



# Summer Village of Ghost Lake Newsletter

[www.ghostlake.ca](http://www.ghostlake.ca)

February 2017

## Preparation of the 2017 Assessment Roll

The Assessment Roll for the taxation year 2017 has been **prepared and is open for inspection during regular business hours**. Property owners will have until **April 12, 2017** to appeal their assessments.

## Assessment Notices - Mailed

The 2017 Assessment Notices have been mailed out to property owners on or before **February 10, 2017**. 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](mailto:glen@muniserve.ca).

## 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 term, 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://www.municipalaffairs.alberta.ca/documents/Running%20for%20Municipal%20Office%20in%20Alberta%20-%20A%20Candidate%27s%20Guide.pdf>

## Road Resurfacing

The road resurfacing project was delayed until spring 2017 due to the early onset of wet weather in the fall. Work will commence late spring/early summer.

## Annual Meeting - June 10th

The Village Annual Meeting will be held on **Saturday, June 10, 2017** 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.....Nomination Day will also occur on June 10<sup>th</sup>.

## Council Meeting

The next regular Council meeting will be held on **Wednesday, May 3, 2017** and will commence at 6:00 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.

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

## Questionnaire Results

Last fall Council asked residents to participate in an online questionnaire regarding Community Standards.

Council was very pleased to see that 49 residents took the time to respond to the questionnaire. Following are summarized results of the questionnaire:

What is the overall appearance of properties at the Summer Village:

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	N/A
Public Lands:	29%	63%	6%	2%	
Private Lands:	6%	61%	24%	8%	1%
Rec. Amenities:	20%	69%	6%	2%	3%

60% of respondents did not feel there is a need to regulate untidy and unsightly conditions on private properties. Of the 40% that did feel there

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

is a need to regulate untidy and unsightly properties almost all of them specified “*objects that are wrecked, abandoned, damaged or dismantled*” as needing to be regulated.

50% of the respondents indicated that Parking on Boulevards needs to be regulated with a high number of those respondents indicating that limiting the consecutive days to park on boulevards should be regulated.

When respondents were asked how to address community standards, 45% said as a bylaw, 36% as guidelines, optional to conform and 22% felt there was no need to regulate community standards.

Upon reviewing the results, Council decided to start with establishing guidelines for boulevard parking. These guidelines provide a general understanding of what would be considered community etiquette and hope that residents will respect the guidelines in the spirit of good neighborly conduct. Council will revisit the guidelines in a year to see if concerns are being addressed and reassess the need to create bylaws.

### **Guidelines – Parking on Boulevards**

Boulevards and Village land are not to be considered an extension of your personal parking. **Personal vehicles. RVs and equipment should be parked on your own property.**

Ghost Lake is a summer village which means during the summer, residents can park their boats on the boulevard in front of their property, that is acceptable in a lakeside community. However parking your Recreational Vehicle/Trailer on the boulevard is not acceptable practice. RV’s should be parked wholly inside your own property.

If you have visitors on the weekend in the summer, the boulevard directly in front of your property can be used to accommodate your guests’ vehicle with their RV over the weekend but the vehicle and/or RV cannot continue to park on the boulevard throughout the week and beyond.

### **Land Use Bylaw – Outside Storage**

Council is not creating an Untidy and Unsightly Premises bylaw at this time, the conditions set out in the land use bylaw remain in effect

Onsite storage on your residential property is to be orderly and only include items that would be

normally located within a single family residence. That means no commercial or industrial storage including vehicles and equipment.

As for storage on vacant lots, those lots are to remain vacant. They cannot be used for storage or temporary accommodation

## **Property Civic Address Signs**

Civic Address signage is a crucial element for efficient emergency response. It is in the best interest of each property owner and resident to have a standardized civic address sign clearly displayed on the front of their property. The signs will help emergency response personnel, such as fire, ambulance and police find a property at Ghost Lake Village quickly.

