

# **Lacombe County approves the 2024 tax rates**

In a move that aligns with its financial planning and policy commitments, Lacombe County has officially approved the tax rates for the year 2024, as outlined in the 2024 Tax Rate Bylaw. This comes after the completion of the property assessments for 2024 and the release of the year's provincial requisitions. It marks a significant moment for the County, particularly as it's the first year since the Budget Policy AD(24) approval in 2023, that the Council did not prepare a budget amendment.

"Approving the 2024 tax rates without increasing the burden on our residential taxpayers – especially with inflation being a concern for so many people – reflects our commitment to responsible governance and community support," said Lacombe County Reeve Barb Shepherd. "This approach ensures that we continue to provide essential services while fostering an environment conducive to growth and stability in Lacombe County."

### **UNDERSTANDING THE 2024 TAX RATES**

For the year 2024, residential municipal property tax rates will see no increase, maintaining a steady rate, which aligns with the County's commitment to affordability and stability for its residents. On the other hand, farmland and non-residential municipal tax rates will experience a modest increase of 1%.

These rates are consistent with the projections made in the 2024 budget approved last November, showcasing the County's efforts in keeping tax adjustments predictable and minimal.

The municipal tax levy for 2024 is set at \$36,117,420, showing a progression in the County's financial strategy to support its growing needs. This levy supports various County services and initiatives, ensuring that Lacombe County remains a vibrant and thriving community.

The 2024 tax rates and tax rate changes for Lacombe County, the Provincial RCMP Policing Levy, Alberta Education, and the Lacombe Foundation are on Page 12.

# Lacombe County adopts bylaw change to allow second dwellings on Agricultural 'A' District parcels 10 acres or larger

After carefully considering feedback received from the community at the public hearing, County Council gave second and third reading (final adoption) to Bylaws 1406/24 and 1407/24. These bylaw changes allow a second dwelling on Agricultural 'A' District parcels 10 acres or larger.

Previously, the County's regulations allowed two dwellings only on parcels of at least 40 acres in the Agricultural 'A' District. This bylaw change now opens up the possibility of a second residence on parcels 10 acres in size and larger in this District. This change aims to provide more flexible housing options in Lacombe County, reflecting ongoing community desires and supporting the vitality of the agricultural sector.

"Reducing the minimum parcel size for a second dwelling to 10 acres directly supports our vision of a thriving, sustainable agricultural community," said Lacombe County Reeve Barb Shepherd. "This decision aligns with the input we've consistently received from our residents, who value both their space and their community ties."

The amendments stem from an extensive review process

that began with adopting the County's Municipal Development Plan and Land Use Bylaw in July 2017. These foundational documents were shaped through broad community consultation, engaging landowners, residents, businesses, and other stakeholders. The 5-Year Review of the Municipal Development Plan and Land Use Bylaw, completed in 2023, reaffirmed the community's interest in expanding residential opportunities in agricultural areas.

"Our consultations have shown that many of our residents support increased dwelling options in agricultural areas," stated Dale Freitag, Director of Planning Services. The County's extensive public engagement on this topic is a testament to our continued commitment to transparent and open decision-making by engaging our community in the planning process and adjusting our policies to ensure they continue to meet our community's needs."

Lacombe County is dedicated to maintaining the integrity of its agricultural lands while evolving to meet the changing needs of its residents. This bylaw amendment is a critical step towards fostering a vibrant rural community with adequate and appropriate housing options.

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# Success Grows Here! | Living in a Hamlet

Do you live in one of Lacombe County's hamlets? Lacombe County's hamlets are vibrant residential communities within Lacombe County that offer an alternative to living in an urban municipality. Lacombe County has seven (7) hamlets: Joffre, Haynes, Tees, Morningside, Hespero, Rosedale Valley and Mirror. The County's Land Use Bylaw sets out the rules for how land can be used and developed in the hamlets; this includes rules for operating businesses, storing and using recreational vehicles, and property maintenance.

### Where are the County's hamlets?



### **Unsightly Properties**

Maintaining your property in good repair contributes to your community's curb appeal and aesthetic. Properties that fall into disrepair or yards that become filled with debris or refuse are labelled *unsightly premises*. The County's *Land Use Bylaw* defines *unsightly premises* as,

"any property, whether land, building improvements to lands or buildings, personal property, or any other combination of the above, located on the land within the County is unsightly to such extent as to detrimentally affect the repose, amenities, use, value or enjoyment of the surrounding lands in reasonable proximity to the unsightly premises, or is otherwise detrimental to the surrounding area or in an unsightly condition as defined by the Municipal Government Act."

The County's *Land Use Bylaw* requires that no property owner keep an unsightly premise. This can include not storing dilapidated or dismantled vehicles on a

property or removing unused or unnecessary building materials. The County can require property owners to comply with this requirement through Enforcement, which can include letters notifying the property owner of the issue, a Stop Order registered on the title of the property or a Court Order.

