

from an old English cookbook FARMHOUSE KITCHEN

Shortbread Recipe

4 oz. sugar * (1/2 cup) 8 oz. butter (1 cup)

12 oz. plain flour (1 1/2 cup, I use Five Roses all purpose)

In a large bowl, cream together the butter and sugar until creamy, but do not beat in any more air than necessary. Mix in flour – you will need to use your hands in the end. The mixture should be firm – consistency of short crust pastry. Knead lightly until smooth and free of cracks – this will take some time. Cover with a towel and leave to rest if possible – it will make it easier to roll out.

Cut the dough into half – roll out the first half to about 1/2 - 3/4 inch thick circle.

The second half roll into a rectangle.

Score the circle with a knife into 8 sections (do not cut all the way through) and prick with a fork all over to prevent bubbling during baking.



With the second half, I make into fingers and again prick all over.

Place dough on a cookie tray and bake at 350° F in centre of oven until straw coloured and firm. Check at about 20 minutes. Do not overcook.

Remove and let cool slightly – shortbread is then broken into the pieces. (I sometimes cheat and use a knife to help cut into the shapes)

Enjoy 😊

*Original recipe calls for vanilla sugar and if not available you can use castor sugar – do not add vanilla essence. In Canada fine granulated sugar is good to use.

YORK REGION CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Construction of the 16th Avenue Sewer Rehabilitation (Phase Two), from Mingay Avenue to Williamson Road, was expected to start in November 2020, however, has been deferred until the fall of 2021.

Visit York.ca/waterconstruction and add your name to the project mailing list to receive updates.

WINTER OPERATIONS

Parking restrictions are now in effect until April 15. Please park on the ODD numbered side of the street, unless existing parking signs state otherwise.

Please note: parking, including permitted parking, on all streets is not allowed during snow clearance. Watch the weather and plan accordingly.

Our plows cannot effectively plow the streets when cars are parked on the road and you could receive a \$150.00 ticket for interfering with our winter maintenance operations. All roads need to be kept accessible for emergency vehicles at all times.

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

York Region and the City initiated a process which shares on-call rotations and contact numbers amongst front line supervisors and 24/7 patrol staff.

Please see below contact numbers:

- York Region - 1.877.464.9675 (after-hours dial ext. 75200) | accessyork@york.ca
- City of Toronto - 311 | 311@toronto.ca
- Ministry of Transportation - 511 | mtoinfo@ontario.ca
- City of Markham - 905.477.7000

dial zero for after-hours calls.



Merry Christmas

Winter 2020-2021

Ward 4 NEWS



www.karenrea.ca

Update from your Markham Council Representative Karen Rea

Dear Residents,

What can I say about 2020? This has definitely been a challenging time for everyone. Covid-19 has affected each one of us, some more than others.

Our social interaction with each other has been limited, events that we attend have been cancelled, and we are using technology to stay connected and conduct business.

Christmas and New Year's celebrations are going to look different for us, but in perspective, it is only one year. Staying within your own bubble, washing hands, social distancing and wearing a mask will help save lives of loved ones and help the economy open up more quickly. Look for safe ways to stay connected to friends, family and neighbours, whether it is a phone call or an online platform, to help keep someone from feeling isolated, especially during the holiday season.

Council will continue to meet via zoom into the first half of the new year and I encourage you to listen or

join in the conversations on items that you are interested in.

I send out e-newsletters throughout the year on a variety of topics. If you would like to sign up, you can visit my page on the City website or send an email and we will include you on the distribution list.

In this newsletter, I hope you will find some useful information about the status of what is happening in the city. I have also included my shortbread recipe that I make each year. This recipe won the best tasting shortbread at the City of Markham in a baking contest and is my favourite holiday treat to make.

I hope everyone can enjoy the holiday season and all it brings as best as you can.

Regards,

Karen Rea

Karen Rea | Ward 4 Councillor

CITY OF MARKHAM CONTACT CENTRE

The Contact Centre is the City's centralized customer service centre. If you have an inquiry regarding general municipal services (snow clearing, by-law complaints, garbage pick-up, graffiti, property standards, programs, etc.) please contact the City at customerservice@markham.ca or call 905.477.5530. After hours and on the weekend call 905.477.7000 press "0" and you will be routed to nonemergency FIRE Dispatch, who will direct your concern to a supervisor on shift. If it's a parking enforcement concern, dial ext. 2050 and leave a message.

