

# Le Bulletin de SAINT-LAURENT

My place  
TO BE

December 2012 Vol. 21 • n°6

Published by the Borough of Saint-Laurent for its residents

## Saint-Laurent recognizes its volunteers

At its annual Volunteer Recognition Evening, held at the Centre des loisirs on October 27, Council members praised the work done by volunteer organizations and committees active in Saint-Laurent.

The Mayor of Saint-Laurent, **Alan DeSousa**, paid particular tribute to volunteers' contribution to the quality of life of Saint-Laurent's residents: "Our community is lucky to be able to count on the hundreds of dedicated, committed volun-

teers, who invest both time and energy in sports- and leisure-related projects. These devoted men and women help make Saint-Laurent a great place to live."

For the past 54 years, Saint-Laurent has been hosting a highly enjoyable event to express its gratitude to volunteers in the community. The evening of October 27, attended by some 300 guests, got underway with dinner, followed by a dance. A wonderful time was had by all.



*Thank you!*

Members of Saint-Laurent Borough Council: the Mayor of Saint-Laurent, **Alan DeSousa**, the City Councillor for Côte-de-Liesse District, **Francesco Miele**, the City Councillor for Norman-McLaren District, **Aref Salem**, the Borough Councillor for Côte-de-Liesse District, **Maurice Cohen**, and the Borough

Councillor for Norman-McLaren District, **Michèle D. Biron**, together with representatives of a variety of volunteer organizations and committees active in Saint-Laurent.

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## Lumières sur Chameran

On Saturday, November 17, some 450 residents of the Chameran neighbourhood took part in the Lumières sur Chameran event, organized in honour of Universal Children's Day.

Participants first gathered at École Henri-Beaulieu, where they received lanterns, light sticks and lighted crowns before parading down Chameran's streets to Parc Painter. At the park, a fire artist warmed up the crowd

with a show titled Illuzao. Participants also saw a light and shadow show put on by young people from Samedis ensoleillés as well as a dance performance by the Legz troupe.

CONT'D ON PAGE 7



The Mayor of Saint-Laurent, **Alan DeSousa**, and the City Councillor for Norman-McLaren District, **Aref Salem**, surrounded by participants.

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 Saint-Laurent  
**Montréal** 





## Message from the Mayor

Dear fellow citizens of Saint-Laurent,

It's hard to believe that we're already at the end of 2012. Yet the magic of the holiday season and the hint of snow in the air offer all the proof we need. Speaking of snow, we've devoted our centrefold page to **snow removal** because, over the next few months, your cooperation will be much appreciated as the inevitable snow-clearing operations get underway.

To close the year on a high note, the front page of this newsletter shines a spotlight on the **volunteers** who were honoured in October as well as on all those who took part in the second **Lumières sur Chameran** walk, in November. The Council of Saint-Laurent always makes a point of highlighting the contribution of volunteers to our community's quality of life. This same recognition extends to the Saint-Laurent residents who are all too happy to face cold temperatures to participate in an event marking the rights of children. Congratulations to all those who were there!

I'd also like to draw your attention to the articles on page 6. The first looks at the work carried out by municipal inspectors. As the two stories presented in the article show, the

**inspector's intervention** can sometimes make a major difference and occur at just the right time. The inspector's mission is therefore very relevant, and we shouldn't hesitate to call on his services. The second article looks at the **harmonization of animal-control bylaws**. The initiative to integrate various animal-management regulations will be of benefit not only to our four-footed friends but also to their owners. The new bylaw introduces a number of fairly significant changes. For example, several new special permits are now available. If you have one or more pets in your household, you will certainly want to read the article.

In addition to the calendar of upcoming activities in January and February, as well as a listing of opening hours for public buildings during the holiday season, you'll find, on page 3, a very detailed calendar of the **various collections in 2013**. I invite you to keep a copy of the calendar, which will be certainly be very useful to you at one time or another.

My Council colleagues and I wish you a wonderful holiday season and a healthy and prosperous New Year!

