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**October 2017 Volume 9, Issue 3**

**MUNICIPAL ELECTION:**

**October 16<sup>th</sup> - General Election Day**

**1 (One) Councillor—Division 1**

Voting Station No 1: Fort MacLeod Community Hall

Voting Station No 2: Ardenville Community Hall - 70050 Sec. Hwy. 810 (NE 4-7-26 W4M)

**1 (One) Councillor—Division 4**

Voting Station No 1: Claresholm Community Hall — 5920-8<sup>th</sup> Street, Claresholm

Voting Station No 2: Stavely Community Hall—5114—52<sup>nd</sup> Street, Stavely

**1 (One) Councillor—Division 5**

Voting Station No 1: Claresholm Community Hall — 5920-8<sup>th</sup> Street, Claresholm

Voting Station No 2: Granum Drop In Centre - 306 Railway Avenue, Granum

**TAXES**

**October 31<sup>st</sup>:**

**Due Date**

Tax payment due to  
avoid interest penalties.



**SAVE THE DATE**

~ LEGACY OF OUR LAND BANQUET ~

Friday February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018

Location: NANTON

Community Centre - 2204 18 Street

\*Keep posted for Banquet ticket availability\*

Speaker: Ryan Hreljac

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.

For more information visit: [www.ryanswell.ca](http://www.ryanswell.ca)

## AGRICULTURE SERVICE BOARD INFORMATION

# Invasive Weed Species

### ***What is an Invasive Species?***

Those listed as "***Prohibited Noxious***" and "***Noxious***" are regulated under the Alberta Weed Control Act. "Prohibited Noxious" weeds must be destroyed and "Noxious" weeds must be controlled, meaning their growth or spread needs to be prevented.

### ***Why Eliminate Invasive Plants from your Garden??***

Some plants from other parts of the globe, originally introduced as garden flowers, for landscapes, or for their medicinal or food value, have jumped the garden fence to become invasive in the natural environment. Invasive plants are spread, intentionally or unintentionally, by people and their activities. They have no predators to stop their spread so they survive, thrive, and dominate, in the wild. Accidental or intentional, these invaders cause not only environmental and habitat degradation, but social and economic loss as well. Their growth and rapid spread is detrimental to native plants and damages natural areas, rangelands, parks, watersheds and lakes. They threaten the biodiversity of our native habitat and endanger wildlife.

While only 10% of introduced ornamental plants actually become invasive, effective action needs to be taken to avoid planting the ones that do. Choosing suitable alternatives can help prevent future spread and serve to protect and preserve Alberta's natural environment.

- Acknowledgements: The information was provided by Alberta Invasive Species Council - [www.abinvasives.ca](http://www.abinvasives.ca)

### **BABY'S BREATH—Noxious**

*Gypsophila paniculata*

This is the airy, white flowered plant used extensively by the flower industry as bouquet filler and sold for dried arrangements. In winter, stems break off, blowing around in the wind, like tumbleweeds, spreading seed to pastures and natural areas – a single plant can produce 1000s of seeds.



Both Photo credit's:

Nicole Kimmel, Alberta Agriculture & Forestry



## AGRICULTURE SERVICE BOARD INFORMATION

# Invasive Weed Species



Photo credit:

Nicole Kimmel, Alberta Agriculture & Forestry

### DAMES ROCKET—Noxious

*Hesperis matronalis*

It is very similar to Garden phlox, which has 5 petals and opposite leaves, but Dame's rocket has 4 petals & alternate leaves. It is a prolific seed producer that can quickly form dense stands in moist, shaded grassland areas and along woodland edges.



Photo credit: Daniel Laubhann

### OX-EYE DAISY—Noxious

*Leucanthemum vulgare*

There are no native white flowered daisies in Alberta. Often perceived to be a 'pretty' wildflower, this non-native is an aggressive invader. Ox-eye daisy is a perennial that spreads primarily by seed, but also by shallow, creeping roots (rhizomes). Individual plants can produce over 500 seeds that are viable in the soil for 2-3 years or more. The greatest impact of oxeye daisy is on forage production in pastures and meadows.

Cattle avoid oxeye daisy and therefore any pasture infested with dense stands of oxeye daisy will decrease forage available for grazing. Dense stands of oxeye daisy can decrease plant diversity and increase the amount of bare soil in an area.

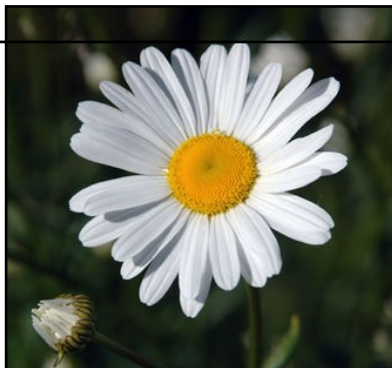


Photo credit: Daniel Laubhann



Photo credit: Jason Teare

## UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

**THIS COULD BE YOU.**  
Even with cows.



**Low Cost Winter Feeding Workshop**  
November 16, 2017 ~ Fort Macleod, AB



Featuring Jim Bauer and local producers on their winter feeding systems and strategies.  
Topics will include: winter grazing strategies, bale grazing, swath grazing, standing grazing, and stockpiling grass.

