

SEPTEMBER, 2023

# SV of White Sands Newsletter

OPEN AND READY FOR VISITORS AT THE NEW TEMPORARY OFFICE

What a whirlwind of a couple weeks between moving from the SV Rochon Sands' office to our own temporary office in Stettler. We are pretty much all set up to do our day-to-day jobs. Our office location does not come up in Google, and Erin is trying to get our temporary office verified on Google and it is a bit more complicated than expected. We are on the far east end of Stettler, across the road from the New Holland dealership and between Stettler Tool's and Lever Action/Wally's Backhoe. Please use the SOUTH doors to enter the building. Here is a bit of a map from Google to show where we are.



**OFFICE LOCATION**  
#10, 19447 HWS 12  
COUNTY OF  
STETTLER, AB  
TOC 2L1

**NEW OFFICE PHONE #**  
403-740-1572

**EMAIL:**  
CAO@WHITESANDSAB.CA

**WEBSITE:**  
WWW.WHITESANDSAB.CA

**OFFICE HOURS:**  
MONDAY TO THURSDAYS  
9 AM TO 4 PM

## Newsletter Highlights

### Reminders

Keeping the Roadways Clear

Ol' Grey-Haired Mayor's Letter

Keeping the Environmental Reserve Clear

**COUNCIL MEETINGS ARE THE THIRD WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH AT OFFICE**

**ZOOM IN FOR COUNCIL MEETINGS:**  
HTTPS://ZOOM.US/J/5048081177?  
PWD=DDBUY2TJZLJJRED2OG1DDOFUAKTQUT09

**MEETING ID:**  
504 808 1177  
**PASSCODE:** 816717

*PUBLIC WELCOME TO ATTEND*



## KEEPING THE ENVIRONMENTAL RESERVE (ER) CLEAR

Environmental Reserves (ER) are public lands and we cannot restrict or leave items on the reserve. A number of items, such as broken lawn chairs, pool inflatables, have been left on our environment reserve (between the lake and the Municipal Reserve (MR) of the village, usually the beach areas). We need to be make sure all structures, items, and garbage are removed from the ER/MR. Please make sure you take all items back with you and leave it better than it was when you arrived for the next person to enjoy. By doing this we will have a healthy lake and a wonderful place for people to enjoy.

## KEEPING THE ROADWAYS CLEAR

With the recent tragedy at Ol' MacDonald's Resort, we would like to stress the importance of keeping the roadways clear of any parked or partially parked vehicles on the side of our roadways. Village roads in most areas are just wide enough for one-way traffic, that includes emergency vehicles. It is important to keep them clear at all times so that they can get where they need to go in a prompt manner. The Community Standards Bylaw does not allow RVs to use municipal road right of ways as a campground. There are fines and penalties that can be enforced. For emergency purposes the road allowances MUST be clear. Council will be increasing the fine schedule for some items in the bylaw to address the current issues.



## TENNIS COURTS

The Tennis/Pickle Ball court is being refurbished and will be closed at least until September 29th to cure. We are also improving the basketball court. Please refrain for using the courts until they are fully cured. The cost was \$30,000 and we want to make sure it is done right.

Also, just as a note to build a new court of our size is \$200,000 plus.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation.



## MESSAGE FROM THE OL' GREY-HAIR MAYOR

I bring you greetings from the Council of the Summer Village of White Sands. Fall is certainly closing in and what a hot, dry summer we have had in our area. It is hard to remember a season like this one. However, I do remember when I was a young boy living in Rocky Mountain House, the weather one summer was similar to this one and forest fires were raging all around. The Government conscripted any able bodied man who was old enough to help fight fires. They went door to door and collected them into school buses whether they wanted to go or not. Hard to believe.

Here are a few items from Council:

- Our permanent office, which will be located near the Village Hall and Maintenance area, will be financed through grant money that has to be used by the end of 2023.
- Our AED and an overdose Epi Pen are located in the lean-to at the back of the Village Hall.
- The Take-it-or-Leave-it shed has been vandalized with many dishes broken around the shed area, up gazebo hill and at the boat launch. This is very disturbing.
- There have been many reports of children operating golf carts unsupervised around the Village. Folks are concerned about the safety issues for the children on the carts as well as for pedestrians and vehicle operators in the Village. Underage drivers on our roads are not acceptable.
- Golf carts, quads and side by sides are not legal on public roads in the Village. If we were to regulate quads and side by sides, more policing would be required to ensure operating rules were being followed. The Village would become responsible and potentially liable if due diligence was not followed. At this time, golf carts cannot be regulated in the Province of Alberta and can only be operated on private property. More policing would mean that golf carts would almost certainly have to go. The extra costs for policing would come out of tax payer dollars.
- It looks like the boat launch repairs will receive government approval soon. However, the lake is currently 21.5 inches below full so our boat launch may still not be usable, even if it is repaired.
- Camping, storage of boat and utility trailers, etc. are not allowed on public road allowances and municipal reserves. There have been numerous complaints of this occurring so we will be looking at enforcement. Unfortunately, the enforcement is expensive and comes out of your tax dollars.
- There have also been a number of late-night noise complaints. Please respect your neighbours.
- Be aware that, though the lake is very shallow around the shore, there is a steep 15 foot drop off in front of our Village. There is a bathymetric map of Buffalo Lake on the County of Stettler's website which shows water levels.
- Bar W's (formerly Paradise Shores) building permit has received approval from the County of Stettler for 318 lots with conditions. Council is preparing for the potential influx and the impacts this will have on our Village.

-It will become even more important to adhere to the parking signs and rules to ensure that Emergency vehicles can navigate the Village if and when required and that Village residents can find parking near the beach. Keep in mind that our beaches are public and belong to the people of Alberta.

-Fire Smart Item: Vents can create an opening for sparks and embers. Install non-combustible material for all vents – 3mm screening or ASTM fire rated vents. Open eaves also create a surface for embers and direct heat. Properly fitted soffits and fascia help to reduce the risk of embers and heat reaching the wooden rafters in your home, cottage, garage, etc.

-The tennis/pickle ball court is closed for refurbishing and will not be open until October. We have been waiting for 3 years to have this done. It is at a cost of \$30,000 which is covered by grant money. A new court our size costs over \$200,000 to build.

-My take on the lake:

- The shallow water did not prevent the kids from having a blast this summer. I could hear their laughter almost every day.
- The Hall Society's many social events this year were fantastic and well attended.
- Our Village continues to be a place where people care about their community; greet their neighbours and stop for a chat when they walk by; where one can enjoy all the many wonders of nature; where you can relax and unwind and count your blessings.

That wraps up our news items. Thank you all for your cooperation and assistance in helping us to protect our beautiful little piece of paradise. Take care and stay safe.

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

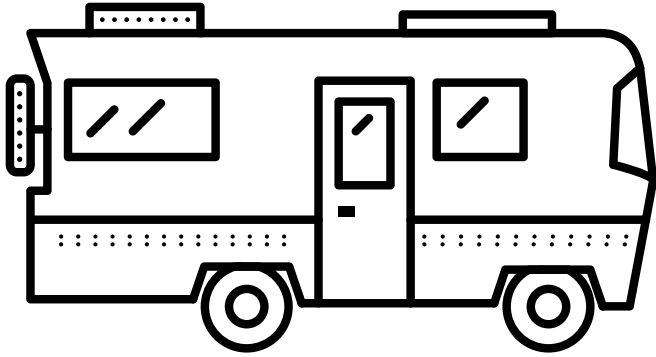
## **TO BE A DELEGATION AT A COUNCIL MEETING:**

If you wish to speak to Council regarding an issue, please contact the Village Office by the 2nd Thursday of the month to be put on the Agenda as a delegation and submit in writing the issue and supporting documents. Not meeting this deadline will move the issue to the following month's council meeting.

## **NEW OFFICE PHONE # 403-740-1572**

Our new office number is finally ready to use. The Office Cell phone will not be monitored on a regular basis (587-282-8826), the above number will be monitored during regular office hours.





**Development permits** are required within the Summer Village; therefore, you must complete the Development Application form and all pertinent documents must be attached, as prescribed in the Land Use Bylaw 186-22 and the fee must be paid at the time of submission. Any development started prior to approval by the Development Officer of the Summer Village, may be liable to any costs incurred if the plan does not meet requirements of the Land Use Bylaw.

## **IMPORTANT IF SELLING/SOLD PROPERTY...**

If you are selling/have sold your property and you are on the TIPPS program, please make sure you or your lawyer have filled out the [Tax Installment Cancellation Form](#) found on the website and send back to the office.