**Alan DeSousa, FCA**  
Mayor of Saint-Laurent

## Council of Saint-Laurent

**Alan DeSousa, FCA**  
Mayor of Saint-Laurent



**Francesco Miele**  
City Councillor,  
Côte-de-Liesse  
District



**Aref Salem**  
City Councillor and  
Associate Councillor,  
Norman-McLaren  
District



**Maurice Cohen**  
Borough Councillor,  
Côte-de-Liesse  
District



**Michèle D. Biron**  
Borough Councillor,  
Norman-McLaren  
District

### Paul Lanctôt

Assistant Borough Director and Head  
of the Division des communications et  
des relations avec les citoyens

**SAINT-LAURENT BOROUGH HALL**  
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## CALENDAR

At press time, the following were the important dates entered on the calendar. For more information about these activities, please contact the Citizens' Office at 311. (Important: certain events or dates may change without notice.)

### JANUARY

**Until January 15**  
**Exhibition – 16 affichistes**  
**montréalais célèbrent**  
**Publicité sauvage**

Centre des loisirs, 8:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.

**January 8**  
**Saint-Laurent Council**  
**public meeting**

Council room, 7:30 p.m.

**January 16**  
**Meeting of the Urban**  
**Planning Advisory**  
**Committee**

Council room, 7:30 p.m.

**January 25**  
**Friday Rendez-vous –**  
**Mathieu Bellemare**

Centre des loisirs, 7:30 p.m., FREE

**January 26 to February 10**  
**Exhibition – Oil painting**  
**workshop participants**

Centre des loisirs, 8:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.



**January 30**  
**Dance – Louise Bédard Danse**

Salle Émile-Legault, 7:30 p.m., FREE

**January 31**  
**Grands explorateurs –**  
**Costa Rica**

Salle Émile-Legault, 7:30 p.m.

### FEBRUARY

**February 5**  
**Saint-Laurent Council**  
**public meeting**

Council room, 7:30 p.m.

**February 5**  
**Theatre – Yellow Moon –**  
**La ballade de Leila et Lee**

Salle Émile-Legault, 7:30 p.m.

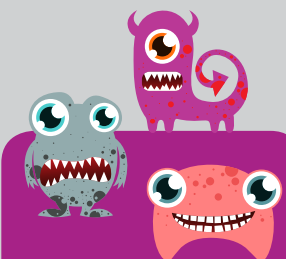
**February 6**  
**Meeting of the Urban**  
**Planning Advisory**  
**Committee**

Council room, 7:30 p.m.



**February 10**  
**Sunday Concert – Charles**  
**Prévost (Linton)**

Centre des loisirs, 2 p.m., FREE



**February 10**  
**Monsters go wild**  
**at the Féerie!**

(See Page 4)  
Parc Cousineau, 1 to 5 p.m.,  
FREE

**February 15**  
**Friday Rendez-vous –**  
**Lorraine Klaasen**

Centre des loisirs, 7:30 p.m., FREE

**February 16 to March 3**  
**Exhibition – Watercolor**  
**workshop participants**

Centre des loisirs, 8:30 a.m. to  
9 p.m.

**Bird watching outings**  
**at Parc Marcel-Laurin**  
**Woodlands**

**January 12 and March 17,**

from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Registration:

Éco-quartier 514 744-8333



### MIDDAY-TALKS

Bibliothèque du Vieux-Saint-Laurent  
Library, noon, FREE



[www.facebook.com/  
biblio.vieux.saint.laurent](http://www.facebook.com/biblio.vieux.saint.laurent)

**January 23 –** Mes pieds, ma  
santé et mon podiatre

**January 30 –** How to get up  
when feeling down

**February 6 –** Succession et  
testament

**February 13 –** La sécurité sur  
Internet

**February 20 –** Métro en art

### REGISTER TODAY

[ville.montreal.qc.ca/saint-laurent/newsletter](http://ville.montreal.qc.ca/saint-laurent/newsletter)



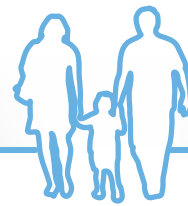


# Collections from A to Z – 2013

Do you believe in protecting the environment, and do you act in keeping with the principles of sustainable development? Here's a very practical tool you can use every day; simply put it up on your refrigerator or notice board. At a glance, you'll be able to see how the collection schedule works for the main types of products and items that are picked up in Saint-Laurent. For further information: [ville.montreal.qc.ca/saint-laurent](http://ville.montreal.qc.ca/saint-laurent)

