

City of Maple Ridge News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 4, 2015 #15-38

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City Moves Fall Chipping Program Dates Forward

Maple Ridge, BC: The wind storm on August 28, 2015 knocked down significant amounts of trees, branches and debris. Based on the need to dispose of this material in a responsible way, the City, in conjunction with the Ridge Meadows Recycling Society, has moved the Fall Chipping Program forward by one full month.

The new set out dates will be Tuesday, September 15 for all properties west of 224 Street and Monday, October 5 for all properties east of 224 Street.

"This past weekend our staff responded quickly to the impacts of the wind storm. Some of our neighbours had to wait until Monday to have power restored, but water and sewer facilities for those hooked to the City system, worked throughout the weekend," said Mayor Read. "Our Operations staff and Fire Department will be making a presentation at Tuesday's Council meeting to describe how they mobilized to deal with this severe weather and the impacts to the community. The request to move the Chipping Program dates forward reflects the City's desire to help citizens recover from this event quickly and efficiently."

The information on the Chipping program can be found on the city website at www.mapleridge.ca/357/Brush-Chipping. The program includes pick up and disposal of tree and shrub branches up to a total volume of roughly 3 feet x 3 feet x 9 feet (chippers are instructed to spend no more than 20 minutes at each household). Branches may be up to 6 inches in diameter. No construction waste, building materials, stumps, leaves, branches with thorns (e.g. rose bushes, blackberries), vines (including willow branches), bamboo, root balls, or

household waste will be permitted. The purpose of this program is to provide an alternative to burning this material.

If you have more volume, there is a green waste area at the Maple Ridge Transfer Station located next to the Recycling Depot at 10092 236 Street, Maple Ridge. Green waste tipping fees will apply.

If you see an issue regarding damaged trees on public property or if you have other concerns relating to the windstorm, please call the Operations Centre at 604-463-9581. Staff have been working through these calls engaging the expertise of City arborists to determine the condition of trees and best solutions based on the condition of trees.

For more information, visit *rmrecycling.org* or phone Ridge Meadows Recycling at 604-463-5545.

For media enquiries about the Chipping Program contact Leanne Koehn, Community Engagement at Ridge Meadows Recycling Society by email at <u>Leanne@rmrecycling.org</u> or by calling 604-463-5545.