

# SUMMER VILLAGE OF SOUTH VIEW

## Winter Newsletter

### December 2021



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## Mayor's Message

When asked by a comedian at a conference Council attended this fall, I realized how the dynamics of a Summer Village have changed over the years. His question was, "What the heck is a Summer Village? Is it a place that when the season ends, a dome automatically closes over the area?" Years ago, Summer Villages were mostly that concept. People would come to vacation then close up the cabin/cottage over the winter and then return the following year. With time, the change began to trend to full-time residency within the Summer Villages. I have truly noticed over the Covid period that there has been a drastic sale/purchase of properties and also the amount of construction is almost overwhelming. This is fantastic, growth within our boundaries is a good thing. We will miss those who have left and welcome those who have chosen to be part of our friendly Summer Village.

The structure of Council meetings will be changing in the near future to include a fifteen minute "all in" question and answer session at the end of each meeting. For major questions, we ask that you send the question in ahead of time to give time to research the answer. The web page will notify you as to when this will begin.

We are looking for volunteers to do some painting in the spring. We have two shelters and a few picnic tables that need a face lift. There may be other projects that could use your assistance as items are noticed or reported. Please let us know if you notice things that need attention.

For safety reasons, the monkey bars in the park have been replaced. Standards have changed over the years and with mandatory "outside inspections", changes and repairs will be made as required. We also have two sets of horseshoe pits that will be ready to go in the spring. They are located in Recognition Park. Grab some friends, your shoes and enjoy.

I truly wish one and all, on behalf of our wonderful Administrator, her staff, contractors and Council, the best of the season to one and all. May the snow be light, the roads be clear and all your wishes come true.

*Mayor Sandi*

### SOUTH VIEW CONNECT

Earlier this year, the Summer Village launched a new communication system designed to keep the residents informed about the latest news, events and information from the community. Residents are encouraged to sign up through the link on the Summer Village's website: [www.summervillageofsouthview.com/south-view-connect.html](http://www.summervillageofsouthview.com/south-view-connect.html)

### MONTHLY TAX PAYMENT PLAN

The Tax Payment Plan begins in January. If you would like to join, please contact the Summer Village Office for details. The plan allows you to make monthly payments towards your taxes and avoid penalties.

### SUMMER VILLAGE WEBSITE

Would you like more information on notices and various items such as financials, bylaws, policies, minutes, meeting agendas etc.? Check out the Summer Village's website at: [www.summervillageofsouthview.com](http://www.summervillageofsouthview.com)

### HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

The administration office will be CLOSED December 24, 2021 to January 2, 2022. The office will reopen on January 3, 2022.

## **Fire Services/Insurance**

Did you know that the cost of fire suppression by the fire department is payable by the property owner? In our area we have seen the cost of fire suppression for a structure fire as high as \$28,000 and for a wildland (grass fire) as high as \$12,000.



Be sure to check your home insurance policy or talk to your insurance agent about what exactly your policy covers and how much it covers. Besides inquiring about your home structure fire insurance, we encourage you to inquire about wildland insurance (for a grass fire that happens but never reaches a structure).

ALSO, be aware that should the fire department be dispatched by 9-1-1 to your residence for any reason (house alarms including false alarms, campfire, downed utility line, etc.) you, as the property owner, will receive an invoice. The only exception is for medical response calls (assisting Alberta Health Services) – there is no charge for these calls.

Did you know that if more people from the area volunteered to be a Firefighter, volunteers and our communities will get:

- Free training as long as you volunteer your time
- Firefighters get tax breaks as well as life insurance
- A fire truck stationed out of our neighbouring community – Silver Sands
- Residents may get an insurance break due to having a satellite fire station
- Better/faster coverage in the Summer Village

For more information contact: 1-855-710-3473

## **Land Use Bylaw – We Want Your Feedback!**

The Summer Village's Land Use Bylaw review will include future public consultation in the form of a public open house and a public hearing. What would you like to see in the Summer Village's Land Use Bylaw - Council is asking for feedback from residents. Please send an email with any ideas or thoughts you may have: [administration@wildwillowenterprises.com](mailto:administration@wildwillowenterprises.com). A copy of the Summer Village's Land Use Bylaw can be viewed on the Summer Village website: [www.summervillageofsouthview.com/bylaws.html](http://www.summervillageofsouthview.com/bylaws.html)

## **Snow Removal and Sanding Services**

The Summer Village contracts to P & E Ventures for snow removal and sanding services. When there is snowfall, the Summer Village contacts the service provider to perform these services. While many residents are keen to help remove the snow on the roads and while the gesture is appreciated, it can cause issues later on with plugged driveways, with snow being placed in areas where it should not be and with making it difficult for the contractor to move the heavy snow piles later. Due to this, we ask that residents only remove snow from their own properties.

