

# Summer Village of Silver Sands

## May 2023 Annual Newsletter

Office:

2317 Township Road 545, Lac Ste. Anne County

Mailing:

Box 8, Alberta Beach, AB T0E 0A0

Ph: 587-873-5765

Fax: 780-967-0431

Email: [administration@wildwillowenterprises.com](mailto:administration@wildwillowenterprises.com)

Website: [www.summervillageofsilversands.com](http://www.summervillageofsilversands.com)



## *Mayor's Message*

Spring is in the air! The ice went out on April 29<sup>th</sup> and our lake appears to be at an average level. The runoff has been limited as the melting snow went directly into the water table. The super dry conditions are extremely dangerous with fire bans throughout the region.

Council has released the draft Land Use Bylaw (LUB) document. We need your input. Please check our website and our newsletter for dates and times of the public consultations.

A special thank you to Dennis Woolsey and Rick Wagner for their continuing work on Emergency Services. They have also created contact lists and protocols in terms of any future emergencies in our Summer Village.

We have set our budget for the year. The increase is 4.7%. Costs are rising in all areas.

Alberta Environment sprayed 15 kilometres of flowering rush at the western area of Lake Isle last August. We estimate we have reduced the mass by 40%. Alberta Environment has successfully reached a five-year plan involving the treatment of the entire lake. A three-member team will continue to map the areas of flowering rush on Lake Isle, the Sturgeon River and the west basin of Lac Ste. Anne.

Hopefully, the weather will cooperate with our Canada Day fireworks on July 1<sup>st</sup>! Please also reserve Saturday, July 29<sup>th</sup> for our annual Family Day activities. Check our webpage and the newsletter for the list of events to take place.

Lastly, let's all acknowledge the fire devastation that our beautiful Province is facing. We are under siege and at the mercy of mother nature as we are seeing, and, sadly for many, living this nightmare. Our thoughts and well wishes go out to all the families who have been displaced and devastated and our heartfelt thanks and appreciation to all of the emergency personnel who have worked long and hard hours and days trying to save our Province.

*Mayor, Bernie Poulin*

# Assessment & Taxation

## Property Assessment

Each year, the Assessor will inspect certain properties within the Municipality. The property assessment is the estimated market value of your property as of December 31<sup>st</sup> of the prior year which is used to calculate property taxes. If you disagree with your assessed value, you have 60 days from the date of your assessment notice to make an assessment complaint. The assessment complaint deadline is **Monday, July 24, 2023**. There is a fee of \$50.00 that must accompany a completed assessment complaint form which is available on the Summer Village website or by contacting the office. Prior to completing the assessment complaint form, please contact the assessor to first discuss the matter of your assessment (not your tax dollars), Tanmar Consulting – 780-417-5191.

## Property Taxes

The Summer Village collects revenue annually to meet the projected costs of providing services to the community. These revenues are received through grants and through municipal property taxes. Other amounts collected on your annual tax bill are collected on behalf of the Lac Ste. Anne Senior Foundation which is seeing a 4% increase from last year & the Alberta School Foundation Fund which is seeing a 3% increase from last year. This year, the minimum municipal tax payable has been set at \$1,050.00 per property which is up from \$1,000.00 last year with a 4.7% increase in municipal taxes collected from the prior year. Property taxes are due **Friday, June 30, 2023**. The Summer Village has a monthly tax payment plan that runs from January to December, if you are interested in joining the plan, please contact the Summer Village Office.

## Property Tax Payments

### **If paying your taxes by mail or in person:**

Please make cheque payable to the Summer Village of Silver Sands and mail to Box 8, Alberta Beach, AB, T0E 0A0. If paying in person, the office is located at 2317 Twp Rd 545, Lac Ste. Anne County.

### **If paying your taxes through telephone banking or online banking:**

You are required to set the Summer Village of Silver Sands 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

### **If paying your taxes through e-transfer:**

Please contact the administration office for an email address and to set up a password.

