



SUMMER VILLAGE OF WHITE SANDS **SPRING AND SUMMER 2010 NEWSLETTER**

Dear Rate Payers:

Welcome to another summer of fun in the sun or so we hope. Here are a few reminders and items of interest:

- The new boat launch has been approved by Sustainable Resources Licensing. However we are still waiting for approval from Environment, Oceans and Fisheries and Navigable Waters. What a heap of red tape!! The Alberta and Federal Governments have advised that we cannot go into the water to complete this project until after July 1st.
- For the safety of our children and swimmers, we have had NO WAKE buoys installed on the lake. It is important that we police ourselves and maintain low speed from the buoys to the lake shore.
- Working closely with our Bylaw Enforcement contractor, Alberta Animal Services, Council has completed a new Community Standards Bylaw to help deal with Noise, Nuisance, Unsightly Premises, Graffiti, Littering, Illegal Camping, Damage to Public Property and the irresponsible operation of Off Highway Vehicles (Quads) that disturb our rate payer's enjoyment of the lake. Given the authority granted to responsible operators of Off Highway Vehicles under the *Traffic Safety Act*, Council has determined it more effective and appropriate to concentrate enforcement efforts on the irresponsible and excessive noise/nuisance that is created by the operator of such Off Highway Vehicles. Look for the new Community Standards Bylaw and the Dog Control Bylaw on our web site under Public Information.
- Regarding control of the beach, the Village has control of 17 acres from the boat launch to Bar Harbour by way of a lease with the Provincial Government. Motorized vehicles/Off Highway Vehicles are prohibited from operating along the beach and the adjoining municipal reserve area.
- After the summer gets rolling, we will be picking up the weeds that you folks have forked out of the water and piled along the shore line every Thursday with the Village tractor.
- Please DO NOT take glass containers to the beach.
- Common or family fireworks are NOT ALLOWED in the Summer Village!!! Recreational fires are NOT ALLOWED on the beach or on other public property in the Summer Village!!! Recent amendments to the Fire Control/Protection Bylaw have incorporated the following wording, "Whether or not the person who is determined to have caused a fire on lands owned or controlled by the Summer Village is a property owner, the property owner(s) to whom such a person is an occupant or guest shall be jointly and severally responsible and liable for all clean-up/restoration costs incurred by the Summer Village." And further "Given limited firefighting capabilities within the Summer Village, the Summer Village of White Sands considers that all non-consented fires on lands owned or controlled by the Summer Village create an emergency situation in which there is imminent danger to public safety as defined under the provisions of the *Municipal Government Act (MGA)*.



And further that all fire related emergency situations require the immediate extinguishment of such fire and a responsible effort to clean-up/restore the affected area for public safety purposes. Therefore, any resulting firefighting and clean-up/restoration costs incurred by the Summer Village can be applied against the property taxes of jointly and severally responsible property owners and collected in a like manner under the provisions of the *MGA*.”

- The outhouses on the lake shore and at the playgrounds are ready to use. Please note that most have a two section holding tank so may give the impression of being full.
- A new gazebo for CJ hill is in the plans for next year. The Stettler High School Weld-Cats are building it but won't be able to have it ready for the end of the current school year. They are doing a great job.
- We had some rogue ravens this winter that had a great time pulling out window screens and caulking, silicone and weather stripping around White Sands. Make sure you check all your windows and doors for any needed repairs. They appear to have since vacated the Village.
- Many thanks to the Bottle Volunteers and Hall Society for the trees by the Village entrance sign and the planters around the Village. Hopefully the deer will cooperate.
- We are getting a new bench and are clearing some minor site lines on the top of the hill by the hall.
- Allan, our full time maintenance contractor, has the old hand pump from CJs well if anyone wants it for a yard decoration etc. Call 403-740-6886. Also thanks to Ken Strome at Two Way Oilfield for donating ten 45 gallon PVC drums with steam cleaning to the Summer Village for use in garbage/recycling.
- We are installing two 1200 gallon water tanks by the Hall for fire-fighting purposes. These will be buried below the frost line and will provide a valuable all-season source of water for the responding Fire Department to be used for critical initial attack/refill capabilities while the water tanker is en-route.
- Parking on Village roads has been a problem at times. Please be considerate and do not block roads. This can pose a safety issue as well if a fire truck or ambulance needs to get through.
- There have been several reports of vehicles being overtaken/passed on the gravel roads in a very unsafe manner coming and going to Stettler. The RCMP has been notified. Please try to take note of the license and vehicle description and report to the RCMP if this happens to you.
- Sewer, water, etc. is under discussion and will be brought up at the Annual General Meeting on Saturday June 26th at 9:00 AM at the Hall. Only concrete sewer holding tanks are now permitted to be installed in the Summer Village.



- The Town of Stettler is in the process of working with financial institutions to accept Summer Village tax payments from their customers. To date only the TD Bank and the ATB have completed all the necessary paperwork. The CIBC should be available by July 10th, 2010. We hope that most financial institutions will be on board by 2011. The 2010 property tax due date is 4:30 pm on Friday July 30th, 2010. Penalties in accordance with your Combined Assessment and Tax Notice will be applied without exception on current property tax balances remaining outstanding thereafter.
- Hall rentals are available for property owners only and can be made to Lorne Thurston @ 403-742-0210.
- As part of our Emergency Planning, Council has designated the Hall as a place of refuge. We are installing a switching system so that we can run the furnace off a generator in case of an extended power outage.
- I would like to thank all the full time residents who practice the Neighbourhood Watch. With so many cabins vacant all winter, it helps when people keep their eyes open.
- Don't forget that this year is an election year. Nomination Day is **Saturday, June 26th, 2010** only between the hours of 10:00 am and 12:00 noon at the hall. Election Day will be Saturday July 24th, 2010 with voting between the hours of 10:00 am and 7:00 pm at the hall. Contact CAO/Returning Officer Greg Switenky at the Town of Stettler 403-742-8305 to determine whether you are entitled to vote.

Thanks kindly. Hope you and your family have a great summer. See you at the Annual General Meeting on Saturday June 26th, 2010 at 9:00 am at the Hall. This is a great opportunity to share your views with Council.

Yours truly,

Councillor Lorne Thurston on behalf of all Members of the Summer Village of White Sands Council



Summer Village of White Sands *Community Hall Society News*

The White Sands Hall Committee Society has been formed, with the objectives of maintaining the hall and providing social activities for the community, as well as being responsible for the money received through fundraising and bottle donations. To date, the society members have painted bathrooms and purchased drapes, chairs and upper kitchen cabinets. They planted flowers around the community in 2009 and this year they will build some flowerbeds before planting.

The bottle sorters are grateful for all your bottle donations and they really appreciate donors who rinse out the milk and juice bottles and remove the caps from all bottles. These little things make a huge difference for the volunteer sorters.

The next society meeting will be at the hall on **June 16, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.** – everyone is encouraged to attend.

White Sands Annual Texas Scramble Golf Tournament

Date: August 7th, 2010
Location: Bashaw Golf & Country Club
Time: Shot Gun Start at 8:00 AM
Golf Fees*: Adults: \$20.00
Juniors: \$10.00



Carts: To be paid for personally on game day
(we will reserve if requested at time of registration)

*Players to drop off golf fees to Rhonda Moravec
at #66 Lakeview Avenue prior to Aug 1st

Coffee and Brunch will be served at the
White Sands Community Hall immediately after
golfers are finished at the course.

Prizes: To be awarded at the Community Hall

Registration: To register please e-mail Jim Costigan
jcostigan@golfnthings.ab.ca
or phone Dale & Rhonda Moravec at 403-742-1311