

We Live It!



EAST HANTS

Municipal Newsletter
Fall/Winter 2025-2026

Hello, East Hants!

Welcome to the Fall/Winter 2025-2026 edition of *We Live It!* In this issue, you'll find updates on emergency management, exciting upcoming events and new recreation programs.

New Online Digital Permitting System

East Hants is moving to online building permit applications! You can now easily apply for permits to build houses, decks, sheds and more at eservices.easthants.ca

This is a brand-new system so we appreciate any feedback you may have! Please reach out to planning@easthants.ca with any comments you may have while using the new site.

Council Corner

2024-2025 Annual Report

The 2024-2025 Annual Report is now available! This year's report highlights key accomplishments and the progress made across East Hants.

From expanding recreation opportunities with new accessible playgrounds, hiring a second Community Recreation Coordinator and updating the Recreation Facilities Master Plan, we're committed to building active and connected communities.

It was also a significant year for planning, with major updates to growth strategies for Lantz and Mount Uniacke, the Accessible East Hants Plan and the launch of the Equitable East Hants Plan — focused on addressing racism, hate and inequality.

[Read the full Annual Report](#) now.

2026 Volunteer Award Nominations

Councillors have the privilege of seeing first-hand the difference dedicated volunteers make in their districts. Council wants to encourage all community organizations to nominate their deserving volunteers for the 2026 East Hants Volunteer Awards so they can be recognized and celebrated for their efforts!

Nominations open in early 2026. Nominate at easthants.ca/volunteers

Join the Climate Conversation

East Hants is updating its Climate Change Action Plan to help guide how we respond to climate challenges and build a safer, more resilient community.

We want to hear from you! Share how climate change is impacting your daily life and what actions you'd like to see taken in East Hants.

Have your say - [take the survey today!](#)

If you need a print copy of the survey, contact us at climateactionplan@easthants.ca or call 902-883-6178.

To learn more about the Climate Change Action Plan Update project, please visit easthants.ca/climate-action-plan



Go Green for Halloween at our Costume Fix 'n' Swap

Get ready for Halloween the sustainable way! Join the East Hants team for our Costume Fix 'N' Swap event—open to all East Hants residents. Whether you have a costume to trade or not, everyone is welcome to browse and take home a costume for free.

How it works:

Fix: Bring in costumes needing minor repairs—our volunteer makers and fixers will be on hand to help mend them.

Swap: Drop off gently used costumes in all sizes and styles, then browse the collection to find one you love.

East Hants will save any leftover costumes for future events or donate them locally.

When: Saturday, October 18, 2025 | 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Where: Lloyd E. Matheson Centre lobby, 15 Commerce Court, Elmsdale

Let's keep costumes out of the landfill and help make Halloween a little greener!

[RSVP to the Facebook event now](#) to let us know you're coming!



Stay Safe & Informed

The weather in Nova Scotia can be unpredictable. The best way to be prepared is to plan ahead!

Get Official Information & Updates

During emergencies, severe weather or other major community events, the Municipality will provide accurate, up-to-date information on our website, easthants.ca, and on our Facebook page, facebook.com/easthantsns. Follow us and bookmark our website to stay informed when it matters most.

We'll share updates on facility closures, power outages, municipal road issues and any additional services available during emergencies — such as comfort centres, emergency alerts and more.

Help Protect Your Community - Report Issues Online

East Hants' Report an Issue online tool makes it simple and quick for residents to alert the Municipality about issues with municipal roads, sidewalks, streetlights and snow clearing. If you see something – report it! easthants.ca/report-an-issue

Emergency Kits

Make sure you have enough supplies to support every member of your household for a minimum of 72 hours without power. Don't forget to have a kit for your vehicle as well! Here are some Emergency Kit Essentials to include:

- Water (1L/person per day)
- Non-perishable food
- Can opener
- Pet food & water (1L/pet per day)
- Medications
- First aid kit
- Batteries & charging banks
- Important documents (licenses, certificates, etc.)

More Homes Coming to Village Cores

East Hants Council has updated the Official Community Plan to allow more homes to be built in village cores. The number of homes allowed on a property in the Village Core Zone has increased from 12 to 16, without needing special approval. This change applies to the village cores in Enfield, Elmsdale, Lantz, Milford, Shubenacadie and Mount Uniacke. By allowing more homes in these areas, we're helping to support local businesses, offer more housing choices and create livelier, more connected communities.

This is one of several steps East Hants is taking to improve housing access through the federal Housing Accelerator Fund (HAF). Learn more at easthants.ca/haf.

Extended Producer Responsibility & East Hants

Nova Scotia is joining provinces across Canada in adopting Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for Packaging, Paper Products and Packing-Like Products. This new management of our recycling system will see those who produce and sell packaging and paper take responsibility for their recycling.

Why EPR & how will it help?

EPR supports a “circular economy” where materials are collected, recycled and returned to producers for use as recycled content in new products and packaging. EPR rules make recycling easier by creating one sorting guide for all of Nova Scotia.

What does this mean for East Hants residents?

For now, continue to clean and sort your recycling materials as per usual. We simply want to let you know that changes are on the horizon as provincial discussions continue and media coverage begins. When finalized details are available, we will pass that information along to residents.

When will the EPR program launch?