### **Recreational Vehicles**

Many people own recreational vehicles and wish to keep them on their property. Did you know that the County has rules for parking and using recreational vehicles in the hamlets? If you own a property in a hamlet, only one (1) recreational vehicle can be stored on a lot with a house at any given time. If you own a vacant property, recreational vehicles cannot be stored or used on the property. Recreational vehicles also cannot be used as a permanent residence.

Within the Hamlet of Mirror, property owners can obtain a development permit to use a recreational vehicle as a permanent residence on a temporary basis. This approval can only be given with a development permit for a house, and the recreational vehicle can only be used as a residence for up to one (1) year during construction.

### **Businesses**

Do you operate your own business that you want to run from your home? Lacombe County has provisions with the *Land Use Bylaw* to allow people to operate home based businesses from their property. Home based businesses are divided into two (2) categories, *home based business, minor* which does not have any customer visits to the site, and *home based business, major* which is a business that allows for customer visits on the site. In both cases, only the registered landowners can work on-site as part of the business, and employees who are not residents are not permitted to work on-site.

A home-based business, minor is a permitted use in the Hamlets, so they do require a development permit but the approval cannot be appealed by neighbours. A *home-based business, major* is a discretionary use in the hamlets, they also require a development approval, but it can be appealed by neighbours. If you would like more information on starting a business in a hamlet, please contact Planning Services and we'd be happy to help.

We all have a part in keeping our communities vibrant and successful! If you would like to see the full list of development regulations for the Hamlets, you can contact Planning Services or visit the County's website to read the *Land Use Bylaw*.





# NATIONAL VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION WEEK | April 14-20, 2024

Lacombe County proudly celebrates the remarkable volunteers from all walks of life who generously contribute their time and expertise. These dedicated individuals play a crucial role in making our communities strong, inclusive, and welcoming places to live, work, and play.

We are fortunate to have a diverse group of skilled volunteers throughout the County. This includes coaches who inspire our local sports teams, the caretakers of our community halls, and the individuals who maintain our indoor and outdoor recreation and cultural facilities. Our community event coordinators, volunteer firefighters, 4-H leaders, companions for seniors, Big Brothers and Big Sisters, and advocates for Victim Services are just a few of the many who contribute tirelessly to the welfare of Lacombe County.

These volunteers consistently rise to the occasion, providing invaluable service through both good times and challenging ones.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all the volunteers for their unwavering dedication and for helping to make Lacombe County a vibrant and nurturing community.

# Thank you for helping to make Lacombe County a vibrant and caring community!





# THANK YOU Lacombe County Volunteers!



Celebrating our volunteers for their helping hands and community spirit!



# This spring, check your burn piles!

As we welcome the warmth of spring, it's crucial to remember the hidden dangers that the past winter's activities may have left behind. Pile burning, a common method used to manage debris and clear land during colder months, can pose significant risks if not properly managed and extinguished. While the flames may have subsided, the threat of a deep ground fire could persist, smouldering undetected for months.

### Why It Matters

Ground fires from incomplete pile burns have the potential to reignite under the right conditions, transforming into dangerous wildfires that can threaten ecosystems, properties, and lives. The transition from winter to spring, with the melting snow and thawing ground, provides these conditions, making early spring a critical time for fire checks.

### **Guidelines for Effective Pile Burning**

- Optimal Conditions: Whenever possible, conduct pile burns under snow-covered and frozen ground conditions to minimize the risk of the fire spreading.
- Vigilance is Key: Never leave a burn site unattended. Monitor the site actively to ensure the fire is

completely extinguished.

- Persistence Pays Off: If the pile does not burn completely, re-pile and reburn as necessary. It's essential to ensure no materials are left smouldering.
- Check and Double-Check: After the surface burn appears out, diligently check piles for hot spots.
   Using a metal rod, probe the piles; warmth indicates the fire still burns beneath.
- Spring Surveillance: Conduct thorough checks of burn sites in early spring to confirm complete extinguishment. This step is crucial to prevent any chance of a wildfire.

As part of our commitment to safety and environmental stewardship, we urge everyone who conducted pile burns in the winter to take these guidelines to heart. A few minutes spent checking your burn sites can make a significant difference in preventing wildfires. Together, let's ensure our spring is not only vibrant and green but also safe for our communities and natural habitats.

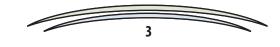
Remember, vigilance today can prevent a wildfire tomorrow. Stay safe, and ensure your winter burns are completely out before welcoming the full bloom of spring.

### Check your burn piles!

🌲 Spring Is Here, But Is Your Fire Really Out? 🌻

Your vigilance can prevent wildfires. Let's keep our spring safe and green!





# **SAFETY FIRST**



### **GOLF CARTS & ELECTRIC** SCOOTERS - Road Use







Golf carts and electric scooters are classified as prohibited miniature vehicles under the Traffic Safety Act and Lacombe County Bylaws.

This means that golf carts and electric scooters are strictly prohibited on any highway, including ditches and sidewalks alongside the roadway.



Miniature vehicles may only operate on private property or in relation to electric scooters, where Alberta Transportation has issued a permit with the approval of the municipality.

Failing to obey these rules may not only result in costly fines, but their operation poses a risk to your safety and others.

