

SUMMER VILLAGE OF YELLOWSTONE

Winter Newsletter

December 2020

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HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

The administration office will be **CLOSED** December 23, 2020-January 3, 2021. The office will re-open on January 4, 2021.

REMINDER TO RESIDENTS

Do not push snow from a residential property onto roadways or ditches in the Summer Village.

YELLOWSTONE 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 at www.summervillageofyellowstone.com/yellowstone-connect.html

TAX PAYMENT PLAN

The Tax Payment Plan begins in January. If you would like to join, please contact the Summer Village Office for details.

Mayor's Message

Season's greetings to all,

To date, most of 2020 has been extremely trying for all of us. COVID 19 has affected everyone to varying degrees. Thanks to all of you who have been diligent in keeping the virus away from our community. While it has provided little relief from stress, Council and Administration have provided some monetary relief through reducing your burden by keeping your property tax increase at, or near 0%. Of course, this has resulted in the deferral of some projects until the overall conditions change. Thank you for your patience regarding our deferred drainage, vegetation control and other public works initiatives. We have, however, nearly completed the installation of property address signs as well as a much improved security camera system which will go a long way in deterring crime within our community thus making Yellowstone a much safer place to live.

2020 Christmas will undoubtedly be much different than normal, but I trust that you will make it the best that you can. Remember, most of us have deep Alberta roots...we are survivors. On behalf of Council and Administration I wish the best for you at Christmas and a much improved 2021.

Sincerely,

Russ Purdy, Mayor



Please see very important information on page 2 regarding a change in the waste services provider. Resident action is required.

Waste Provider – Change in Service Contractor

Waste Carts must be left out for GFL to retrieve on Monday, December 21, 2020

The Summer Village of Yellowstone along with the Town of Onoway, Sunrise Beach, West Cove and Silver Sands were all receiving their household waste (along with organics and/or recycling where applicable) from GFL Environmental Services. The waste contracts were set to expire on December 31st, 2020, so the common administration services for these 5 municipalities prepared a request for proposals for same or similar services starting in January 2021 and continuing for a five-year term. The proposals were received and we were pleased to see a significant reduction in the monthly fees on the go forward. After consideration of various factors within the proposals and service requirements, all 5 municipalities have decided to change service provider and will all be going to Standstone Vacuum Services Ltd. operating as Standstone Waste & Water. With this new contract, the Summer Village of Yellowstone is estimated to save \$10,000.00 annually and all properties currently serviced will receive brand new carts. Yellowstone's day of waste pickup will remain unchanged and all concerns and/or inquiries moving forward regarding missed pickup or cart damage will be made directly with the service provider whose contact information will be labelled on the new carts.

While this change in service will see cost savings, it will come with a bit of work on the part of our community. **GFL will be completing their last pickup on Monday, December 21st, 2020 and both of your carts, whether full or empty, must be left out on this day so these carts can be retrieved by GFL as they are the property of GFL.** Property owners who do not put their carts out will be charged a fee of between \$70.00 and \$100.00 per cart for any unreturned cart. If a property owner is unable to physically set your carts out on this day, please arrange with your neighbour to do so on your behalf.

New carts will be dropped off by Standstone after GFL has been through and picked up their carts. Standstone will commence service starting January with the first pickup date being Monday, January 4th, 2021 for Yellowstone.

We thank GFL for their past years of service and welcome Standstone into our community.

A Message from the New Waste Services Provider

Dear friends, neighbours and valued customers:

The Standstone team is excited to be back in the waste hauling business! We are so proud to have the opportunity to serve your communities more completely, with new residential waste collection contracts in your area. We will be in your area at the start of 2021, rolling out new carts for each home. Collection will follow promptly after the roll-out. We want to ensure that all our customers receive exemplary service in water delivery, septic service and waste collection and will be happy to answer your questions and concerns once waste collection has commenced. As always, our friendly admin staff are ready to discuss your service needs by calling our office at 780-967-2118 or toll free at 1-877-226-5008.

Wishing you all a Safe and Happy Holiday Season.

Best Regards,

Ken & Lisa Standeven



Service & Professionalism Always

Community Opportunity - Director of Emergency Management Position

The Summer Village of Yellowstone is included in a group of municipalities that form the Ste. Anne Summer Villages Regional Emergency Management Partnership.

The Summer Village is actively seeking an interested individual from within or near the community to fill the position of **Director of Emergency Management**.

This position will require participation and training as required under the Alberta Emergency Management Agency. This position is compensated monthly with an honorarium and a monthly rate to reimburse for incurred expenses as well as for time to attend meetings and mileage.

If you are interested in this position, please contact the Summer Village via email at to express your interest.

Email: administration@wildwillowenterprises.com

Councillor Resignation

A heartfelt thank you to Brenda Shewaga for her time, service and dedication to the Summer Village of Yellowstone over the past 8 years as a member of Council. Brenda's knowledge and input into the community will surely be missed.

Moving forward, and as there are local elections coming in summer of 2021, the Summer Village was granted a ministerial order by the Minister of Municipal Affairs to operate with one vacant Councillor position until the next general municipal election – there will be no scheduled by-election.

Outstanding Taxes Due December 31st

A reminder that any outstanding taxes are due on December 31st, 2020 otherwise are subject to an 18% penalty on January 1st, 2021.

Fire Suppression

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.

A Few Reminders When Walking Your Dog

- Please take responsibility for your animal's waste as we have many residents who enjoy walking throughout the Summer Village.
- Please ensure dogs are on a leash at all times when within the Summer Village boundaries.

