



Summer Village of Ghost Lake Newsletter

www.ghostlake.ca

March 2016

Preparation of the 2016 Assessment Roll

The Assessment Roll for the taxation year 2016 has been **prepared and is open for inspection during regular business hours**. Property owners will have until **May 9, 2016** to appeal their assessments.

Assessment Notices - Mailed

The 2016 Assessment Notices have been mailed out to property owners on or before **March 10, 2016**. All assessments were adjusted to reflect the current market values that properties are experiencing in the area. Each property was reviewed on its own merit based on provincial procedures; therefore, the rate of change in assessment will vary from property to property.

The Assessors will be available to discuss your assessment with you. Glen can be contacted either by phone 1-403-394-6040 between 9 am – 9 pm Mon-Sat or email at glen@muniserve.ca.

Village Information Meeting

Prov. Flood Mitigation Strategy –April 30th 1 pm

The Council invites residents to an information meeting on the Provincial Flood Mitigation Strategy for the Ghost Reservoir on:

Saturday April 30th 2016 1 pm at the Ghost Village Community Services Building

Items to be discussed include

- The new Provincial / TransAlta Agreement and strategy for flood mitigation measures
- Water wells in the Summer Village during and after lowered reservoir levels;

- Emergency water supply in the Summer Village during lowered reservoir levels.

Representatives from Alberta Environment and Parks will be in attendance to provide information and respond to questions.

This is a Village hosted event and discussion will be focused on issues and questions as they relate to the Summer Village of Ghost Lake and its residents.

Fire Services for Ghost Lake

Please note that Ghost Lake Village is (*and always has been*) an unprotected community. We had an agreement with the Town of Cochrane in the past where if a fire call comes from Ghost Lake Village and they have no current situations in Cochrane, they would respond to Ghost Lake Village. We have NEVER had a guarantee that they would respond. As mentioned in previous newsletters, Cochrane can no longer say to us that they will come out if they don't have a current call in Cochrane. Their residents are expecting (*and paying for*) a quick response to an emergency inside their community.

Does that mean you call 911 and nobody answers? No. In a recent conversation with the 911 dispatch centre manager, he advised that when a resident calls 911 with a fire call – they immediately tone Jamieson and Ghost (Benchlands). After a few minutes if no one responds, Exshaw is called....Exshaw has a duty officer that will answer the phone (Jamieson and Ghost don't). Exshaw will determine at that time if they are able to respond. **What if they don't have anyone to respond?** 911 will contact Cochrane and so on and so on. They will keep trying fire departments until one says they can respond. They don't stop calling..

So what do we do? Just wait? Yes, we wait for a fire department to respond.... It's a reality and always has been a reality.

We need to help ourselves as best we can....how do we do that?

Village Office Box 19554 RPO South Cranston, Calgary, Alberta T3M 0V4 Phone (403) 554-5515 Fax (403) 206-7209
email admin@ghostlake.ca

Mayor: Brian Oblak (403) 275-5007 Deputy Mayor: Warren Wilson 403 803-9770 Councillor: Noel Betts (403) 881-3839

We make sure we have mutual aid agreements in place with all neighbouring municipalities, so that they know we will pay the cost for them to respond (*currently updating mutual aid agreements with our neighbours*)

Educate residents on fire safety – everyone needs to understand how to make their property fire safe and fire smart. (*we will be creating a space on the website to host materials and plan to hold educational workshops in the future*)

Ongoing training and recruitment for Initial Assist Team – there are some residents in the Village that are trained on proper procedures and techniques on responding to grass fires in the Village (*no structural fires – that's left to the trained fire fighters*) The more residents that train up and join the team, the more chances there will be a group available in the Village to start helping with a grass fire until a fire dept arrives. *Interested in joining? Contact the Village Office*

Planning and more planning – updating the Emergency Response Plan and Evacuation Plans, creating Fire Mitigation Plans, develop a Fire Protection Plan...etc...etc.. (*The Disaster Services Committee is working on updates to the Emergency Response Plan....work is underway on developing a Fire Protection Plan, We have applied for financial assistance from FRIAA to hire a specialist to assist the Village with these documents – we will continue even if we don't get funding*)

Fire Safe your property – everyone can do their part to make sure their property is fire safe. Here's a few questions to start each of you thinking.....

- Do you have fire extinguishers?
- How often do you clean the soot and debris from your Bar-B-Que, check the propane tank? the hoses?
- Do you clean the leaves and debris from your eaves.and roof?
- Is there adequate setback of combustibles from your outdoor fire pit? Do you use a mesh screen on your fire pit?
- Do you have a Green and White address sign clearly affixed at the front of your property?
- When is the last time you had your chimney swept?