The Summer Village has adopted a standard civic address sign that will be required to place on each property. The initial signs are being provided to each property owner FREE of charge. It will be the responsibility of the property owner to erect the sign by September 4, 2017

- Signs must be erected at the FRONT of the property,
- between 1 metre and 2 metres above ground level (measured from bottom of the sign),
- Clearly visible from the road (no trees, shrubs, ornaments obstructing sign) and
- at least 1 metre from the side property boundary. ( i.e, do not install on the edge of your property or the responder may confuse it with your neighbour’s property)

Civic Address signs will be available for pickup at the Annual Meeting and at the Regatta.

## **Weed Control Management Plan**

The Natural Environment Committee has developed a weed control management plan with the assistance of an environmental company, that is well versed in working with municipalities. The Plan will be initiated this year with the objective to assist the Village with gaining control over weeds that the Village is legally responsible to control. An Open house will be held in in the Spring to inform the public on the management plan.

## Fire Prevention & First Response Committee News

- **Fire Prevention:** the Committee and Council continue to work towards our Fire Plan Certification, Civic Address signage, planning on fire pit regulations
- **First Response:** in response to the critical need for more fire water, Council has approved the purchase of a truck with 1000 gal tank and pump and purchase of a 1300 gal tank
- Attached to this newsletter is a **poster** that you can print and post in your house/cabin. It lists steps we can take "In the Event of a Fire Emergency"
- **Volunteers needed** for the Committee:
  - to **work** on our Fire Prevention Plan
  - to **learn** how we can respond in a fire event
  - to **assist** with fire emergency call-outs
  - to **maintain** our equipment

For more information contact: Bill Bauer 715 GLV [wfbauerghost@gmail.com](mailto:wfbauerghost@gmail.com) or Fred Smith  
410GLV [fred@feedsmithconsulting.com](mailto:fred@feedsmithconsulting.com)

## First Aid Course

The Fire Prevention and First Response Committee is offering a First Aid and CRP Refresher Course on Saturday **March 11, 2017**  
**8am 3pm Ramada Cochrane 10 Westside Dr.**

Course will cover the following:  
Emergency Scene Management  
Severe Bleeding      Medical Conditions  
Adult CPR, Choking and AED  
Secondary Survey      Drowning

Register by contacting the Village Office at [admin@ghostlake.ca](mailto:admin@ghostlake.ca) or 403-554-5515.  
Deadline for registration: February 28, 2017.

The course is free. Coffee and Tea provided.  
You will be on your own for lunch.

Registration is on a first come first serve basis, limited to one registrant per household. If there are openings remaining after registration closes, we will fill the spots with additional household participants so please make sure to express to place interested family members on the wait list.

## 2016 Financial Statements

The 2016 audited financial statements are now posted on the website. Please contact the Village Office if you have any questions regarding the financial statements.

### 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.

#### 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>



# Summer Village of Ghost Lake Newsletter

[www.ghostlake.ca](http://www.ghostlake.ca)

May 2017

## Annual General Meeting – June 10<sup>th</sup>

The Village Annual Meeting will be held on **Saturday, June 10, 2017** 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](http://www.ghostlake.ca) and the agenda for the 2017 meeting will be available after June 3<sup>rd</sup>. 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](http://www.ghostlake.ca).

## 2017 Tax Notices will be in the Mail on or before May 9th

The tax rates have been set for 2017. The municipal portion of the taxes increased 6.6% in 2015. The Summer Village saw a 3% increase in school requisition in 2017. **The overall 2017 Tax Revenue is increasing by 4.6%**

This year's *municipal* budget will levy \$94,375 in taxes and the *school requisitions*, determined by the Province and Calgary Catholic School Board will levy \$120,344.

*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, 2017.**

There will be a 10% penalty assessed on all taxes that are received with a postmark that is after June 30<sup>th</sup>. 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 30<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.telpay.ca) click *Telpay Online* -- click *Get Started* click

*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 the set up to last few days or your payment will be late.* Service fees apply.

