

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

IT'S A COUNTY FACT!

According to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, municipal taxes amount to only eight percent of total tax expenditures in Canada.

UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

May 25, 2010

June 8, 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) or at the County Administration Building.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

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

Weather permitting we will be starting to apply our dust control product by the end of May or in early June.

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

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

FIRE BAN IN EFFECT

Due to the extreme drought conditions, The County of Thorhild has re-issued a total County-wide fire ban effective May 13, 2010.

No fire permits will be issued until further notice, no open burning (burn barrels, pits, brush piles, etc.) and only gas appliances with shut off devices (BBQs, propane bug zappers, propane lights, etc.) will be allowed at this time.

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

AGRICULTURE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

Farmer Appreciation Supper

We invite all County residents to join us in recognizing our local agricultural industry on Saturday June 12, 2010 from 4 to 6 pm at the Thorhild Rodeo Grounds. Please bring in a donation for the local food bank.

Vitalize 2010

Are you interested in attending VITALIZE 2010 (Provincial Voluntary Sector Conference) at the Shaw Conference Centre in Edmonton on June 10-12, 2010? If so please contact Cindy Olchowy or Carolyn Sedlowsky at 780-398-3978.

Le Tour de L'Alberta

Please watch for Le Tour de L'Alberta (Bicycle Tour) coming through our community on Sunday July 25, 2010. We will again be hosting a rest stop as part of the 185 km bike ride. Come out and cheer them all on!

Parent Link Center - Separation Anxiety Presentation

Join us Thursday, May 20th at 1:30 pm for some great conversation as we discuss these topics:

- Understanding separation anxiety in infants and preschoolers
- When does it stop being a normal part of a child's development?
- Tips and suggestions for easing separation anxiety.

To register please call (780)-398-2809 or email tammy@thorhildcounty.com. The Parent Link Center is located at the north end of the County Admin Building.

Summer Programs

We are busy planning a summer full of fun activities. Please watch for our summer brochure that will be coming out in mid June.

UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

Natural Gas Construction

If you are interested in a natural gas service to your property for 2010 please contact Jessica at 780-398-2811 as soon as possible. This will be to ensure that we can get everything organized (paperwork, plan a route, etc) to be

this time.

Correction Line Road

Work has begun on Phase 2 of this project which will extend all the way to Highway 63. Please obey all signage. The scheduled completion date for this project is July 31, 2010.

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
- 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.

able to complete the construction before the ground freezes.

DIAL BEFORE YOU DIG!

ALBERTA ONE CALL 1 - 800 - 242 - 3447

If you are planning **ANY** excavation work, please call Alberta One Call. Line locates are only valid for a two-week period; any work commencing after that time must have line locations re-confirmed again.

Potable Truckfill

All potable truckfills in the County (Abee, Thorhild, Egremont, & Radway) are now operated on a prepaid pin system. If you still have a key for Egremont or Radway please return it to the office to setup up a new account and you will then be no longer charged the monthly service charge. 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

Beginning July 1, 2010, Preauthorized Payments will be available to pay your utility bills automatically by your bank on the first business day of each month. This will also apply to our Budget Payment Plan customers. Please contact Monique Michetti at 780-398-2825 for further information or to request an application.

For any questions or concerns regarding your utility account (billing/service) please contact Jessica at (780) 398-2811 or email jessica@thorhildcounty.com.