

Summer Village of Yellowstone

May 2019 Newsletter

4808-51 Street, Onoway, AB

Box 8

Alberta Beach, AB T0E 0A0

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Fax: 780-967-0431

Email: administration@wildwillowenterprises.com

Website: www.summervillageofyellowstone.com



Mayor's Message

Welcome spring! As we all know, the last few months of winter were very unusually cool, but we persevered. Most of us are strong Albertans. We look forward to a warm spring and even warmer summer and trust that all of you will be able to spend much of your time in your "Little Bit of Heaven" Summer Village.

We are pleased to announce that we have managed to hold the line on an overall property tax increase with some of our property owners having a much-welcomed reduction. Strong fiscal management by Administration and Council is partially responsible for this rarity.

Improvements to our drainage system that we carried out last summer/fall prevented a recurrence of the flooding issues we all experienced in March 2018. We have not eliminated all the drainage concerns but the few remaining have been given high priority. The Force Main sewage system which continues to operate very satisfactorily is attracting new customers and we encourage participation by all. Our 2019 capital budget includes funding to repave all of our streets. While this project is not a certainty, Council and Administration are striving to make this a reality this summer.

As we move forward with innovation, improvements to our Summer Village, and Policy decisions, we will be seeking your input through our new Public Engagement Policy. In addition, your ideas are always welcome.

On behalf of all of Council and Administration, thank you to all of you who have; through your ideas or participation, made our Summer Village a great place to live.

Please enjoy the remainder of 2019 with health and prosperity.

Best regards,

Russ Purdy, Mayor

Public Notifications and Important Information

The Summer Village would like to forward information out to our citizens quickly and efficiently in case of emergency, road closure, garbage pickup disruption, snow removal, tax payment deadlines, election dates, information meetings etc. We are proposing to set up an email notification process. If you are interested in being included in this email notification, please email the Summer Village office at administration@wildwillowenterprises.com.

Update on Various Summer Village Matters/Initiatives

Starting in 2018, and continuing on in 2019, your Council and Administration have been working on various municipal projects and regional initiatives including: Emergency Management (must be in place by 2020), proposed Regional Sewer Line, Municipal Accountability Program (as per Municipal Affairs), Safety Codes accreditation and annual reporting requirements, establishment of an Integrity Commissioner, establishment of a 3-year operating and 5-year capital plan (as per Municipal Affairs), a bylaw and policy review project, development or revision of a Municipal Development Plan, establishment of an Intermunicipal Development Plan, establishment of Inter-Municipal Collaboration Frameworks (ICF's), mutual aid fire services, and regional recreation opportunities and sustainability.



DO YOU THINK YOU'VE SPOTTED A QUAGGA OR ZEBRA MUSSEL?

Report it to Alberta's invasive species hotline at 1 855 336 BOAT (2628).

Clean, Drain, Dry Your Boat!

Clean

- Clean and inspect watercraft, trailer and gear
- Remove all plants, animals, and mud at the access area or dock
- At home, soak your gear in a bleach solution for at least one minute
- Rinse, scrub or pressure wash your boat away from storm drains, ditches or waterways

Drain

On land, before leaving the waterbody, drain all water from:

- Bait buckets
- Ballast
- Coolers
- Internal compartments
- Livewells
- Bilges

Dry

- Dry the watercraft and gear completely between trips and allow the wet areas of your boat to air dry.
- Leave compartments open and sponge out standing water.



Please help to keep our aquatic animals and plants healthy..
Do not wash Vehicles, ATVS, Boats, etc. in the lake!

Fires can happen! ARE YOU COVERED?

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, please be advised 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.

FIRE PITS

No person shall conduct any burning or light an outdoor fire unless confined within a pit or enclosure no more than 3 feet 6 inches in diameter and no less than 1 foot in height.