HELP KEEP MARKHAM COOKING WITH FREE DELIVERY.

With a minimum order of \$20 until Jan 2.

SKIP DISHES | **MARKHAM**

SHOW SOME LOCAL LOVE

Shop local & support small businesses

MARKHAM

2021 Collection Schedule

Sign up for recycling & garbage reminders!

January 2021

Try our What Goes Where search tool

2021 Collection Schedule - now available online

Available on the iPhone App Store | Available on the Google Play

MARKHAM

You can print a copy of your schedule from markham.ca/CollectionSchedule

In this issue:

- Fire Prevention
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- YRP – Security Camera Registry
- Aggressive Driving – Road Watch
- Multi-Use Pathway – MUP Trail
- Flooding Issues & Information
- Tree Maintenance
- York Region Construction Update
- Winter Operations
- Important Contacts
- City of Markham Contact Centre
- Shortbread Recipe

Karen Rea, Ward 4 Councillor, 101 Town Centre Blvd, Markham ON L3R 9W3

krea@markham.ca or 905.479.7751





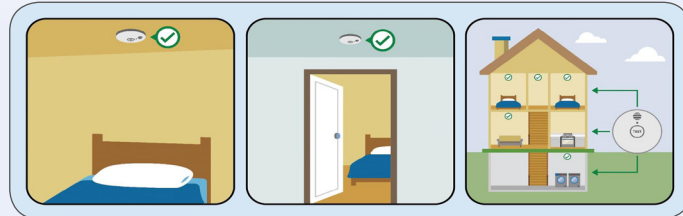
FIRE PREVENTION

Message from our Fire Department

The garage has become one of the most common areas that our Firefighters respond to.

Some ways to help prevent a fire:

- have a working smoke detector by the garage and every level of the house
- encourage smokers to smoke outside of the house
- do not use an extension cord on a permanent basis
- gas should only be stored in an appropriate container and never more than 10 liters
- propane tanks must be stored outdoors



Have a smoke detector by the garage and on every level.

DEVELOPMENT UPDATES

Mount Joy Secondary Plan – look for updates in 2021 for more public meetings that you can participate in. If you would like to be notified of upcoming meetings please email Darryl at dlyons@markham.ca to be included on the distribution list. To fill out the survey go to: yourvoicemarkham.ca

Affordable and Rental Housing – during the winter, staff will be undertaking consultation on this initiative. Participate via <https://yourvoicemarkham.ca/affordable-housing>

10-20 Fincham Ave – application received to demolish the commercial buildings in order to build 3 story townhomes. At time of writing, the application has gone from 14 townhomes and 2 semi-detached homes to 7 townhomes and 10 semi-detached homes (all 3 story). For more information, please email Aqsa at amalik@markham.ca

Aspen Ridge - Margo Building, corner of Bur Oak and Markham Rd – an application to increase the building height to 20 stories has been put on hold until a draft secondary plan has been approved by Council. For more information, please email Stacia at smuradali@markham.ca

YRP – SECURITY CAMERA REGISTRY

The Security Camera Registry gives members of the community the option to let York Regional Police know they have installed residential or commercial security cameras which may assist police if a crime occurs later in that area. The registry does not grant police direct access to your cameras – officers must still seek permission to view and use footage.

For more information, visit the YRP website at <https://www.yrp.ca/en/crime-prevention/Security-Camera-Registry.asp>

I encourage you to take that extra step and register your security system.

ROAD WATCH

Aggressive driving continues to be an issue across the GTA.

Road Watch is a community driven program that provides residents with a means to report aggressive or unlawful driver behaviour. Speeding, unsafe lane changes, disobeying traffic lights and stop signs are some typical types of behaviors that qualify for a Road Watch submission. File a confidential report at <https://onlinereporting.yrp.ca/RoadWatch.html>



Multi-Use Pathway – MUP TRAIL

This winter, the City is going to groom a portion of our MUP trail system at Milne Dam Conservation Park (marked in red). If you need to drive to take advantage of the trail system, please use the parking lot on McCowan Rd. If you are using other portions of the trail, please be considerate to the homes that are in close proximity to the entrances, slow down and do not park illegally. This is their community and they want to make sure their streets remain as safe as possible.