3. **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)
4. **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 The *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 30<sup>th</sup>.*

**NOTE: If you have not received your Tax Notice in the mail by May 23rd, please contact the Village Office.**

## Weed Control Management Plan – Information Session Saturday May 13 12 noon

The Natural Environment Committee has developed a weed control management plan with the assistance of an environmental company. An open house will be held on Saturday May 13 commencing at noon, at the Community Services Building to inform the public on the management plan and answer questions on the workplan for this year.

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## 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. 4 days per week for 6 weeks. Anyone interested in this position is asked to submit a resume to the Village Office by **May 23rd<sup>th</sup>**.

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 or before 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](mailto:admin@ghostlake.ca) and let us know which week(s) Jul-Aug you are available to help.

**The program cannot proceed without supervisors, so please contact the Village Office by May 23<sup>rd</sup> if you are willing to assist.**

## 911 Calls

Lands abutting the Summer Village are not located in a 911 calling district. If you are near the water or outside the Summer Village, depending on the tower your cell phone is connecting to, you may end up in a non 911 calling area. If that occurs DO NOT HANG UP.....Wait for the Operator to come on the line and they will connect your call with the 911 dispatch.

## Road Resurfacing

The road resurfacing project was delayed until spring 2017 due to the early onset of wet weather in the fall. Work will commence late spring/early summer.

## Property Civic Address Signs

Civic Address signage is a crucial element for efficient emergency response. It is in the best interest of each property owner and resident to have a standardized civic address sign clearly displayed on the front of their property. The signs will help emergency response personnel, such as fire, ambulance and police find a property at Ghost Lake Village quickly.

The Summer Village has adopted a standard civic address sign that will be required to place on each property. The initial signs are being provided to each property owner FREE of charge. Ideally Council would like to see all signs up by June 30<sup>th</sup>, but will not start enforcing until after September 4, 2017

- Signs must be erected at the FRONT of the property,
- between 1 metre and 2 metres above ground level (measured from bottom of the sign),
- Clearly visible from the road (no trees, shrubs, ornaments obstructing sign) and
- at least 1 metre from the side property boundary. (ie, do not install on the edge of your property or the responder may confuse it with your neighbour's property)

Civic Address signs will be available for pickup at the Annual Meeting and at the Regatta.

## Fire Prevention & First Response Committee News

**Volunteers needed** for the Committee:

- to **work** on our Fire Prevention Plan
- to **learn** how we can respond in a fire event
- to **assist** with fire emergency call-outs
- to **maintain** our equipment

For more information contact: Bill Bauer 715 GLV [wfbauerghost@gmail.com](mailto:wfbauerghost@gmail.com) or Fred Smith  
410GLV [fred@feedsmithconsulting.com](mailto:fred@feedsmithconsulting.com)

## Get to know your neighbour

The faces in the village have changed quite a bit over the past few years and many residents do not know their neighbours.

There are great advantages in getting to know your neighbours:

- Ensuring a safer community by keeping an eye out for one another;
- Helping each other in times of emergency or extreme weather events,
- Letting each other know when damages have occurred to their property ie. broken windows, fallen trees.

Exchange phone numbers and email addresses with your neighbours and help look out for each other. This is especially helpful for part time residents who are not at their cabin regularly.

Check out the Land Tenure map included with your tax notice. Do you know your neighbours?

## Stop the Spread

### How You Can Stop Spreading Whirling Disease in Alberta

Everyone, including anglers, boaters and recreational water users can help stop the spread of whirling disease.

This disease is not harmful to humans or other mammals but can have significant effects on some fish populations. It can be transmitted from infected locations to other water bodies:

- through equipment used for swimming, paddling, boating, water pumping, and fishing
- through infected fish and fish parts

The movement of fish, mud and water can potentially spread whirling disease.

### Best Practices for Stopping the Spread

Please follow these best practices:

- Never move live or dead fish, or fish parts from one water body to another (this is illegal in Alberta).
- Use fish cleaning stations where available or put fish parts in the garbage. Never dispose of fish, or any fish parts, in your kitchen garbage.
- It is illegal to use live fish as bait. The use of worms or leeches as bait should be avoided as well.

