

COUNTY OF THORHILD COMMUNICATOR



Box 10, Thorhild, Alberta, T0A 3J0
www.thorhildcounty.com

Administration Office: 780-398-3741
Agriculture & Community Services: 780-398-3978
County Manager: Dan Small: 780-398-2800

Public Works: 780-398-3977, Fax: 780-398-3563
Fax: 780-398-3748
Utilities Emergency Number: 780-398-3939

TOLL FREE NUMBER 1-877-398-3777

UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

February 23, 2010

March 9, 2010

The Council meeting originally scheduled for March 23 has been rescheduled for Friday, March 19, 2010 at 9:30 AM
Regular & Special Council meetings commence at 9:30 a.m. in the County Admin. Bldg. and are open to the public.

COUNCIL MINUTES

You can obtain approved minutes on our website (www.thorhildcounty.com) or at the County Administration Building. Agenda packages for upcoming meetings are now available online as well.

MUNICIPAL ELECTORAL BOUNDARY REDISTRIBUTION

Bylaw 1129-2009, the new municipal electoral bylaw, passed 2nd and 3rd readings on Feb. 9. The new boundaries will now be in effect for the upcoming election in October. Those residents who are directly affected by the changes in divisional boundaries will be notified in the months to come. Please check the County's website for an updated map or it may be viewed at the Admin office. Call (780) 398-2812 for more information.

LONG LAKE SKI HILL

The ski hill is now open on Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays from 10 AM to 4:30 PM. The hill is also open to the public on certain weekdays during school programs. Please call 1-866-576-2161 for availability and updates on ski conditions. For more details check out their website at www.skilonglake.com

Off-road vehicles are not permitted on the ski area.

Looking for a scenic and comfortable venue for your retreat, reunion, wedding, meeting, or other special event? Call Brenda at the above number for more information on renting this newly renovated facility for your next gathering. It is available for use year round.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Abee Bridge Construction

Construction on the Abee Bridge (on Twp. Road 610 between Rge. Roads 200 & 201) will begin within the next month. Please watch for advertisements that will detail road closure information and detour routes.

Spring Graveling

Our spring graveling program will begin in March. We ask that you be patient as this program takes place. **Be prepared to stop, slow down when you meet a gravel truck and allow extra room between your vehicle and the gravel truck so that you are easily visible to the trucker. The truckers will pull over and let you pass, if it is safe for them to do so.**

AGRICULTURE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

Income Tax Program

We are again offering the Income Tax Program. This program is aimed at those with a basic tax preparation and who earn less than \$30,000/year. For more information or to see if you qualify for this program, please contact the Community Services Department at 780-398-3978.

Dog Tags

Notice to all hamlet of Thorhild residents. 2010 dog tags will not be issued at this time as we are currently reviewing our Dog Bylaws. Any inquiries please contact our office at 780-398-3978.

No Spray Agreements

The County of Thorhild Agriculture Service Board staff will soon commence its 2010 weed and brush control program along the right of ways within the County.

Landowners not wanting spraying to be conducted along their properties are requested to visit the County Agriculture office to sign a No Spray Agreement, which is valid for the year it is signed, and pick up '**DO NOT SPRAY SIGNS**', which must be visibly posted on your property. Landowners who sign agreement are responsible to control the weeds and brush along the No Spray Zones. Agreements must be signed prior to Friday, May 14, 2010.

For further information in regard to the above program, please contact the Agriculture office at 398-3978. Thank you for your co-operation during the 2010 spraying season.

Strychnine

The County of Thorhild Agricultural Services Department will be participating in the liquid strychnine program for the control of Richardson Ground Squirrels.

2% Liquid Strychnine will be sold in 250 mg bottles at \$10.00/bottle. Sales for this program will be done by **PRE-ORDERS** only so please call (780) 398-3978 to place your order **before March 10, 2010** (Same paper work and conditions as last year).

