



# What to know this quarter

January 2023 / City of Castlegar / Photo Credit: Thomas Nowa Photography

250 365 7227 | [castlegar.ca](http://castlegar.ca)

## Keep Your Pets Safe

Pet registration and renewal is available at City Hall

Cats over 3 months and dogs over 12 months must be licensed by the City of Castlegar. Registering your pets keeps them safe by providing us with the information we need if your lost pet is found. There is currently no fee to license your cat. **All pet licenses for 2023 are due January 31.** If you haven't registered, please contact City Hall.

## Changes to 2023 Utility Rates

These changes will be reflected in the first quarterly bill of 2023, which will be mailed in April.

To ensure City Services operate smoothly, utility rates are increasing in 2023 to cover the increased costs in operating our city's water and sewer systems. Residential water rates will see the monthly flat rate increase from \$31.77 to \$33.55 per month. The rate for water consumption in excess of 30 cubic meters will increase from \$0.72 to \$0.76 per cubic meter. Residential sewer rates will see the monthly flat rate increase from from \$25.26 to \$27.22 per month. The consumption rate for sewer will increase from \$0.40 to \$0.43 per cubic meter.

## Curbside Organics Collection Program

Starting later this year visit [rdck.ca/organics](http://rdck.ca/organics)

Curbside organics and yard waste collection is coming to Castlegar. Currently, British Columbia diverts 80% of organic waste from landfills. This program will allow our region to join the effort by taking organic waste from methane-producing garbage to valuable compost, freeing up space in our landfill. Pretty much any kind of raw or cooked food scraps and plant based food items will be accepted.

## Payment Methods

### Credit Card

Please note there is a user fee for credit card transactions charged by OptionPay. Visit [castlegar.ca/online](http://castlegar.ca/online).

### Online Banking

Log in to online banking. Add a payee, choose the City of Castlegar Utilities and enter your 13 digit utility number. Make an online bill payment.

### Mail Cheque to City Hall

Be sure to include the top portion of your utility bill.

### Your Financial Institution

Take your utility bill to the bank and pay through a teller.

### City's Debit Program

We will debit your account for the full amount of your quarterly bill on the due date. Download and complete the agreement at: [castlegar.ca/utility](http://castlegar.ca/utility).

### City Hall

Take your bill Monday thru Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m, and pay by cash, cheque or debit.



**WINTER READY**

# Snow Removal

## Priority Areas

With more than 90 kilometers of roads and 27 kilometers of sidewalks in Castlegar, there's a lot to keep clear! That's why we use a priority system to clean up. This system sets emergency and key transit routes, steep hills and main arterial roads as a priority to keep our City moving. It is important to remember, as long as it is snowing, crews will be focused on keeping high priority routes clear first.

## 1. Remove obstacles

Unused vehicles, boats, trailers, basketball nets, etc. should be removed from City streets.

- **Park vehicles off City roads** while snow removal is in progress or when snow removal signage is in place.
- **DO NOT install metal posts or rocks** on boulevards as snow plow markers. These installations could cause injury and/or equipment damage and you will be held liable for any injury or damage caused.
- **Keep fire hydrants on your property clear** of obstructions, including snow, to make them accessible during emergencies.
- **Collect your bins** It may only take a minute for our crews to move your garbage or recycle bin from streets and sidewalks but with thousands of driveways, this slows down snow removal.

## 2. Snow Removal

Tired of shoveling your driveway again after the snowplow deposits snow across the entrance?

Check out the video on our website for some useful tips at [castlegar.ca/snow](http://castlegar.ca/snow) to avoid having to shovel it again.

## 3. Know the bylaws

As a property owner, you have snow responsibilities too. Please do your part to keep everyone safe and moving!

- **DO NOT shovel, plow or blow snow onto City streets.** Violations will be subject to bylaw enforcement.
- **Before the City plows, snow can be removed from the left side of the driveway, facing the street, to reduce the amount of snow deposited across driveways.** City equipment travels in the direction of traffic flow.
- **The City will not clear snow from private driveways.**
- **Remove snow/ice from sidewalks** fronting your property.

## Need help?

Contact the Civic Works department Monday to Friday, 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. by phone 250 365 5979 or email at [civicworks@castlegar.ca](mailto:civicworks@castlegar.ca). For after hours emergencies call 250 365 3341.

Visit [castlegar.ca/snow](http://castlegar.ca/snow)  
or call 250 365 5979

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