RECYCLABLE ITEMS	ACCEPTED CONTAINERS	TIME OF YEAR	COLLECTION SCHEDULE
Air conditioners		Year round	Call 311 to schedule a pick-up
Batteries Non-rechargeable		Year round	To be dropped off at the following sites: Borough Hall, Public Works, aréna Raymond-Bourque, Bibliothèque du Vieux-Saint-Laurent, Centre des loisirs, Éco-quartier de Saint-Laurent
Batteries Rechargeable		Year round	To be dropped off at the following sites: Borough Hall, Public Works, aréna Raymond-Bourque, Centre des loisirs, Éco-quartier de Saint-Laurent
CDs and DVDs Including jewel cases		Year round	To be dropped off at the following sites: Borough Hall, Public Works, aréna Raymond-Bourque, Bibliothèque du Vieux-Saint-Laurent, Centre des loisirs, Éco-quartier de Saint-Laurent
Christmas trees		January 7 to 25, 2013	WEEKLY PICK-UP: Sector 1 (yellow) Tuesday      Sector 3 (orange) Thursday Sector 2 (green) Friday      Sector 4 (blue) Monday
Furniture and mattresses		Year round	FIRST DAY OF WASTE PICK-UP EACH MONTH: Sector 1 (yellow) Friday      Sector 3 (orange) Monday Sector 2 (green) Tuesday      Sector 4 (blue) Thursday
Glass Bottles, jars, etc.	Green wheeled bins, supplied by the Borough	Year round	WEEKLY PICK-UP: Sector 1 (yellow) Tuesday      Sector 3 (orange) Thursday Sector 2 (green) Friday      Sector 4 (blue) Monday
Household appliances Other than refrigerators and freezers		Year round	FIRST DAY OF HOUSEHOLD WASTE PICK-UP EACH MONTH: Sector 1 (yellow) Friday      Sector 3 (orange) Monday Sector 2 (green) Tuesday      Sector 4 (blue) Thursday
Household waste	Black wheeled bins, supplied by the Borough	Year round	WEEKLY PICK-UP: Sector 1 (yellow) Friday      Sector 3 (orange) Monday Sector 2 (green) Tuesday      Sector 4 (blue) Thursday
Household hazardous waste (HHW) Paint, solvents, batteries, motor oil, car batteries, pesticides, aerosols, cleaning products, fluorescent tubes, compact fluorescents lamps, propane, tires (no rims)		Year round	To drop off at an ecocentre
		Special pick-ups, twice a year (spring and fall)	To drop off at Public Works during special pick-ups
Leaves	Paper bags, cardboard boxes or reusable containers Plastic bags prohibited	October 28 to November 22, 2013	WEEKLY PICK-UP: Sector 1 (yellow) Tuesday      Sector 3 (orange) Thursday Secteur 2 (green) Friday      Secteur 4 (blue) Monday
Metal and aluminum Cans, lids, bottle tops/caps, beverage cans, etc.	Green wheeled bins, supplied by the Borough	Year round	WEEKLY PICK-UP: Sector 1 (yellow) Tuesday      Sector 3 (orange) Thursday Sector 2 (green) Friday      Sector 4 (blue) Monday
Mobile phones Including batteries and rechargers		Year round	To be dropped off at the following sites: Borough Hall, Public Works, aréna Raymond-Bourque, Centre des loisirs, Éco-quartier de Saint-Laurent
Organics Yard waste, horticultural waste, garden waste or grass clippings	Paper bags, cardboard boxes or reusable containers Plastic bags prohibited	First week of April to last week of October	WEEKLY PICK-UP: Sector 1 (yellow) Tuesday      Sector 3 (orange) Thursday Sector 2 (green) Friday      Sector 4 (blue) Monday
Paper, cardboard, carton	Green wheeled bins, supplied by the Borough	Year round	WEEKLY PICK-UP: Sector 1 (yellow) Tuesday      Sector 3 (orange) Thursday Sector 2 (green) Friday      Sector 4 (blue) Monday
Plastic items Bottles, containers, lids, caps, bags, etc.	Green wheeled bins, supplied by the Borough	Year round	WEEKLY PICK-UP: Sector 1 (yellow) Tuesday      Sector 3 (orange) Thursday Sector 2 (green) Friday      Sector 4 (blue) Monday
Refrigerators and freezers Older than 10 years and still working		Year round	Take advantage of Hydro-Québec's Recyc-Frigo program
Others		Year round	Call 311 to schedule a pick-up
Tree branches All tree species	Bundle together and leave on curb	Dates to be announced	Call 311 for more information





