



PO Box 550 Claresholm, AB T0L 0T0

Phone: (403) 625-3351

www.mdwillowcreek.com

March 2017 *Volume 9, Issue 1*

Notice of Open House of the Electors The Municipal District of Willow Creek No. 26

**Wednesday, March 15th, 2017
from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.**

Presentations

- Reeves Report
- 2016 Financial Statements
- Public Works Report
- Planning & Development Report
- Ag Service Board Report
- Emergency Management Services Report
- Community Peace Officer Report

Location: The MD Administration Building,
273129 Highway 520 West, (Claresholm Airport)

DATES TO REMEMBER

March 12th

Daylight Saving Time
Starts at 2:00 a.m. (MST)
Turn clocks forward 1 hour

March 15th

Road Bans in Effect
*Details on Page 8

March 15th 7:00-9:00pm

Open House of the Electors

March 15th or April 5th

Alberta Farmer Pesticide
Applicator Certificate
*Details on Page 3

March 22nd

Alberta Verified Beef Production
Plus (VBP+) Workshop
*Details on Page 3

March 23rd

Grid-tie Solar Options Workshop
*Details on Page 3

March 29th

Environmental Farm Plan (EFP)
Workshop
*Details on Page 3

For information on TIPPS (Tax Installment Payment Plan):

- Check our website at
<http://www.mdwillowcreek.com/forms/TIPP%20Forms.pdf>
- Call the MD Admin office tax department.

**ALL OUTSTANDING TAXES
ARE DUE IMMEDIATELY**

MD of Willow Creek is updating our database and going forward with phasing out paper invoices and receipt processes.
Please contact the MD to update your information.

4 Ways you can update: ❶ in person at the office, ❷ Call the MD Office 403-625-3351

❸ email us at info@mdwillowcreek.com or

❹ Checkout the "Quick Links" Tab on www.mdwillowcreek.com Homepage.

A new fillable online form will be on the MD Website for rate payers to complete.



Update
Contact Info

DID YOU KNOW.....4-H Alberta is Celebrating 100 years!



It's almost time to celebrate 100 years of 4-H in Alberta. So what does one get a 100 year 4-Her who has everything? All we need is you!

Check back often for updates and more information on events, fun stuff, history, merchandise, and ways you can contribute to painting Alberta 4-H green in 2017. There are three signature events planned to mark the centennial of 4-H Alberta. We'd love to see you at all of them.

OFFICIAL CENTENNIAL KICK-OFF

Join us as we announce our 100th anniversary to the world at Farmfair International 2016 held at Northlands in Edmonton. Our kick-off will take place November 9, coinciding with National 4-H month.

WESTERN REGIONAL LEADERS' FORUM 2017

Coming to Canada for the first time, Alberta is excited to host the Western Regional Leaders' Forum (WRLF) from March 16-19, 2017 at the Shaw Conference Centre in Edmonton. For the centennial year, this event will combine Leaders' Conference and Senior Members' Conference into WRLF and be completed with pre and post tours, sessions, entertainment and tons of networking!

4-H ALBERTA CENTENNIAL FEVER (AKA "4-H FEVER")

This is the event you've all been waiting for! 4-H will descend upon Olds, the birthplace of 4-H in Alberta, from August 3-7, 2017. This signature event is the opportunity for 4-H'ers – past, present and future – to come together and celebrate 100 years of community, friendship and opportunity. We will converge on the Olds Regional Exhibition grounds to party like we're having our 100th birthday... because we are!

But wait! There's always more!

So check back for more important dates as they are added to the website. You can also purchase your very own 16-month Centennial History Showcase calendar to help keep track of events as well. And who knows, you might even learn something new about 4-H Alberta's past!

For South Regional 4-H information and news log onto:

www.4h.ab.ca/regions/south/news

Help celebrate a century of 4-H pride through events and other initiatives taking place now throughout the centennial year.

FIRE BURN PERMITS

The Municipality authorizes burning through the use of a municipal fire permit system.

**NO BURNING shall take place
without the benefit of a fire permit.**

If a landowner (ratepayer) responsible for burning is doing so without a permit and the fire department is dispatched, the landowner (ratepayer) shall be billed the cost of the fire response. If a fire permit is issued and the fire gets out of control and the fire department is dispatched, the landowner (ratepayer) shall be billed the cost of the fire response.