PIERS, DOCKS & BOAT LIFTS

- A temporary, seasonal pier, dock or boat lift (i.e. removed completely from the lake at the end of summer) may be Constructed or placed on the bed and shore of a lake without obtaining an approval, except in those areas or circumstances:
- where an environmentally sensitive area or a management concern is identified by the provincial or federal government, and restrictions have been established;
 - where a local municipal development plan, a lake management plan, or a water management plan limits or restricts such uses;
 - where the proposed structure's design may interfere with the normal flow of water or is likely to increase the probability of bank or shoreline erosion; or
 - where such structures may adversely block public access along the bed or shore of the lake.

Structures placed in any of the above areas may be required to be removed or require prior approval.

If in doubt, you can contact Public Lands, Water Management, or Fish and Wildlife offices to determine if there are any areas at a lake that may be subject to a restriction.

A reminder to ensure you are not blocking access to the Municipal Reserves as residents are putting out their piers, docks & boat lifts for the season.

Untidy & Unsightly Yards

The Summer Village will be enforcing untidy and unsightly properties – including those with uncut grass. A reminder that if the Summer Village performs any enforcement work on your property, those costs will be charged back to your tax roll. To avoid this, please do your part in helping to keep Yellowstone clean by ensuring your property is free of garbage and debris and that vegetation is tended to. Please note that any additional household waste that does not fit into your waste container will not be picked up by the service provider. Additional waste can be taken to the Regional Landfill Site which is located on Highway 43 just past Ross Haven and conveniently open 6 days per week - Monday through to Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (closed statutory holidays). The disposal fee at the landfill site is \$57.50 per tonne. There is also a recycle depot which residents are encouraged to use. You can contact the site directly if you require further information at 780-967-3466.

Tree Removal

Trees that are dead or appear dangerous will be removed throughout the Summer Village. A reminder that trees on private property are the responsibility of the property owner.

Development and Permits

Prior to any construction, property owners must obtain, when applicable, a development permit from the Development Officer. The Summer Village's Development Officer is Diane Burtnick who can be contacted at **780-284-0410** or by email at development@wildwillowenterprises.com.

Building/Electrical/Gas/Plumbing/Private Sewage Permits – Note New Permit Provider

Please contact Superior Safety Codes to obtain building/electrical/gas/plumbing/private sewage permits at 1-866-999-4777 or check the website at www.summervillageofyellowstone.com for more information.

Waste Bin – Replacement/Repair

Contact the Summer Village Administration Office if you require a bin repair or replacement at 587-873-5765 or by email at administration@wildwillowenterprises.com.

Animal Control

The Animal Control Bylaw is in place to control and regulate the running at large of dogs and cats, the number of dogs and cats on residential parcels of land (no more than 2 of one kind), to control vicious and dangerous animals and to ensure it is the responsibility of the owner to not allow their dog(s) to bark or howl excessively. Please ensure dogs are on a leash at all times when within the Summer Village boundaries. A reminder to please pick up after your animal!

Off-Highway Vehicle Bylaw

The Off-Highway Vehicle Bylaw is in place to prohibit the operation of Off-Highway Vehicles in parks and on reserve properties. Off-Highway Vehicles are allowed to travel on roadways within the Summer Village between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m., travel single file on the extreme right-hand side of the roadways and not exceed 20km per hour. A reminder, limited operation of Off-Highway Vehicles is permitted on Parkland or on a Public Place as follows:

- For the exclusive purpose of transporting Recreational Items to or from Public Lands used for lake access but only where such travel is by the most direct route possible or available in the circumstances;
- For travel to and from a private residence to an otherwise permitted location for the operation of Off-Highway Vehicle where such travel is by the most directly route possible or available in the circumstances.

All machines and operators must also comply with the Traffic Safety Act and any other applicable Alberta regulation(s). Check out our Bylaws online at www.summervillageofyellowstone.com.