## Saint-Laurent remembers

On December 14, 1962, two policemen from the former Ville de Saint-Laurent, officers **Denis Brabant** and **Claude Marineau**, lost their lives when they intervened during an armed robbery at a bank on Chemin de la Côte-de-Liesse.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of this tragic event. Since that day, the community has never forgotten the officers' bravery, and a street in Saint-Laurent, **Rue Brabant-Marineau**, was named in their honour. Saint-Laurent Council offers its sympathies to members of their families as well as to all those who knew the two officers and who continue to be affected by their loss.



Denis Brabant



Claude Marineau

## A Bazar d'hiver that also warms the heart

The third annual Bazar d'hiver (winter bazaar) took place on Saturday, November 3 at the Centre des loisirs. With the cold weather quickly approaching, 133 neighbourhood families were able to obtain warm, modestly priced clothing for the winter season. This activity was made possible thanks to the engagement of more than 25 borough organizations and partners, including the Centre communautaire Bon courage de Place Benoit, Centre d'encadrement pour jeunes filles immigrantes, Centre l'Unité, Centre scolaire communautaire Parkdale, Corporation culturelle latino-américaine de

l'amitié, Comité des organismes sociaux de Saint-Laurent and CSSS de Bordeaux-Cartierville-Saint-Laurent.

The organizing committee, several of whom appear in the photo, also thanks the students from École secondaire Mont-Royal, the members of the Centre d'action bénévole de Saint-Laurent as well as the participants and senior management representatives of the 14 organizations that provided support to the families and ensured that the day went smoothly.



## Monsters go wild at the Féerie!

SUNDAY,  
FEBRUARY  
**10**



The upcoming Féerie will welcome Saint-Laurent families under the theme "Monsters go wild" on **February 10, 2013, from 1 to 5 p.m. in Parc Cousineau**, at the corner of Avenue O'Brien and Rue Poirier.

Now in its 20th edition, this free annual event features a variety of activities linked to its chosen theme, in addition to free skating, games and buskers.





## Christmas tree collection service

A Christmas tree collection is offered in January. It will take place from **Monday, January 7 to Friday, January 25** in accordance with the recycling collection schedule.

For the collection, the Christmas trees must be stripped of all decorations and placed along the curb. It should be noted that Christmas trees will not be accepted as part of the valorizable large trash item collection.



## REGISTRATIONS FOR THE *One Child, One Tree* program

Saint-Laurent residents who welcomed a new child into their family in 2012 can now sign up at the Citizens' Office for the third edition of the **One Child, One Tree** program.

During the next Québec family week, in May, the Borough will hold a ceremony to plant a public tree for each child registered under the program.



# BIODIVERSITY IN SAINT-LAURENT



Biodiversity refers to the totality of species and ecosystems in a particular region. In Saint-Laurent, biodiversity manifests itself in the Borough's many public parks and green spaces, as well as in residential gardens and landscaping. The Borough is home to a rich variety of flora and urban fauna, and a varied arboreal heritage.

By taking a few simple actions, residents can help enrich this biodiversity and thereby observe a variety of species at different times of the year.

### Did you know that...

The beginning of winter is the best time to set up a bird-feeder and observe several bird species, such as the Northern cardinal, the American goldfinch and the downy woodpecker.

For more information on what you can do to protect and encourage biodiversity in Saint-Laurent, visit [ville.montreal.qc.ca/saint-laurent/biodiversity](http://ville.montreal.qc.ca/saint-laurent/biodiversity).



## Harmonization of animal-control bylaws

This December, Saint-Laurent passed Bylaw RCA12-08-11, which aims to put forward an integrated vision of animal management in Montréal. This Montréal-wide reorganization will ensure that animal-control activities, veterinary care and animal well-being care are better integrated together.