### For more information refer to these links:

GUIDE TO SMALL VEHICLES: MICROSOFT WORD - SMALL\_VEHICLE\_BOOKLET\_FINAL.DOC (ALBERTA.CA)

TRAFFIC SAFETY ACT:

OFF HIGHWAY VEHICLE BYLAW:
HTTPS://WWW.LACOMBECOUNTY.COM/EN/LIVING-HERE/OFF-HIGHWAY-VEHICLE-USE.ASPX

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LacombeCounty









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youtube.com/ LacombeCounty

www.lacombe county.com

# **SHARE THE ROAD!** | A spring seeding safety message from **Lacombe County**

As the frost thaws and the days grow longer, farmers across Lacombe County are gearing up for the crucial task of spring seeding. Tractors and heavy machinery are making their way back to the fields, marking the start of a busy planting season.

This surge of agricultural activity, however, brings an increased presence of slow moving vehicles (SMVs) on the roads— a change that requires heightened awareness and safety measures from all road users. Here are essential tips and best practices for both farmers operating SMVs and travellers driving near these vehicles, ensuring a safe spring seeding season for everyone.

### **Tips for Operating Slow Moving** Vehicles (SMVs):

- Display the SMV Emblem: Make sure your vehicle has a visible slow-moving vehicle emblem mounted at the rear. This triangular, reflective sign alerts other road users that your vehicle travels at speeds of 40 km/h (25 mph) or less.
- Ensure Proper Lighting: Before dawn, after dusk, or in poor visibility conditions, make sure your vehicle is equipped with adequate lighting. Front headlights and rear tail lights increase visibility, making it easier for others to see you.
- Plan Your Route: If possible, plan your route to minimize travel on busy roads and during peak traffic times. Consider using alternative routes that are less travelled to reach your fields.

### **Safe Driving Practices Near SMVs:**

- Patience is Key: SMVs are not just tractors; they include farm implements, construction equipment, and other oversized loads that are vital for local agriculture and infrastructure projects. When encountering these vehicles, exercise patience and understand they are essential for the work being done.
- Pass With Care: Only pass an SMV when it's safe. Ensure you have clear visibility of oncoming traffic and that the vehicle is not

- signalling to make a left turn. Remember, the operator may have limited visibility, so signal your intentions well in advance.
- Keep a Safe Distance: Maintain a safe following distance. SMVs may make unexpected stops or turns, especially when entering or exiting fields. A safe distance allows you more time to react to these maneuvers.

### For Those Driving a Moving Truck or an Oversized Load:

When navigating the highways and byways of Lacombe County with an oversized load or at speeds below the limit, the following guidelines will ensure safety for all road users:

- Right Lane Usage: Move to the right lane whenever it's safe. This allows faster-moving vehicles to pass safely on the left.
- Stay Close to the Curb: Drive as near to the right curb or edge of the roadway as practical. This minimizes the obstruction to the normal flow of traffic.
- Avoid Passing: Avoid overtaking or passing another vehicle unless absolutely necessary. The size and speed of your load make this maneuver risky.
- Left Turn Caution: Exercise extreme caution when turning left at an intersection or into a driveway. Ensure oncoming traffic is a safe distance away before executing your turn.
- Follow Traffic Directives: If traffic control devices or signs direct slow-moving traffic to use a specific lane, adhere strictly to these instructions. They are placed for your safety and the safety of oth-

As we embrace the spring seeding season, let's commit to heightened vigilance and safety on the roads. By following these guidelines, we can ensure a safe and productive season for the farmers and residents of Lacombe County alike. Together, we can keep our community safe and support the agricultural activities that are the backbone of our local economy.



# **MIRROR CORNER**



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ALIX MIRROR WELLNESS SUPPORTS SOCIETY

### SERVICES AVAILABLE TO MIRROR

- Alix and Area
   Community Poso
- Bashaw & Area Community
   Poscurce Centre



#### Wellness Services

Massage Therapy Acupuncture Holistic Practitioner Mental Health Therapy Nursing Foot Care

#### Partner Feature Family Resource Network

Adult Learning

Bashaw Regional Wellness Initiative

Alix Dance Club Well Mannered Mutts



#### Social Services

Food Bank Information & Referral Resource Navigation Meals on Wheals

# Form Support Seasonal Programs Volunteer Income Tax Assistance

Senion's Week Volunteer Appreciation Winter Wishes Joy of Giving

Coats for Kids, Santa's Anonymous, Fill A Fridge Mitten Tree Angel Tree Tools for School

Please call either office for details on further programs available to Mirror



Bay 1 & 2, 5008 50 Ave, Alix AB 403-396-3369

#### All Ages Welcome

Connecting Clans
Community Events
FREE Weekly Veggies
Puzzle Exchange
Tech Support

### Child, Youth & Family

Cub Crew
Moms & Tots
Rainbows
Family Wellness
After-School Programs
Safety Week
Summer Fun
Swimming Lessons
Youth Outings
Babu Clinic

#### Senior & Adult

Wise Owls Senior Fun Lifeline Home Support Cooking Connections Senior Outings Pickleball Fitness Fun Transportation

Healthy Families



4909 50 Street, Bashaw, AB 780-372-4074

### 2024 Mirror Dog Tags

A license is required for all dogs in Mirror. The fee is \$15.00 for an altered dog and \$25.00 for an unaltered dog. After February 28, 2023, the cost increases to \$30 for an altered dog and \$50 for an unaltered dog. For more information, please call (403) 782-6601 or visit <a href="https://www.lacombecounty.com/en/living-here/animal-control.aspx">www.lacombecounty.com/en/living-here/animal-control.aspx</a>.

