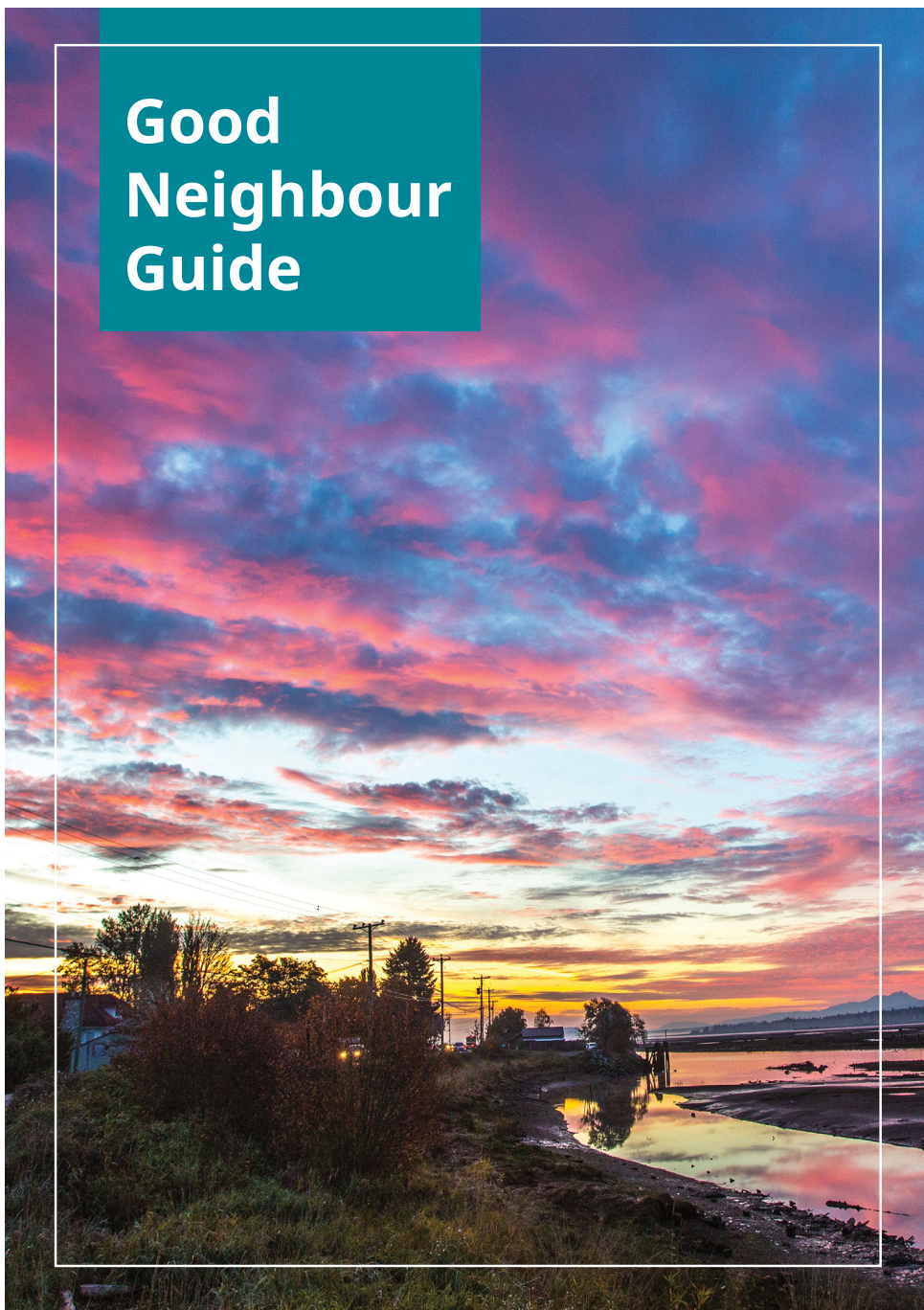
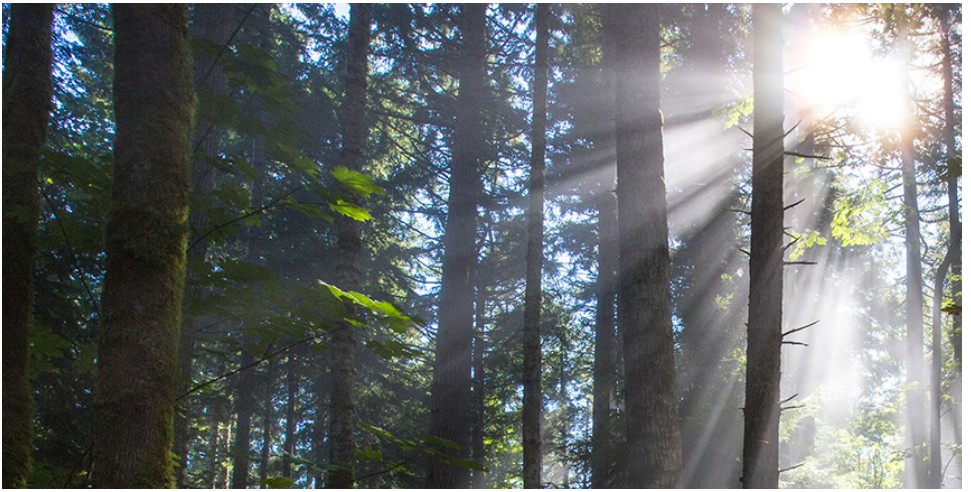