Use of Municipal Reserves

The Summer Village of Yellowstone currently allows residents winter storage (September 1st to May 31st) of boat lift, boat hoist and pier section items on the Summer Village's Community Reserve Park/Municipal Reserve areas, however, these items **MUST** be removed by May 31st of each calendar year. All other storage and uses are considered unapproved encroachments onto Municipal Property and Public Lands. The Summer Village of Yellowstone is currently promoting the education of its residents to resolve the problem of encroachment. Encroachment happens when residents expand their yards and personal property onto public property. This can be done in many ways, including; planting trees, hedges, landscaping, gardens, fire pits, storage of RV's, boat lifts, firewood, composters, grass cuttings, tree branches, installation of fences, building sheds, dumping garbage, etc. These items are not permitted on any public property, including municipal reserves, leased land, parks, utility right of ways, streets or any other property owned by the Summer Village unless strictly allowed by the Municipality.

All items that are not removed from the Community Reserve Areas by May 31st, 2019 will be ticketed and towed!

PROPERTY TAXES

The Summer Village collects taxes annually to meet the projected costs of providing services to the community. These revenues are received through grants, a special tax, and the municipal portion of the property taxes. Other amounts collected on your annual tax bill are collected on behalf of the Lac Ste. Anne Seniors Foundation and the Alberta School Foundation Fund.

If paying by mail:

Please make cheque payable to the Summer Village of Yellowstone and mail to:
Box 8
Alberta Beach, AB T0E 0A0

If paying online:

You are required to set the Summer Village of Yellowstone up as a "Bill Payment", the account number will be your "tax roll number" as shown on your Combined Tax and Assessment Notice.

The Summer Village is currently registered with the following financial institutions for on-line payments:

ATB FINANCIAL	BMO	CIBC	TD CANADA TRUST
SERVUS CREDIT UNION	SIMPLII FINANCIAL	SCOTIA BANK	TANGERINE

You are now able to send an e-transfer to the Summer Village for payment of property taxes. Please contact the administration office to set up an email and password.

Reminder: Property taxes are due August 10, 2019

SPECIAL TAX

- **Waterworks Tax** - \$8,380 (\$50.18/property). This amount includes the annual operating costs to the WILD Water Commission and a \$40.00 per property charge to be transferred to the Water Reserve Account.
- **Sewer Tax and Sewer Facility Maintenance Tax** - \$32,000 (\$191.61/property). The Summer Village will be invoiced this year by the North 43 Lagoon Commission for Operating & Maintenance costs for the sewer/force main.
- **Fire Protection Area Tax** - \$16,000 (\$95.81/property). This is the annual fee that the Summer Village pays to the fire service provider to ensure there is fire suppression coverage within the municipality. Should an individual property actually need fire suppression services, that individual property will be invoiced directly for the costs of their particular fire incident.
- **Recreational Services Tax** - \$48,800 (\$292.22/property). This is the annual cost to maintain the municipal reserve areas within the Summer Village.

Total Special Tax - \$105,180 divided by 167 properties = \$629.82/property.

ASSESSMENT

Property assessment services are contracted to Municipal Assessment Services Group.

What is a Property Assessment?

Each year, the Assessor will inspect certain properties within the Municipality. The property assessment is the estimated market value of your property which is used to calculate property taxes. The market determines the value of your property and that value is the basis for the assessment and is then used to calculate your property taxes.

What If I Disagree with My Assessment?

Remember, you can only make a complaint against your assessed value, not your tax dollars or rates and you must have grounds for your complaint. New legislation allows you 60 days from the date of your assessment notice to make an assessment complaint. **The assessment complaint deadline is July 22, 2019.** There is a fee of \$50.00 that must accompany a completed assessment complaint form which is available on the website www.summervillageofyellowstone.com or by contacting the office at 587-873-5765. Prior to completing the assessment complaint form, please contact the assessor to first discuss the matter of your assessment (not your tax dollars) – Dan Kanuka – 780-939-3310.



Flowering Rush is a prohibited, noxious weed that has been introduced into several Alberta water bodies. It is an aquatic plant that grows as an emergent plant along shorelines of both lakes and rivers. Flowering Rus was brought to North America from Europe as a garden plant. This variety will form dense stands which will interfere with recreational lake use. Flowering Rush crowds out our native plants and has the potential to fill in an entire lake if left uncontrolled.