Lacombe County will issue a tag for each dog, which must be attached to a collar worn by the dog at all times. Lacombe County Enforcement Officers will do checks to ensure compliance.

If you would like to report a contravention of the Dog Control Bylaw, please call 403-506-9380, or email info@klassickennels.com. \*\*For animal welfare issue please contact the Alberta SPCA at http://www.albertaspca.org/\*\*\*

### **Jolly Seniors**

Pancake breakfast every second Sunday from 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

### **Booking Mirror Community Hall**

Call Lisa 403-788-3890 or cell 403-505-3894. Alternately you can contact Mike Carr, home 403-788-3778 or cell 403-357-8239 for hall information.

### Friends of the Mirror Library Society/Mirror Library

The Mirror Library would like to remind patrons

of the many items available for borrowing. We carry books for everyone, audiobooks, DVDs, games, and puzzles.

Hours: Wednesdays 2-5 p.m.
Thursdays 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
2nd & 4th Saturdays
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Please like us at: <a href="mailto:facebook.com/booksinmirror">facebook.com/booksinmirror</a>
for the most up to date information. The Library also has meeting spaces for rent and free Wi-Fi. Please contact us through the Facebook page or email booksinmirror@gmail.com.

### Mirror Royal Canadian Legion Branch 189 - 5015 50th Avenue

Meat Draws Saturday at 4 p.m. General meetings second Sunday at 1 p.m. (unless otherwise posted).

#### **Mirror and District Museum**

Contact <a href="mmuseum@cciwireless.ca">mmuseum@cciwireless.ca</a> if you would like to volunteer and for hours of operation

### **CN Rail crossing delays**

If you experience delays longer than 20 minutes at the Mirror rail yard crossing, call CN Rail at 1-800-465-9239. Follow the prompts and be ready to provide details shown on the crossing signal mast to CN personnel. Transport Canada may be reached at 1-888-463-0521.



### WHAT IS A SOUND BATH?

A group of people, resting on yoga mats (or seated) are bathed in the rich and relaxing sound and vibrations of Drums, Tibetan bowls and vocals.

bowls and vocals.
Combining the science of sound with
spiritual peace, we "move the molecules" to
create a healing space within your mind,
body and spirit

### WHY WOULD I

Many of my clients find deep relaxation is attained, along with pain relief from injury, accidents, trauma, etc.
The thrumming vibrations melt stress and emotional upset, shifting the state of mind from stressed to blessed!

### WHAT DO I BRING?

A jug of water A cushy pad to lay on the floor (or a restful chair) A blanket to cozy up in!

ARE YOU READY TO TRY ITTSIGN UP, PREPAY AND PREPARE TO TREAT YOURSELF TO A MEDITATIVE HOUR OF PEACE AND HARMONIOUS COMMUNION!

### Cost \$40/person

Location: Mirror Community Hall 5102 50Ave Mirror Date: Sunday April 28th @2pm Interac payment to: crmnhansen1018@yahoo.com please include the message 'mirror]

> Please contact Carmen Hansen 403-836-7065 for more information



### **PLANTS & BOOKS GALORE!**





Plant and book sale at the Mirror Community Library





### BALL TOURNAMENT

**DATES:** May 17 to 20, 2024

COST: \$250 per Team
A team is 6 men and 4 women

LOCATION: Mirror, Alberta at 48 Avenue & 49 Street

### TO REGISTER / FOR MORE INFO: Call Diagne at 403-391-4083

PLUS MORE!

FREE CAMPING

of activities on Saturday for the whole family!

Campground is located south of the ball fields.

\$7 PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Saturday 7:30am to 10:30am at Mirror Community Hall 5102 - 50 Avenue

May 18 from 7pm to Midnight at Mirror Community Hall 5102 - 50 Avenue

CHECK OUT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE:





# **ENVIRONMENT**

### WHAT YOU CAN'T DO ON RESERVE LAND SOME SIMPLE RULES

We want everyone to enjoy our County reserve lands while keeping them beautiful and safe. By adhering to these rules, we can help preserve the natural beauty of our County lands and ensure that everyone can enjoy them responsibly. Here are some easy rules to remember:

### 1. PROTECT THE PLANTS

Do not cut, mow or remove plants trees, or any other vegetation





### 3. STICK TO THE DESIGNATED PATHS

Keep OHVs on designated trails





### 5. NO SIGNS OR ADS

Do not attach signs, advertisements, or anything else to trees, fences, or



### 7. KEEP THE AREA CLEAN

Do not dispose of landscaping materials, yard clippings, waste, rocks on these lands.



