



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.

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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