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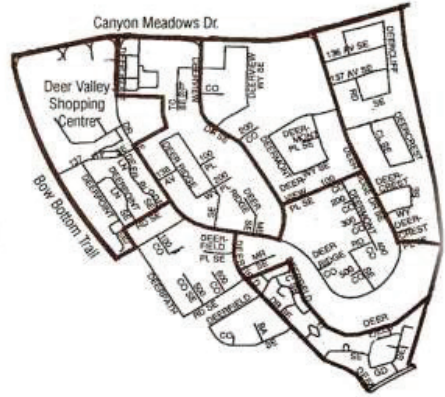


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Membership Request / Renewal Form

Deer Ridge Community Association memberships are available online at www.DeerRidgeCA.com/Membership/ or you may send this form along with a cheque payable to: **Deer Ridge Community Association.**

The Deer Ridge Community Association membership fee is \$15.00 per household and two membership cards will be mailed to you upon receipt of payment. Your membership also grants you Deer Ridge CA voting privileges at the AGM. We invite all Deer Ridge residents to actively participate in the decisions that shape our community. For volunteer opportunities, please visit www.DeerRidgeCA.com/volunteer/



Deer Ridge Community Association Membership 2026 – 2027

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Additional family members: _____

Address: _____

Postal Code: _____ Phone Number(s): _____

Email: _____

** Please note that your email address will be added to our electronic mailing list and used for notifications of upcoming community events, information, and volunteer opportunities.
We use Mailchimp.com to manage subscriber email.*

Thank you for your support!

Deer Ridge Community Association
Box 43052, RPO Deer Valley SE, Calgary, AB - T2J 7A7
Tel: 403-606-7331 | Email: DeerRidgeCA@gmail.com | Website: DeerRidgeCA.com
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**We Need You! Contact Us To Volunteer
And Get Involved In Your Community.**

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Ice Rink Coordinator	Bob Hall	403-278-6817
Community Garden	Bob Hall	403-278-6817
Tennis Court Coordinator	Larry Lemieux	
Newsletter Advertising	Great News Media	403-720-0762
Newsletter Coordinator	Diane Lum	
Membership Coordinator	Drew MacQueen	403-278-6817



Community Resources for Vulnerable Citizens

Calgary Alpha House Society provides support to men and women whose lives have been impacted by alcohol and other drug dependencies. Their work positively impacts Calgary communities by providing help to vulnerable citizens. In doing so, we divert individuals away from unnecessary uses of health care, criminal justice, and emergency systems by building relationships and connecting clients to more appropriate resources. Some of Alpha House's resources are listed here. We encourage you to use them where appropriate.

Join us in creating community for everyone.

HELP (formerly the DOAP Team)

403-998-7388

24/7

Non-emergency number for individuals on the street needing assistance.

Needle Response Team

403-796-5334

Monday to Friday, 8:00 am to 6:00 pm

Mobile unit cleaning up needle and needle debris on public and private property.

Encampment Team

403-805-7388

Monday to Friday, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm

Mobile unit assisting individuals who are sleeping in camps outside.

OUR VISION: We will be a safe community with established programs and facilities, committed volunteers, and we'll be financially stable.

OUR MISSION: To enhance the quality of life in Deer Ridge for today and the future by establishing and fulfilling the common goals, needs and interests of our community.

Halloween Safety

by Alberta Health Services



As a supporter of Calgary's Child Magazine's Partners for Safety initiative, Emergency Health Services (EHS) Alberta would like to remind parents and trick-or-treaters of important Halloween safety tips as October 31 approaches.

Partners for Safety vehicles will be out patrolling communities on Halloween night to provide a visible safety resource for parents and trick-or-treaters.

Trick-or-Treaters

- Remember: all regular pedestrian rules still apply. Be sure to cross the road at marked crosswalks or at well-lit corners. It is safest to work your way up one side of the street and then cross once to the other side.
- You may choose to avoid houses that are not well lit. Do not accept rides from strangers or enter any home where you feel unsafe.
- Let your parents know where you are going and what route you plan to take. Let them know if you will be late returning home.

Parents

- Be certain that an adult accompanies young trick-or-treaters. Older children should stay in groups.
- Predetermine the boundaries for trick-or-treating and

establish a time for children to return home.

- Advise children not to eat anything until they return home. Dispose of any items that have been tampered with or are not properly wrapped.

