

COUNTY OF THORHILD COMMUNICATOR



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

Administration Office: 780-398-3741
Fax: 780-398-3748

Public Works: 780-398-3977, Fax: 780-398-3563
Agriculture & Community Services: 780-398-3978

Interim County Manager: Wm. (Bill) Kostiw: 780-398-2800
Utilities Emergency Number: 780-398-3939
TOLL FREE NUMBER 1-877-398-3777

IT'S A COUNTY FACT!

The County's 2011 Tax Levy is \$9,199,926. As of July 7, the amount of taxes collected was \$8,757,815 or 95.2% of the total.

UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

July 26 & August 9, 2011 - Regular Council Meetings

Regular 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.

OFFICE CLOSURES

Please be advised that County offices will be closed on Monday, August 1, 2011. Enjoy the long weekend!

SOLID WASTE COLLECTION BYLAW

Council gave first reading to Bylaw 1145-2011 on July 12, 2011. This bylaw addresses solid waste collection matters in the hamlets of Thorhild, Radway, Egremont, and Newbrook. The public is invited to review this bylaw and forward their input for Council's consideration by Noon on August 4, 2011. Copies of the bylaw may be obtained from the County Admin building or online. For further information, please call Angela Bilski at (780) 398-2812.

THORHILD SWIMMING POOL EVENTS

Lifeguard Day - Monday, July 25 from 1 - 3 pm. Pool tour, obstacle course, & fun activities. \$5.00 fee. For children aged 7 yrs. & up only. Please call (780) 398-3730 to register.

SNS Technologists Free Swim - Friday, Aug. 5 from 2 - 6 pm.

Co-op Free Family Swim - Friday, Aug. 5 from 6 - 9 pm.

Late Night Swim - Friday, Aug. 5 from 9:00 - 11:30 pm.

Beach Day - Friday, Aug. 12 from 1 - 4 pm. Sand castle building, beach volleyball, relays, & more! \$8.00 fee. For children aged 5 yrs. & up only. Please register in advance.

Radway Lions Free Swim - Friday, Aug. 26 from 6 - 9 pm.

Lessons & Aquasizes - Offered all throughout the summer. Please call (780) 398-3730 for a detailed schedule.

Rentals - Please call about booking the pool for your birthday, club wind-up or any special event!

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Road Damages

With the ongoing wet weather conditions, we are asking that all who travel our gravel roads (farmers, contractors, heavy equipment operators, oil & gas contractors and the general public) to please report any major damages (with location) to Public Works @ (780)398-3977 so that we may repair them as soon as possible.

AGRICULTURE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

Babysitter Safety Course

There are still openings for youth aged 11+ yrs. to participate in this program on August 18 & 19. Fee is \$20. For more information or to register please contact Carolyn Sedlowsky @ 780-398-3978 or by e-mail carolyn@thorhildcounty.com

Long Lake Picnic & Play

Sun, sand, & surf for the little ones and their families. Please bring along your favorite sand toys, a bagged lunch, and plenty of sunscreen!

Dates: July 27, August 10 & 24

Time: 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Age: 0 - 6 years

Fee: No Charge

YOU MUST pre-register with Tammy at (780) 398-2809 or tammy@thorhildcounty.com in order to be notified of any dates changes or cancellations due to inclement weather.

Parent & Child Morning Groups

These informal parent/child drop in play groups held on Tuesday & Thursday mornings provide an excellent opportunity for parents to receive support and information while connecting with other parents. Join us in Thorhild at the Parent Link Centre located at the North Entrance of the County of Thorhild Administration Building. Refreshments and snacks are provided. Great program for parents & children of all ages to attend.

Ages and Stages Screenings

ASQ 3 and ASQ SE: is a series of questions completed by parents to check their child's progress and learn more about what their child will be able to do at each stage of development. Please call the centre to make an appointment or to learn more about ASQ & ASQ SE's.

Bylaw Reminders

UNSIGHTLY PROPERTIES: Your properties, or the residence that you are renting, can easily transform into "Unsightly Properties" or become "Nuisance Properties" this time of year by simple neglecting to mow your grass on a regular basis and /or allowing refuse to accumulate on your property.

Solution - Maintain a neat and tidy yard sight by mowing the lawn regularly and taking refuse to the County's Waste Transfer Stations (Thorhild and Long Lake) and/or using the scheduled waste pick-up contractors that service the County's Hamlets.

(County of Thorhild No.7 Bylaw No. 1135-2010)

"DOGS AT LARGE": Ownership of a dog can be extremely rewarding however; this self-initiated obligation to the dog

Summer Graveling

Our summer graveling program will begin early in July. We ask that you be patient as this program takes place. **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. BE PREPARED TO STOP!**

comes with responsibilities, not only to your dog but also to those in the communities or county side that you live amongst. Remember to keep your dogs on your property, and when walking them, keep them on a leash and "pick-up after them". Dogs found to be "running at large" or running free on your neighbors' properties or on Public / County Land will be picked-up by Bylaw Enforcement and Bylaw Fines and Pound Fees will be applied.

Solution - Enjoy your pet but keep your responsibilities and public safety always at the forefront.

(Village of Thorhild Bylaw No.03-2008)

(County of Thorhild No.7 Bylaw No. 1024-2002)

Fire Permits

REMEMBER, Fire Permits are required year round for all types of fires and are necessary to monitor, control and promote safe burning activities.

For fire permit issuance, please contact Brett Demary, Emergency Operations Supervisor, at (780) 398-2828.

UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

Water Meter Maintenance

We are underway in changing water meters in the Hamlets of Thorhild, Egremont, and Newbrook to upgrade our system to an Automated Meter Reading program. If a utility serviceman has not been to your home to change your water meter or to do some maintenance that is required for this program, please contact Jessica at (780) 398-2811 to arrange for an appointment.

Equalization Payments

Equalization payments are a monthly payment plan. The payment amount for each month is based on the average of last year's consumption and service charges (May 2010 - May 2011). If you are interested in equalization payments for your utility account or have any questions, please contact Jessica at (780) 398-2811.

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.

Natural Gas Construction

If you will be requesting a Natural Gas service installation to your property this year please contact Jessica at (780) 398-2811. The sooner we get all the paperwork in order, plan a route, etc the better we can arrange construction to fit everyone's schedule.

Safety Tips for Drivers of Commercial Vehicles

- Pull over when feeling tired - it could save your life or someone else's.
- Be alert to the actions of oncoming drivers or other drivers at intersections.
- Complete proper pre- and post-trip inspections to ensure your vehicle is operating without defects.
- Ensure your vehicle is within the proper weight limit to prevent damage to the infrastructure.
- Signal well in advance when planning to turn or change lanes.