Building on good practices already in place, Saint-Laurent is thus announcing that changes to the bylaw, as well as new measures, will apply as of January 1, 2013.

### Changes

It is forbidden to keep more than **four animals**—all species combined.

Any animal that attempts to bite or attack, that bites or attacks, or that acts in such a way as to threaten the safety of a person or animal and that has been declared to be **dangerous** by the Borough's expert will be deemed to be so by the Borough.

Regulations concerning a dog who has bitten a person or who has, in biting, caused skin lacerations to another animal will be tightened. From now on, the dog will have to be muzzled and assessed by a Borough expert; the assessment could result in the dog being subjected to **particular conditions** that govern the keeping of dangerous dogs or subjected to euthanasia.

### New: special license

The bylaw also specifies that keeping more than two dogs in a single residential dwelling is prohibited. However, citizens may now keep three dogs if they obtain a special license in addition to the regular license.

Abandoning an animal is now also prohibited: unwanted animals must be left at a shelter or handed over to a new guardian.

In addition, people who work as dog walkers and who walk more than two dogs at a time must obtain a special dog-walker license.

Information:  
[ville.montreal.qc.ca/saint-laurent](http://ville.montreal.qc.ca/saint-laurent)



We  
take care  
of our  
animals

### Renewal of cat and dog licenses

Guardians of cats or dogs must obtain a license for each pet, whereupon they will receive a tag that their animal must wear at all times. Licenses are valid from January 1 to December 31 and are available for a fee at the Citizens' Office.

#### Cat license\*

Neutered cat: \$5  
Non-neutered cat: \$15  
Cat adopted from a shelter (for the first year): Free

#### Dog license\*

Neutered dog: \$20  
Non-neutered dog: \$45  
Service dog for person with a disability: Free  
Dog adopted from a shelter (for the first year): Free

#### Special dog license\*\*

Special license to keep three dogs: \$50  
Special license for dog walkers: \$100



The cost of licenses will be reduced by \$5 for pets implanted with a microchip.  
A \$5 fee will be charged for the replacement of a tag that has been lost or destroyed.

\*An additional \$10 fee will be charged for licenses renewed after February 15.

\*\*The cost of a special license is in addition to the cost of a regular license.

## The inspector: Keeping a watchful eye on the community

*This is the second in a series of articles on the role played by municipal inspectors*

### CLEANLINESS INSPECTOR: A TIMELY INTERVENTION

The Borough's team of cleanliness inspectors conducts between 900 and 1000 inspections a year. At the same time, of the 200 non-compliance notices issued, less than 10 result in an infraction—signifying that the inspection follow-up process is highly effective.

#### On the ground

In addition to seeing that municipal bylaws governing infestations are applied, and explaining bylaw requirements regarding housing cleanliness and

maintenance to landlords and building managers, cleanliness inspectors sometimes have to deal with human dramas. In most cases, however, inspectors intervene in a timely manner, as several cases from the past few years attest.



Like many major North American cities, Montréal hasn't been spared the onslaught of bed bugs. One diligent landlord regularly exterminated these pests in his building—except in one badly infested dwelling, whose occupant proved to be very uncooperative. In this specific case, concerted action on the part of the cleanliness inspector and social services made it possible to provide the tenant, who had severe health problems, with the help he needed and to enable the landlord to undertake major renovations in the apartment, which had become unfit for habitation.



A resident property owner complained to the Borough about strong smells emanating from an apartment he was renting in his building to a woman living alone. When he arrived on the premises, the inspector found that the apartment was unclean and strewn with garbage. Faced with this situation, the inspector asked for support from the Borough's social development officer to meet with the tenant. Through gentle intervention and dialogue, the tenant finally recognized that the situation was not normal. She promised to clean up her apartment. The inspector

and the social development officer then arranged to return to the apartment 10 days later to reassess the situation.

During this follow-up visit, the inspector and case-worker were able to see that the tenant had kept her word, unlike most others in her situation, and had taken the necessary steps to clean up her apartment. The woman even admitted that the intervention had helped motivate her to take charge of her life once again.

