



PO Box 550 Claresholm, AB T0L 0T0

273129 Hwy 520 West

Phone: (403) 625-3351

www.mdwillowcreek.com

December 2017 Volume 9, Issue 4

TAX PENALTIES: A penalty of 10% will be levied on any outstanding taxes after November 1st. An further penalty of 2% (total of 12%) will be levied on all outstanding taxes on January 1st of

Paperless Cash Receipts Program Effective January 1, 2019

As of **Jan. 1, 2019** the Municipal District of Willow Creek will no longer be mailing cash receipts for any monetary transactions. The MD is looking to update all customer contact information **over the next year**. To help with the process, a current email address is required as the MD will send digital receipts to the email on file. Please fill out the form available on our website and email it to taxes@mdwillowcreek.com.

For more information contact the Tax & Assessment Department 403-625-3351 ext.226



Name:	Phone
Address:	Number:
Mailing	Cell
Address:	Number:
Legal Land	Email:
Date:	Signature:

This personal information is being collected under the authority of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and will only be used for the purpose for which it was collected. It is protected by the privacy provisions of the FIOP Act.



The form (left) is available at the MD Admin. Office or download a fillable pdf on the MD Website page under:

- Assessment & Taxation:
- Update Contact Information

DATES TO REMEMBER

December 13th

Council & ASB Meeting

December 14th

Ag. Service Board Workshop:
Generating Electricity
From the Sun

*Details on Page 2

December 20th

Council & MPC Meeting

MD Holiday Office Hours

*Details below

Willow Creek Landfill

Holiday Hours

*Details on Page 4

MD ADMINISTRATION HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSURE NOTICE



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
DEC 25 CLOSED	DEC 26 CLOSED	DEC 27 OPEN	DEC 28 OPEN	DEC 29 OPEN
JAN 1 CLOSED	JAN 2 OPEN	JAN 3 OPEN	JAN 4 OPEN	JAN 5 OPEN



- From the Staff at the MD of Willow Creek -

AGRICULTURE SERVICE BOARD INFORMATION



27th Annual Legacy of Our Land Banquet

Keynote Speaker: Ryan Hreljac

- Ryan's Well Foundation -

Friday, February 2nd, 2018

\$25 / person

Nanton, AB

Cash Bar 5:30 pm

Community Memorial Centre

Dinner 6:30 pm

Keynote Speaker: Ryan Hreljac

*Tickets available at the MD Administration office or
contact your Division Councilor.*

This year's speaker will share his story
and discuss the role youth have in the evolving world and how they can play a role in shaping it.

The Ryan's Well Foundation is a Canadian charitable organization providing effective and sustainable solutions to the water crisis in the poorest regions of the world's developing countries. For more information visit: www.ryanswell.ca



Help shape farm and ranch labour legislation

Overview — Workplace legislation regarding waged, non-family farm workers.

The *Enhanced Protection for Farm and Ranch Workers Act* was passed in Alberta's Legislature on December 10, 2015. Changes in the Act regarding Workers Compensation and Occupational Health and Safety came into effect on January 1, 2016. The new rules only apply to farm and ranch operations that employ paid workers. They don't apply to owners or family members of owners.

The technical working groups that reviewed Occupational Health and Safety rules have completed their work. Their recommendations are now posted online, and Albertans can provide their input.

Albertans can provide feedback online at <https://www.alberta.ca/farm-and-ranch.aspx> and by emailing farmandranch@gov.ab.ca **before Jan. 15, 2018.**

AGRICULTURE SERVICE BOARD INFORMATION

DECEMBER WORKSHOP — Call the MD ASB to Register Farm Solar PV Case Studies

Generating Electricity From the Sun

December 14, 2017 | 10am –3pm
The Bridge at Claresholm Golf Course (349-39 Ave W.)
Cost \$10/person * Lunch will be provided
* Pre-Registration is Required *
A one-day workshop on grid-tie solar options for
Alberta Agricultural Producers
Facilitated by: Solar Energy Society of Alberta

RSVP: Dec 8th

Participants will:

- ◆ Learn how to evaluate their site for equipment location and optimal productivity
- ◆ Understand the steps to a completed installation including interfacing with a contractor, permitting agencies, utilities and government grants.
- ◆ See examples of equipment
- ◆ Be introduced to case studies of successful farm-based solar systems including actual performance data.
- ◆ Examine the economic viability of a farm-based solar



Due to the success of the Alberta Farmers Pesticide Application Course the M.D. of Willow Creek hosted in November, the ASB will be booking more dates in 2018. But if you are interested in a course in the mean time check out the M.D. of Taber's list of scheduled dates.