# Good Neighbour Guide





**The CVRD respectfully acknowledges the land on which it operates is on the unceded traditional territory of the K'ómoks First Nation, the traditional keepers of this land.**

We each play a role in enhancing our neighbourhoods and contributing to the growth of our community in a helpful and positive way.

The Comox Valley Regional District's (CVRD) Good Neighbour Guide provides an overview of key bylaws that are frequently referenced by residents focusing on neighbourly actions. This guide covers a range of topics, including property maintenance, noise, and pet ownership.

While informal communication with neighbours is the best way of addressing many neighbourhood concerns, in situations when a conversation is not possible, please contact the CVRD Bylaw Enforcement Services to make an inquiry or file a complaint.

# Contents and Contacts

In this CVRD Good Neighbour Guide, you'll find information on:

• Animal Control	• Dog Licencing
• Building	• Fire Regulations
• Fireworks	• Noise Control
• Short-term rentals	• Unsightly Premises
• Water Restrictions	• Zoning and Land Use

For general inquires, please contact the relevant department. Please note complaints must be reported in writing to the Bylaw Department to initiate enforcement. CVRD Bylaw Officers respond to complaints Monday to Friday 8 am to 4 pm.

Bylaw Complaint Form: [comoxvalleyrd.ca/bylaw-complaints](https://comoxvalleyrd.ca/bylaw-complaints)

General Inquires	Tel: <a href="tel:250-334-6000">250-334-6000</a>
Animal Control	Tel: <a href="tel:250-218-2365">250-218-2365</a> Email: <a href="mailto:cvrddanimalcontrol1@shaw.ca">cvrddanimalcontrol1@shaw.ca</a>
Building Department	Tel: <a href="tel:250-334-6006">250-334-6006</a> Email: <a href="mailto:building@comoxvalleyrd.ca">building@comoxvalleyrd.ca</a>
Bylaw Department	Tel: <a href="tel:250-334-6000">250-334-6000</a> Email: <a href="mailto:bylawenforcement@comoxvalleyrd.ca">bylawenforcement@comoxvalleyrd.ca</a>
Planning Department	Tel: <a href="tel:250-334-6006">250-334-6006</a> Email: <a href="mailto:planningdevelopment@comoxvalleyrd.ca">planningdevelopment@comoxvalleyrd.ca</a>
Water Department	Tel: <a href="tel:250-334-6056">250-334-6056</a>



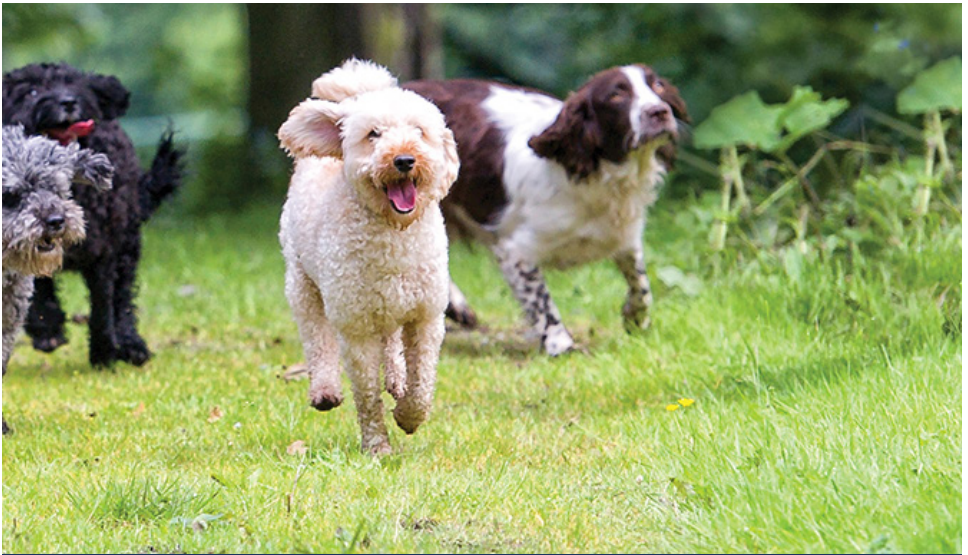
## Animal Control

The CVRD has established rules and regulations to control pets and other animals within the regional district for the enjoyment and protection of the general population.

