and snow away,



take a photo and submit it via the 311 App or a web request. Attaching a photo goes a long way in helping our crews respond on a priority basis.

For more information on storm drains and to locate the closest one to you, visit calgary.ca/stormdrains.

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Water Conservation: A Change in Perception & Action

By all predictions, Calgary will experience unprecedented drought this summer, another example of drastic worldwide climate change events we've all seen in the news. Years of decreased precipitation, and especially for this year, low snowpack in the Rockies, has contributed to all-time low stream flows through our Bow & Elbow Rivers. It's hard to believe that this is the same city hit by torrential flooding only eleven years ago!

The City of Calgary identified that between 1993 - 2003 "the amount of water we used per person has remained higher than many other North American and European cities."* We've since made strides but clearly, our wasteful water habits must change. There simply may not be enough water to go around. Watering restrictions will be implemented. Water is about to become scarce and very expensive.

How can YOU decrease your water use (and waste) AND save on utility bills? The good news, is well... LOTS! Read on!

In the Bathroom

- Toilets are the #1 water waster, responsible for up to 25% of household use. Low flush toilets can save up to 30% and can be purchased for as little as \$125. Trash should be thrown away, not flushed.
- Check for and fix faucet & toilet leaks which can result in up to a 10% loss**. Add a few drops of food colouring into the toilet tank, and check if it leeches into the bowl.
- Turn off the sink faucet when brushing your teeth or shaving. Turn off the shower faucet while you lather, shampoo and shave.
- Take showers, not baths. The average bath uses 150 litres, an average shower 60 litres. Put a timer on to help you keep track!
- Add a bucket under your shower to catch the spray while the temperature increases. Use it for watering plants, cleaning or flushing toilets.
- Water-conserving faucets (kitchen, too) & shower heads can reduce flow by 30%.

In the Kitchen & Laundry Room

- Keep a jug of water in the fridge for quick cold beverages.
- Don't leave water running, especially when washing dishes.
- Catch water from rinsing or boiling to be used later in the garden.
- Only run the washing machine when full, not for just a few articles.

- Switch to water-efficient appliances.

In the Garden

- PLEASE ensure you aren't watering sidewalks and driveways with your sprinkler!
- Utilize water from rain barrels and grey water from your house to water plants
- Insert plastic pots into ceramic ones to prevent evaporation.
- Consider drip-watering to give roots time to soak up moisture. Irrigate with care.
- NEVER water outdoor plants or the lawn in the heat of the day or when it's windy to reduce evaporation loss.
- Lawns are a 'green desert' and support nothing! Consider leaving a brown lawn brown, saving water for pollinator favourites. Leave grass long enough so that longer blades can protect roots from the sun.
- Add mulch to your flower beds and around tree bases to help retain moisture.
- Plant drought-resistant, native species.

Outdoor Stuff

- Clean your car at the car wash only when necessary, as a single carwash can use up to 302 litres!
- Use a broom and some muscle instead of the hose to clean off your steps, driveway and sidewalks!

These strategies aren't difficult, but the shift to new habits will make a huge difference. Water conservation is the right thing to do!

The City of Calgary website contains lots of helpful information:

- Homeowner Water Guide: <https://www.calgary.ca/water/programs/homeowner-water-guide.html>
- Lawn & landscaping tips: <https://www.calgary.ca/water/programs/lawn-care.html>
- Fall Check list: <https://www.calgary.ca/water/programs/seasonal-water-checklist.html>

* Link Magazine 'Prioritizing urban water conservation strategies' 10 June 2021

** Consumer Reports 2015



By **Bev Stevenson**