It takes a whole Village to protect a Village....fire protection and safety is everyone's responsibility. *Watch for community events and publications on firesmart and fire safety.*

Make sure your insurance provider knows the fire protection status at Ghost Lake – many of the residents will find that their insurance company has already factored in the risk of response. Where there may be issues, is if a resident advised their insurance provider that we have a fire department in the Village. Note: the Community Services Building is NOT a fire hall and we don't have a volunteer fire department. Please take the time to confirm. *You don't want to be stuck paying out of pocket the costs for the mutual aid responders fighting a fire on your property...the costs can get very high.*

Annual Meeting - June 25th

The Village Annual Meeting will be held on **Saturday, June 25, 2016** at the Ghost Lake Community Services Building. The meeting will **commence at 1:00 pm** to discuss the civic business of the Village from the past year. Find out what is happening in your community. Plan to attend.....

2015 Financial Statements

The 2015 audited financial statements are now posted on the website.

Please contact the Village Office if you have any questions regarding the financial statements.

Council Meeting

The next regular Council meeting will be held on **Wednesday, April 27, 2016** and will commence at 5:30 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.

Reminder - *all council and committee meetings are open to the public for observation – consider this your invitation.*

Volunteers Needed.....

May 14th – Annual Spring Cleanup

Meet at the Community Services Building 10 am please bring gloves and rakes

Fire Guardians

The Village is looking for couple of residents to volunteer as fire guardians in the Village. Responsibilities include putting up fire ban signs, fire permitting for controlled burn at “burn pile”, watching for illegal fires in the Village. For more information, please contact the Village Office. *Must have served or currently serving on any of the following: Fire and Emergency Response Committee, Disaster Services Committee, Initial Assist Team or Community Building Maintenance Team.*

Osprey Nesting Platform

Fortis has agreed to install an Osprey nesting platform in the very westerly side of the Village. Keep an eye and perhaps an Osprey family will call Ghost Lake Village “Home”

GIS is here!

The Minister of Municipal Affairs has provided Ministerial Approval to Oldman Regional Services Commission to be our GIS providers. The team is working on getting our data updated and we are hoping to have everything in place very soon as we move forward with emergency and fire protection planning.

A group of SAIT students are undertaking a project – developing an app to be used for Fire response. When fully developed, the app will allow fire responders to view the Village and properties virtually enroute to the emergency call. They will be able to see the access points onto the property, view restrictions ie. narrow driveway and see the type of structures on the site and on neighbouring sites. We are hoping that this app can familiarize the responders with the location and save them time assessing the site when they arrive.

More building pictures will be taken in the next few months to enrich the data. These are curbside photos either taken from the road or adjacent public land.

Emergency contact info

Have you changed your phone numbers lately? Please contact the Village Office and make sure we have your most up to date contact information. Landlords, please forward contact details for your tenants.

Bylaw Bits

These are actual questions the Village Office has been asked about municipal bylaws. *(this section is for information only – and shall not be construed as a legal opinion)*

Q: Can I dump extra dirt from an excavation I created on my property onto low lying areas on Village lands?

A: All fill and debris that comes from your property is your responsibility for removal and disposal. Dumping on Village lands is not permitted. If you are planning to dump it on another person’s property, a development permit is required from that property owner.

Q: Can I rent the Community Services Building for my family reunion?

A: The Community Services Facility is a public use facility and is not available for private functions. Beaupre Hall is the closest community hall to Ghost Lake. Please visit www.beauprehall.com for more information on rentals.

Reminders:

False Alarms

If you have a security monitoring system and a Fire Department is called out – costs associated with responding to a false alarm will be billed back to the property owner.

Landlords

Please ensure that your tenants are aware of the Village rules and regulations. Also ask them to register with the Village Office, their phone numbers for the Emergency Broadcast Service and their emails to receive Village news.

Fire Insurance

Reminder - if there is a fire on your property and fire trucks are called in to respond to the fire, Council may forward the cost of fire fighting to you. Please check with your fire insurance provider to determine if you have adequate coverage. Cost of fire fighting can add up to thousands of dollars – please make sure you are adequately protected.



Clean Up After Your Dog

Remember to take along a doggie bag and pick up after your pooch when off your own property

Development in the Village – Plan Ahead

Are you thinking of making improvements to your place? Most improvements will require a development permit and/or a building permit.

For development permits please contact Rod at Planning Protocol at (403) 230-5522.

If you happen to commence development without the appropriate permits you could be faced with double permit fees or the expense of removing the development if it does not meet land use specifications or building code regulations.

For more information on applying for building, gas, plumbing, sewage and electrical permits, check out the following website:

<http://www.safetycodes.ab.ca/Public/Pages/CodesPermits.aspx>

Off Road Vehicles

Please note that off highway vehicles (including ATV's) are not permitted on public lands except

- for the sole purpose of servicing a boat in the lake or launching a boat or
- removing a boat from the lake,
- solely for gaining access to or leaving the frozen waters of the lake by way of the boat launch or
- when working with a Village sanctioned work crew on a project.