Register at: <https://winterfeeding.eventbrite.ca>  
Or call: 403-995-9466

**First Aid Course**  
**NOVEMBER 29-30<sup>th</sup>**  
**\$30/person** (Covers the Course Materials)  
**2-DAY COURSE**  
Course Minimum is 10 people  
**LOCATION:**  
**THE MD ADMIN BUILDING**

**R.S.V.P. By Nov. 21<sup>st</sup>**  
Contact the ASB to register  
**403-625-3351**



### Helping Make Energy Efficiency Affordable

There are many technologies and practices farmers and ranchers can implement on their operations to reduce their energy footprint and protect (and possibly even increase) profit margins. Carbon emission reduction and energy sustainability can both be practiced while also running an economically sustainable farm.

The government has partnered with three grassroots organizations staffed with Energy Outreach Officers whose role is to promote the On-Farm Energy Management Program (OFEMP) and the GF2 On-Farm Solar Photovoltaic (OFSPV) Program to Alberta communities. Energy Outreach Officers are available to attend community events, talk about energy efficient technologies, as well as answer questions about the OFEMP and OFSPV Program and explain the benefits of these programs to farmers and ranchers. The Outreach Officers are also more than happy to meet one-on-one with farmers and ranchers to help them find potential energy efficiency solutions for their operation. You can get in touch with your regional Outreach Officer by contacting your municipality, or by calling your regional representative directly.

#### Contact Information:

South-central Alberta, from Clearwater County to Cypress County.

**SouthGrow Regional Initiative.** SouthGrow's mission is *"To accelerate and enhance quality of life, development and sustainability for the communities of the SouthGrow region of Alberta."*

**Energy Outreach Officer – Vern Steinborn**

**Phone: (403) 894-0050**

**Email: [vern.steinborn@southgrow.com](mailto:vern.steinborn@southgrow.com)**

To learn more about the OFEMP and the OFSPV Program visit [www.growingforward.alberta.ca](http://www.growingforward.alberta.ca)

## UPCOMING WORKSHOPS



Present Training\* for

**NOVEMBER 28th, 2017**

**ALBERTA FARMER PESTICIDE APPLICATOR CERTIFICATE**

**\*Training for the Grain Bin Storage with Phostoxin**

The Certificate Course is a one-day course.

Study manuals are provided in addition to instruction with lectures and power point presentation on the 7 modules plus the Grain Storage Module.

**Note:** Course Minimum is 5 People.

**Location is at:** The M.D. Administration Office  
(West of Claresholm)

**For more information on these Events contact:**

Carla Preachuk  
Agriculture Fieldman  
403-625-3351 ext 229

Kelli Albrecht  
Agricultural Service Board Admin  
403-625-3351 ext 260

**RSVP: Nov 21<sup>st</sup>**

## Generating Electricity From the Sun

**A one-day workshop on grid-tie solar options for Alberta farmers**

**December 14, 2017 10 am—3 pm**

**Cost: \$10.00/person**

**Location: To Be Determined**

***Facilitated by: Solar Energy Society of Alberta***

It is becoming increasingly profitable for Alberta farmers to generate their own electricity and sell it to the grid, utilizing the renewable energy sources on available right on their property. This one-day workshop will address this opportunity and cover solar electric system siting, installation, permitting process and economics.

**\*For more information on this Event contact the ASB as above.**

### **Learning Objectives**

Participants will:

- Understand how utility-intertie solar systems work
- 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 system
- Be provided with information on sources for equipment, installers and further resources

**RSVP: Dec 8<sup>th</sup>**



## EMERGENCY SERVICES

Although some rain has fallen, hot and dry conditions persist in Alberta. The Office of the Fire Commissioner is reminding you to be aware and practice fire safety. Here are some important tips to how to do your part:

### Wildfires

Preparing for the threat of wildfire is a shared responsibility. You can do your part:

- **Dispose** of debris and lawn clippings quickly to reduce fuel for fire. Don't let them linger.
- **Clear** leaves and other vegetative debris from roofs, gutters, porches and decks. This helps prevent embers from igniting your home.
- **Remove** dead vegetation and other items from under your deck or porch, and within 3 metres of the house.
- **Remove** flammable materials (wood piles, propane tanks) within 10 metres of your home's foundation and outbuildings, including garages and sheds. If it can catch fire, don't let it touch your house, deck or porch.
- **Prune** trees so the lowest branches are 2 to 3 metres from the ground. Wildfire can spread to tree tops.
- 

*If you spot a wildfire, call toll-free **310-FIRE(3473)***



Thousands of hectares can be destroyed by  
**A single spark**

- Obey fire bans
  - Properly dispose of smoking materials
  - Make sure your campfire is out
  - Report all wildfires
- Toll-free **310-FIRE (3473)**

**ofc.alberta.ca**

New general information and fire safety tips to our website at

<http://www.ofc.alberta.ca/fire-safety-in-dry-conditions>.