Costumes

- Choose brightly coloured costumes that are highly visible. Adding reflective tape to costumes can further increase visibility.
- Consider sending your children with a flashlight for additional safety and visibility.
- When purchasing or making costumes, look for materials and accessories labelled flame-resistant.
- All costume accessories, such as sticks, rods, or wands, should be soft and flexible, with no sharp edges.
- Consider using hypoallergenic makeup instead of masks that may impair breathing or vision.
- Be sure costumes are loose enough to be worn over warm clothing, but not so long that they become a tripping hazard. Costumes should not extend below your child's ankles.
- Ensure your child is wearing adequate footwear that takes the weather conditions and walking into consideration.

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

October is here, bringing with it the beautiful warm and rich colours of fall! As the leaves turn golden and the days grow a little cooler, it's the perfect time to enjoy the cozy spirit of the season. With Thanksgiving offering a chance to reflect on what we're grateful for and Halloween adding a little fun and spookiness, there's plenty to enjoy throughout the month. We hope you have a wonderful October filled with community, connection, and the beauty of autumn!

Recycle More This October!

Calgary, get ready to recycle more! Starting October 1, 2026, you'll be able to recycle more household packaging than ever before. This includes:

- Flexible bags like chip bags, granola wrappers and coffee bags.
- Foam packaging like cushion blocks, meat trays, and egg cartons.
- Tubes like lotion tubes, deodorant and toothpaste.
- Food and body aerosols like cooking spray, hair spray and sunscreen.

Visit calgary.ca/recyclemore to see the full list of materials.

Friends of Fish Creek

October Speaker Series—Learn about the findings from the 2025 Fish Creek Fish Inventory and Redd (trout spawning site) surveys on Thursday, October 15 (in-person at the Fish Creek Environmental Learning Centre and online on Zoom) from 7:00 to 8:30 pm. The survey conducted in August 2025 was the first inventory of the creek since 1992, and things have certainly changed among the fish populations since then! Reserve your spot today for this exciting event on www.eventbrite.ca/.

They are also looking for some additional items for their upcoming online auction at the end of October! Ideal items would include gift certificates, unique experiences, artwork, merchandise from local businesses, etc. If you or your business would like to help raise funds for the Friends of Fish Creek (and gain some additional exposure!), please contact Katrina at info@friendsoffishcreek.org.

Fish Creek Transit Service Review Update

Feedback for the transit service review engagement has

been reviewed and the finalized changes and updated route maps can be found here: www.calgarytransit.com/plans---projects/long-term-strategic-plans/designing-our-network/transit-service-reviews/fish-creek.html.

These changes will be introduced in phases, with the first starting on December 21, 2026, and the second phase on March 22, 2027.

Great insights were given into your transit needs, how changes may impact you, and general comments about the original proposed changes. Where possible, your feedback was used to make adjustments to the proposed changes.

Halloween Dance – October 24

Calling all little ghosts, goblins, witches, and superheroes! Join us for a night of Halloween fun at the Queensland Diamond Cove Community Centre (649 Queensland Drive SE) on Saturday, October 24 from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. Come dressed in your favorite costume and get ready to dance, play games, and enjoy some spooky surprises and make Halloween memories with your community friends! For more information, please call 403 278-3366.

Annual Craft Sale – November 14

Get ready to shop, browse and discover something special at the Queensland Diamond Cove Community's (649 Queensland Drive SE) Annual Craft Sale on Saturday, November 14. Come out and support talented local crafters while finding unique handmade treasures, perfect gifts, and a few goodies for yourself! It's a wonderful way to kick off the holiday shopping season, connect with neighbours, and enjoy a fun day in the community. Bring a friend and come see what treasures you'll find!

Membership Renewals

Now is the perfect time to renew your membership or join for the first time to enjoy a full year of benefits. Membership remains just \$15 per household annually. Purchasing a membership supports community projects and gives you a voice in decisions affecting our neighbourhood. You can renew or sign up online anytime at deerridgeca.com/membership/ or use the form in this newsletter. Join today and stay connected with your community!

Fall Board Meetings

Deer Ridge Community Association Board meetings take place on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm. Our next meeting will be held on October 20, 2026. Meetings are open to all community members and offer a great opportunity to hear the latest news about Deer Ridge and Calgary, ask questions, and share your ideas. We are also looking for community members who are interested in joining our Board of Directors. Please email DeerRidgeCA@gmail.com for more information or if you are interested in attending a meeting.