# 8. RESPONSIBLE CHEMICAL USE

Do not discard hazardous materials or use pesticides, herbicides, or fertilizers on the land.

### 9. RESPONSIBLE WASTE DISPOSAL

Pack out any waste you pack in or utilize designated waste bins.



### 10. NO CAMPING ALLOWED

Camping is only allowed in areas where signage permits it. Always follow the posted rules and conditions for those areas

### 11. THESE ARE PUBLIC LANDS

Remember, these are public lands. Do not restrict access to others.





## **APPLY TODAY | PAMZ**

### Dr. Martha Kostuch Scholarship

The Parkland Airshed Management Zone (PAMZ) is pleased to announce that it will be accepting applications for the 2024 Dr. Martha Kostuch Scholarship beginning on December 15, 2023.

This scholarship celebrates the legacy of environmental advocate Dr. Martha Kostuch. During her 30-vear career. Dr. Kostuch made a significant impact on how environmental management policy was developed in Alberta. Her work influenced a shift towards shared governance, recognizing that there is a shared responsibility for all sectors to act as good stewards of the environment.

is presented annually to a deserving, graduating high school student in recognition of their outstanding service and leadership, as well as their potential for future achievement in environmental stewardship. The deadline for applications is midnight, May 31, 2024, and the successful recipient will be notified by June 30, 2024.

For more information about the Martha Kostuch Scholarship, please visit https://pamz. org/martha-kostuch-scholarship/ or contact

The Dr. Martha Kostuch Environmental Edu-

cation Fund was permanently established

to honour her memory and to help students

from the PAMZ region pursue an education

that will benefit the environment. This award

Sarah Trottier at comm@pamz.org.







### TREE & SHRUB SALES!

2024 Resident Environmental Sustainability Program

Lacombe County's 2024 program has potted trees on sale for \$11.82/tree or shrub!! Limits of 3 trees per household will be in place.

Trees and shrubs currently in stock are:

Okanse Poplar | Golden Willow | Laurel Leaf Willow

We plan to sell these trees over the week of May 21-24, 2024. (Watch our website and/or social media for exact dates/times)

PROOF OF RESIDENCY is required, as this program is only for Lacombe County residents.

Questions? Email jberry@lacombecounty.com or call 403-782-8959.

# **Ellis Bird Farm announces** rebrand to Ellis Nature Centre

After 42 years as the "Bird Farm" Ellis Bird Farm are moving forward with an updated name. Our core values of education, research and stewardship remain the same and we are honored to continue the Ellis's legacy as "Ellis Nature Centre". The Board of Directors



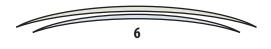
have chosen this new name to better reflect the scope of experiences and appeal to a wider public audience. The rebranding includes a new logo and website which will be released in May 2024.

"The board sees that in this day and age of electronic media, the words "Nature Center" more accurately reflects the types of nature based activities we offer" stated incoming Chair Ron Bjorge.

"MEGlobal Canada ULC (MEGlobal) has been a proud supporter of environmental education and sustainability in Central Alberta since Union Carbide began operations on the Prentiss site more than 40 years ago. Our commitment to preserve the work of Charlie and Winnie Ellis continues, and I am excited to learn of the Ellis Bird Farm changing its name to the Ellis Nature Centre," said MEGlobal Canadian Production Director Amanda VanderBurg.

She added "This change is very appropriate because visitors to the site don't just learn about birds. They also learn about our rich and diverse ecosystem, sustainable agriculture practices and the value of conservation for current and future generations. This new name will reflect the profound respect and love for nature that Charlie and Winnie offered to share with their communities, and I hope many people will take advantage of visiting this gem of a place."

While the original name is fondly known in the local community, our visitors and online audience often come from further distances and are not familiar with all that we have to offer as a public destination and nature centre. Our education programming, avian research and conservation projects continue to be an integral component of our activities. Make sure to visit us this summer and be a part of the new Ellis Nature Centre!



# **OPERATIONS**



# **Paid Parking Program**

<u>REMINDER</u>: the Paid Parking Program is in effect from May - September at the following locations



### **Sandy Point Beach**

\$3/hour
OR
\$15/day for parking at Sandy
Point Beach.



### **Boat Launches**

\$10/day to launch only
\$20/day launch and park

<u>Applies to:</u>
Sandy Point Boat Launch
Sunbreaker Cove Boat Launch





### **Annual Pass**

- \$120/year Sandy Point Beach Parking
- \$160/year Boat Launch & Parking
- \$80/year Boat Launch ONLY\*

(\*doesn't include parking)

Questions? Prepay? Visit www.lacombecounty.com/paidparking

# Don't get left in the dust!

Lacombe County is currently taking requests for our **2024 Dust Control Program.** If you are interested in having Calcium Chloride in front of your residence or place of business, please contact Cassandra at the County shop at 403.782.3567.