CALL THE MD ADMIN. OFFICE FOR YOUR PERMIT

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) 2017 Workshop



Hosted by

MD of Willow Creek

with Guest Speaker

Barb Archibald, B. Sc., P. Ag.

Growing Forward Extension Specialist

Date: March 29th, 2017

9:30 am—4:00 pm

Workshop Location:

MD of Willow Creek Admin Office:

273129 Sec. Hwy 520 West

Claresholm, AB

For further info or to register please contact :

MD Willow Creek Ag. Service Board Admin.

Kelli Albrecht at 403-625-3351 ext.260

RSVP by March 23rd, 2017

Workshop Topics Covered include:

- And introduction to the Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) Workbook and it's Benefits;
- Guidance on how to complete the EFP; and an
- Explanation of how the EFP completed certificate allows you to become eligible for funding under the *Growing Forward 2* program



"The EFP is a voluntary, whole farm, self-assessment tool that helps producers identify their environmental risks and development plans to mitigate identified risks. We are working together with farmers committed to environmental stewardship."

For more info go to www.albertaeefp.com



Alberta Verified Beef Production Plus (VBP+) Workshop



Date: March 22nd, 2017

1:00 pm — 4:00 pm

Claresholm Community Centre—Lodge Room

Pre-Registration Required

* VBP program is recognized by Canadian Food Inspection Agency

The mandate of the VBP+ program is to educate and help the producer meet marketing demands efficiently and cost effectively.

Workshop Topics Covered include:

- How the Verified Beef Production Plus (VBP+) Program works with a focus on upholding consumer confidence in Canadian beef and Canadian beef producers;
- Modules include:
 - On-Farm Food Safety
 - Animal Care
 - Biosecurity
 - Environmental Stewardship



Hosted by:

MD of Willow Creek

Workshop Presented by:

Christine Erichsen, B.Sc., M.Sc.

Trainer, Alberta Verified Beef

For more VBP+ information visit:
www.verifiedbeefproductionplus.com
www.albertaverifiedbeef.com

To Register please contact :

MD Willow Creek Ag. Service Board Admin.

Kelli Albrecht at 403-625-3351 ext.260

Or email KelliA@mdwillowcreek.com

RSVP by March 20th, 2017

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE WORKSHOPS PLEASE CONTACT THE AG SERVICE BOARD AT 403-625-3351 Ext.260

DESCRIPTION

A one-day workshop on grid-tie solar options for Alberta farmers and acreage owners.

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. Grid-tie eliminates the large cost associated with the batteries used to store solar energy. This one-day workshop will address this opportunity and cover solar electric system siting, installation, permitting process and economics.

WHERE: Woods Room, Foothills Centennial Centre, Okotoks, AB

WHEN: 9:30am - 3pm, March 23, 2017

COST: \$30/members, \$40/non-members, *LUNCH INCLUDED*

WHO: Anyone can attend. The workshop is geared towards farm and acreage owners.

How to register: Online at <https://electricityfromthesun.eventbrite.ca>



MAR
23

Generating Electricity From the Sun

by Foothills Forage & Grazing Association



&



Pesticide Applicator Training & Recertification

Present Training for

****ALBERTA FARMER PESTICIDE APPLICATOR CERTIFICATE ****

Lethbridge, AB at the Hamman AG Research Farm
Wednesday, March 15th or Wednesday, April 5th, 2017

REGISTRATION FEES:

1. FARMER PESTICIDE APPLICATOR CERTIFICATE COURSE (1 Day) Includes hot lunch—with multiple choice exam at end of the day or following morning. \$110 [+GST]
2. RECERTIFICATION ONLY...Certificates expire after 5 years. \$65 [+GST]
3. To Register call Bill Hamman at 403-308-4099

2% LIQUID STRYCHNINE

Please call ahead to make pickup arrangements with the Ag. Service Board to ensure a certified applicator can sign you out and supply you with the label and program requirements: GARY MURRAY at 403-625-6095 or CARLA PREACHUK at 403-625-3351 ext. 229

At time of pickup, you will need to provide:

Your home land location, the land legal location of the infestation, mailing address, and a signature to complete the product purchase form.

AGRICULTURE SERVICE BOARD INFORMATION

Attention Growers

Announcing changes to pesticide return programs—and they're as easy as 1-2-3.