Keeping Bus Zones Clear Near Schools

by The City of Calgary



School and transit buses rely on clear bus zones to safely load and unload passengers. When vehicles stop or park in bus zones, buses may be forced to stop in traffic, putting children and passengers at risk. Bus zones are designated safety areas that must remain clear at all times. Respecting these zones helps protect children, supports accessible transit, and keeps traffic moving predictably. Parking legally and avoiding bus zones—even for short stops—helps create safer school environments for everyone. Learn more: calgaryparking.com/safeschools.

The School Patrol Program helps improve safety in school zones by focusing on education first.

School zones are designed to protect children. Parking rules help:

- Keep crosswalks and corners visible.
- Reduce congestion and sudden stops.
- Support safer crossings for kids and families.

Parking safety and compliance officers attend schools during busy dropoff and pickup times to:

- Remind drivers about safe and legal parking.
- Explain why certain rules exist.
- Answer questions from parents, caregivers, and school communities.

With over 150 elementary schools across the city, patrols can't be everywhere every day. Unsafe parking, like blocking crosswalks, doubleparking or stopping in no parking zones makes it harder for drivers to see children and for children to see cars.

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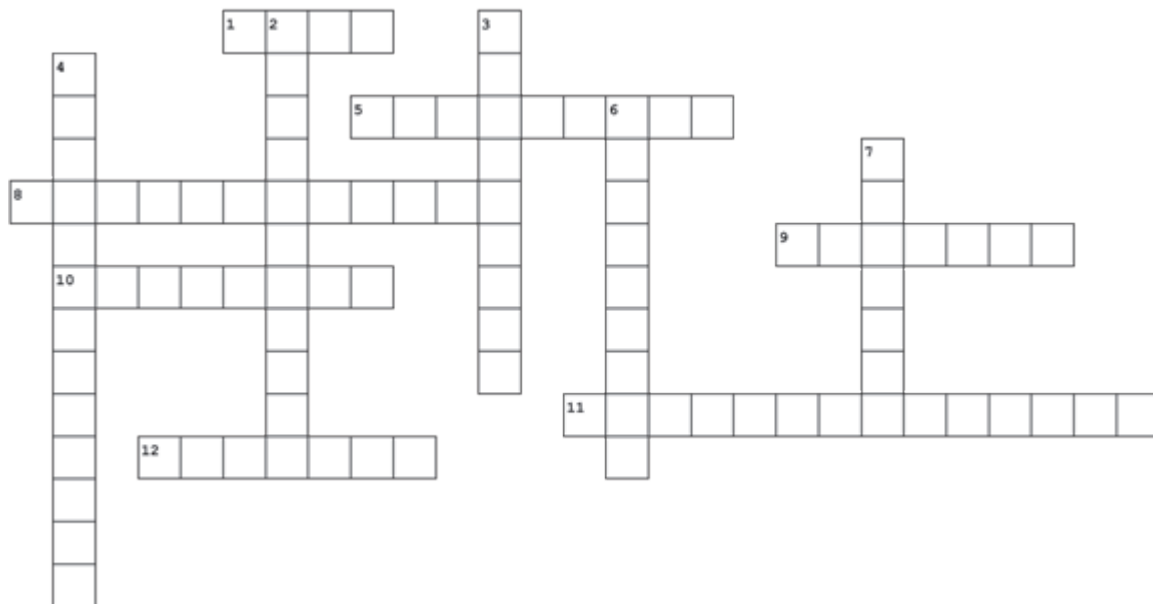
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SCAN ME

October Crossword



Across

1. Known as October's birth stone, this iridescent gem is sometimes worn by artists to inspire creativity.
5. These tall, friendly faces are full of straw and often seen in the middle of corn fields.
8. Celebrated this year on October 12, this holiday encourages generosity, connection, and the consumption of a delicious meal.
9. This large orange squash is traditionally carved the night before Halloween
10. Twists and turns; this fall activity is generally held in large fields of a certain tall grain.
11. This Oscar-winning actress was the "final girl" in the classic horror movie series, *Halloween*.
12. Known as the Greek Goddess of harvest, she is the mother to Persephone.

Down

2. Bright red and sour, the seeds of this fruit were consumed by Persephone in Greek mythos.
3. These bright yellow and red flowers are the birth flowers of October, representing joy, warmth, and remembrance.
4. Horace Walpole's *The Castle of Otranto*, published in 1764, is most famously known as the first novel of this literary genre.
6. "In Rainbows" an album released October 10, 2007, was the seventh studio album for this alternative rock band.
7. This monster has a variety of features but is most often depicted with long fangs and red eyes.