Farmer Pesticide Course

For more
information
contact the

MD of Taber Agricultural Fieldman
Jason Bullock at 403-634-4429

Attending this
course will
allow you to
purchase
restricted
chemical such
Phostoxin for
grain bin
fumigation.



Course Dates, Location & Time

Taber Legion - 8:30 A.M.
(5205—48th Ave Taber, Ab)

November 15, 2017

December 13, 2017

January 10, 2018

February 7, 2018

March 7, 2018

April 11, 2018

*All participants must be
pre-registered*

Cost

\$40.00

*(includes lunch &
course manual)*

*Registration forms along with
payment can be mailed or
dropped off to*

*MD of Taber
4900B—50th Street
Taber, Ab T1G 1T2
403-223-3541*

EMERGENCY SERVICES

December is Winter Holiday Fire Safety Month.

- * Check your smoke alarm this holiday season
- * Don't leave candles unattended
- * Keep your Christmas tree well watered
- * Check all lights before decorating
- * Always stay in the kitchen while cooking
- * Use extension cords wisely
- * Keep matches and lighters out of sight and in places your kids can't reach
- * Give space heaters space
- * Stub your cigarettes out completely and dispose of them safely
- * Have a home fire escape plan



For more information on how to keep your holiday season safe, go to <http://www.ofc.alberta.ca/ofc-winter-fire-safety>

WILLOW CREEK REGIONAL LANDFILL HOLIDAY CLOSURE NOTICE

Regular landfill hours will resume on January 8, 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						DEC 23 CLOSED
DEC 24 CLOSED	DEC 25 CLOSED	DEC 26 CLOSED	DEC 27 9am-4:30pm	DEC 28 9am-4:30pm	DEC 29 9am-4:30pm	DEC 30 CLOSED
DEC 31 CLOSED	JAN 1 CLOSED	JAN 2 9am-4:30pm	JAN 3 9am-4:30pm	JAN 4 9am-4:30pm	JAN 5 9am-4:30pm	



PHONE NUMBER: 403-687-2603

The Willow Creek Regional Landfill staff, management and Board of Directors would like to wish our customers, neighbors and friends the joy and peace of the Christmas Season and continued health and prosperity in the New Year.



PUBLIC WORKS



Winter Driving Tips



FOR ALBERTA MOTORISTS

KEEP YOUR VEHICLES IN SHAPE FOR WINTER DRIVING

- Winterize your vehicles. This should include an examination of the spare tire, battery, belts, hoses, anti-freeze, tires, brakes, heater, defroster and windshield wipers.
- Carry an emergency road kit in your vehicle's trunk or cargo space.
- Clear all snow and ice completely off windows, side view mirrors, headlights, taillights and licence plates.
- Buckle up and adjust head restraints. The centre of your head restraint should be even with the top of your ears.
- Try to keep your vehicle's fuel tank more than half full. The extra volume can help reduce moisture problems in your fuel system and it adds extra weight to your vehicle. A topped-up gas tank will also be an asset if you become stranded.

Alberta



Safer

HIGHWAYS



Alberta's Official Road Reports

For your comfort, safety and peace of mind, you should carry an

EMERGENCY ROAD KIT

in your vehicle's trunk or cargo space. Pack or replenish these supplies:

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> First Aid Kit | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sand, Road Salt or non-clumping Kitty Litter | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cell Phone |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fire Extinguisher | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Flashlight with Extra Batteries | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Candle in a deep tin |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Blanket | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Emergency Food
– anything that won't spoil like granola bars, nuts or chocolate | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Waterproof Matches |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Road Map and Compass | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ice Scraper and Snowbrush | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shovel |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Extra Clothing and Footwear | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Booster Cables |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paper Towel or Rags | | |