Before moving a boat or any equipment (ie hip waders, life jackets, kayaks, etc.) between water bodies, be sure to:

#### **Clean**

- Clean and inspect watercraft, trailers, and all equipment that has been in contact with water. This includes boats, motors, boots, waders, bait buckets, and swimming floats.
- Remove all mud, sand, and plant materials before leaving the shore.
- Rinse, scrub, or pressure wash your boat and equipment away from storm drains, ditches or waterways. Use hot water if possible (90°C or hotter).

#### **Drain**

- Before leaving the shoreline, drain water from watercraft and equipment onto dry land.
- Remember to "Pull the Plug" because it is illegal to transport watercraft with the drain plug still in place.

#### **Dry**

- Dry the watercraft and/or equipment completely between trips and allow the wet areas to air dry. Allow for a minimum of 24 hours of drying time before entering new waters.
- Leave compartments open on boats and equipment, and sponge out standing water.

## 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.

### **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.

*NOTE: Go-carts and golf carts are not allowed on Village roads at any time, pursuant to Provincial regulations*

### **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.

### **Recycling**

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**



# Ghost Lake Village Mini-Newsletter - May, 2017

## Weed Management Program

Dandelions - will be sprayed on the golf course and horse shoe pit lands on Wednesday, May 31<sup>st</sup> (weather permitting).

Noxious Weeds – in mid June, Prairie Environmental will be in the Village to check on the weed growth and if there is sufficient weed leaf development they will post signs with the timing planned for the spraying with an alternate day in case of rain.

Please note that according to the Weed Control Act RSA, the Summer Village of Ghost Lake is responsible to ensure that noxious weeds are controlled on lands within the Summer Village. Landowners are responsible for controlling noxious weeds on their own property. Council has approved a weed control management program for public lands. Prairie Environmental has been carefully chosen by the Natural Environment Committee and endorsed by Council for developing and implementing a weed control management program for the public lands. They are accredited weed management experts, licensed and trained in the use of herbicides.

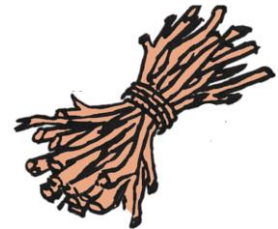


Private lands - If there are weed infestations on private property that individuals want treated at the same time as the public lands, please contact Prairie Environmental directly ahead of mid June to arrange for action the day the public lands are being sprayed. The cost of spraying on private lands, will be the landowner's responsibility and payment arrangements made directly between landowner and Prairie Environmental. Prairie Environmental can be contacted at 403-510-1608.

*Thanks, from your Natural Environment and Lake Stewardship Committee & Public Works Committee*

## Burn Pile

We have not been able to burn the pile for a few months. Please place tree branches as far back on the pile as possible. Note that plastics, nails and screws pose a serious hazard to volunteers during a burn, please remove those items before placing wood materials on the pile.



*Thanks, from your Fire Prevention & First Response Committee*

## Annual Meeting

The Village Annual Meeting will be held on **Saturday, June 10, 2017** 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.

## Nomination Day

Nomination Day for the Summer Village of Ghost Lake is **Saturday, June 10, 2017** and that nominations for the election of three (3) candidates for council positions will be received between the hours of **1:00 pm and 3:00 pm** at the Community Services Building, 601 Ghost Lake Village, Ghost Lake Alberta. For more information and to download Nomination forms click here <http://ghostlake.ca/2017-election/>

## Tax Due June 30<sup>th</sup>

If sending by mail, envelope must be clearly postmarked by June 30<sup>th</sup>. All direct payments must be deposited into the Village bank account by June 30<sup>th</sup>.

# SUMMER VILLAGE OF GHOST LAKE

## AUGUST 2017 MINI-NEWSLETTER

### Council 2017

The Summer Village of Ghost Lake has elected a new council for the upcoming 4 year term. The councillors were elected by acclamation on June 10, 2017 and sworn into office on June 15, 2017 and appointed to their positions.