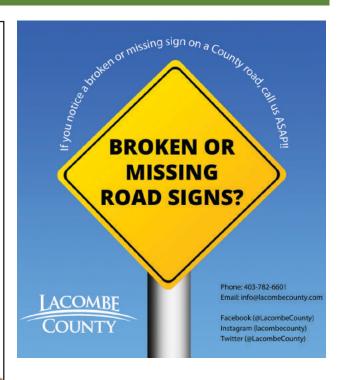


Ratepayer's cost-shared rate for 2024 is \$3.64 per lineal metre for two applications and \$1.82 per lineal metre for one application, to a maximum of 200 metres. If you require more than 200 metres, the additional will NOT be cost shared.

Please submit your application and make payment for dust control before the annual deadline of May 15, 2024.

\*\*Note: The application of dust abatement may cause some possible effects, such as loss of vegetation. Lacombe County is not responsible for any claims or damages resulting from the application process.\*\*

If you are interested in finding out more about the County's Dust Control Program, please call Cassandra at 403.782.3567, Ivy at 403.782.8379 or email operations@lacombecounty.com





# **AGRICULTURE**

# Ephemeral (Temporary) Wetlands matter – and preserving them pays in many ways!

By Ken Lewis, ALUS Coordinator

As the snow melted this spring, you'll have seen many ephemeral wetlands in your fields and pastures. Ephemeral Wetlands are the type of non-permanent wetlands, that last the shortest amount of time – a few days to a few weeks. You see them especially in the early spring during and after snowmelt, and you might see them again later after the heaviest of rains.

We might call them "puddles"... and we might find them annoying, but ephemeral wetlands are very important features on the landscape. Important for other critters, but extremely important for humans too.

[Insert photo "Ephemeral Wetland". Caption: "Ephemeral Wetlands like this one, could earn you \$100 per acre per year from ALUS, when you choose to farm around them"]

Ephemerals are vital habitat for many migrating waterfowl, with both of them arriving in our part of the world at the same time (that's no coincidence!). Ephemeral wetlands could be the only open bodies of water available, for waterfowl to land in and find food in, so they can rest and recover, before continuing on their journey.

Ephemerals and other non-permanent wetlands are also one of the few habitats on earth where "amphibians are king" (and queen). With no fish to fill the role, amphibians like the tiger salamander are the "top predator" in ephemeral, temporary and seasonal wetlands. Healthy populations of am-

phibians eat countless insects, some of which are insects we don't want, like mosquitoes or crop pests.

Ephemeral wetlands are also very important in filtering surface water, minimizing the impact of downstream flooding, and recharging our groundwater aguifers. During high water times like the spring thaw and heavy summer storms, ephemeral wetlands hold and store water, so downstream flooding or erosion is reduced. When the run-off water slows down an ephemeral wetland, silt, excess nutrients, and other contaminants in the water all get a chance to settle out, and they can later be used by plants and animals, or broken down by the sun. When ephemerals fill up during spring run-off and in rainstorms, much of that water gets the chance to infiltrate down into the soil, ultimately helping replenish our aquifers and keeping our streams and rivers flowing later in the season.

Ephemerals are so important in fact, that ALUS is keen to work with farmers to preserve or enhance those wetlands in your crop fields. In its simplest form, preserving an ephemeral wetland involves nothing more than choosing to farm around it. When you choose to do that, ALUS could pay you up to \$100 per acre of ephemeral wetland that you are preserving, each year.

If you'd like to find out more about how ALUS works with farmers to preserve and enhance ephemeral wetlands in crop fields, please contact me any time at 403-505-9038 or at klewis@rdcounty.ca



# NEW | Farm Restricted Class 1 driver's license

In Alberta, eligible farmers can now obtain a Farm Restricted Class 1 driver's license. This differs from an ordinary Class 1 driver's license, as this specialized license is designed specifically for farmers and immediate family members and allows them to operate certain vehicles necessary for their agricultural operations. Unlike the standard Class 1 license, the Farm Restricted Class 1 license may have less stringent requirements, such as reduced training hours or exemptions from certain testing procedures. Additionally, holders of this license are typically restricted to driving within a defined radius of their farm or for specific agricultural purposes. This distinction recognizes the unique needs of farmers while ensuring they can legally and safely operate vehicles essential to their livelihood.

For more information on this the Alberta government page link <a href="https://www.alberta.ca/farm-restricted-class-1-drivers-licence">https://www.alberta.ca/farm-restricted-class-1-drivers-licence</a>.

# REQUEST BY MAY 15: Roadside Haying Program

Lacombe County recognizes the value of legumes and grass growing in municipal road allowances during times of drought. As such, Lacombe County will work cooperatively with agricultural producers who wish to hay Lacombe County road allowances.

### **Important Dates:**

- **MAY 15:** Residents must submit written requests to Lacombe County in order to hay the road allowance adjacent to their lands.
- **JULY 15:** Once the request is approved, the resident has until July 15 to cut and bail the road allowance.
- **JULY 16 end of season**: After July 15, uncut areas of the road allowance will be mowed by Lacombe County.

PLEASE NOTE: Roadside Haying Agreements must be renewed annually.

Please contact Lacombe County Community Services at 403-782-8959 for more information.



# **AGRICULTURE**

### **Grain Bag and Twine Recylers in Lacombe County**

Are you recycling your agricultural plastics and twine to help the environment?