**Property Taxes are Due Friday, June 30, 2023**

# Lake Isle & Lac Ste. Anne Water Quality Management Society

[www.LILSA.ca](http://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 the 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 (4935-50 Avenue Alberta Beach)

Lac Ste. Anne County Building (56521 Rge Rd 65 Lac Ste. Anne County)

Summer Village Administration Office (2317 Twp Rd 545, Lac Ste. Anne County)



Flowering Rush

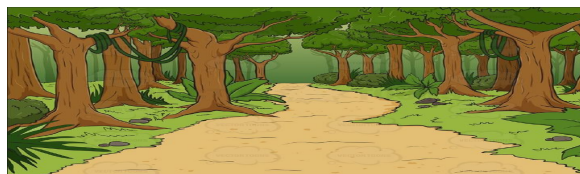
## Use of Municipal Reserve Areas & Enforcement

The municipal reserve areas throughout the Summer Village are intended to provide active or passive park and recreation areas and are intended to provide walking trails and enjoyment of the natural plant and wildlife for residents and their guests.

The reserve areas are **not** to be “annexed” into properties adjacent to them, are not to be cleared unless Council determines that areas need to be cleared of dangerous undergrowth or decay, are not to be used for the purpose of placing buildings or structures or extra storage of material or disposal of refuse without written authorization from Council and are not to be camped on nor to have camp fires on.

The Summer Village has erected boundary signage throughout the municipal reserve areas and will continue tagging and removing any items that are encroaching onto these areas. Please move or remove any items you may have on the Summer Village municipal reserve areas to your own property. Everyone’s cooperation in this matter is essential to the preservation of these precious lands.

**NEW** - There is a Summer Village Policy in place for anyone wanting to store their boat lifts or boat docks on the municipal reserve areas over the winter months. A request must be made in writing to the Summer Village to obtain a tag and written permission. Please note that all requests may not be able to be accommodated. A copy of this Policy document can be found on the Summer Village’s website.



# Waste Collection, Blue-Bag Recycling & Compost Site

## Waste Collection & Blue-Bag Pickup

Waste and recycling pick up is on Tuesday mornings weekly during the months of May to October and bi-weekly during the months of November to April. The waste collection calendar is available on the Summer Village's website – [Solid Waste Pickup & Recycling \(summervillageofsilversands.com\)](http://summervillageofsilversands.com).

### What items can be put into the Blue bags?

- ✓ Mixed Paper
- ✓ Paperboard/Cardboard (clean, no food soil)
- ✓ Tin Cans (cleaned)
- ✓ Rigid Plastic (#1 & #2)
- ✓ Deposit Items (Mix containers, pop & beer cans/bottles, tetra paks)

### Reminders

- Please break down your cardboard boxes!
- Styrofoam, straws or plastic utensils, plastic bags, hazardous waste are **NOT** allowed in the blue bags!

## Compost Site

The Summer Village Compost site is located at the Public Works Quonset at 1 Centennial Way. Hours of operation are Monday to Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The site currently accepts leaves, grass clippings & lake weeds. Items that are NOT accepted are trees, brush & branches. Compost soil for gardens is available at no charge when there is a supply. Please contact the Public Works Supervisor to inquire 780-797-2207.

## Large Bin Cleanup

Large bins will be available this year at the Summer Village Quonset. This is a good opportunity to help clean up the Summer Village by getting rid of items you no longer have use for that are laying around your lot or cluttering up your space!

The cleanup will take place over two days:

- Friday, July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Saturday, July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

### ACCEPTED ITEMS:

- ✓ Metal & white metal including stoves, washers/dryers (\$20 per white metal item – exact change only)
- ✓ Clean wood
- ✓ Mixed household waste (includes stained, treated or painted wood)
- ✓ Mattresses (\$20 per item – exact change only)
- ✓ Fridges, freezers, watercoolers, air conditioning units

### ITEMS NOT ACCEPTED:

- × Tires, shingles, TVs, microwave
- × Paint, stain, antifreeze, oil, dangerous goods / chemicals
- × Trees/brush/branches
- × Hot Tubs
- × Concrete

**NOT ACCEPTED**

*Please note that the Summer Village has the right to refuse any item.*

## **FIRES 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). Should the fire department be dispatched by 9-1-1 to your residence for any reason (house alarms including false alarms, campfires during a fire ban or fires deemed out of control or unattended, 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**

#### **A reminder that all fire pits must:**

- Be at least 3 metres (10 feet) from buildings, property lines and anything else that could catch fire.
- Be less than 0.6 metres (2 feet) high / Be less than 1 metre (3 feet) wide.
- Have enclosed sides made from bricks, concrete or heavy-gauge metal.
- Have a mesh screen on top to stop sparks (spark-arrestor) with openings smaller than 1.25 cm (1/2”).