NEW

1 Bulk Containers → **RETURN TO RETAILER**

Return all bulk pesticide containers to your crop inputs retailer. Do not return any bulk containers to municipal collection sites.



NEW

2 Obsolete Pesticides → **HOLD ON FARM**

Store all obsolete pesticides safely on-farm until called in for scheduled pick up at designated collection sites.



UNCHANGED

3 Small Pesticide Containers → **RETURN TO MUNICIPALITY**

Continue to return small pesticide containers (under 23L) to your local municipal collection site.

REMEMBER:
Triple rinsing containers is essential!



CleanFARMS®

These changes are now in effect and more detail can be found at cleanfarms.ca. Thank you Alberta growers for your cooperation and leadership in ag-waste stewardship.

Programs



Preparation steps empty container recycling

Step 1. Rinse

All containers should be triple rinsed or pressure rinsed before they are brought in for recycling to make sure the container is clean prior to entering the recycling process. If a container is too dirty when it's brought to a site, it may be rejected.

To help clean the container, farmers can use a device called a chemical handler that pierces the bottom of the container and sends pressurized water up into the container to rinse the inside thoroughly. This device not only makes sure the container is clean but it also allows farmers to put any excess product back into their spray tanks.

For more detailed instructions, please see our [standard operating procedure](#) for rinsing containers.

Step 2. Remove

The cap and booklet should be removed. The glued-on label can stay on the container. The paper booklet cannot be recycled through the same recycling process as the containers and the cap must be removed because it is made of a different type of plastic.

Metal handles commonly found on fertilizer pails should be removed.

Step 3. Return

Farmers should return their containers to the closest [drop-off location](#) to be recycled.

If you don't have a Chem Handler and would like a JetRinse toolkit ([Free of Charge](#)), they will be available for pickup at the MD of Willow Creek Office on a first come first serve basis.

ROADSIDE SPRAYING



The roadside spraying program within the M.D. of Willow Creek No. 26 is for noxious and prohibited noxious weed control, and is conducted for the duration of the spray season. The municipality has a policy whereby if you do not wish the ditch alongside your own property to be sprayed, an application must be filled out at the municipal office as soon as possible.

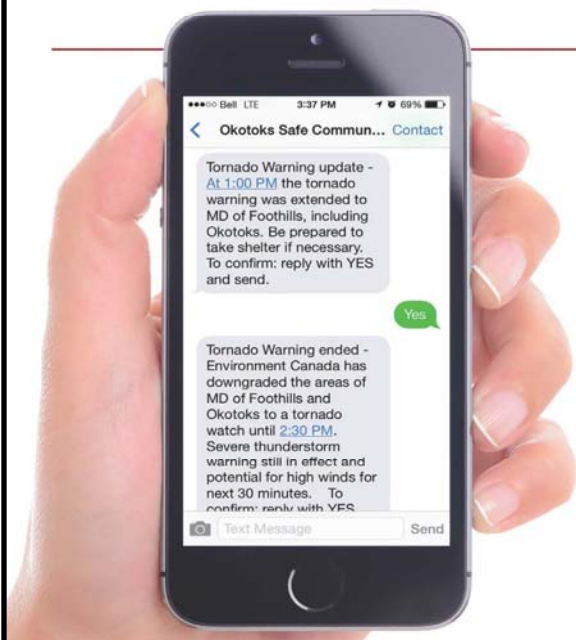
If you have any questions or concerns, please contact:

Agricultural Fieldman Carla Preachuk at (403) 625-3351 Ext. 229

EMERGENCY SERVICES



SAFE COMMUNITIES) Alert Network



Subscribe at www.SCANAalerts.ca

Don't be the last to know.

Emergencies happen. Get reliable information on what's happening in your community, and know what to do.

SIGN UP TODAY!

Phone, cell, email or text message—in an emergency SCAN will use every way possible to reach you.

A regional alert system for MD of Willow Creek | High River | Okotoks | MD of Foothills | Black Diamond | Turner Valley | Longview | Vulcan County

What is the Safe Communities Alert Network?

Stay safe during all types of emergency events

The Safe Communities Alert Network (SCAN) is a communications tool designed to rapidly disseminate information and instructions, in the event of an emergency. This system helps us contact you in a crisis— flood or severe weather event, wildfire, hazardous material spills, or any other emergency that might impact you or your family.

