

# 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](http://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**