## **FIRE BANS**

The Summer Village of Silver Sands will put fire bans in place when appropriate to control the way fires are maintained and to protect the Summer Village and the residents. Always check for fire ban signs at the entrances to the Summer Village.

### **When a Full Fire Ban is in Effect:**

A Full Fire Ban means no fires within fire pits, no warming/cooking/pleasure fires, no open fires.

Please also note that the Summer Village will be under a Full Fire Ban when there is a Provincial Fire Ban in place.

### **When a Fire Ban is NOT in Effect:**

Even when a Full Fire Ban is NOT in place, open fires are NOT allowed, only small warming, cooking & pleasure fires within fire pits are permissible.

Please continue to ensure you take care and caution when having a fire and be sure your fire is completely out when unattended. 'Soak It. Stir It. Soak It Again'. Let the fire burn down before you plan on putting it out. Spread the embers within the fire pit, then add water or loose dirt, and stir. Expose any material still burning. Add more water and stir again until you can no longer see smoke or steam.

## **GET PREPARED!**

Emergencies can happen at any time and without warning. Be ready. With a little preparation, you can respond quickly to help yourself and others. Understand the risks in your area, create a household emergency plan and build an emergency kit. [www.getprepared.gc.ca/index-en.aspx](http://www.getprepared.gc.ca/index-en.aspx)

## **GET TO KNOW YOUR NEIGHBOURS!**

Residents are encouraged to touch base with their neighbors, exchange phone numbers and get to know them. Maybe find out if they have any special needs or would require help in an evacuation.

IT TAKES A  
VILLAGE



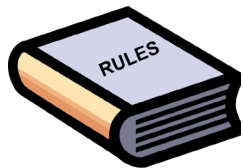
## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT “REMINDERS”

The recent fire threats have put us all on notice that we need to be prepared to act and act quickly in the case of an emergency.

A couple of reminders: have a 72-hour kit prepared and easy to get to in the event of an emergency. Included should be some water (electrolytes), snacks (granola bars, etc.), medication, personal documents (passports, ID, contact lists, medical records, prescriptions), first aid kit, some cash, books (entertainment), and, if you have a pet, pet supplies. A more detailed list for your 72-hour kits and sheltering at home (14-day kits) are available on the Silver Sands website.

Also remember that in case of an emergency, **the Silver Sands Quonset is our local Muster Point** to check in at to get more information on the event and to register so that we have a list of where everyone is and/or where they are going to ensure we know that “everyone” is safe. If the Quonset is not accessible, **our back-up Muster Point is the Fallis Hall.**

You can go to the Summer Village website to see our detailed Emergency Plans including our Evacuation Plan and Emergency Social Services Plan.



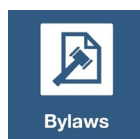
### ENFORCEMENT SERVICES

The Summer Village currently contracts Peace Officer/Bylaw Enforcement/Animal Control services through a joint agreement with the Town of Mayerthorpe. Residents can contact this office directly at 780-786-2416 (ext. 232) or by email at [cpokasamba@mayerthorpe.ca](mailto:cpokasamba@mayerthorpe.ca). A reminder that if you have an emergency pertaining to Police, Fire or Ambulance, you must dial 9-1-1 (the non-emergency RCMP line is 780-727-4446).



### FEEDING WILDLIFE

A reminder that feeding wildlife can do more harm than good and can often lead to serious issues for many species. Fed wildlife can become dependent on unreliable food sources and suffer nutritionally when given inappropriate foods. Habituated wild animals are also more susceptible to predators and vehicle collisions, as they lose their fear of people and the associated flight response. Wild animals who have been fed regularly can also develop food-seeking aggression and can become hostile towards people and pets. We have especially seen the effects of feeding wildlife on the deer population in Silver Sands over the past year. We urge residents to only observe the wildlife and not to feed them.



### LAND USE BYLAW REVIEW

Earlier this month, every resident was mailed information regarding the Summer Village’s Land Use Bylaw Review. A copy of the draft Land Use Bylaw as well as detailed information can be found on the Silver Sands dedicated Land Use Bylaw Website: [www.silversandsclub.ca](http://www.silversandsclub.ca).

Public consultation will begin with open houses taking place this month in person on May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. at the Fallis Hall and virtually on May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom.

