

PUBLIC SAFETY SPOTLIGHT

The Town of Holyrood continues to work collaboratively with the RCMP, the Northeast Avalon Joint Council, the Provincial Government, and other key partners to advance shared public safety priorities within our community. As we move forward, ongoing attention remains focused on matters of responsible pet ownership, the safe and respectful use of recreational and all-terrain vehicles, and the safe practice of open-air burning. These areas continue to be important to maintaining a safe, respectful, and enjoyable environment for all residents. While progress is being made, this work is ongoing. Continued community awareness, cooperation, and compliance are essential as we strive toward our collective goals of safety, responsibility, and quality of life in Holyrood.

RESPONSIBLE PET OWNERSHIP

We all share a role in creating a safe and welcoming community—for residents, visitors, and our pets. One important part of that is ensuring dogs are properly supervised and under control at all times.

Allowing dogs to roam freely or leaving them unattended while tethered can lead to unpredictable situations. Even well-behaved pets may react to unfamiliar animals or environments, which can result in injury, stress, or conflict. Keeping your dog secured on your property and supervised when outdoors helps prevent these incidents and keeps everyone safer.

When out in public, dogs should always be on a leash unless in a designated off-leash area. This ensures better control and helps protect other pets, people, and wildlife. It also supports a more comfortable environment for those who may be uneasy around dogs.

For those looking to give their dogs more freedom to run and socialize, the Holyrood Dog Park on Salmonier Line offers a safe, designated off-leash space. It's a great option for exercise and enrichment in a controlled setting.



Helpful reminders for responsible pet ownership:

- Keep dogs leashed in public areas unless otherwise permitted
- Ensure your dog is secure and supervised while on your property
- Avoid leaving dogs unattended while tethered
- Always clean up after your pet

By taking these simple steps, we can help ensure a safer, more enjoyable community for everyone.

KEEPING OUR COMMUNITY SAFE

Reporting Concerns

If you encounter a public safety concern or suspicious activity, please report it to the RCMP at (709) 229-3892, or submit an anonymous tip through NL Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477. In the event of an emergency, please call 911. Prompt reporting helps prevent incidents and supports a safer community for everyone.

RECREATIONAL & OFF-ROAD VEHICLES

Recreational and off-road vehicles are an enjoyable way to experience the outdoors; however, safe and responsible operation is essential to protect riders, landowners, and the wider community.

Under legislation from the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, off-road vehicles are intended for off-road use and are generally not permitted on public roads or sidewalks, except where authorized or when crossing in accordance with regulations. Operators should follow all local bylaws and use areas where off-road vehicle use is permitted, avoiding restricted or environmentally sensitive locations.

Operators must wear an approved helmet at all times, and youth operators are subject to specific age, supervision, and engine size requirements. As of October 15, 2024, off-road vehicle safety training is mandatory for operators under 16, individuals registering an off-road vehicle for the first time, and anyone required by the Registrar of Motor Vehicles following a suspension or conviction under the Act or Regulations.

It is important that riders understand local rules and the terrain they are operating in, as unsafe use can pose serious risks to both riders and the public.

Parents and guardians are reminded that youth must be supervised. All riders should operate at safe speeds, avoid reckless behaviour, and ensure their vehicle is properly maintained and suited to the operator's age and skill level.

Key reminders for safe recreational and off-road vehicle operation:

- Recreational vehicles are intended for off-road use
- Always use approved trails and designated riding areas
- Wear a helmet and appropriate protective gear
- Follow age and supervision requirements for youth riders
- Respect private property and obtain permission before crossing land
- Operate responsibly and avoid unsafe or disruptive riding

Responsible use helps protect access to recreational spaces and ensures everyone can enjoy the outdoors safely and respectfully.

For more information on provincial ATV safety rules, visit: www.gov.nl.ca/motorregistration/vehicle-ownership/atv-safety/



WILDFIRE SAFETY & OPEN AIR BURNING

The Town of Holyrood reminds all residents that responsible fire use is essential to protecting our homes, properties, and natural environment—especially during periods of dry conditions or elevated wildfire risk.

The provincial Forest Fire Season runs from April 24 to September 30 on the Island portion of the province. During this time, recreational campfires, backyard fires, and boil-ups are permitted only when conducted safely and in accordance with Provincial Forest Fire Regulations. Residents are strongly encouraged to monitor for any fire bans or restrictions, which may be issued at any time depending on changing conditions. The NL Fire Hazard Map should also be checked daily, as fire risk levels can change quickly.

The Holyrood Fire Department advises that Permits for Open Air Fires are required within our response area for the burning of brush and other approved non-prohibited materials. These permits help ensure burning is conducted safely, under appropriate conditions, and with consideration for weather, fire risk, and surrounding properties.

To obtain a Town of Holyrood Open Air Burn Permit, residents may contact: 709-229-7278 or firechief@holyrood.ca

During the provincial Forest Fire Season, residents are also required to obtain a permit from the Department of Forestry, Agriculture and Lands for any outdoor burning activity. These combined requirements help reduce the risk of uncontrolled wildfires and support coordinated fire prevention efforts across the province.

Outdoor fire pits and similar wood-burning devices are permitted during forest fire season only if they meet safety requirements, including being fully contained, constructed of non-combustible materials, properly screened, placed on a non-combustible surface, and located a safe distance from woods, brush, or other flammable materials.

Residents are also reminded to always check with both municipal and provincial authorities before conducting any outdoor burning activity, as restrictions may change with little notice during periods of elevated wildfire risk.

Important Safety Reminders:

- Never conduct open burning without the required permits
- Check both Town and Provincial fire bans and restrictions before burning
- Monitor the NL Fire Hazard Map daily
- Avoid burning during windy or dry conditions
- Keep water or fire suppression tools nearby at all times
- Never leave a fire unattended
- Fully extinguish all fires before leaving the area

In Case of Emergency
Call 911



Wildfire prevention is a shared responsibility. Following proper permitting processes and safe burning practices helps protect our community and surrounding forested areas.

WILDFIRES CAN HAPPEN. YOU CAN BE READY.

FireSmart Canada offers free resources, tips and tools to help you reduce wildfire risk and protect what matters most.



Reduce
Wildfire Risk



Make a Plan



Prepare Your
Property



Take Action
Today



FireSmart[™]
Canada

Visit [FireSmartCanada.ca](https://www.fire-smartcanada.ca)
for expert advice and free resources.



 TOGETHER, WE CAN BUILD A FIRE-ADAPTED CANADA.