Burn Pile

Please place your trees and branches on the burn pile *not* in the garbage bins or in the compost pile. No construction debris and definitely no nails or spikes (many of your neighbours that have volunteered to look after the Burn Pile have had to repair tires because of nails and spikes found in the debris.)

Also, do not place ashes in the burn pile. If not completely cooled, the ashes can cause an unexpected fire putting your home and your neighbour's home at risk.

Be sure that all ashes have thoroughly cooled before you dispose of them. A suggestion is to place ashes in a lidded metal container to prevent a possible fire and provide a sturdy place to store them. Ashes make good fertilizer in gardens, flowerbeds, etc.

Garbage Bins

Disposing of garbage at the garbage bin site at Ghost Lake Village is restricted to **only household garbage** and only when **placed into the garbage bins**. Do not leave any garbage along side the regular bins. The contractors will not pick up those materials and your neighbours end up having to clean up after you! Do not place recycle materials in the bins. Take to the Eco Centre in Cochrane.

Compost Pile

When disposing of grass clippings or leaves, please place them on top of the existing compost pile instead of beside it to avoid making the compost area larger than needed.

Recycling

Ghost Lake is a member of the Cochrane Eco-Centre and we encourage residents to take all your recycling items to the Eco-Centre.

50 Griffin Industrial Point in Cochrane
Open **Wed-Sat 8 am-6pm**.

For more information contact the Waste & Recycling Hotline 403-851-2277

The Centre accepts a large variety of items:

Newspaper	Cardboard
Mixed Paper	Plastic Bags and Film
Metal and Tin	Mixed Plastic
Beverage Containers	Glass and Jars
Automotive Waste	E-Waste

Expanded Polystyrene (*excluding colored foam, egg cartons, meat trays or takeout containers*)

They also accept

Books Clothing Bicycles

Ghost Lake LIVE – Social Email

If you are interested in receiving social news about events and happenings in and around Ghost Lake, sign up for Ghost Lake LIVE.

Please email Corinne at: ghostlake@live.ca

**EMERGENCY:
FIRE, POLICE AMBULANCE
Call 911**

**Fire Ban Information
1-866-394-3473**



Summer Village of Ghost Lake Newsletter

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May 2016

Annual General Meeting – June 25th

The Village Annual Meeting will be held on **Saturday, June 25, 2015** at the Community Services Building. The meeting will commence at **1:00 pm** to discuss the civic business of the Village from the past year.

Minutes from last year's meeting are now available on www.ghostlake.ca and the agenda for the 2016 meeting will be available after June 20th. Anyone who would like a copy of these items in advance of the meeting, is asked to contact the Village Office at (403) 554-5515 or download them from www.ghostlake.ca.

2016 Tax Notices will be in the Mail by May 11th

The tax rates have been set for 2016. The municipal portion of the taxes increased 7% in 2015. The Summer Village saw a 1% increase in school requisition in 2016. **The overall 2016 Tax Revenue is increasing by 3.5%**

This year's *municipal* budget will bring in \$88,506 in taxes and the *school requisitions*, determined by the Province and Calgary Catholic School Board will bring in \$116,815.

Actual rate increases will vary from property to property depending on the assessment changes experienced on each individual property.

Please note taxes are due on JUNE 30, 2016.

There will be a 10% penalty assessed on all taxes that are received with a postmark that is after June 30th. We accept post dated cheques so if you normally pay at the end of June, you are encouraged to mail a post dated cheque dated June 30th and we will hold your payment until that date.

How to Pay Your Taxes

1. **By mail** - send cheque to the Village Office.
2. **Pay Online** at Telpay. - go to www.telpay.ca click *Telpay Online* -- click *Get Started* click

3. **Sign Up** The Summer Village of Ghost Lake payee account 0074397. *New account set up takes a few days to process so don't leave to last few days or your payment will be late.* Service fee \$.50 per transaction.
4. **In person** at any TD Canada Trust Bank. Take your tax notice with you and ask the bank teller to deposit your cheque into the bank account number shown on the bottom of your tax notice. Ask them to include your account number and name as reference (make sure to keep your receipt)
5. **TD Canada Trust Customers** – set up the Summer Village as a Payee on your web banking portfolio. If you are interested, please contact TD web banking and let them know you want to set up a personal payee Village Bank Account details they require are listed on the bottom of your tax notice

NOTE: When paying online and by telpay make sure your payments are made at least 4 days PRIOR to tax deadline date to allow for processing time. When paying by mail, make sure your envelope is postmarked on or before June 30th.

NOTE: If you have not received your Tax Notice in the mail by May 20th, please contact the Village Office.

Council Meeting

The next regular meeting of Council will be held on Tuesday June 14th at 6:30 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.

Reminder - all council and committee meetings are open to the public for observation – consider this your invitation.

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email admin@ghostlake.ca

Mayor: Brian Oblak (403) 275-5007 Deputy Mayor: Warren Wilson 403 803-9770 Councillor: Noel Betts (587) 586-7839

Recycling Options arrive at Ghost Lake



The Council is implementing a pilot project this spring by bringing a Recycle Bin into Ghost Lake – **starting May 12th**. Instead of simply unlocking one of the waste bins for the summer season, the bin will be switched out for a Recycle Bin.