### IT ONLY WORKS IF YOU RECYCLE RIGHT!!

We have found many recycling issues, which have led to twine bags thrown in the garbage (rather than appropriately recycled). Please ensure you are following the proper steps (below).









NO feed bags ~ NO grain totes

~ NO silage plastic ~

NO bale wrap

### **Grain Bag and Twine Recycling in Lacombe County**

### **Grain Bag Recycling**



### **Details:**

This service is offered free of charge to agriculture producers operating within Lacombe County. The grain bags will be rolled and collected on farm site for eventual delivery to a plastic recycling center in Alberta.

### Requirements

- Agriculture producers who request grain bag recycling services must provide one individual on site, capable of assisting the rolling and collection operation.
- Grain bags MUST BE FREE of grain, mud, dirt debris, and vermin
- · To ensure used grain bags are eligible for recycling, grain bag collection services should be scheduled within one week of grain extraction.
- Grain bag collection services are offered free of charge.

### **Twine Recycling**



### **Details:**

Producers can pick up Clean Farms Twine Recycling Bags at any Lacombe Regional Waste Services Commission Transfer Site during regular business hours. Twine will only be accepted if it is placed in the Clean Farms Twine Recycling Bag, and then brought to the collection site.

### Requirements

- 1. Shake Remove as much debris, snow or ice as possible. Excessively dirty twine may be rejected, or subject to a landfill tipping fee or additional charges at drop off.
- 2. Bag Place loose twine in a Clean Farms Twine Recycling Bag and tie bags to close. Please do not knot the twine. Clean Farms Twine Recycling bags are available free of charge at any Lacombe Regional Waste Services Commission Transfer Sites.
- 3. Return Return to a Lacombe Regional Waste Services Commission Transfer Site during regular business hours.

To book grain bag collection or further questions regarding agriculture plastics or twine recycling, please call 403-782-8959.

# **Water Conservation**

# **Conversation!**

Many parts of Alberta are preparing for a drought after several dry years. While a lot of the focus is on Southern Alberta, Lacombe County residents, farmers and businesses are encouraged to find ways of conserving water.

To get ideas "flowing", Lacombe County is launching the Water Conservation Conversation, which provides simple tips and resources for saving water. Over the next few months, we will explore some of the ideas below in more detail in the County News and online (website/social media).



#### WHERE CAN I START?

All Albertans are asked to consider ways to use water wisely. Conserving water is always a good habit, and it can help your community and Albertans downstream from

If looking for ways to save water, there are small steps that everyone can take:

### INDOOR:

- Take shorter (5 minute) showers.
- Fix leaks, including leaky toilets & faucets.
- Fill the sink instead of letting the water run when washing dishes.
- Keep a jug of cool water in the fridge instead of running the tap.
- Use dishwashers and washing machines with full loads only.

### OUTDOOR:

- Only water your lawn when necessary. If allowed, water sparingly in the morning or evening (to reduce evaporation).
- Collect and reuse water for outdoor plant use (this could include water from the house and rain barrels).
- Clean outside with a broom instead of a hose.
- Check for leaks in outdoor pipes, faucets and hoses.
- Plant drought-tolerant vegetation, or consider xeriscaping.

### **FARMING IN DRY CONDITIONS:**

In Lacombe County, farmers facing dry conditions can utilize a range of resources the Alberta government provides to help manage their farming operations effectively.



The guidance available on the Alberta government's webpage includes strategies for crop selection and livestock care under drought conditions, water conservation techniques, and access to mental health support. Additionally, financial tools like budgeting assistance and insurance options are highlighted to help mitigate the risks associated with farming in drier

For detailed strategies and support, visit the Farming in Dry Conditions webpage at www.alberta.ca/farming-in-dry-conditions.



# Catch the MAN VAN® at the Lacombe County Office: A Lifesaving Opportunity for Men's Health

As we embark on a new year, the importance of prioritizing health and well-being takes centre stage. It's the perfect time to shed light on a crucial aspect of men's health - the prostate.

In Alberta, 1 in 6 men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer in their lifetime, which often progresses with little to no warning signs. Early detection is the key to effectively treating this disease.

Did you know that a simple blood test can provide valuable insights into your prostate health? If you or someone you care about has a prostate, this message is for you.

The MAN VAN®, operated by the Prostate Cancer Centre, is Canada's first mobile men's clinic offering free PSA (prostate-specific antigen) blood testing, which can help with early prostate cancer detection. And we're thrilled to announce that we're rolling to the Lacombe County Administration Building in June 2024!

> Date: Thursday, June 20, 2024 Time: 11 AM -3 PM

If you or a man in your life is between 50-70\*, take control of your health and make it a point to stop by the MAN VAN® on June 20, 2024, to GET CHECKED.

This invaluable opportunity provides a fast, free PSA blood test, and men over 18 can also receive additional health measurements including blood pressure, blood sugar, waist circumference and mental wellness checks – all without the need for an appointment.

Just 10 - 15 minutes can save your life.

Join us at the Lacombe County Office (Administration Building), located at the intersection of Highway 12 and Range Road 27-4 (west of Lacombe).