## **REMINDERS...**

**RV permits** are due once you have an RV on your property. Please make sure to fill out the RV Permit portion on the [Development Application](#) form found in the [Land Use Bylaw 186-22](#). Please email it to Angela Stormoen @ [angelastormoen@outlook.com](mailto:angelastormoen@outlook.com) and CC the office. If your RV permit is not paid by the end of December, 2023, the amount will be transferred to your tax roll and a penalty will be applied after December 31, 2023, as per the Land Use Bylaw 186-22.

## **FIREWORKS**

In the accordance with [Bylaw 172-19](#):

“Fireworks” are any composition or device for the purpose of producing a visible or an audible effect for entertainment purposes by combustion, deflagration, or detonation. This includes “Firecrackers”.

Any person is guilty of an offence if he or she discharges, fires or sets off Fireworks within the boundaries of the Summer Village of White Sands. You must be certified and have a permit for the above purpose that is issued by the authority having jurisdiction.

If inappropriately discharged and depending on weather conditions (dry), any damages, fire, etc. may be liable for any costs incurred relating to the incident.



# THE USE OF HOUSEHOLD WASTE BINS

DUE TO RECENT INCIDENTS, WE NEED TO REMIND RESIDENTS WHAT IS ALLOWED TO BE PUT INTO THE HOUSEHOLD WASTE BINS. THE SUMMER VILLAGE PAYS A REQUISITION FOR THE STETTLER REGION WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY FOR HAVING THE WASTE BINS AT THE SUMMER VILLAGE AND HAVING THEM PICKED UP THE CONTENTS, AND DELIVER TO THE REGIONAL LANDFILL. THE BINS HERE ARE MEANT FOR ONLY HOUSEHOLD TRASH. WHAT IS TYPICAL HOUSEHOLD TRASH? THE BEST WAY TO THINK ABOUT TYPICAL HOUSEHOLD TRASH IS TO LOOK AT THE STUFF YOU THROW AWAY ON A DAILY BASIS IN YOUR KITCHEN. THAT IS A WIDE RANGE OF ITEMS, BUT WE FOUND THE BEST WAY TO EXPLAIN IS TO SHOW WHAT NON-TYPICAL HOUSEHOLD TRASH IS. THERE ARE FOUR BASIC NON-TYPICAL TRASH:

1. BULK ITEMS
2. CLEAN-OUT TRASH
3. NON-TYPICAL MATERIALS
4. OVERWEIGHT

THESE ITEMS ARE NOT COVERED IN THE WASTE BIN SERVICE AGREEMENT AND THEY ARE NOT MEANT TO BE PUT IN THE WASTE BINS BECAUSE THEY TAKE UP TOO MUCH ROOM AND THEY COULD CAUSE DAMAGE TO THE BINS OR THE LANDFILL TRUCK. THESE ITEMS NEED TO BE TAKEN TO THE REGIONAL LANDFILL WHERE THEY CAN BE PROPERLY DISPOSED OF. THE COUNTY OF STETTLER WEBSITE HAS A SECTION FOR WASTE MANAGEMENT AND HAS SOME EXCELLENT IDEAS, INFORMATION, AND RESOURCES ABOUT [WASTE MANAGEMENT](#).



PLEASE CRUSH  
DOWN YOUR  
CARDBOARD  
BEFORE IT  
GOES INTO THE  
CARDBOARD  
BIN!

THANK YOU.

## What is Non-Typical Household Trash?



### Bulk Items

Items that are large, bulky, or more difficult to handle than typical trash bags or trash cans.

*Examples: tables, chairs, mattresses, couches, Christmas trees, boxes, appliances, etc.*



### Clean-Out Trash

Large quantities of trash, usually from cleaning out a room, shed, or garage. This amount of material is best disposed of using a Clean-Up bag or Roll-off container.

*Example: 20 bags of trash from cleaning out your garage.*



### Non-Typical Materials

A non-typical material would be thing materials that would not get thrown out on a day to day basis in most homes. Generally, they are very heavy materials as well (except for Styrofoam and most wood).

*Examples: yard waste, kitty litter, other animal waste, Styrofoam, wood, and burn ash*



### Overweight Items

Any one trash bag/trash can that weighs more than 40 lbs is considered overweight and non-typical. A good rule of thumb to follow is: if YOU think it's heavy, WE will too.

If you move a trash can, wheelbarrow, or dolly to move your trash to its location, bear in mind that having wheels makes it seem much, much lighter.



# SEASONAL WORK TO BE DONE IN THE SUMMER VILLAGE

Please be advised that there will be crew members working around the village during the next few weeks so please be cautious and aware of your surroundings when you see them working in the village. The following map are the areas being worked on.