MARKHAM VILLAGE PROJECT

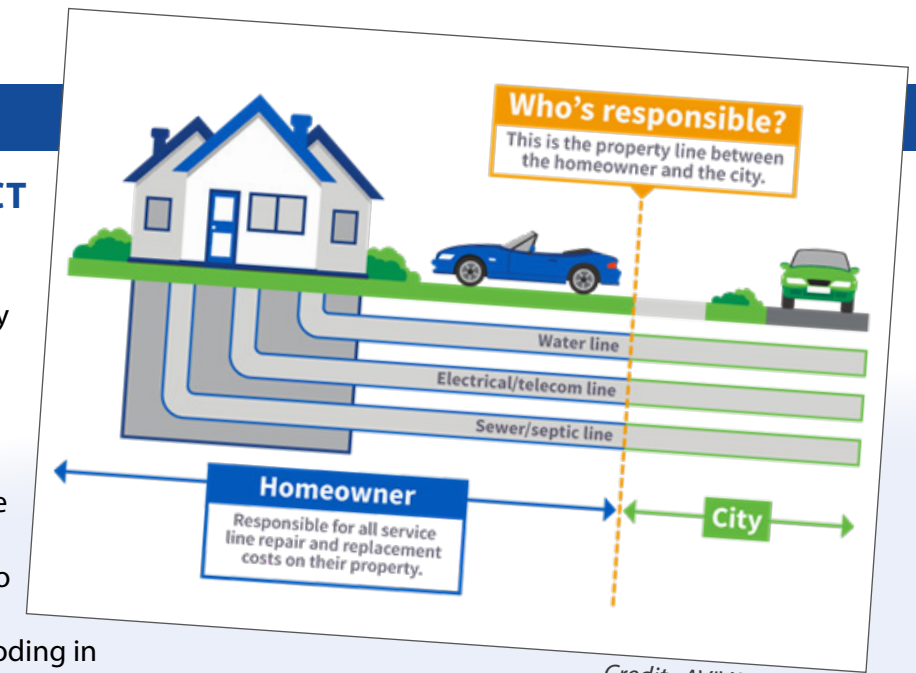
After several homes in the Markham Village Area were flooded in 2017, the City accelerated the study to investigate the drainage systems within both the Markham Village and Unionville Areas to prioritize system upgrades to reduce flood risk. Through the study, the older drainage systems within Markham Village and Unionville areas are being reviewed to determine which properties are most at risk, and what are the causes of flooding in each location. In each area, options for reducing flood risk will be investigated and a preferred approach will be chosen. The City will be presenting the project to the community in the spring to communicate study findings and to obtain feedback on the proposed solutions from the public.

FLOOD CALLS

If your basement or home has been flooded in the past, the City wants to know. This information is used to direct and prioritize the work completed through the City's Flood Control Program in the right areas and the City may also be able to provide shorter term solutions to address the problem. If your basement floods, please call the City's Contact Centre by calling 905.477.5530 or by emailing customerservice@markham.ca.

5P PROGRAM

As your home ages, the pipes that drain storm water and sewage from your home require maintenance. The City only maintains the portion of the system that is on the municipal right of way, and so each landowner is responsible for the maintenance of the pipes on their own property. Blockages and/or failures in these pipes can result in property damage and basement flooding. The City has a Private Protection Rebate Program to help with the costs associated with the maintenance of the privately owned system. The rebate program also provides funding for backflow preventers, designed to prevent water from backing up from the municipal portion of the system and causing basement flooding. The rebate covers several options. For more information please visit the city website or call the contact centre.



Credit: AVIVA Insurance

TREE MAINTENANCE

In 2019, City Council approved a City-wide block pruning program. For 2021, the Ward 4 areas break down as follows:

Block G5 – McCowan Road to Main Street east/west and Highway 7 to 16th Avenue north/south

Block H6 – Main Street to 9th Line east/west and Highway 7 to Highway 407 north south – roughly 50% of the block

Block G4 – McCowan Road to Main Street east/west and 16th Avenue to Bur Oak north south – roughly 50% of the block

Neighbourhood Tree Maintenance Project 2020, 2021 and 2022 Grids



The above map shows the timing of the block pruning within ward 4. The areas with the highest number of complaints from residents, will be done first and we are hoping to have these areas completed by the end of 2021.