Enforcement of CVRD animal control policies is contracted through the Commissionaires: Victoria, the Islands and Yukon.

- All stray dogs will be brought to the Unleashed Dog Boutique, 1970 Anderton Road, Comox.
- No animal control services are currently offered on Denman and Hornby Islands.

If you have an animal control complaint or if you find a stray dog within the Regional District, please call the Commissionaires at: **250-218-2365** or email: **[cvrddanimalcontrol1@shaw.ca](mailto:cvrddanimalcontrol1@shaw.ca)**



## Dog Licences

Dog licencing using tags makes it easy to identify dogs and reconnect lost pets with their owners. If you have a dog that's over six months of age and are a resident of the CVRD in one of the three electoral areas, you need to licence your dog each year.

### CVRD Annual Dog Licencing Fees

- Spayed / Neutered - \$10
- Unspayed / Unneutered - \$25
- Dogs designated as dangerous - \$50 fee in addition to the regular licencing fee
- Unlicensed dog - \$100

For more information about where to purchase dog licences, visit: [comoxvalleyrd.ca/doglicencing](https://comoxvalleyrd.ca/doglicencing)



## Building

The CVRD Building Department oversees building permits and construction standards in the rural electoral areas of the Comox Valley. Our role is to ensure all construction complies with the BC Building Code and local bylaws, supporting safe and well-planned development.

Permits are typically required before starting most construction or renovation work, and inspections are carried out at key stages to ensure safety and compliance.

To learn more and find links to the BC Building Code, BC Energy, and Zero Carbon Step Code, visit: [comoxvalleyrd.ca/building](https://comoxvalleyrd.ca/building)



## Fire Regulations

Burning regulations may be different depending on your location. In areas that have a fire regulation bylaw, the Fire Chief manages restrictions on burning based on the current local conditions and the resources that are available to fight fire.

In areas that do not have a fire regulation bylaw, the provincial regulations apply and are managed by the Province.

For more information on current fire restrictions in your area, please contact your responding fire department.

To identify your responding fire department and their contact information, please use our online interactive map at:

[comoxvalleyrd.ca/fire](https://comoxvalleyrd.ca/fire)

Find your region's Fire Protection Service Regulation Bylaw No. at: [comoxvalleyrd.ca/bylaw](https://comoxvalleyrd.ca/bylaw)



## Fireworks

A permit must be obtained before setting off fireworks in the Regional District. Fireworks are sold within the electoral areas of the CVRD annually from October 24 to November 1.

### Fireworks Checklist

- ✓ Obtain a permit from the CVRD prior to setting off fireworks in all areas of the regional district.
- ✓ Purchase fireworks from a reliable source that sells products that meet all safety standards.
- ✓ Carefully read all instructions for your fireworks.
- ✓ Appoint a responsible adult to be in charge.
- ✓ Wear ear and eye protection, use caution when handling fireworks and keep explosives away from all flammable materials, overhead wires, children, pets and livestock.
- ✓ Clean up your fireworks carefully after the show per the manufacturer's directions.

To apply for a fireworks permit, visit: [comoxvalleyrd.ca/fireworks](https://comoxvalleyrd.ca/fireworks)

**Comox Valley Regional District Fireworks Bylaw No. 1971**



## Noise Control

Please be considerate and do not create excessive noise that will disturb your neighbours.

Excessive noise includes yelling, loud music, barking dogs and motor vehicles. Noise from equipment such as heat pumps or sawmills can also be very disturbing to your neighbours.

You can also:

- Place noise generating equipment in a small enclosure.
- Install a sound dampening fence.
- Surround the equipment with dense plants and shrubs.

To learn more, visit: [comoxvalleyrd.ca/noise-control](https://comoxvalleyrd.ca/noise-control)



## Short-Term Rentals

All short-term rental hosts, platforms, and strata hotel platforms operating in British Columbia must be registered with the BC provincial short-term rental registry, and you must obtain a valid Temporary Use Permit or Bed and Breakfast Home Occupation from the Comox Valley Regional District. Failure to do so could result in bylaw enforcement action and the removal of your short-term rental advertisements.

If there is a short-term rental in your neighbourhood that is not following these regulations, please report it to bylaw enforcement.

If you are planning to run a short-term rental, please book an appointment with the CVRD Planning Department.