Adult Learning - Upcoming Programs

Course	Date	Fee
Yoga	Mondays	\$15/night
Soccer	Wednesdays	\$2/night
Network Marketing	Feb. 17	\$12
Farmin' the Net	Mar. 2	\$5
Rural Women's Conf.	Mar. 12	\$30
Feng Shui	Mar. 20	\$70
First Aid/CPR	Mar. 27/28	\$130

Please call (780) 398-3978 to register or for more information.

Parent Link Center - Parent/Child Programs

TRIPLE P POSITIVE PARENTING PROGRAM: Join us at

Snowplow Flags

Effective October 1, 2009 the cost of driveway snowplow flags have increased from \$15.00/flag to \$35.00/flag. Easements are ready to be signed at the Administration Office, Radway Post Office and at the Public Works Department.

RENTERS: THE LANDOWNER MUST SIGN THE EASEMENT

When plowing snow out of your driveway, please push the snow to the right of your driveway, so that the grader operator will take it away from the driveway.

PLEASE DO NOT push the snow across the road as this leaves ridges. If a vehicle hits these ridges and gets damaged or if the driver gets hurt, you the landowner would be liable.

LAND USE AND PLANNING

Development Applications for February 9, 2010

Legal Description	Description	File No.	Decision
Plan 5818KS, Block 3, Lot 15	Cabin & garage with variance to rear setback	1528	Denied

Development Permits

A development permit is required whenever new development occurs on a property. Besides the legal description, you would be required to provide a site drawing showing where the development will be, with distances from all property lines, other buildings and sewer systems. Typically, a building permit would accompany the development permit. Building permits are required for any structure larger than 100 square feet, as well as decks. With the building permit you should provide 2 or 3 copies of the plans, site drawings and truss plans. For decks, the inspector requires cross-section views, stair plans, deck section, etc.

The County office issues the development permit and takes application and payment only on the building permit. Construction should not take place until after The Inspections Group has issued the permit. All of the permit applications are available on the County website under departments/planning and development at www.thorhildcounty.com; or please contact Susan Edmunds at (780) 398-2816.

Radway School Library on Feb 22nd from 6:30-8:30 PM for a Triple P Session titled the Power of Positive Parenting. Please contact the Parent Link Centre to register on or before February 18th. There is no cost to attend & childcare can be provided with advance notice. Watch for details on our upcoming session Raising Competent Confident Children, March 22, 2010.

PARENT/CHILD MORNING GROUPS: These informal parent/child drop-in play groups on Tuesdays from 9:30 - 11:30 provide an excellent opportunity for parents to receive support and information while connecting with other parents. Join us at the Parent Link Centre located at the North Entrance of the County Admin Building. Refreshments and snacks are provided. This is a great program for parents & children of all ages to attend.

TOT TALK: Join us on Thursday mornings from 10:00-11:30 to discuss different developmental areas/milestones. Interactive Parent/Child Activities & information sheets will be offered. As always there will be lots of time for Coffee, Juice, Cookies & Conversation.

FIRST AID IN CHILDCARE: Are you interested in taking a First Aid in Childcare Course? Do you have a valid St. John's First Aid in Childcare Certificate and wish to complete a one day recertification class? Please call the Parent Link Centre to have your name placed on an interest list. If enough interest is shown classes will be planned before May 2010.

Please contact Tammy at (780) 398-2809 or Tammy@thorhildcounty.com for more information or to register for any of our programs.

UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

Abee Truckfill

Abee Truckfill is now operational. Customers that already have an account at the Thorhild Truckfill can use the same information at Abee. To set up an account, please call Jessica at (780) 398-2811.

Truckfill Updates

Please be advised that beginning March 1, 2010, each customer that uses the County truckfill services will be required to carry their own attachment to hook onto the spout as per Alberta Environment Code. The attachment that will be needed is a 3 inch female cam lock fitting and any length size of hose that is desired. These fittings can be found at most hardware stores.

Egremont & Radway Truckfill

Please be advised that we will be installing a new pre paid pin system into Egremont and Radway truckfills. To setup an account your keys will need to be turned into the office and a new account will then be setup. Your account will be then operational at all potable truckfills in the County (Thorhild, Abee, Egremont & Radway).

Please contact Jessica at (780) 398-2811 for any inquiries.