Visit bit.ly/mycalgaryanswers or scan the QR code for the answers

What a Night at the Park!

What an incredible evening we had at Deer Ridge Community Association's Movie in the Park on Saturday, August 8! Thank you to everyone who came out to enjoy a fun-filled night with neighbours, friends, and family. From the excitement of *Zootopia 2* under the stars to the bouncy castles, sand art, face painting and henna, games, and even a campfire with Scouts Canada, there was something for everyone to enjoy!

Of course, no movie night would be complete without plenty of tasty treats! Families enjoyed hot dogs, chips, pop and water, while coffee helped keep grown-ups energized. What a lucky break we had with the weather—the rain held off for almost the entire evening, only making an appearance during the last fifteen minutes of the movie!

A heartfelt thank you to our wonderful sponsors, and an enormous thank you to the many volunteers who generously gave their time, energy, and enthusiasm to make the evening such a success! Events like this truly show what makes Deer Ridge such a special community.

Most of all, thank you to everyone who attended and helped create such a fun, welcoming, and memorable night. We were able to collect much needed food for the Calgary Food Bank and gave away some amazing prizes. Looking forward to seeing you at our next event!



Support Victoria Fortuna and Her Family After a Tragic Highway Accident



Victoria has been left with life-threatening and life-altering injuries. She is currently fighting for her life and receiving critical medical care at the University Hospital in Edmonton. Donate to this GoFundMe to help ease the inconceivable financial hardship the Fortuna family is facing.

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Healthy Relationship for our Children

by Nancy Bergeron, R.Psych | info@nancybergeron.ca



How Does My Relationship with My Partner Affect My Children?

Children learn about relationships long before they begin having relationships of their own. They watch how their parents speak to one another, handle disagreements, show affection, repair hurts, and navigate life's challenges. The relationship between parents becomes one of the first models children have for understanding what love, safety, trust, and partnership look like.

A healthy marriage does not mean a marriage without conflict. In fact, children can benefit from seeing that disagreements are a normal part of relationships when those disagreements are handled with respect and ultimately repaired.

Children Feel Safer When Their Parents' Relationship Feels Secure

A strong parental relationship can provide children with an important emotional foundation. When children

experience their parents as a team who care about one another and are committed to working through difficulties, they are more likely to experience their family as a safe and predictable place.

This sense of security gives children room to focus on the important work of childhood: learning, exploring, developing friendships, making mistakes, and discovering who they are.

Children Learn How Healthy Relationships Work

Children are constantly observing. They notice whether parents listen to each other, express appreciation, apologize when they are wrong, and respect one another's boundaries.

When parents demonstrate healthy communication, children learn that it is possible to express difficult feelings without attacking or humiliating another person. They learn that differences do not have to

threaten a relationship and that problems can be discussed and resolved.

These lessons become part of their developing understanding of relationships.

Children Learn Resilience by Watching Parents' Repair

One of the most powerful lessons parents can provide is not perfection, it is repair.

Parents will sometimes become frustrated, misunderstand each other, or say something they wish they had said differently. When children see their parents take responsibility, apologize, listen, and reconnect, they learn an important message: relationships can experience difficulty without falling apart.

This is a foundation for resilience.

Children begin to understand that mistakes are not necessarily disasters, conflict can be managed, and difficult emotions can be worked through.

A Healthy Relationship Creates Emotional Space for Parenting

When parents feel connected and supported by one another, they often have greater emotional resources available for their children. A strong partnership can make it easier to share parenting responsibilities, problem-solve together, and support one another through the inevitable stresses of raising a family.

This doesn't mean parents must agree on everything. Healthy couples can have different perspectives while still communicating respect and presenting a united commitment to their children's wellbeing.

Children Don't Need Perfect Parents

Perhaps most importantly, children don't need a perfect marriage. They need parents who are willing to keep learning, growing, communicating, and repairing.

A healthy relationship between parents can teach children that love is not simply about getting along when everything is easy. It is about showing up, listening, taking responsibility, extending compassion, and finding your way back to one another after difficult moments.

When parents invest in the health of their relationship, they are not only strengthening their marriage, they are helping their children develop the emotional security, relationship skills, and resilience they will carry into the rest of their lives.



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Hooting Season

Who's That Calling?

Did you know that autumn is a great time to hear owls? Known as hooting season, owls hoot more frequently to claim and defend territory and find mating partners. The cooler, quieter nights of fall also helps the sound of their hoots carry farther!