## Unsightly Premises

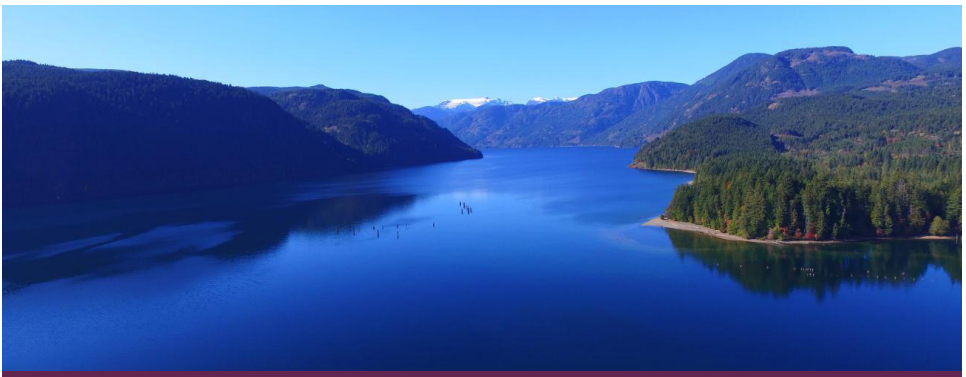
Please be aware of the outward appearance of your property and its effect on your neighbourhood.

Loose garbage, bottles, cans, boxes, household furniture, machinery parts or vehicles, equipment and appliances, and waste from yardwork should be stored so they are not visible from outside of the property. Unlicensed vehicles should be stored inside a garage or carport.

Building materials should not accumulate unless an owner is constructing or renovating. In which case, materials should be kept tidy and stacked in an orderly manner.

To learn more, visit: [comoxvalleyrd.ca/unsightly-premises](https://comoxvalleyrd.ca/unsightly-premises)

**Comox Valley Regional District Unsightly Premises and Nuisance Bylaw No. 377**



## Water Restrictions

The Comox Valley water systems serves over 50,000 people. Restrictions start on May 1 each year. See the table below for days you can water during each restriction stage.

### Comox Valley Watering Schedule

Residential lawn and garden watering is permitted with a sprinkler during the specified days and hours as follows:

Stage	Starts	Hours	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	May 1 <sup>st</sup>	5-8 am & 7-10 pm	No Watering	Even Address	Odd Address	Even Address	Odd Address	Even Address	Odd Address
2	July 1 <sup>st</sup>	6-7:30 am & 8-9:30 pm	No Watering	Even Address	Odd Address	No Watering	No Watering	Even Address	Odd Address
3	When Notified	Any day or time	No lawn watering permitted. Hand watering or micro/drip irrigation of trees, shrubs, flowers and vegetables only						
4	When Notified	N/A	No Watering						

Hand watering or micro/drip irrigation of trees, shrubs, and vegetables is permitted anytime during Stage 1 and Stage 2.

To learn more, visit: [comoxvalleyrd.ca/water](http://comoxvalleyrd.ca/water)



## Zoning & Land Use

Zoning is a way of regulating land use by assigning parcels of land to categories that include a specific range of permitted uses and densities, as well as lot size and siting regulations.

Zoning regulations in the CVRD apply to Baynes Sound - excluding Denman / Hornby Islands (Electoral Area A), Lazo North (Electoral Area B), and Puntledge - Black Creek (Electoral Area C). Zoning for Denman / Hornby Islands ( within Electoral Area A) is governed by Islands Trust.

Zoning bylaws are authorized under Section 479 of the *Local Government Act*. *Section 479* does not provide authority to regulate matters such as colour, architectural theme, or aesthetics. Zoning bylaws cannot regulate the people who may occupy a building nor the relationship between occupants. Looking to find out how your property is zoned? Use our iMap application.

### **Need to speak with a Building Inspector or Planner?**

To meet with a planner or building official, an appointment must be booked in advance. Walk-in visits are limited. We will respond to all appointment requests within one business day, and appointments will be scheduled within two to three business days.

**Comox Valley Regional District Rural Comox Valley Zoning Bylaw No. 520**



## What the CVRD does not provide

- Placement of trees
- Tree cutting over/on property lines
- Property standards for lawn heights
- Parking enforcement

The CVRD does not have jurisdiction over roads or ditches, and snow removal, in rural areas. Responsibility for these services falls under the authority of the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, which contracts road maintenance and snow removal to Mainroad North Island Contracting. This contractor is responsible for sealing and patching, ditching, removing roadkill, and snow removal during the winter months.

For criminal activity and trespassing, please contact the RCMP:

- For emergency assistance, call: **911**
- For non-emergency assistance, call: **250-338-1321**



**Thank you for being a good neighbour in the  
Comox Valley Regional District**