Residents can place the following items in the Recycle Bin:

Paper and Cardboard *(please breakdown boxes to make room for more items)*

- Cardboard boxes (cereal boxes, pizza boxes, tissue boxes, paper towel tubes and toilet paper tubes)
- Catalogues and magazines
- Newspapers and flyers
 - paper
 - letters
 - envelopes/window envelopes
 - greeting cards
 - brochures
 - non-foil gift wrap
 - paper bags
- Shredded paper (in a tied transparent plastic bag)
- Telephone books and paperback books
- Soup and beverage cartons (for example: Tetra Pak® packages)

Plastic jugs, bottles, packaging and food containers

- Clean plastic jugs, bottles, packaging and food containers/lids with the recycling symbol 1-7 (*cups, food containers or packaging made of foam cannot be recycled*)
- Plastic bags, plastic wrap, bubble wrap
 - Bundle all plastic bags, plastic wrap and bubble wrap into one plastic bag and tie closed.

Glass – bottles and jars

- Must be bagged and tie closed

The bin CANNOT accept wood, styrofoam, metal, organics or glass at this time

The Cochrane Eco Centre will remain open to residents for disposing other recycle items.

At the Annual Meeting and again in early Fall, Council will be asking for resident's input on the pilot recycle bin project. Depending on the results, the bin service may be continued and the Cochrane Eco Centre access discontinued.

Please try out this new service and provide your feedback.

Help Wanted Seasonal Labourer

The Village has an opening this summer for a seasonal labourer to cut grass and perform maintenance work on Village property. Flexible hours. Anyone interested in this position is asked to submit a resume to the Village Office by **May 23rd**.

The competition is open to secondary and post secondary students returning to school in the fall.

Rate of pay: \$15.00 per hour.

Supervisors for Seasonal Labourer

This year's position is under the STEP employment program. The Village requires a supervisor each day for the summer worker under the STEP and Work Alone regulations. The past few years have been successful having individuals take turns one week at a time supervising. All we require is your attendance at the Orientation Meeting held on the employee's first day of work and then each day during the week you are scheduled to supervise. If you are interested in helping out this year, please contact the Village Office 403-554-5515 or admin@ghostlake.ca and let us know which week(s) late Jun-Aug you are available to help. **The program cannot proceed without supervisors, so please contact the Village Office by May 23rd if you are willing to assist.**

Online Village Mapping now available

Check out the online mapping now available for the Summer Village of Ghost Lake at:

<http://gis2.orrsc.com/Qlogin/disclaimer.htm?qlogin=GhostLake>

Modified operations at Ghost Reservoir

Alberta Environment and Parks attended an Information Session at the Summer Village on April 30, sharing information on the drought and flood mitigation plans, which include managing the levels of the Ghost Reservoir.

Monitoring water wells

If you are experiencing low flow or loss of water, please contact the Village Office. We are keeping track of properties that are affected by the low water table and passing the information along to the Province. The Province is planning to bring in temporary water supply for affected households, similar to last year.

The Province will also be studying the affected wells to determine future actions for addressing water well issues.

Emergency Water Supply

The Province has offered to bring into the Village a high capacity pump and water line for emergency water supply for fire fighting purposes. We are currently working on the logistics.

Monitoring Lake Levels

On your computer:

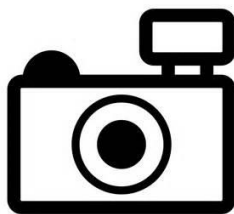
<http://www.environment.alberta.ca/apps/basins/DisplayData.aspx?Type=Figure&BasinID=8&DataType=3&StationID=RGHOSRES>

On your Smartphone – download the app from <http://open.alberta.ca/interact/alberta-rivers-data-and-advisories>

Start Clicking...

Help make this year's photo montage presentation at the October **Volunteer Appreciation Social** even better – start collecting pictures of having fun at Ghost Lake. If you can capture any pics of volunteers in action that would be awesome!!

Send your pictures to Brian Oblak boblak@telus.net



Fire Ban in the Village

Due to the dry, windy conditions and the lowered reservoir, a fire ban has been placed on all outdoor fires in the Summer Village. The ban will remain in effect until conditions change.



Thank you to Ariana Westendorf-Guest for volunteering to serve as the Village Fire Guardian.

For up-to-date information on Fire Bans in and around Ghost Lake, check www.albertafirebans.ca or try out their beta website at: beta.albertafirebans.ca

Road Resurfacing

Council is investigating options for resurfacing some of the roads in the Summer Village. Depending on costs and grant approvals, the first phase of the project may commence as early as this summer. Watch for more details.

Committee News:

Public Works – Annual Spring Clean Up – Saturday May 14. Meet at the Community Services Building at 10 am, please bring gloves and rakes.