The SCAN system allows us to send you messages about situations, as they happen, across multiple devices including your home phone, mobile device, email, and more. By opting into the SCAN emergency notification system you'll be informed before, during, and after incidents that could impact your safety.

This regional service is free and available for the following municipalities:

- MD of Willow Creek
- Town of Okotoks
- Town of High River
- MD of Foothills
- Town of Black Diamond
- Town of Turner Valley
- Village of Longview
- Town of Vulcan
- Vulcan County



PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

PLANNING ANY DEVELOPMENT OR BUSINESS PROJECT THIS YEAR?
What you need to know!!!

REMEMBER TO

CALL THE MD DEVELOPMENT OFFICE
TO ARRANGE FOR AN APPOINTMENT

Phone: (403) 625-3351 Ext. 235



Difference between a Development Permit and a Building Permit

<i>DEVELOPMENT PERMIT</i>	<i>BUILDING PERMIT</i>
Deals with a development's impact on surrounding properties and allows for the legal use of land/building in a particular manor.	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

BUILDING CODE TIPS.....

Building Permits are REQUIRED for the following types of projects:

New construction
Additions
Renovations that involve structural changes
Basement development
Decks greater than 2' above grade
Wood burning appliances (wood stove or fireplace)
Pole sheds that aren't used for the operation of a Farm

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



422 North Mayor Magrath Drive
Lethbridge, AB T1H 6H7
PH: 1.877.320.0734

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

DEMOLISHING A BUILDING?

What you need to know!!!



The **MD WILL NOT** issue a Fire Burn Permit for the burning of a demolished building, **UNLESS** a demolition permit has been obtained.



- UPDATE -

Municipal Development Plan No. 1431 /
Land Use Bylaw No. 1616 are under Review.

In order to take down most 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.

GET INVOLVED AND STAY INVOLVED!!!

Community based groups and other stake holder groups within the Municipal District of Willow Creek are being urged to provide the MD with information about their group and to subscribe for MDP/LUB project updates.

MDP-LUBupdates@mdwillowcreek.com

BUSINESS LICENCE

- The deadline for the renewal of business licences was January 31, 2017.
*If someone is found operating within the MD without a business licence they may be fined up to \$1,000.00.
- Business Licence serves as another protection against persons or businesses operating fraudulently.
- Every licensee who holds a licence that is not limited to specific premises, is required to immediately have available the licence or duly authorized copy and upon request, produce same to a Police Officer, a Licence Inspector, or any person with whom he is doing business to which the licence relates.
- Before you do business with someone in the MD check to make sure they have a business licence.

WILLOW CREEK REGIONAL LANDFILL (WCRL)

LOCATED AT: 113053 Range Road 263

HOURS AND DAYS OPEN CAN VARY SO PLEASE CALL PRIOR TO VISIT AT 403-687-2603

The WCRL is a regional waste management facility dedicated to responsible and environmentally sound waste management. The goal is to lessen our footprint on the environment while providing waste management solutions to our members and their residents. WCRL encourages everyone to recycle, re-use and re-purpose.

ROAD BANS

Just a reminder that our Road Bans will be **in effect on March 15th at 7:00am**. With the warmer weather conditions the frost is starting to come out of the ground. As the frost comes out the roads get very soft, especially on the shoulders. When there is no frost left in the road and completely thawed, our roads are left in a very vulnerable state. The MD of Willow Creek puts the road bans on to minimize the amount of damage done to our roads.

All of our **oiled roads will be banned at 75%** (except TWP 140 by Clear Lake and TWP 93, which are banned at 50% year round) and our **gravel roads at 100%** (all gravel roads you can haul 100% of the maximum allowable weight) as set out by *Alberta Transportation*.

When the posted road bans are in effect, we have two Community Peace Officer's patrolling the roads for overweight trucks. If caught with an overloaded truck on a banned road the fines can be very expensive, so please keep your loads under the weight restrictions put in place. If you see anyone using a banned road and expect that they are overloaded, please get in touch with the MD Office at 403-625-3351 and we will send someone out to investigate.

- Check the MD website for details on maximum allowable weights for highways & bridges -

RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF VIMY RIDGE



For more information and schedule of events, visit:

<http://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/history/first-world-war/vimy-ridge/100-anniversary>



Your Local Royal Canadian Legion
Branches:

041 Claresholm
046 Fort MacLeod
080 Nanton