Halloween Decorations and Wildlife

by the Calgary Wildlife Rehabilitation Society

As Halloween approaches, many neighbourhoods across Calgary come alive with pumpkins, fake spider webs, glowing lights, and spooky lawn decorations. While these displays help celebrate the season, some common decorations can unintentionally pose serious risks to local wildlife.

Autumn is an active time for many species. Deer, coyotes, squirrels, rabbits, songbirds, and owls are still foraging, while some birds are completing their fall migration before winter arrives. As wildlife continues to move through urban parks, backyards, and neighbourhoods, decorations can become unexpected hazards.

One of the most concerning decorations is synthetic spider webbing. The stretchy fibres can easily entangle birds, small mammals, and even beneficial insects. Birds may become caught while flying through shrubs or trees decorated with webbing, while squirrels and other mammals can become tangled as they move along fences or branches. Entanglement can cause severe injuries, restrict movement, and make animals more vulnerable to dehydration, starvation, or predators.

Loose cords, fishing line, string, ribbon, and lightweight decorative netting can create similar problems. Birds may accidentally use these materials while gathering nesting material or become wrapped in them during flight. Even decorations intended to sway in the wind can become tangled around wings, legs, or necks if they are not securely fastened.

Lighting is another consideration. Many people enjoy illuminating their homes with decorative lights throughout October. While temporary lighting is unlikely to have the same impact as large commercial lighting, excessive outdoor lighting can still disrupt wildlife. Artificial light at night has been shown to alter the behaviour of birds, mammals, and insects by interfering with natural navigation, feeding, and activity patterns. During late September and early October, some migratory birds are still travelling through southern Alberta, and reducing unnecessary overnight lighting can help lessen disorientation.



Pumpkins and natural decorations also deserve some thought. While a pumpkin may seem harmless, the smell can attract wildlife looking for an easy meal. Carved pumpkins that contain candles, mold, paint, glitter, or preservatives can make wildlife seriously ill if consumed. If you have pumpkins, bring them inside at night to ensure animals like bears, deer, or coyotes do not consume them. Feeding wildlife, even accidentally, can encourage animals to return to residential areas, increase conflicts with people, and expose them to foods that are not part of their natural diet.

Fortunately, a few simple choices can make Halloween safer for wildlife without taking away from the fun:

- Secure decorations tightly so they cannot blow away or become tangled in vegetation.
- Avoid using artificial spider webbing or decorative netting outdoors.
- Keep electrical cords and extension cables neatly bundled and out of areas where wildlife regularly travels.
- Turn off decorative lights before going to bed.
- If using pumpkins outdoors, keep them inside after going to bed, and remove candles promptly and dispose of pumpkins appropriately once they begin to spoil.
- Dispose of decorations promptly after Halloween to prevent wildlife from encountering them later in the season.

Halloween is a time for creativity and community, and with a little planning, it can also be a season that respects the wildlife sharing neighbourhoods with people. By choosing decorations thoughtfully and cleaning them up promptly, we can help ensure that southern Alberta's wild neighbours stay safe while everyone enjoys the festivities.



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As October arrives, our community is once again surrounded by the colours of autumn and the familiar rhythms of a new season. For many families, this month brings Thanksgiving gatherings, school activities, harvest celebrations, and opportunities to spend time with loved ones before winter arrives.

Thanksgiving is an important reminder to reflect on the people and organizations that make our communities strong. I am continually inspired by the volunteers who dedicate their time to local charities, youth sports, cultural organizations, seniors' programs, and community events. Their contributions often take place behind the scenes, but their impact is felt every day by neighbours across our constituency.

October is also a time when many local organizations begin preparing for the colder months ahead. Food banks, shelters, and community support agencies, often experience increased demand during this season. As we celebrate Thanksgiving, I encourage those who are able to consider supporting these organizations through donations, volunteer work, or simple acts of kindness. Even small contributions can make a meaningful difference in someone's life.

As your MLA, I remain committed to hearing directly from you about the issues that matter most. Whether your concerns involve health care, education, transportation, affordability, public safety, or provincial services, your feedback helps inform my work and advocacy on your behalf. With the fall sitting of the Alberta Legislature set to begin on October 27, I look forward to bringing the priorities and concerns of our community back to Edmonton as work resumes on provincial legislation and policy. My constituency office is always available to help connect residents with government programs and services and to assist in resolving concerns whenever possible.

As we gather with family and friends this Thanksgiving season, let us take a moment to appreciate the people who support us, the communities we call home, and the shared values of kindness, generosity, and neighbourliness that bring us together.

Myles McDougall

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