To consult municipal bylaws,  
visit the website  
[ville.montreal.qc.ca/by-laws](http://ville.montreal.qc.ca/by-laws)





# Schedule for public buildings during the Holidays

		Citizens' office	Aréna Raymond-Bourque	Centre des loisirs*	Municipal court	Library
Friday	December 21	8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.	7 a.m. to 1 a.m.	8 a.m. to 11 p.m.	8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.	10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Saturday	December 22	Closed	7 a.m. to 1 a.m.	8 a.m. to 11 p.m.	Closed	10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Sunday	December 23	Closed	7 a.m. to 1 a.m.	8 a.m. to 11 p.m.	Closed	10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Monday	December 24	Closed	Closed	8 a.m. to 11 p.m.	Closed	Closed
Tuesday	December 25	Closed	Closed	8 a.m. to 11 p.m.	Closed	Closed
Wednesday	December 26	Closed	1 p.m. to 1 a.m.	8 a.m. to 11 p.m.	Closed	Closed
Thursday	December 27	8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.	7 a.m. to 1 a.m.	8 a.m. to 11 p.m.	8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.	10 h à 20 h
Friday	December 28	8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.	7 a.m. to 1 a.m.	8 a.m. to 11 p.m.	8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.	10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Saturday	December 29	Closed	7 a.m. to 1 a.m.	8 a.m. to 11 p.m.	Closed	10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Sunday	December 30	Closed	7 a.m. to 1 a.m.	8 a.m. to 11 p.m.	Closed	10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Monday	December 31	Closed	Closed	8 a.m. to 11 p.m.	Closed	Closed
Tuesday	January 1st	Closed	Closed	8 a.m. to 11 p.m.	Closed	Closed
Wednesday	January 2	Closed	1 p.m. to 1 a.m.	8 a.m. to 11 p.m.	Closed	Closed
Thursday	January 3	8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.	7 a.m. to 1 a.m.	8 a.m. to 11 p.m.	8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.	10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

No collection on Tuesday, December 25 and Tuesday, January 1.

**Green sector (2):** Garbage collection is rescheduled to Thursday, December 27 and Thursday, January 3; the collection of valorisable large trash items is rescheduled to Thursday, January 3.

**Yellow sector (1):** Recycling collection is rescheduled to Thursday, December 27 and Thursday, January 3.

The Safety patrol will be in operation. Any requests concerning municipal services may be redirected to the **Réseau Accès Montréal 311**.

\* Administrative offices will be closed from December 21, 2012 to January 2, 2013 inclusively.

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1  
LUMIÈRES SUR CHAMERAN



Taking advantage of this themed event, parents from the neighbourhood took the opportunity to talk to children about the importance of children's rights. All children at the event also received a diploma outlining their rights.

"Lumières sur Chameran is an impressive event that brings people together," said the mayor of Saint-Laurent, Alan DeSousa. "I find it heartwarming to see that so many citizens are ready to brave the cold autumn weather to take part in this festive

occasion and also to think about the place of children in our community. Congratulations to the organizers and thank you to all participants."

It should be remembered that, in October 2011, the Borough obtained accreditation as a child-friendly municipality (Municipalité amie des enfants) owing to its commitment to respect the rights of the child by taking account of the child's opinion and needs in decisions, policies, programs and priorities of Saint-Laurent.

## "Biodiversity" Contest

By answering the question included in the coupon, you'll have a chance to win a **squirrel-proof birdfeeder for small birds**.

Mail your entry form or drop it off in person at the following address:

**"Biodiversity" Contest**  
Saint-Laurent Borough Hall  
777, boulevard Marcel-Laurin  
Saint-Laurent (Québec) H4M 2M7

Entry coupons for the "Biodiversity" Contest must be received no later than **Thursday, January 24, 2013**. Prizes cannot be redeemed for cash. Each entry represents one chance to win in the draw that will take place on Friday, January 25, 2013.

The Borough will contact the winner, and the winner's name will be announced in the next Bulletin de Saint-Laurent. For more information, please contact the Citizen's office at 311.

*Saint-Laurent Borough employees are not eligible to enter the contest.*

Congratulations to Louise Gauthier, winner of the October contest. The answer to the question was "Saint-Laurent Car-free Day".