## PUBLIC WORKS



That's the message Partners in Road Construction Safety have been trying to send to Alberta drivers for years, but it appears as though about half still aren't getting the message.

Many motorists view road construction work as an inconvenience, but they should rather look at it as a service. Road and maintenance workers are

doing their best to minimize motorist inconvenience. No matter how it seems to the motorist, workers are striving to improve road conditions and traffic safety, and it is up to the driver to be alert, aware, and responsive.

Obey traffic laws, slow down and not "RIP" through construction zones for the safety of road workers. Slow down, respect the law, and watch for workers, equipment, as well as other hazards that could be on the road. . We're all trying to do the best we can and keep everyone safe so they can go home at the end of the day.



The Municipal District of Willow Creek No 26 Public Works Department  
**maintains nearly 2,250 km of roads, including;**

Gravel roads—2014 km's

Oiled Roads—195 km's

Pavement—37 km's

### **The Department Also :**

- ⇒ On a systematic rotation schedule: Inspects and maintains 225 bridges and culverts (over 1500 mm in size)
- ⇒ Issuance of Road Bans and Bridge Restrictions; and Road Use Agreements for various industries.

## PUBLIC WORKS

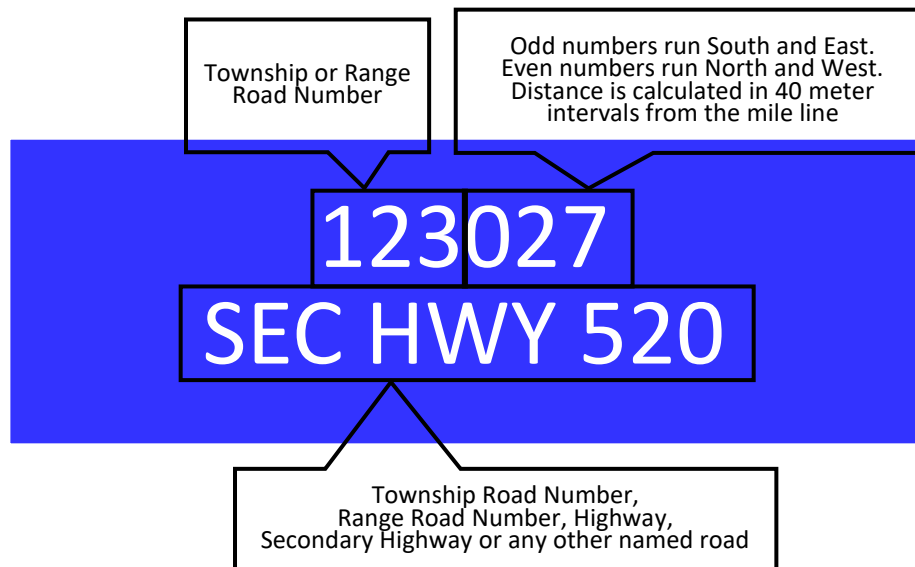
### RURAL ADDRESSING

Since 2010, rural addressing has allowed 9-1-1 operators to help fire; ambulance and police find your home quickly in the event of an emergency. When seconds count, there is real peace of mind knowing that help is on the way - directly.

#### **How does Rural Addressing Work?**

Your rural address effectively provides an address and a house number for every household on your property. A rural address is not the same as a legal land description (which provides a land location, but does not identify individual residences on a property) or a postal address, which directs mail through Canada Post.

Rural addresses in the MD of Willow Creek were Municipal Addresses are based on the grid system created by the township roads (which run east/west) and the range roads (which run north/south). The even house numbers are located on the north and west side of the road and the odd numbers are located on the east and south side.



## Alberta Water Well Information Online Database

The Alberta Environment and Parks Online Database site contains a database of approximately 500,000 records with nearly 5,000 new drilling reports added annually. The database contains information about individual water well drilling reports, chemical analysis reports up to the end of 1986, springs, flowing shot holes, test holes, and pump tests conducted on the wells.

Through this site you can view the information from the original report received by the Groundwater Information Centre (GIC). You can also print individual records and print the overlaying map(s) that show the wells in relation to other wells and roads, etc.