PUBLIC WORKS

DRIVE CAUTIOUSLY DURING BAD WEATHER

- Slow down when conditions aren't ideal. The posted speed limit is intended for ideal road conditions. Even if road signs say you may drive 110 km/h, that doesn't mean you should if the road is icy or snow-covered.
- Motorists have a legal obligation to drive according to road conditions. You can be charged with a traffic offence by police if you are found not to be doing so.
- Unless travel is absolutely necessary, stay off the roads during major storms.
- Stay back from snowplows. They will let you pass every five to eight kilometres or when it is safe to do so.
- Plan the best route to your destination ahead of time.
- Keep your headlights on all the time - don't rely on daytime running lights. Low beams are more effective than high beams in fog or heavy snow conditions.
- Never use cruise control in winter conditions.
- When travelling on snowy roads, try driving outside of the previous tire tracks to give you some extra traction. This also helps when there are shiny ruts in the road.
- Signal well in advance of turning to give other motorists time to anticipate and react to your actions. Check your rearview and side mirrors, and always shoulder check before changing lanes.
- Avoid sudden moves by anticipating turns or lane changes. Abrupt changes in direction or slamming on the brakes could cause you to spin out of control.
- On a wet or slick surface, allow yourself at least three times the normal following distance to stop.
- Remember that bridge decks may be slippery even when other parts of the highway are not, since they are subject to greater temperature fluctuations.
- Know your braking system and how it reacts on ice. Always be gentle with braking pressure on slick roads.
- Avoid braking on curves by driving through them at a safe, steady speed.
- Accelerate slightly when approaching a hill and then maintain a steady speed going up.
- Gear down for both uphill climbs and downhill grades. This can help you avoid brake wear and chances of sliding. But be careful of abrupt downshifting as it can upset a vehicle's balance and cause a skid to occur, particularly when turning.
- Take your foot off the brake if your vehicle begins to skid and steer in the direction you want to go. When the wheels regain their grip, brake firmly and smoothly.
- If you are driving a rear-wheel drive, prepare to steer just enough in the opposite direction in order to prevent a counter skid.



*** Do your part to keep our highways safe this winter and make it easier for maintenance crews to clear away snow and ice as quickly and efficiently as possible. Plan ahead and drive according to the conditions.**

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

PLANNING ANY DEVELOPMENT OR BUSINESS PROJECT THIS YEAR?



REMEMBER TO ARRANGE FOR AN APPOINTMENT
WITH THE DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

Call the office at 403-625-3351



BUILDER LICENSING

• Date modified: 2017-11-21

What's Changing?

Beginning December 1, 2017, new requirements will be in effect for residential builders in Alberta. All residential builders will be required to have a builder licence in order to construct new homes.

After consulting with Albertans earlier this year, amendments were made to the *New Home Buyer Protection Act* to establish licensing requirements for residential builders. Legislation and regulations will come into force December 1, 2017.

Builder licensing will apply to anyone constructing new homes, including condominiums and large multi-family homes, as well as renovations when a residential construction project requires new home warranty coverage.

Key Dates

December 1, 2017 - Program requirements come into effect. Provisional licences are issued to existing builders in good standing.

March 31, 2018 - All builders, including those with a provisional licence, are encouraged to submit their licence application before this date.

May 1, 2018 - Provisional licences expire. All builders must apply for a licence in order to obtain new building permits and to build new homes in Alberta.

For more information on *Licence Application* or *Home Builder Frequently Asked Questions*

please visit: <http://www.municipalaffairs.alberta.ca/builder-licensing> OR

Email: builderlicensing@gov.ab.ca or Call 1-866-421-6929

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

MUNICIPAL BUSINESS LICENCE* RENEWAL: DUE BY JANUARY 30TH, 2018

**A licence is required under Bylaw No. 1603, which imposes a penalty in default of prompt payment*

The Municipal 2018 Business Licence Fees:

RENEW



M.D. Residents Business Licence:	\$25/year
Regional Business Licence:	\$80/year
<i>*for MD Residents only, that hold a valid MD Business Licence</i>	
Non-Resident Licence:	\$50/year

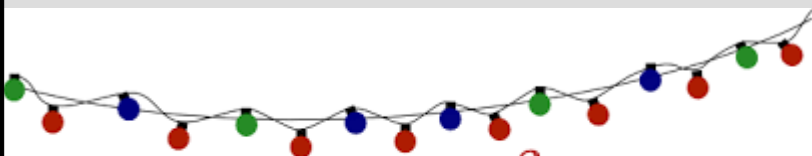
** Please remember to send in your updated information and ask for your business information to be added to the M.D. Business Directory at no charge*

**BUSINESS
DIRECTORY**

To obtain your Business Licence or have any questions contact:



Brenda Stockton
Development Officer
brenda@mdwillowcreek.com
Office: 403-625-3351 ext. 230



Happy Holidays!



MD of Willow Creek