Natural Environment and Lake Stewardship is hosting a **Bird Identification** event with Gus Yaki, renown birding expert – **Saturday May 14 8 am** – meet at Community Services Building

Communications and Village Social Life – Leah Fink will be heading up the Regatta planning once again this year. *Thanks Leah!*

Fire and First Response – Pete Ireland, Fred Smith and Bill Bauer will be helping the Administrator lead and coordinate the **Fire Protection Plan workshops** this summer.

Disaster Services – are working on the update of the **Emergency Response Plan** for the Summer Village. A reminder from the Committee – **Get Prepared** – for more information check out the website <https://www.getprepared.gc.ca/index-eng.aspx>

Cochrane Foothills Protective Association Rural Crime Watch

An Information Meeting for residents in the Ghost Lake and Ghost Valley area is being held on **Saturday June 4, 2016 1 pm, Beaupre Hall** – there will be presentations along with demonstrations of technology that will assist you with security.

Reminders:

False Alarms

If you have a security monitoring system and the Fire Department is called out – costs associated with responding to a false alarm will be billed back to the property owner.

Landlords

Please ensure that your tenants are aware of the Village rules and regulations. Also ask them to register with the Village Office, their phone numbers for the Emergency Broadcast Service and their emails to receive Village news.

Fire Insurance

Reminder - if there is a fire on your property and fire trucks are called in to respond to the fire, Council may forward the cost of fire fighting to you. Please check with your fire insurance provider to determine if you have adequate coverage. Cost of fire fighting can add up to thousands of dollars – please make sure you are adequately protected.

Clean Up After Your Dog

Remember to take along a doggie bag and pick up after your pooch when off your own property

Development in the Village – Plan Ahead

Are you thinking of some improvements to your place? Most improvements will require a development permit and/or a building permit.

For development permits please contact Planning Protocol at (403) 230-5522. .

For more information on applying for building, gas, plumbing, sewage and electrical permits, check out the following website:

<http://www.safetycodes.ab.ca/Public/Pages/CodesPermits.aspx>

Signs

Please refer to the Village's Sign Bylaw prior to installing any signs on public lands and/or road right of ways.

Off Road Vehicles

Please note that off highway vehicles (including ATV's) are not permitted on public lands except

- for the sole purpose of servicing a boat in the lake or launching a boat or
- removing a boat from the lake,
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- when working with a Village sanctioned work crew on a project.

Burn Pile

Please place your trees and branches on the burn pile *not* in the garbage bins or in the compost pile. No construction debris and definitely no nails or spikes (many of your fellow neighbours that have volunteered to look after the Burn Pile have had to repair tires because of nails and spikes founds in the debris.)

Also, do not place ashes in the burn pile. If not completely cooled, the ashes can cause an unexpected fire putting your home and your neighbour's home at risk.

Be sure that all ashes have thoroughly cooled before you dispose of them. A

suggestion is to place ashes in a lidded metal container to prevent a possible fire and provide a sturdy place to store them. Ashes make good fertilizer in gardens, flowerbeds, etc.

Compost Pile

When disposing of grass clippings or leaves, please place them on top of the existing compost pile instead of beside it to avoid making the compost area larger than needed.

Ghost Lake LIVE – Social Email

If you are interested in receiving social news about events and happenings in and around Ghost Lake, sign up for Ghost Lake LIVE.

Please email Corinne at: ghostlake@live.ca

**EMERGENCY:
FIRE, POLICE AMBULANCE
Call 911**

**Fire Ban Information
1-866-394-3473**

Summer Village of Ghost Lake Mini Newsletter – August 2016

Let's Talk *Trash*...

Village administration has received several complaints about the condition of the Garbage Bins and Recycle Bin over the past weekend, which has prompted the need for a refresher and reminder to residents of the wonderful and convenient waste management program currently being offered to the residents of Ghost Lake Village.

Please note that having bins (both garbage and recycle) is a convenience offered to residents not a requirement. Council and administration, supported by a group of volunteers, has historically provided the residents of Ghost Lake with an *outstanding* waste management program. There is a recycle bin, three household garbage bins, a compost pile and the burn pile...right in your back yard, not to mention access to the Cochrane ECO Centre.

BUT...outstanding programs are only as good as they are respected by the users.

Here's a refresher on proper use of the waste management program being provided to the residents of Ghost Lake Village.