John Walsh	Mayor
Warren Wilson	Deputy Mayor
Robyn Carrier	Councillor

The next Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 19, 2017 6 pm at the Community Services Building, 601 Ghost Lake Village.

### Fire Ban and OHV Restriction

The Summer Village of Ghost Lake recognizes firebans that are placed on adjacent lands ie. MD of Bighorn. Effective August 1, 2017 the FireBan was extended to include a restriction of Off Highway Vehicles (OHV) from public lands. This will include all public lands within the Summer Village.

The fire ban and OHV restriction currently in place is as follows:

#### Prohibited

- Open fires
- Charcoal briquettes,
- Turkey fryers
- Tiki torches
- Fireworks and exploding targets
- Recreational OHV use on public lands



#### Allowed

- Portable propane fire pits that are CSA approved or UL certified
- Gas or propane stoves and barbecues that are CSA approved or UL certified
- Catalytic or infrared-style heaters

*Check the Village Website and [AlbertaFireBans.ca](http://AlbertaFireBans.ca) for updates on the fireban and OHV Restriction.*

### Burn Pile is Closed

The Public Works and Fire Committee have been unable to burn off the wood debris pile this spring/summer and the burn pile is now at full capacity and closed until further notice.

### Dock Space

A reminder to residents that assigned dock space must be actively used each year in order to maintain rights to the space. The Village has a waiting list of residents seeking dock space to use. Until such time as new dock space can be developed, we need to ensure that the existing dock space is being utilized.

## **2017 Regatta**

The Communications and Village Social Life Committee, under the coordination of Leah Fink will be holding the Annual Regatta during the August Long weekend. A schedule of events can be found on the Village website at [www.ghostlake.ca](http://www.ghostlake.ca)

*Due to the current firebans, there will be no fireworks show this year.*

## **Weed Management Program**

The 2017 weed control management program is underway. In June, Prairie Environmental undertook the first round of spraying and further spray will occur when conditions are ideal for an effective application. Weed spraying signs will be posted in the Summer Village by Prairie Environmental prior to spraying.

## **Wood Chips – Free For The Taking**

The Natural Environment Committee ordered wood chips for a restoration project on the westend. They have some leftover wood chips (mulch) that is free for the taking for residents to use. You can find the wood chips at the end of the cul-de-sac on the westend of the Village.

## **Property Civic Address Signs**

A reminder that the Village standard a property address sign needs to be installed on your property by September 4, 2017. Signs must be erected at the FRONT of the property between 1 metre and 2 metres above the ground level (from bottom of sign) and at least 1 metre from the side property boundary. If you have not received your sign yet, please contact the Village Office.

## **Remember to Clean, Drain and Dry your watercraft to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species.**

### **Clean**

- Clean and inspect watercraft, trailer and gear
- Remove all plants, animals, and mud at the access area or dock
- At home, soak your gear in a bleach solution for at least one minute
- Rinse, scrub or pressure wash your boat away from storm drains, ditches or waterways

### **Drain - Remember to pull the drain plug because it is now the law!**

On land, before leaving the waterbody, drain all water from:

- Bait buckets
- Ballasts
- Bilges
- Coolers
- Internal compartments
- Livewells, etc.

### **Dry**

- Dry the watercraft and gear completely between trips and allow the wet areas of your boat to air dry
- Leave compartments open and sponge out standing water.

# SUMMER VILLAGE OF GHOST LAKE

## AUGUST 2017 MINI-NEWSLETTER #2

### Library Closure

The Ghost Lake Library is closed due to a recent act of vandalism. Library volunteers arrived at the Library on Friday afternoon to find the fire extinguisher had been discharged with yellow dust throughout the building. Volunteers are in the process of cleaning up the debris and hope to reopen the library by **Monday August 28<sup>th</sup>**.

*Thank you Chris and Karen for taking the time to clean up the library.*

If anyone noticed any unusual activity in the area of the library last Friday, please contact the Village Office.

