

# COUNTY OF THORHILD COMMUNICATOR



Box 10, Thorhild, Alberta, T0A 3J0  
[www.thorhildcounty.com](http://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**

**IT'S A COUNTY FACT!**

The County of Thorhild is responsible for maintaining 1258 km of gravel roads. If all of these roads were placed end to end, they would reach the city of Vancouver, BC, a distance that would take about 13 consecutive hours to drive.

**UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS**

**April 27, 2010                      May 11, 2010**

Regular & Special Council meetings commence at 9:30 a.m. in the County Administration Building and are open to the public.

**COUNCIL MEETING AGENDAS & MINUTES**

You can obtain agenda packages and approved minutes on our website ([www.thorhildcounty.com](http://www.thorhildcounty.com)) or at the County Administration Building.

**2010 MILL RATES**

County Council passed the 2010 Mill Rate Bylaw on April 14. Except for Thorhild hamlet properties, changes in total taxes owing on individual properties will vary depending on changes in assessed property value. Tax notices are expected to be mailed out mid-May with payment due on June 30, 2010 to avoid any penalties. The mill rate and tax penalty bylaws as well as impacts on different property classes will soon be available online.

**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

Spring Gravelling

Thank you for your patience during our spring gravel haul.

Household Hazardous Waste Roundup

The Household Hazardous Waste Roundup is 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).

Dust Control

If you require new or maintenance dust control in 2010, please bring your legal land description and full payment by cheque or cash to the Public Works department **before 4:00 p.m. on Friday, April 30, 2010. WE WILL NOT BE ACCEPTING LATE APPLICATIONS.**

Spring Road Bans

Effective April 1, 2010 75% road bans were placed on the following roads:  
**OPAL ROAD** - South of Highway 18 to TWP Rd. 582  
**HOSPITAL STREET** - Range Road 205 within the Hamlet of Radway  
**LONG LAKE ACCESS ROAD** - From Secondary Highway 831 East into Long Lake Provincial Park and the Hamlet of Long Lake

**FIRE BAN IN EFFECT**

**AS OF APRIL 1<sup>ST</sup> THE COUNTY OF THORHILD HAS ISSUED A FIRE BAN.**

**Due to the extreme drought conditions from previous years as well as from this past March, The County of Thorhild #7 has placed a total County-wide fire ban.** No fire permits will be issued until further notice, no open burning (burn barrels, pits, brush piles, etc.) and we are only allowing gas appliances with shut off devices (BBQs, propane bug zappers, propane lights, etc.) at this time.

**For more information please contact Brett or Clarence at (780) 398-3978.**

**AGRICULTURE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES**

National Volunteer Week - Apr. 18 - 24, 2010

Nearly 48% of Albertans volunteer. Log the hours you volunteer during this week at [www.volunteeralberta.ab.ca](http://www.volunteeralberta.ab.ca) to be eligible to win prizes for your organizations.

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 agreements 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.

Adult Learning - Upcoming Programs

Course	Date	Fee
Yoga Drop-In	Apr. 22-May 20	\$15/night
First Aid/Level C CPR	May 15/16	\$130
Firearm Safety - Non Restricted	Interest List	\$100

Please call Carol Kassian at (780) 398-2806 or (780) 398-3978 to register or for more information.

Parent Link Center - Parent/Child Programs

Triple P Helps builds positive behaviors in children, confidence in parents' abilities and community support for raising children. Parents who "do" Triple P find small changes can make big differences in their child's behavior and development.

**Upcoming Sessions: Facilitated by Melani Orr  
 Primary (0-12 years old): Healthy Eating.**

**NORTHBROOK & PINEBROOK SUBDIVISIONS** - the whole subdivision

**HAMLET OF EGREMONT** - EXCLUDING TWP RD 584 - Hamlet of Egremont

**HAMLET OF OPAL** - EXCLUDING THE LANE WHERE THE RAIL ROAD TRACKS USED TO BE - Hamlet of Opal

*THIS ORDER SHALL REMAIN IN EFFECT UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.*

We ask that all farmers, contractors, heavy equipment operators and oil & gas contractors travel on our gravel roads only when frost is in the ground, usually early morning hours. If we see that this is not happening this year we will be forced to put bans on our gravel roads.

If you see major damage on County roads, please call (780) 398-3977 with the location so that we may repair them as soon as possible. We appreciate your co-operation and assistance at this time.

### **LAND USE AND PLANNING**

#### 2010 Assessment Complaint Changes

- Complainants have 60 days to file an assessment complaint from the date their combined assessment/tax notice is deemed received.
- **LARB (Local Assessment Review Board)** - will hear complaints for residential property with three (3) or fewer dwelling units and farmland.
- **CARB (Composite Assessment Review Board)** - will hear complaints for four (4) or more dwelling units and non-residential property.
- All complaints must be filed on the new complaint form and accompanied by the filing fee. Forms are available at the County of Thorhild Tax Dept. or online at [www.municipalaffairs.gov.ab.ca](http://www.municipalaffairs.gov.ab.ca)
- New requirements have been introduced for the sharing of information prior to the hearing.
- Appeals of decisions of both boards are now directed to the Alberta Court of Queen's Bench. There is no longer a right to appeal to the Municipal Government Board.
- **More information regarding the above changes is available at the County of Thorhild Taxation Dept.**

If you have a concern about your assessment or if any information shown on your assessment is incorrect please contact the County of Thorhild taxation department at (780) 398-2822 or the County of Thorhild Assessor at (780) 939-3310 prior to filing a complaint.

April 26th 11:30-1:00 at the Parent Link Centre.

#### **Teen/Preteen: Raising Competent Teens**

April 26th 6:30-8:30 pm at the Thorhild County Administration Building.

There is no cost to attend either of these sessions. Please register by calling or emailing the Parent Link Centre on or before April 20th, 2010.

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

### **UTILITIES DEPARTMENT**

#### Potable Truckfill

All potable truckfills in the County (Abee, Thorhild, Egremont, & Radway) are now operated on a prepaid pin system. To set up an account please contact Jessica at (780) 398-2811. The same pin information will be then operational at all potable truckfills.

#### Truckfill Updates

Please be advised as of 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.

#### Utility Billing

For any questions or concerns regarding your utility bill please contact Jessica at (780) 398-2811.