Garbage bins are for normal household garbage ONLY

"Normal" waste is non-recycle items derived from regular day to day household activity – that doesn't include construction...annual clean up, etc. Anything else and YOU are responsible to recycle or dispose of it at a LANDFILL site. *This weekend there was more than household garbage seen in the garbage bin as you can see from this photo. Other things observed in the bins from time to time include lawn chairs, drywall, hottub cover, and bags of leather cuttings. That is NOT normal household garbage. Those types of items need to be recycled (if an accepted item) or taken to the landfill by the RESIDENT, not disposed of in the garbage bins.*



If the bins are full, please take your garbage back home and store until the bins are dumped

(Recycle is picked up on Mondays, Garbage on Thursdays) Do not simply leave your garbage on top of or beside the bins. The drivers WILL NOT get out and pick up YOUR garbage. What happens is either the wildlife start coming in to check out food sources or kind and thoughtful neighbours pick up the mess and take it home or it gets blown around the Village (again neighbours end up picking up after perpetrators) Is that fair?? This picture was taken this weekend.



Reduce Waste - Recycle

The Summer Village is undertaking a pilot project to see if it is viable to have a recycling bin located in the Village. In the past (and currently) residents have access to the Cochrane ECO Centre to dispose of their recycle items. This year Council decided to encourage the diversion of waste from landfills, providing a convenient option for residents. Items that are accepted in the Recycle Bin include:

Paper and Cardboard *(please breakdown boxes to make room for more items)*

- Cardboard boxes (cereal boxes, pizza boxes, tissue boxes, paper towel tubes and toilet paper tubes)
- Catalogues and magazines
- Newspapers and flyers
 - paper
 - letters
 - envelopes/window envelopes
 - greeting cards
 - brochures
 - non-foil gift wrap
 - paper bags
- Shredded paper (in a tied transparent plastic bag)
- Telephone books and paperback books
- Soup and beverage cartons (for example: Tetra Pak® packages)

Plastic jugs, bottles, packaging and food containers

- Clean plastic jugs, bottles, packaging and food containers/lids with the recycling symbol 1-7 (*cups, food containers or packaging made of foam cannot be recycled*)
- Plastic bags, plastic wrap, bubble wrap
 - Bundle all plastic bags, plastic wrap and bubble wrap into one plastic bag and tie closed.

Glass – bottles and jars

- Must be bagged and tie closed

The Village bin CANNOT accept wood, styrofoam, metal, organics or some glass at this time

We need residents to breakdown ALL boxes before placing them in the bin. The bin fills up very quickly when boxes are left intact. Not only does this keep others from using the bin, it also costs \$\$ as the Village pays for hauling “air” to the recycle centre!

Here is an example of what was observed this weekend in the recycle bin: *(right stuff but needs to be broken down:*



The Cochrane Eco Centre will remain open to residents for disposing other recycle items. The Cochrane Eco Centre is open to Ghost Lake Residents located at 50 Griffin Industrial Point Wed-Sat 8 am – 6 pm (closed holidays)

The Cochrane **Waste and Recycling Hotline** is available 24/7 at 403-851-2277

Other local waste reduction and recycling enterprises include:

Cochrane Bottle Depot

205 Railway Street

Phone: 403.932.4399

Hours of operation: Mon - Sat from 9 am - 5 pm

Home Treasures

#11 118 First Avenue West

Accepts reusable furniture and household goods; a non-profit partnership with Cochrane FCSS and the Women's Housing Society

Phone 403.851.9974

Hours of operation: Mon - Sat from 10 am - 5 pm

Home Reno Heaven

204a River Avenue, Cochrane, Alberta, T4C 1B4

Phone: 403.851.1117

Hours of operation: Mon - Sat from 9 am - 5 pm

www.homerenoheaven.com

Burn Pile

Please place your trees and branches on the burn pile *not* in the garbage bins or in the compost pile. No construction debris and definitely no nails or spikes (many of your fellow neighbours that have volunteered to look after the Burn Pile have had to repair tires because of nails and spikes found in the debris.)

Also, do not place ashes in the burn pile. If not completely cooled, the ashes can cause an unexpected fire putting your home and your neighbour's home at risk.

Be sure that all ashes have thoroughly cooled before you dispose of them. A suggestion is to place ashes in a lidded metal container to prevent a possible fire and provide a sturdy place to store them. Ashes make good fertilizer in gardens, flowerbeds, etc.

Compost Pile

When disposing of grass clippings or leaves, please place them on top of the existing compost pile instead of beside it to avoid making the compost area larger than needed.

Other Options??

The **Francis Cooke Regional Class III Landfill and Resource Recovery Centre** is located **4 km east of Exshaw**. It is a dry waste landfill. (No food, domestic or household garbage, hazardous wastes or liquids can be disposed at this site.) They accept the following items: Any non-toxic and non-hazardous dry waste not suitable for or not sorted for recycling including:

- Clean soil and rock material

- Unsorted demolition waste
- Furniture
- Mattresses
- Carpet and underlay
- Non-recyclable glass (e.g. mirrors)
- Unsorted roofing materials
- Plastics such as siding trimmings, mouldings, polyethylene trimmings, plastic bags

They also have a resource recovery program which accepts

- Appliances
- Asphalt
- Asphalt Shingles
- Cardboard
- Concrete
- Construction/Demolition Take It or Leave It
- Drywall (Gypsum Board)
- Kiln Dried Wood & OSB
- Leaf and Grass
- Metal
- Pressure Treated Wood
- Scrub and Brush
- Tires

For more specifics and rates and fees visit their website <http://bvwaste.ca/landfill/> or call 403.673.2708

Hours of Operation

8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday to Saturday. Closed Sundays and statutory holidays.