## **Outstanding Taxes Due December 31<sup>st</sup>**

A reminder that any outstanding taxes are due on December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021 otherwise are subject to an 18% penalty on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022.

## **Do you have a pet?**

Please ensure your pet is on a leash at all times & please clean up after your pets. Let's all do our part to keep the Summer Village clean!



# SAFE & HAPPY HOLIDAYS - FIRE SAFETY TIPS

INFORMATION BELOW IS FROM: [HTTPS://WWW.CANADA.CA/EN/DEPARTMENT-NATIONAL-DEFENCE/MAPLE-LEAF/DEFENCE/2021/12/HOLIDAY-FIRE-SAFETY-TIPS.HTML](https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/maple-leaf/defence/2021/12/holiday-fire-safety-tips.html)

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As we approach the holiday season, let's keep it safe by following a few fire safety tips.

**Home Fire Escape Plan** – Take the time to make a home fire escape plan, and practice it; you never know when you and your family might need it.

**Fireplace** – Have your chimney inspected and cleaned by a professional. Ensure the flue is open before lighting up. Avoid burning wrapping paper, which may create a dangerous flash fire.

**Indoor/Outdoor Decorative Lighting** – Using decorative lighting correctly can be the difference between happy holidays and having more than just chestnuts roasting on an open fire. Follow these Do's and Don'ts on decorative lighting to prevent injuries and fires.

## Do's

- Use lights with a safety certification (CSA, ULC, etc.).
- Replace old or damaged lights.
- Plug outdoor lights into a GFCI outlet.
- Turn off the lights when going to bed or leaving the house.

## Don'ts

- Use inside-only decorative lights outside.
- Use electric lights on a metallic tree.
- Run electrical cords through or across doorways or under carpets.
- Overload the circuit by plugging too many lights

**Holiday Tree** – Always place the tree out of the way of foot traffic and do not block doorways or exits to the outside. Make sure the tree is well-secured in a sturdy stand, and place it away from any heat sources, including fireplaces and burning candles.

- **Artificial Tree** - Look for the "fire resistant" label, which indicates that the tree will resist burning and should extinguish quickly.
- **Real Tree** – Make sure it's green, the needles are difficult to pull from branches, and don't break easily when bent. Cut a few inches off the trunk to expose fresh wood, allowing better water absorption, and preventing the tree from drying out prematurely. Immediately dispose of the tree as soon as the holidays are over, or when the tree is dried out.



## **A Reminder to Build Yourself a 72-Hour Emergency Kit!**

*Information below is from Alberta Emergency Management Agency Website – <https://www.alberta.ca/build-an-emergency-kit.aspx>*

In an emergency, you will need some basic supplies. By taking a few simple steps today, you can become better prepared to face a range of emergencies. Individuals and families should be prepared to be self-sufficient for a minimum of 72 hours. On this page you will find emergency kit lists to help you and your family become more prepared. The items below will not apply to every situation or every person. Personalize your kit to suit your particular situation. Here are some basic items to consider for your emergency kit:

- ✓ Three-day supply of water (4 L per person per day)
- ✓ Non-perishable food for all family members and pets (three-day supply)
- ✓ First-aid kit
- ✓ Flashlight, battery-powered radio and extra batteries
- ✓ An extra set of car keys, credit cards, and cash
- ✓ Sanitation supplies
- ✓ Extra eyeglasses or contact lenses
- ✓ Important family documents and contact numbers
- ✓ Prescriptions or special medications
- ✓ Chargers for electronic communication devices
- ✓ Insurance documents
- ✓ Emergency phone numbers list
- ✓ A change of clothes for each family member