*Thanks to all participants.*



### Entry form "Biodiversity" Contest

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postal code \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Write your email to receive the Cyberbulletin : \_\_\_\_\_

**QUESTION:** What action can we take at the beginning of winter to favour biodiversity in Saint-Laurent?



# Let's clear the streets

Information: 311

 MTL\_Circulation

Montréal 

## *In Saint-Laurent, snow-removal means...*

### ...a team that's ready to go

Throughout the entire winter season, Saint-Laurent's Public Works crew ensures that the borough's 380-km-long road network is kept clear of snow in an effective and speedy manner. In addition to the daytime crew, consisting of between 30 and 55 employees—depending on specific needs—various work shifts made up of ten or so employees are always on call during night-time hours and weekends. When a snow-removal operation is launched, daytime employees can also be called on to work with employees from other work shifts.

### ...high-performance equipment

To properly undertake the six to eight snow-removal operations that occur during a normal winter, the Public Works crew ensures that it has access to the equipment it needs. As such, Saint-Laurent is the only Montréal borough to own two mechanical snow chutes, which are used to dump snow directly into the sewer system. Not counting leased vehicles, Saint-Laurent also operates around thirty salt spreaders, snow blowers and loader vehicles. In addition, the Borough is one of the few to participate in the Jessica Campaign by outfitting its heavy vehicles with lateral side guards to protect pedestrians and cyclists.

### ...environmentally friendly practices

In addition to having prepared a grid of streets and sites identified as priority snow-clearing places, such as schools and places of worship, Saint-Laurent has over the last few years developed various practices that aim to protect the environment. For example, to limit the use of salt, the road crew favours the use of stone dust as well as environmentally friendly abrasives and de-icers, such as Bleu fusion. This product can be used to de-ice roads and sidewalks even when the thermometer falls below  $-12^{\circ}\text{C}$ , the temperature at which salt loses its effect. Another ecological product, liquid magnesium chloride, is also spread in a preventive manner as soon as freezing rain or a light snowfall is forecast. Also worth mentioning is the introduction of a snow-removal procedure for narrow streets in certain sectors and the use of reusable, environmentally friendly road signs.

### ...a bylaw that takes account of snow-removal operations

A few years ago, Saint-Laurent passed a bylaw that takes account of the borough's distinct features. In respect of this bylaw, it is against the law in Saint-Laurent for properties that have sufficient space to accommodate their snow to dispose of it on public property.

**Only in cases where the space on private properties (and not on public property) is insufficient** can snow from private properties be dumped in the street, and only under the following conditions:

1. Snow must be disposed in such a way as to avoid obstructing pedestrian walkways or streets, roads or other routes used by vehicles, or blocking access to a building;
2. Snow must be deposited on the curb in front of the owner's building, on the same side of the street on which the building is located. The size of the snow windrow may not exceed two metres when measured from the edge of the curb and the sidewalk;
3. Following a snow fall, the snow must be deposited prior to the snow-removal operations on the same side of the street, that is, before the snow-blower undertakes its maintenance work on the street;

#### 4. Snow may not be deposited:

- a. less than five metres from an intersection;
- b. within a three-metre radius of a fire hydrant;
- c. in front of a car ramp;
- d. in front of a bus-stop zone;
- e. in front of institutional buildings;
- f. in front of a space reserved for persons with limited mobility.

### ...valued cooperation from residents

Snow-removal is an activity where the valued cooperation of residents can make a real difference. That's why it is recommended that residents, in addition to respecting the bylaw, follow certain instructions to help operations run smoothly and to ensure their safety.

- Pay attention to **special signage** used during snow-removal periods.
- Make use of **public transit** to get around.
- Use **specified parking areas** during snow storms. A list of these areas is available at [www.statdemtl.qc.ca](http://www.statdemtl.qc.ca)
- Exercise **caution when walking outside** during snow-clearing periods, especially in the vicinity of heavy vehicles.
- Place **waste and recycling bins** at the entrance of the driveway, as close as possible to the street (or, during snow-removal operations, wait until the next collection if the bins are not full).
- Place **stakes along the edge** of the property a minimum of 60 cm from the inside edge of the sidewalk in such a way that they will not be vacuumed by the snow blower.
- Maintain a **minimum 30-cm space** between the edge of the sidewalk and the parked vehicle in order to allow snow removal vehicles to access the sidewalks.