

Ghost Lake Village Mini-Newsletter – April, 2018

Rural Crime Watch

As mentioned in the last newsletter, following is additional information regarding the Rural Crime Watch Program.

The purpose of a Rural Crime Watch program is to improve awareness of the potential for crime and promote crime prevention through the communication of information. The role of a Rural Crime Watch member is to observe and make note of information that can be passed on to the RCMP which can be helpful in the investigation of criminal activity and help lead to arrests and charges being laid.

To respond to increasing rural crime, we need to use approaches that use the resources we have. Rural Crime Watch is neighbours helping neighbours, a rural tradition. Being organized and informed is more effective. In the Ghost Lake area, the Rural Crime Watch organization is the Cochrane Foothills Protective Association (CFPA). The area served is that of the Cochrane Detachment of the RCMP.

The Summer Village is purchasing a membership in the Cochrane Rural Crime Watch as a corporate partner. The Summer Village will host CRPA speakers at Village meetings from time to time and will publish some of the Association's education literature in future newsletters. In order for individual residents to participate in the Rural Crime Watch program, residents will need to purchase an individual membership.

To become a Rural Crime Watch member, application forms can be obtained from the Cochrane RCMP Detachment Officer, Fish & Wildlife Office or from the Ghost Lake area Board Director, Paul Clark paul.clark@mdbighorn.ca or from cochraneruralcrimewatch@gmail.com

Attend the Cochrane Rural Crime Watch Annual General Meeting

Learn more about CFPA at their upcoming Annual General Meeting on **Saturday April 21, 2018 1:00 pm at the Frank Wills Hall in Cochrane**. Council Robyn Carrier will be attending the AGM to find out further information on expectations in the role of a corporate partner. Council encourages interested residents to attend the AGM and get engaged.

Tips.....

- How to protect ourselves? The list includes a home security system, dogs, no trespassing signage, Member of RCW signage, lock vehicles, present your home as occupied by a house sitter and light timers.
- And how to help each other? Watch your neighbours' property. Check quickly with neighbours if what you observe may affect them. Note and report suspicious activity. Become an active Rural Crime Watch member. Continually Observe, Record, Report. When reporting crimes in progress call 911 or Cochrane RCMP 24 hr complaint line 403 932 2211. Report suspicious activity calls to Cochrane RCMP detachment administration 403 851 8000. Be simple, clear and address who, what, when, where.

Municipal Development Plan Ad-hoc Steering Committee

There is still time to apply to serve on the ad-hoc steering committee and help ensure the residents' vision for the future of the Summer Village is captured in the MDP.

The steering committee will consist of 5-7 members appointed by Council. We are seeking two - three members of the general public with a focus of members representing permanent and seasonal residents

If you are interested in serving on the Steering Committee, please check out the Terms of Reference posted on the website and submit your name to the Village Office **by April 20th**.



Dog poop is not natural and is not the same thing as fertilizer.... Dog feces can spread harmful parasites to other animals and even humans

*Roundworms *Hookworms *Whipworms *Giardia *Parvo

At all times (including winter) when on public land in the Summer Village, dog owners must pick up their dog's feces and dispose of it in one of the Village "poop" stations or in your own garbage.

Assessment Notices - Mailed

The 2018 Assessment Notices were mailed out to property owners on **March 5, 2018**. If you have not received your Assessment Notice for 2018, please contact the Village Office.

If you have questions regarding your 2018 assessment, the Village Assessors will be available to discuss your assessment with you. Please contact Benchmark Assessment Consultants at 1-800-633-9012 between 8:00 am – 4:30 pm Monday – Friday.

Property Owners have until May 14, 2018 to appeal their assessments.

Council Meeting

The next regular Council meeting will be held on **Tuesday, May 8, 2018** and will commence at 5:00 pm. The meeting will be held at the **Community Services Building at Ghost Lake**.

If you would like to speak with Council on a specific item, please forward your written request, either by mail, fax or email, stating the nature of your presentation, to the Village Office at least one week prior to the meeting in order to be placed on the agenda *All council and committee meetings are open to the public for observation – consider this your invitation.*

MD of Bighorn Educational Events

Gardening in the Mountains

April 12th 7pm – Exshaw Community Hall

Interested in honing your gardening skills? Whether you're new to gardening or want to learn some new skills, this event will help you overcome the unique challenges of gardening in and around the eastern slopes. Christian Wright from Alpine Edible Schoolyards will be discussing various methods and advice on how to be successful at gardening in these challenging areas.

This event is **FREE** however, registration is required. Please contact Andrew at andrew.richmond@mdbighorn.ca or 403-673-3611 ext.241 to register today!

Septic Sense

April 26th 6:30pm – Beaupre Community Hall

The MD of Bighorn together with Alberta Onsite Wastewater Management Association and Land Stewardship Centre Presents Septic Sense: Solutions for Rural Living

Understanding and taking care of your septic system

- * *What a septic system is and how it works*
- * *Regulations*
- * *Design and installation*
- * *Appropriate use of your septic system*
- * *Troubleshooting*
- * *Maintaining your septic system*

This event is **FREE** however, please **pre-register before April 19, 2018** by contacting Andrew Richmond at: andrew.richmond@mdbighorn.ca or 403.673.3611 ext. 241 to register today!

Summer Village of Ghost Lake Box 19554 RPO South Cranston, Calgary AB T3M 0V4
Phone: 403-554-5515 fax: 403-206-7209 email: admin@ghostlake.ca