Summary

If everyone works as a team and follow the rules.....Ghost Lake residents can continue to have an outstanding waste management program.

The answer is not bringing in more garbage bins or have more frequent dumpings of the bins....the current system works well MOST of the time, as soon as there is abuse or neglect, the whole ecosystem of the program goes sideways.

Please remember that the Waste Management Program at Ghost Lake is only as good as the way it is used. Providing 24 hours surveillance cameras, fencing and opening the site on specific days, increasing the number of bins and frequency of pickups, issuing tickets.....all those options cost \$\$\$ to maintain and manage. Ghost Lake is a small community, the only economical option available to continue offering this service to residents is for ALL residents to follow the simple and practical rules of use.

The Future of our “*Made in Ghost Lake*” Waste Management program is up to you

REDUCE ...

REUSE ...

RECYCLE...

RESPECT the environment and your neighbours



Summer Village of Ghost Lake Newsletter

www.ghostlake.ca

September 2016

Volunteer Appreciation Bar-B-Que Lunch

October 1 Noon – 2 pm

Everyone welcome!



Council is extremely pleased with the amount of volunteer support generously given by residents to maintain Ghost Lake as the wonderful community it is.

To salute all of the special people at Ghost Lake – Council is hosting a Volunteer Appreciation **Bar-B-Que** on **Saturday October 1, 2016 from noon – 2 pm** at the Community Services Building at Ghost Lake.

Council is inviting everyone to join them at this social get together to show appreciation to the volunteers. It will be a casual event – stop by enjoy a Bar-B-Que lunch served up by Council.

Bring your smile and visit with friends and neighbours as we all share in saying *Thank You* to the Volunteers!

This year's event may be a new format, but it guarantees to continue being "the" ***SOCIAL EVENT OF THE SEASON***Plan to be there and be prepared to have a great time

If you would like to share any digital photos from this past year at Ghost Lake – great sunsets, fun activities, volunteers in action....start collecting them up for our **Side Show - Slide Show** and send them to Brian Oblak boblak@telus.net by September 27th.

Hope to see you on October 1st

Council Meeting

The next Council meeting will be held on **Wednesday, November 16, 2016** commencing at 6:00 pm. The meeting will be held at the **Nan Boothby Library in Cochrane**. (*note Council is moving their "winter meetings" to Cochrane*)

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.

Reminder - all council and committee meetings are open to the public for observation – consider this your invitation.

Elections 2017

Municipal Elections will be held throughout the Province of Alberta in 2017. Ghost Lake Council's four (4) year term ends in the summer of 2017. If you are considering running for office next year, you are encouraged to start attending Council meetings to observe. Information on eligibility and duties of councillors can be found on the Municipal Affairs website and by following this link:

http://municipalaffairs.alberta.ca/documents/ms/Running_for_Municipal_Office_in_Alberta_2013.pdf

Road Improvements

As many of you have noticed, the cold mix roads in the Summer Village have deteriorated significantly over the past few years with more and more potholes each year. Council has awarded a contract for the resurfacing the most of the existing cold mix surfaced roads in the Summer Village. Work will include pulverizing existing road surface and creating a new hard surface. No widening or realignment will occur with this project. If weather permits, work will be completed this fall.

Village Office Box 19554 RPO South Cranston, Calgary, Alberta T3M 0V4 Phone (403) 554-5515 Fax (403) 206-7209
email admin@ghostlake.ca

Mayor: Brian Oblak (403) 275-5007 Deputy Mayor: Warren Wilson 403 803-9770 Councillor: Noel Betts (403) 881-3839

Coming Soon.... feedback survey

Council will be seeking feedback from residents on community standards...watch your email in early October for the survey.

Village Waste Management Services

Council launched a pilot project for the In-Village Recycling service earlier this summer. At the last Council meeting, Council evaluated the pilot project and decided to make the **Recycle Bin a permanent service in the Summer Village.**

The Village will discontinue offering the Cochrane Eco Centre service to Village residents, effective January 1, 2017.

There will continue to be three (3) household waste bins available in the summer months reduced down to two (2) household waste bins in the winter months.

This summer the Village experienced several occasions of misuse of the household waste bins. Several complaints were received about people dumping commercial waste, furniture, construction waste and many other "non household" waste items in the bins.

Garbage bins are for normal household garbage ONLY "Normal" waste is non-recycle items derived from regular day to day household activity – that doesn't include construction appliances, etc.

Anything else and YOU are responsible to recycle or dispose of it at a LANDFILL site.

The solution to the misuse of the garbage bins is not bringing in more bins but more education and awareness followed by enforcement.

