

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

March 19 - rescheduled from March 23
 April 14 - rescheduled from April 13
 April 27
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.

OFFICE CLOSURES

Please be advised that County offices will be closed on Good Friday, April 2 and Easter Monday, April 5. All County buildings will also be closed on April 15, 2010 from 2:00 pm - 4:30 pm. This will allow all county staff to attend a general Occupational Health and Safety meeting and presentation by the Alberta Municipal Health and Safety Association.

LONG LAKE SKI HILL

The ski hill is now closed for the season due to unseasonably warm weather. We would like to thank our customers for their patronage and we look forward to seeing everyone again next year!

Looking for a scenic and comfortable venue for your retreat, reunion, wedding, meeting, or other special event? Call Brenda at (780) 576-2161 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 Project

Replacement of the Abee Bridge (on TWP RD 610 between RR 200 & RR 201) began on Monday, March 8, 2010. TWP RD 610 is closed from RR 201 to RR 200. The detour route will run two (2) miles south of TWP RD 610. This mile of road closure will be in effect for approximately three (3) weeks. **Please respect all barricades and posted signage.**

Spring Graveling

Our spring graveling program began on March 9. 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.**

Household Hazardous Waste Roundup

Wow, it's almost time for spring clean up! What am I going to do with all these old paint cans, expired farm chemicals and the rest of these items that have been collecting since we last

AGRICULTURE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

Fire Permits

REMEMBER, Fire Permits are required for all types of fires (including burn barrels) and are necessary to monitor, control and promote safe burning activities. Permits are required 365 days a year and are **NOT** seasonal. Anyone burning without a permit is in violation of County of Thorhild No. 7 By - Law No. 1119-2009. For fire permit issuance, please contact Brett Demary, Emergency Operations Supervisor, at 780-398-2828.

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.

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.

Bullying Presentations

Bullying and the misuse of technology can have an extremely negative impact on youth. Saffron Centre Ltd. offers Public Education programs to schools and the public. Presentations are planned for local students on April 15, 2010 as follows:

TES - Gr. K-4 (10-11am) - Bullying & Cyber Bullying/ Internet Safety Tips & Awareness

TCS - Gr. 5&6 (12:45-1:45pm) - Bullying - Can We Make a Difference?

TCS - Gr. 7-12 (2-3pm) - A New Talk - This Rings for You/Cell Phones - Safe & Unsafe Practices

Sponsored by: County of Thorhild FCSS and Redwater - Smoky Lake Victim Services

For more information contact Corinne Arsenault at (780) 398-3978.

Adult Learning - Upcoming Programs

Course	Date	Fee
Yoga	Mondays	\$15/night

cleaned up?

Bring them to the Household Hazardous Waste Roundup being held on **Saturday, June 5, 2010 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm** at the Thorhild Emergency Response Centre located at 21416 TWP Rd. 600A (west of the Public Works shop)

Culvert Steaming

When the major spring thaw begins, the Public Works Shop will be taking requests for culvert steaming. Please have the legal land description of the plugged culvert and your name and phone number ready when you call.

Hamlet of Thorhild Residents

After the weekly garbage pick up, please remove the Stand Stone garbage bins from the street or sidewalk in front of your residence and place them closer to your house. If the bins are damaged by someone other than the Stand Stone driver, **YOU** are responsible to replace the bin at the cost of \$100.00/bin. If you decide not to replace the bin, you will be responsible for taking your own garbage to the landfill and the monthly fee for garbage pick up will still be charged on your utility bill until the end of the contract with Stand Stone.

LAND USE AND PLANNING

Development Permits

A development permit is required whenever any 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. For building construction 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 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.

For electrical and gas permits, the County office takes applications and payments and issues these permits. Inspections are performed by The Inspections Group. You are required to start work within 90 days of the issuance of the permit and have a year to complete the work. All permit applications are available on the County website or at the County office. Please contact Cindy Hutchinson at (780) 398-2822.

First Aid/CPR	Mar. 27/28	\$130
Firearm Safety - Non Restricted	April 10	\$100
Firearm Safety - Restricted	April 11	\$60
Air Brakes Interest List	TBA	\$155
Blue Bird Nest Box Interest	TBA	\$10

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 Radway School Library on March 22nd from 6:30-8:30 PM for a Triple P Session titled the Raising Competent Confident Children. Please contact the Parent Link Centre to register on or before March 18th. There is no cost to attend & childcare can be provided with advance notice. ****Watch for details on our upcoming Teen/Preteen Sessions. **Raising Responsible Teens, Raising Competent Teens, Getting Teens Connected.**

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.

Utility Billing

Starting March 1, 2010 the Water and Wastewater bills for Egremont, Radway, Newbrook and truckfill customers will be created and mailed out monthly. This means that each customer's water meter will be read every month for accurate billing. For any inquiries please contact Monique at (780) 398-2825.