### Property Civic Address Signs

A reminder that a Village standard property address sign needs to be installed on your property **by September 4, 2017**. Please note that the signs are primarily for emergency responders to find a location quickly. Make sure that the signs are installed at the front of your property, are clearly visible from the road, between 1 metre and 2 metres above the ground level (from bottom of sign) and at least 1 metre from the side property boundary. We will be checking for compliance after the September long weekend.

*Thank you Fire and First Response Committee for coordinating this project.*

### Weed Management Program

The final weed spraying for 2017 as part of the Village weed control management program is scheduled for **Monday September 11<sup>th</sup>** (*weather dependent*). Watch for signs posted in the Village a couple of days prior to spraying. This is will be spot application on Village lands (predominately the golf course lands) concentrating on thistle and toadflax.

If anyone is interested in arranging to have their properties treated at the same time, please contact Prairie Environmental directly at [info@prairieenvironmental.com](mailto:info@prairieenvironmental.com)

*Thank you to the Natural Environment and Lake Stewardship committee for coordinating this project.*

### Council Meeting – to be rescheduled

The next Council meeting scheduled for Tuesday, September 19, 2017 will be rescheduled to **mid October**. Please watch the Village Notice Board and website when rescheduled date and time is confirmed.

### Fire Ban and OHV Restriction Still in Affect

The fire ban and OHV restriction continues at the Summer Village of Ghost Lake due to dry conditions. As a reminder the fire ban and OHV restriction currently in place is as follows:

#### Prohibited

Open fires	Charcoal briquettes,
Turkey fryers	Tiki torches
Fireworks and exploding targets	Recreational OHV use on public lands

## Allowed

- Portable propane fire pits that are CSA approved or UL certified
- Gas or propane stoves and barbecues that are CSA approved or UL certified
- Catalytic or infrared-style heaters

Check the Village Website and [Albertafirebans.ca](http://Albertafirebans.ca) for updates on the fireban and OHV Restriction.

*Thank you Ariana for looking after communications and monitoring of the fire ban.*

## Burn Pile continues to remain closed

The continuing warm and dry conditions have prevented the Public Works and Fire Committee from burning off the wood debris pile and the burn pile remains closed until further notice.

*Thank you Fire and First Response and Public Works Committee for coordinating this project.*

## Waste Management and Recycling

A Reminder that the Village provides the following service to residents:

Waste Bin – for resident's household garbage – *this does not include old lawn furniture, construction materials, yard waste.*

Recycle Bin – accepts cardboard (*please breakdown so boxes are flat pieces*), paper (*if shredded in a tied clear plastic bag*), tetra packs, plastic bags (*bundled and place in one tied plastic bag*), plastic containers (*symbols 1-7*), Glass bottles and jars (*placed in a tied plastic bag*)

Please make sure to close the lid after using the bins. Occasionally in the summer months, there is unexpected high use of the bins, if they are overfull, please take your waste/recycle materials home and bring back next week. By leaving your waste and recycle beside the bins, it attracts big wildlife into the community (ie. bears) also your friends and neighbours end up cleaning up the mess.

## Thank you, Thank you....

In addition to the volunteers and committees mentioned above, thank you also to

- Leah and all the event coordinators/volunteers for putting on another amazing Regatta event this year
- Jeff for your patience and understanding as we monitored the weather and fire conditions daily to see if the fireworks show could happen or not this year.
- The Public Works Committee and the summer student supervisor team for taking a week out of your summer leisure time to help supervise the summer student worker.
- Cody, Bernadette and Blackline Safety for once again donating the lone worker monitoring device this summer to help monitor the safety and wellbeing of our summer worker.
- Everyone for your patience and understanding during the summer road surfacing project and ongoing fireban.
- The volunteers and committee that have not been mentioned in this newsletter who volunteer, *Making a Difference* in the community – there are so many of you that we at the Village Office don't see in action, but your results are acknowledged and enjoyed by staff, council, and the residents of Ghost Lake Village.