Council is considering a refuse bylaw to further define acceptable use of the Village Waste Management Services and define consequences for infractions. They are also working on an enforcement strategy to curb misuse of the garbage bins.

Storage at Ghost Lake

The Summer Village offers seasonal storage for up to TWO items per household at Ghost Lake. Space is limited so it is first come first served. ALL items must be clearly marked with your

Ghost Lake House number. Anyone with docks are asked to store them in the area east of the tennis courts (no boats stored in this location) Boats to be stored in the regular storage area. Remember this area is to accommodate seasonally used items ie. docks and boats - items that are permanently stored in the seasonal storage area will be removed and disposed of by the Village.

Parking Seasonal Boats and Trailers on Boulevards

Council is asking all residents to please abide by the seasonal boulevard parking guidelines: Recreational vehicles and equipment (includes trailers and boats) may be parked on the boulevard directly in front of your home from April 1 – October 31 and **must be removed from the boulevard from November 1 – March 31 each year.**

Small Vehicles on Village Roads

The Village Office received several complaints this summer about small vehicles being operated on the roads in the Summer Village. All roads in the Summer Village are public highways and Provincial traffic regulations apply. Most complaints filed expressed a deep concern for the safety of the individual (typically a minor) operating the small vehicle and for other drivers that could potentially be involved in a vehicular accident with a small vehicle. Please click on the following link for information regarding restricted and prohibited use of small vehicles on public roadways.

<http://www.transportation.alberta.ca/Content/doc/Type41/Production/SmallVehicle.pdf>

Fire and First Response

The Fire and First Response Committee is **looking for volunteers** that are keenly interested in planning and coordinating for fire safety in the community. The Committee currently consists of Fred Smith and Bill Bauer as Co-Chairs and Brian Oblak as the Council representative. The committee's mandate is to *develop and recommend to Council a three (3) Action Plan addressing the fire prevention and*

first response requirements within the Summer Village, considered in context of all other Committee's Action plans and budgets.

The group made great strides this summer with three successful fire practices, adopting fire procedures and coordinating work on a fire protection plan and much more...but there's still lots more to do. *They could use your help.*

If you are interested in serving on the Fire and First Response Committee, please contact the Village Office or Bill Bauer or Fred Smith.

Reminders:

False Alarms

If you have a security monitoring system and the Fire Department is called out – costs associated with responding to a false alarm will be billed back to the property owner.



Fire Insurance

Reminder - if there is a fire on your property and fire trucks are called in from the MD, Cochrane and other fire depts, Council may forward the cost of firefighting to you. Please check with your fire insurance provider to determine if you have adequate coverage. Cost of firefighting can add up to thousands of dollars – please make sure you are adequately protected. Also make sure your insurance provider is aware that the nearest MANNED fire department to Ghost Lake is at the Town of Cochrane.

Clean Up After Your Dog

Remember to take along a doggie bag and pick up after your pooch when off your own property and even in the snow..

Development in the Village – Plan Ahead

Are you thinking of making improvements to your place? Most improvements will require a development permit and/or a building permit.

For development permits please contact Planning Protocol at (403) 230-5522. If you happen to commence development without the appropriate permits you could be faced with double permit fees or the expense of removing the development if it does not meet land use specifications or building code regulations.

For more information on applying for building, gas, plumbing, sewage and

electrical permits, check out the following website:

<http://www.safetycodes.ab.ca/Public/Pages/CodesPermits.aspx>

Off Road Vehicles

Please note that off highway vehicles (including ATV's) are not permitted on public lands except

- for the sole purpose of servicing a boat in the lake or launching a boat or
- removing a boat from the lake,
- solely for gaining access to or leaving the frozen waters of the lake by way of the boat launch or
- when working with a Village sanctioned work crew on a project.

Landlords

Please ensure that your tenants are aware of the Village rules and regulations. Also ask them to register with the Village Office, their phone numbers for the Emergency Broadcast Service and their emails to receive Village news.

Burn Pile

Please place your trees and branches on the burn pile *not* in the garbage bins or in the compost pile. No construction debris and definitely no nails or spikes (many of your fellow neighbours that have volunteered to look after the Burn Pile have had to repair tires because of nails and spikes founds in the debris.)

Also, do not place ashes in the burn pile. If not completely cooled, the ashes can cause an unexpected fire putting your home and your neighbour's home at risk.

Be sure that all ashes have thoroughly cooled before you dispose of them. A suggestion is to place ashes in a lidded metal container to prevent a possible fire and provide a sturdy place to store them. Ashes make good fertilizer in gardens, flowerbeds, etc.

Compost Pile

When disposing of grass clippings or leaves, please place them on top of the existing compost pile instead of beside it to avoid making the compost area larger than needed.

Ghost Lake LIVE – Social Email

If you are interested in receiving social news about events and happenings in and around Ghost Lake, sign up for Ghost Lake LIVE. Please email Corinne at: ghostlake@live.ca