The provincial EPR program will launch on December 1, 2025. The best way to stay in the loop on progress is to download our Waste Wizard app - you'll get a notification right on your phone once we have a confirmed recycled items list or you can sign up for emails. You can also use the app to get answers to your sorting questions and set up alerts about curbside collection changes (very handy with winter weather on the horizon!).

[Download our Waste Wizard app](#) today!



2026 Property Assessments

In early January 2026, Property Valuation Services Corporation (PVSC) will mail your 2026 Property Assessment. This assessment amount will be used to calculate your 2026-2027 property taxes. If you have any concerns with the assessment amount, there is a 31-day period to appeal these assessments. Appeals or any other general questions can be directed to PVSC at 1-800-380-7775 or inquiry@pvsc.ca. You can also access your assessment information online any time via PVSC's website: pvsc.ca



The Rec Room

Follow East Hants Recreation on Facebook for our latest news!

Community Grants in Action

Kids Action Program is hitting the road in new-to-them wheels! The nonprofit organization, which is based out of Kennetcook and serves the Hants North region, is a recipient of East Hants' Community Partnership Fund (CPF) – annual operating funding to assist key organizations serving residents of East Hants. Thanks in part to CPF funds, the group was able to purchase a second-hand van to support their activities. They can now deliver their monthly Food Boxes in one vehicle, move larger donated items themselves (such as baby cribs, furniture, etc.), collect food donations, transport families to programs and medical appointments and so much more!



Does your organization have a project in mind that needs grant funding? Check out all of the municipal grants we have available at easthants.ca/grants

Introducing our Community Connect Series!

East Hants is committed to supporting the incredible volunteers who make our municipality such a wonderful place to live, work and play! To help do this, we're launching a new **Community Connect** event series!

These events will bring together similar organizations for information and resource sharing, discussions, questions, guest speakers and more.

Community Halls Connect

October 16 from 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Rawdon District Fire Hall

A night all about community halls and recreation facilities!

RSVP:

easthants.ca/community-halls-connect

Community Sports Connect

November 18 from 6:30-8:30 p.m.
East Hants Sportsplex, Todd Hunter Rm

Come chat with fellow community sports organizers!

RSVP:

easthants.ca/community-sports-connect

New Group Hikes Program

Join us outdoors this fall for a series of group hikes throughout the trails of East Hants. These beginner level hikes take place on easy to moderate trail systems and are scheduled for an hour. Great for those seeking to add some physical and social activity to their schedule! Registration & waiver required. [Visit our website](#) to sign up. Hikes will be happening at three locations:



Nine Mile River Trails

Enfield
Saturday, October 18
1 - 2pm

Bell Park

Mount Uniacke
Saturday, October 25
1 - 2pm

Findley Park

Kennetcook
Saturday, November 1
1 - 2pm

In-Service Day Camps

No School? Join us for a day full of active fun at the East Hants Aquatic Centre or the East Hants Sportsplex! All camps run 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Open to ages 6-11. Cost is \$35 per day. Our 2025/2026 in-service camp dates are:

- Friday, October 24
- Friday, November 21
- Thursday, December 4
- Friday, March 13
- Thursday, April 2
- Wednesday, April 29



[Visit our website now](#) to register for camps.

And don't forget to keep an eye out for our March Break program announcements coming early in 2026!

More Recreation Programming

We keep adding more programming as we continue to grow our recreation opportunities throughout East Hants. Look for several new programs being offered this Fall/Winter including sport, fitness, creative arts and outdoor recreation.

[See our full lineup of fall events](#) in PerfectMind.



Fall & Winter Community Events

In addition to those already mentioned in this newsletter, we have many other exciting events happening across East Hants in the weeks to come:

Household Hazardous Waste & Paper Shred

Get rid of those hard to dispose of items and documents.

October 4 from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. at the Nova Centre, 224 Hwy 214, Elmsdale

Senior Safety Fair

A free educational event for seniors and caregivers - lunch is included!

October 8 from 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Kennetcook District Fire Hall, 32 Martin Walsh Rd, Kennetcook

Winter Warmer Clothing Drive with C.O.A.T. Association

An East Hants-wide donation drive for winter outerwear, footwear and more.

Begins October 2025 with various drop-off locations - search "Community Offering Assistance Together Association" on Facebook for more details.

Skating into Winter

Come celebrate the beginning of winter with a free family skate, activities & treats!

December 22 from 12:00 - 3:00 p.m.

East Hants Sportsplex, Keith Miller Arena, 1076 Hwy 2, Lantz

[**Visit our online events calendar**](#) for more information on all these events and to see other upcoming events.

Water Utility Rate Review

East Hants is preparing to complete a review of our water utility rates. The review determines and sets water rates for at least the next three years. This was last done in 2017, with the last rate increase occurring on April 1, 2019.

As the process unfolds, we will post information updates to our website. Visit [**easthants.ca/water-rate-review**](http://easthants.ca/water-rate-review) to see updates as they become available.

We anticipate the new rates will come into effect on April 1, 2026, pending approval by the Nova Scotia Energy and Regulatory Boards Tribunal (formerly NSUARB).



EAST HANTS

Box 230, Suite 170, 15 Commerce Court, Elmsdale, NS B2S 3K5
Phone: 902-883-2299 Toll Free: 1-866-758-2299

easthants.ca

