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#### Web Links

City of Vaughan - [www.vaughan.ca](http://www.vaughan.ca)

## VAUGHAN INTRODUCES ONLINE SAFETY AUDIT PROGRAM FOR PARKS AND OPEN SPACES

The City of Vaughan is the first municipality in Canada to introduce an online safety audit for its parks and open spaces. A safety audit includes the inventory of the site and any concerns or interests residents may have.

An audit form is available at [www.vaughan.ca](http://www.vaughan.ca). It can be completed and transmitted via the Internet using a secure line to the appropriate departments. It can also be downloaded from the City's website as a hard copy document. Once completed, it will be accepted at any municipal office. The form will then be forwarded to the appropriate department for action.

Park maintenance and design concerns will be sent to the Parks and Recreation Department. Vaughan Enforcement Services and York Regional Police will address issues concerning enforcement problems such as alcohol consumption and unruly behaviour. The Safety Audit program will help identify problem areas, allowing staff to develop new approaches to design of our public spaces.

## Pesticide Ban On Private Property Moving Forward

At the May 28 meeting of the Committee of the Whole a recommendation from staff on how to proceed on the issue of banning/restricting pesticides from use on private property was approved. The strategy will now go to Council for approval. The strategy includes extensive public consultation on a draft bylaw

York Region Police - [www.yrp.ca](http://www.yrp.ca)  
[www.yorkregiontransit.com](http://www.yorkregiontransit.com)  
[www.greeningvaughan.ca](http://www.greeningvaughan.ca)

#### ROADWATCH

<http://city.vaughan.on.ca/community/CitizenReportForm.cfm>

#### Upcoming meetings:

Council- June 11th at 1:00 p.m.

Committee of the Whole- June 18th at 1:00 p.m.

Council- June 25th at 1:00 p.m.

outlining the approach being suggested as well as an education and information plan once Council approves the final draft of the bylaw. The original recommendation to restrict pesticide use in the City was initiated by Councillor Shefman in February, where it received unanimous support of Council. To view the recommendation and the discussion bylaw, please go to <http://tinyurl.com/2h32km>

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## Your Pet Must Be Licenced



Did you know that all cats and dogs in the City of Vaughan are required to be licenced? *By-law 53-2002* regulates the keeping of animals in the city of Vaughan. Licenses may be obtained for a nominal fee (currently \$20) at the Civic Centre, Clerk's Department, 2141 Major Mackenzie Drive, or from your local participating veterinary clinic. If you require further information, please call the Clerk's Department at 905-832-8504, ext. 8236, or the Kennel Inn at 905-727-4646

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## Those Signs Are Illegal!!

Those of you who have been reading this newsletter for the last year will know that I have a very strong position on the proliferation of illegal commercial signs on our streets. Whether they are staked into the ground, tied to posts with wire or (the worst!!) glued onto the backs of our directional and safety signs, they are all illegal and a blight on the quality of our neighbourhoods.

In the past year I have brought two recommendations to Council to support the efforts of our staff to try to control these things, but it seems that we are making little headway. As much as we enforce the bylaws by having our staff pull the illegal signs off our streets, it is never enough. More and more of them keep appearing.

Maybe what needs to happen is for people who do care about their neighbourhoods to take action. While I would never encourage anyone to get themselves into a confrontational position, next time you go for a walk through your community, take a garbage bag with you to collect any illegal signs that you see.

And, by the way, if you are having a garage sale, make sure that you remove all your signs from the street as soon as the event is over.

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## So What Does A Vaughan City Councillor Do? Part 4(*An ongoing series*)

As your Ward Councillor I attend many, many committee meetings.

At the City we have a variety of different types of committees. At the “highest” level we have **statutory committees** that are legislated by the Provincial Government. Two of the committees that I sit on, the Vaughan Public Library Board and Heritage Vaughan are of this type.

At the next level are Council **special purpose committees**. These are established by Council as the core committees to address very important issues relating to the business of the City. At present I am a member of all four of these bodies: Audit, Budget, Strategic Planning and Environment. The Environment Committee – I am Vice-Chair - has just been established at this level.

We also have a number of **advisory committees** that deal with a wide range of issues of importance to the operation of the City. I am Chair of the Community Equity and Diversity Committee (formerly the Community Relations Committee). As well I chair the Greening Vaughan Advisory Committee and sit on the Intergovernmental Relations Committee.

Finally, from time to time, Council establishes **task forces** to deal with particular issues that are thought to be of a short term nature such as the Mayor’s Task Force on Community Safety and Security. If you go to my Web site, <http://tinyurl.com/2coxdf> you will see a list of the committees that I sit on – all for the purpose of ensuring that the interests of the residents of Vaughan are managed at the very highest level.

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### Tell Everybody About W5Update!!

**We want to be able to let more Ward 5 residents know about what’s going on in their neighbourhood and across the city.**

**Please forward your copy of W5Update to your friends, or, if you prefer, send us their email address and we will send them a copy for their consideration.**

**Missed an edition of W5Update? View current and past editions and sign up for W5Update on the Vaughan website <http://tinyurl.com/295ybc>**

AND

**All of Councillor Shefman’s newsletters can be downloaded in PDF format from the Gallanough Resource Centre’s web site at: [www.gallanough.com](http://www.gallanough.com)**