Lake Isle & Lac Ste. Anne Water Quality Management Society
www.LILSA.ca

Did you know that LILSA:

- ✓ Advocates for the health of our lakes;
- ✓ Is working hard to slow and prevent the spread of **FLOWERING RUSH**, an invasive species that is taking over Lake Isle and making its way to Lac Ste Anne;
- ✓ Completed a State of the Watershed Report and is working with other organizations to develop a Watershed Management plan;
- ✓ Partners with municipal and provincial governments to apply for grants and improve the quality of our lakes;
- ✓ Is working on short and long-term solutions to improve our lakes and keep them healthy and useable for generations to come;
- ✓ Needs more members to keep doing their important work!

Become a LILSA Member today!

There is no time commitment required. You can do as little or as much as you choose.

By becoming a member you will:

- ✓ Help support the health of our lakes;
- ✓ Be able to vote at our AGM;
- ✓ Be eligible to run for the board;
- ✓ Be a part of the solution!

Annual Memberships are \$20 (individual or family) & can be purchased at:
Alberta Beach Village Office (4935-50Ave)
Lac Ste Anne County Building (56521 Rge Rd 65)
Onoway Town Office (4812-51St)



Join us at our AGM
Aug 10, 2019 at 9:30am
Alberta Beach Agliplex
4811-47Ave Alberta Beach

DRAINAGE SYSTEM UPDATE

Improvements to the Summer Village’s drainage system were carried out last summer/fall which helped prevent a recurrence of the flooding issues we all had experienced in March of 2018. While we have not eliminated all of the drainage concerns, the few remaining areas will be given high priority in 2019.

A notice to all residents to please keep culverts free and clear of rocks, leaves, and debris and remove any grates to allow for the proper flow of water. Please also refrain from throwing grass clippings, leaves and animal feces into the ditches, boulevards and drainage courses.

SUMMER VILLAGE CONTACT INFO

General Contact Information

Mailing Address Box 8 Alberta Beach AB T0E 0A0
Office Location 4808-51 Street, Onoway, AB
General Office Phone 587-873-5765
Fax 780-967-0431
Email administration@wildwillowenterprises.com
Website www.summervillageofyellowstone.com

Council Members

Mayor	Russ Purdy	780-967-2847	russforyellowstone@yahoo.com
Deputy Mayor	Brenda Shewaga	780-298-6201	brenda.yellowstone@gmail.com
Councillor	Don Bauer	780-863-5149	don.svyellowstone@gmail.com

Administration

CAO/General Administration	Wendy Wildman/Heather Luhtala	587-873-5765
Assessor	Dan Kanuka	780-939-3310
Development Officer	Diane Burtnick	780-284-0410
	Email	development@wildwillowenterprises.com

Building/Plumbing/Gas/Electrical/Private Sewage Permits
Superior Safety Codes 1-866-999-4777
Click or Call Before You Dig www.albertaonecall.com 1-800-242-3447

Peace Officer/Animal Control/Bylaw Enforcement 1-844-786-4650
Emergency Fire/Police/Ambulance 9-1-1
RCMP Non-Emergency Line 780-968-7267
Spruce Grove/Stony Plain Drug Tip Line 780-968-7212
Fortis Alberta 310-WIRE (9473)
Ste. Anne Gas Co-op (is also 24-hour emergency line) 780-967-2246
24-hour Energy & Environmental Response & Complaint Line 1-800-222-6514
North 43 Lagoon(sewer line) Joe Duplessie 780-284-3270
Waste Cart/Organic Cart Repair/Replacement 587-873-5765

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

July 22 – Assessment Complaint Deadline
Aug 10 – Tax Payment Deadline
Aug 11 – 18% Tax Penalty (Current Year Unpaid Taxes)
January 1 – 18% Tax Penalty (Total Tax Arrears)