All residents are encouraged to attend the Public Open Houses, to be involved in this public consultation process and to be part of the conversation as this affects your community.

## Annual Events Schedule

### Canada Day Celebration

Join us on Friday, July 1st, 2023 at 10:30 p.m. at the boat launch area to enjoy a Canada Day Fireworks show. Funding for this event has been made possible by the Government of Canada Canadian Heritage Celebrate Canada Grant.

### Family Day Picnic

Join us at the Annual Family Day Picnic on Saturday, July 29th, 2023.



#### Planned Events:

7:00 a.m. – Toonie Breakfast

8:00 a.m. – Golfing

2:00 p.m. – Horseshoes / Children's Games

6:00 p.m. – Supper \$5.00/person or \$20.00/family  
(bring a dessert or salad to share with everyone!)

10:30 p.m. – Fireworks show at the boat launch site

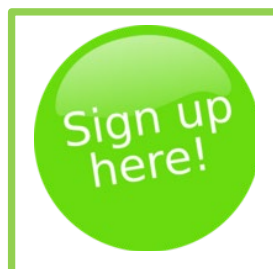


We hope to see you there!

## SILVER SANDS CONNECT

A reminder to all residents to ensure you register for Silver Sands Connect. Get important notifications and messages from the Summer Village via email and text. Go to the Summer Village's website and follow the registration steps.

**Register for Silver Sands Connect Today!**



# SUMMER VILLAGE CONTACT INFORMATION

## General Contact Information

**Mailing:** Box 8, Alberta Beach AB T0E 0A0  
**Office Location:** 2317 Twp Rd 545, Lac Ste. Anne County AB T0E 1V0  
**General Office Phone:** 587-873-5765  
**Fax:** 780-967-0431  
**Email:** administration@wildwillowenterprises.com  
**Website:** www.summervillageofsilversands.com



## Council Members

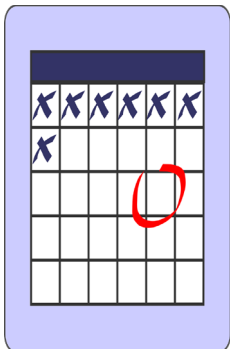
**Mayor:** Bernie Poulin 780-938-1197 berniepoulin@icloud.com  
**Deputy Mayor:** Liz Turnbull 780-991-4052 lizturnbull@telusmail.net  
**Councillor:** Graeme Horne 780-484-3719 graemehorne@mail.com

## Administration

**CAO/General Office:** Wendy Wildman/Heather Luhtala 587-873-5765  
**Public Works:** Dustin Uhlman 780-797-2207  
**Assessment:** Tanmar Consulting 780-417-5191  
**Development Officer/Development Permits:** Tony Sonnleitner 780-718-5479  
Building/Plumbing/Gas/Electrical/Private Sewage Permit Provider is  
The Inspections Group Inc.: 1-780-732-4645  
Call Before You Dig to Locate Gas/Power Lines: 1-800-242-3447  
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  
Animal Control/Bylaw Enforcement/Community Peace Officer: 780-786-2416 (ext. 232)  
RCMP Non-Emergency Line (Evansburg Detachment): 780-727-4446  
Emergency Fire/Police/Ambulance: 9-1-1

## Important Dates to Remember

May 17<sup>th</sup> – Assessment & Tax Notices mailed  
May 20<sup>th</sup> – Land Use Bylaw In-Person Public House  
May 24<sup>th</sup> – Land Use Bylaw Virtual Public House  
June 30<sup>th</sup> – Property taxes due  
July 1<sup>st</sup> – Canada Day Celebration  
July 1<sup>st</sup> – 2% Penalty on current taxes  
July 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> – Large Bin Cleanup  
July 24<sup>th</sup> – Assessment Complaint Deadline  
July 29<sup>th</sup> – Family Day Picnic  
August 1<sup>st</sup> – 4% Penalty on current taxes  
September 1<sup>st</sup> – 6% Penalty on current taxes  
October 1<sup>st</sup> – 6% Penalty on current taxes  
January 1<sup>st</sup> – 18% Penalty on outstanding taxes



Council Meetings are generally held on the last Friday of each month at 9:00 a.m. at Fallis Hall in person and via Zoom (*Council meetings are not scheduled in May or December*). Be sure to check the website for any updates.