The site supplies you with single reports for which there is no charge. For a copy of the whole database at no charge please contact the GIC and instructions will be given as to how to download a monthly updated version from our department's ftp site. The website can be found at the link below:



<http://aep.alberta.ca/water/reports-data/alberta-water-well-information-database/default.aspx>



# PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

## PLANNING ANY DEVELOPMENT OR BUSINESS PROJECT THIS YEAR?

1. The MD of Willow Creek Land Use Bylaw No. 1616 is now under review. A public hearing to contemplate proposed bylaw amendments to be announced in the near future.
2. Safety Code permits are required to ensure work on buildings will conform to construction and safety standards in accordance with \ the Safety Codes Act. It is the landowner's responsibility to comply with the Safety Codes Act for new construction, additions or renovations by obtaining a Safety Code permit.
3. Superior Safety Codes Inc. is the accredited agency contracted by the MD to provide compliance monitoring services for all building, electrical, plumbing, gas and private sewage permits. Permit applications may be obtain on Superior Safety Codes website [www.superiorsafetycodes.com](http://www.superiorsafetycodes.com) or by contacting their office at 1-877-320-0734 or at the MD office.
4. Insurability and claims may be adversely affected when work is undertaken without permits or when deficiencies are identified and not remediated.
5. Every licensee who holds a license that is not limited to specific premises, is required to immediately have available the license or duly authorized copy thereof and such licensee shall, upon request, produce same to a Peace Officer, a License Inspector, or any person with whom he/she is doing business.
6. Before you do business with someone, check to make sure they have an MD Business License by contacting the MD office at 403-625-3351 ext 230.
7. It is a requirement that any person(s) or business conducting commerce within the MD obtain a business license. **Anyone found operating within the MD without a business license is subject to a fine of up to \$1,000.** Business License Fees are \$25 for residents, \$50 for non-residents and \$80 for a Regional License—for MD residents only.

DEVELOPMENT PERMIT	BUILDING PERMIT
Deals with a development's impact on surrounding properties and allows for the legal use of land/ building in a particular manner.	Deals with the structural stability of buildings and the health and safety of the building's occupants.
Issued by the MD.	All Safety Codes Permits, including Building Permits are issued by <u>Superior Safety Codes Inc.</u> on behalf of the MD.
Required under the municipal Land Use Bylaw.	Required under the Safety Codes Act
The Municipal Government Act is the Provincial guiding legislation.	The Safety Codes Act is the Provincial guiding legislation.
Applications are submitted directly to the MD	Applications are submitted to Superior Safety Codes.
The MD enforces the Municipal Land Use Bylaw requirements under the Municipal Government Act.	The MD enforces Safety Codes requirements under the Safety Codes Act.

**If you are planning any type of development or business project, remember to contact the MD office to arrange for an appointment with the Planning and Development Department at 403-625-3351 ext 235 or 230.**

## PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

### DEMOLISHING A BUILDING?

#### What you need to know!!!

**In order to take down buildings a demolition permit will be required.**

A demolition permit is a requirement under the Provincial Safety Codes Act and may be obtained through the MD's contracted agency, Superior Safety Codes Inc.

Final inspection for a demolition permit takes place once demolition, including the removal of any foundation, has been completed. An inspection of any foundation, has been completed. An inspection is done in order to confirm that utilities have been correctly disconnected and that the post demolition site is safe.

The Alberta Occupational Health and Safety Code (OHS) requires that all chemical (insulation, asbestos, air conditioning systems etc. , biological substances (eg. Mold, animal or human waste, etc.) that could pose a hazard during demolition must be removed from the building before demolition.

*Builders and homeowners are responsible for proper management of Construction & Demolition waste. Ask your contractor to provide a scale slip confirming that the waste was disposed of properly.*

#### Options for Building Material Recycling:

- ⇒ Check the Yellow Pages under 'Building Materials - Used' for companies that deal in used building supplies.
- ⇒ Some charities need furniture and appliances in good working order. Check the Yellow Pages under Second Hand Stores or Building Materials.
- ⇒ Can someone else re-use what you don't need?
- ⇒ Consider a renovation yard sale, classified ads or call second hand building materials outlets.
- ⇒ The landfill recycles certain types of waste (e.g. metal and cardboard material).



#### **Disposal of Construction and Demolition Material**

*Under the Environmental and Protection and Enhancement Act, burning certain material (such as waste material from construction sites and wood & wood products containing wood preservatives) is illegal.*

*The Willow Creek Regional Landfill is a class 2 landfill and is authorized to take most construction and demolition material. Please contact the landfill for a list of acceptable solid waste.*

**Willow Creek Landfill**

**403-687-2603**



422 North Mayor Magrath Drive

Lethbridge, AB T1H 6H7

PH: 1.877.320.0734

Superior Safety Codes Inc. is contracted by the MD to provide permitting and inspection services required under the Safety Codes

