



Vaudreuil-Dorion

PRESS RELEASE

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Environmental assistance: New grants for citizens of Vaudreuil-Dorion

Vaudreuil-Dorion, February 11, 2021 – In its concern with the quality of life of its citizens, the City of Vaudreuil-Dorion has introduced two new environmental grants, one for the felling of privately-owned ash trees affected by the emerald ash borer and the other for the installation of a system to lower radon concentrations. This financial assistance will be granted retroactively from January 1st, 2021.

Emerald ash borer

The City was already offering a grant for the treatment of affected ash trees with TreeAzin® in its battle against the emerald ash borer. However, sometimes the destruction caused by this insect can be so severe that felling the ash tree becomes necessary in order to limit the damage it can cause when it falls. The new grant offers a 50% refund of the cost of felling ash trees located on private properties in residential areas, up to a maximum of \$400 per address per year.

Radon

Radon concentrations in residential buildings can pose a threat to your health. In fact, this gas is the second leading cause of lung cancer in Quebec. Since 2019, it has become possible to purchase a radon detector from the City for the low cost of \$5. This test allows you to measure radon concentrations in your home.

When results indicate that the level of radon is above 200 Bq/m³, which is the Canadian guideline for radon in indoor air, it is strongly recommended that steps be taken to reduce the concentration. For example, under the new environmental grant, the City provides a 50% refund of the cost of installing a radon mitigation system, up to a maximum of \$500 per residence.

Supplements to existing grants

Items have also been added to the list of eligible everyday zero waste products. For example, in our current context, reusable protective face coverings (fabric) are now eligible for reimbursement (50-75% of the purchase cost up to a maximum of \$100). Reusable bowl covers have also been added.

In the organic waste category, manual mowers are now subsidized in the same way as mulching blades as a way to promote grasscycling. This practice provides the soil with many nutrients and reduces the amount of waste generated and sent to landfills.

Lastly, the grant supporting the purchase of bicycles was further enhanced and now includes the purchase of accessories meant to increase carrying capacity such as bike bags, trailers and baby seats.

"The environmental grant program has been in place for several years. It is updated regularly to meet the various environmental issues and needs of our population. Last year, 463 grants were awarded, of which 213 were used towards the purchase of bicycles", said Mayor Guy Pilon.

The latest changes to the environmental financial assistance program now bring the number of grants available to Vaudreuil-Dorion residents to 16. Details of each component, including eligibility criteria and required documents, can be found on the City's website in the Environment section. All grants are available at any given time, subject to sufficient funds.