

Summer Village of White Sands May 2021 Newsletter

Greetings Village People from your Council. I am happy to report that spring has definitely sprung. The ice went off the lake on April 18th, I saw a boat on the lake on April 30th and the trees are sporting their new green hue. Here are a few items for new folks and long timers:

- This is ELECTION year. This year elections will be held for the 3 positions on Village Council. Formal details will be sent out in June in accordance with Municipal Affairs timelines. Nominations and Elections will be held at the Village Hall on the following dates:
 - o Nomination Day: Saturday July 3, 2021 10:00 to 12:00 noon
 - o Advance Poll: Saturday July 24, 2021 10:00 am to 2:00 pm
 - o Election Day: Saturday July 31, 2021 10:00 am to 7:00 pm
- We have been getting lots of complaints regarding young children and irresponsible drivers operating ATVs and golf carts. Our roadways are governed under the Alberta Traffic Safety Act. Under this Act ATVs are not legal to operate on Village roads or property. Golf carts can only be operated on private property. For more information see web page [smallvehiclesAB3.cdr](#).
- Mooring and Docking rules are now out. There are a few areas that have to be clarified in the documents. For now, just carry on the same as last year until we get answers. One item was clear – docks and lifts must be a minimum of 6 metres apart and 6 metres from a swimming area. Our swimming areas are marked by the large white rocks on the beach and are located below the hall and at beach accesses 5, 7 and 8.
- Lifts and docks must be off the beach area and in the lake by June 15th. Any abandoned items left on shore will be removed. If you have concerns, please call Lorne at 403-742-0210.
- The beach will be harrowed this year before most docks and lifts go in. How much we harrow will be dependent on the lake level and how wide the beach is.
- Please **do not** put bags of leaves and grass in the dumpster. There is a compost pile at the Stettler Transfer Station and a burn pit at the landfill just north on Hwy 56. The dumpsters are for household garbage **ONLY**.
- Some disreputable folks were seen going through trash bags in our dumpsters, presumably looking for personal information and potentially using it for identity theft. You may want to be sure to shred anything that has personal information on it. See website link: [identity theft: your trash, their treasure \(today.com\)](#).
- If you wish to receive our newsletters and keep up with the current information in the community, please go to our web site ([whitesandsab.ca](#)) and register your email address. During the year, information and newsletters are sent out via email. At tax time, you will receive a hard copy as we already incur the cost of mailing and postage for the tax notice. Please share this information with your neighbours.
- Public Works staff will be picking up brush piles from early May until June 30th. Please make sure that the following rules are being followed for the safety of staff. Piles must be no longer than 6 feet (so they are not dangerous to move on our roads) and 3 feet in diameter. Please ensure butt ends are all to one

side. Small pieces cannot be moved as they fall through the grapple bucket. Place the piles at an angle to allow easier access for the tractor and do not place near power poles, signs, etc.

- Accessory buildings up to 144 square feet are allowed by the Village on vacant lots. A building permit from the Province is required for any over 100 square feet. A Development Permit from the Village is required for any building over 144 square feet. Accessory buildings include garages, wood sheds, garden sheds, green houses, out houses, etc. The Bylaw states that there can be a total of 3 accessory buildings per lot with a **total area** of 100 square metres or 1076 square feet.
- Removing trees, shrubs, etc. from public lands and Right of Ways is strictly prohibited without Village consent.
- Anything that encroaches on Municipal Property may be subject to removal and any costs incurred will be on the property owner.
- Boat, utility and cargo trailers, recreational vehicles and campers are not allowed to be stored on road allowances or on municipal property. They must be stored completely on private property. We have to ensure emergency vehicles have access and allow room for parking vehicles.
- Speed bump installation and dust control should be complete by the May long weekend.
- The Village is currently reviewing our Land Use Bylaw to comply with the Buffalo Lake Intermunicipal Development Plan which governs County of Stettler, Lacombe County, Camrose County and the Summer Villages of Rochon Sands and White Sands. One of the changes to our Bylaw will be that only one recreational vehicle or camping RV will be allowed per lot for year-round placement with a permit. One additional unit would be allowed per lot for up to 30 days at which time it must be removed for 10 days. At this time the current Bylaw is still in effect. You can see our current Bylaws on our website. Please be aware that we have weekly inspections and the fines for non-compliance are substantial. For more information, phone the Village office at 403-742-4717.
- **All lots with RVs must have a concrete sewer holding tank.**
- Fire works are not permitted in the Village unless you have a permit from the Fire Chief. You must have a National Certification in order to set them off.
- It is with deep regret that I announce the passing of our friend Fraser Denton. Fraser was the President of the Hall Society. His love of our community was always evident. He started Kids Day events, provided movie nights at the hall, sorted cans and bottles and was involved with many more projects in the Village. He will be sadly missed in our community and our love and prayers go out to Suzanne and family.

That is it for now. Have a safe and healthy summer.

The Ol' Gray Mayor Lorne Thurston
For the Summer Village of White Sands Council

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