Remember, it's a blood test, not a glove test.

For more information about the MAN VAN® Program, testing guidelines, visit www.getchecked.ca.



# CO-OP The framework of soil health

Tips, trends & news from Central AB Co-op Agro Lacombe

It is virtually impossible to pick up any agricultural publication and not find at least one article talking about soil health. But really what is soil health? One of the more recent definitions states; "Soil health is the capacity of soil to function as a living system, to sustain plant and animal productivity, maintain or enhance water and air quality, and promote plant and animal health." This is a very concise explanation, but we need tangible benefits, reasons and strategies that can be used on the farm to improve soil health. Leaders in the industry believe that moving towards a more focused and sustainable approach to soil health could make growers more resilient going forward.

So now let us consider what good soil health looks like and why a grower might implement practices that improve soil health.

Good soil health will:

- Improve water infiltration due to improved soil structure, increased soil organic matter and reduced compaction of a soil.
- Increase water holding capacity meaning a soil can retain more water (like a sponge) for crop production especially during periods of low rainfall.
- Create diverse communities of soil organisms which have been shown to help alleviate plant disease, insect and weed pests as well as forming symbiotic associations with plant
- Store soil organic carbon which is the main source of energy for micro-organism populations as well as removing that carbon from the atmosphere (greenhouse gases).

Now with an understanding of what soil health is and why a grower would consider improving their soil's health, how could they go about doing that.

- Minimize soil disturbance Less microbial disruption and more capacity for those microbes to promote crop development. Less disturbance also improves overall physical, chemical, and biological properties of a soil.
- Keep soils covered with plant residue (known as soil armor) - This stabilizes soil

temperature and reduces erosion creating favorable conditions for soil micro-organisms who in turn recycle nutrients, combat pests, and create pores for plant roots to develop.

- Maintain living roots year-round (even in cold climates) - Roots provide food sources for beneficial bacteria and mycorrhizal fungi. Roots help overall soil structure and are a key ingredient for increasing soil organic mat-
- 4. Increase plant diversity Studies show that soils are more productive when there is plant/ root diversity leading to more microbial diversity. This is accomplished through a diverse rotation and, or multi species cover crops.
- 5. Incorporate livestock where possible -This could be any type of off-season grazing, forage crops or even applying manure. These options improve nutrient cycling and stimulate nitrogen fixing bacteria activities.

Sounds interesting, right? But, will improving soil health make more money, save more money, gain access to more markets, reduce workload, improve quality etc. etc. The answer is highly likely! Improving soil health should capture some of these benefits in the long-term even though there may be short-term setbacks when learning a new management strategy. Change is difficult and can be risky thus requiring a thorough understanding of the soil health strategy with a strong commitment to the final goal. Studies have shown that as soil health improves, the soil's capacity to produce increases while potentially requiring the same or less inputs. More and more end users are putting emphasis on "how" was it produced instead of "how much" does it cost with sustainable and environmentally friendly practices leading the list. And finally, reduced tillage and potentially fewer pesticide applications mean less man and machine hours at the end of the season.

As stewards of the land, farmers want to leave things better than they found them. What better way to create a legacy than investing some time and focus on building soil health?

Submitted by Grant McCormick Agronomist, Central Alberta Co-op (Lacombe)

# Weed season is around the corner: Early detection is KEY!

Most weeds start appearing in mid-May (usually) and are easiest to control when they first "pop up". If you see a troublesome weed, you should take action early, as leaving them can have significant negative impacts. The longer you leave weeds, then more difficult they are to control or eradicate from your property.

The Weed Control Act of Alberta directs that all landowners are responsible for keeping weeds under control. This also includes Lacombe County. The County is responsible for controlling weeds on properties under County control, and directing private landowners/tenants to do so on their properties as well.

### **Weed Inspections**

The Agriculture team believes that early detection and rapid response is the most effective method of managing invasive

The employment of seasonal weed inspectors and the use of new technology assist Agriculture staff in maintaining an effective, long term weed control program.

### **How We Can Help**

Agriculture staff are available to work with residents to prevent and resolve weed control issues. They can assist by identifying plant species and presenting solutions based on resident and County experience, along with research results using various weed control methods.

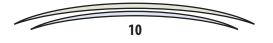
Call Lacombe County at 403.782-8959 if:

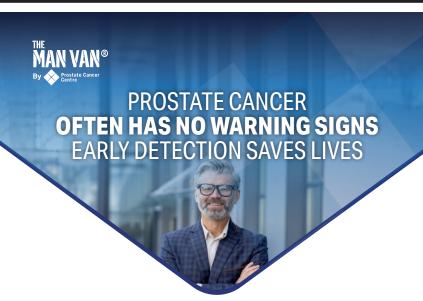
- You have concerns about weeds on a property.
- You would like a consultation on weeds on your prop-
- You want to drop off a weed sample for identification. (Please call prior to coming in, if you require immediate identification.)
- You want a list of local herbicide or pest control applicators in your area.

### More information

We have a list of noxious and prohibited weeds on our website at: https://www.lacombecounty.com/index.php/weedidentification-and-control.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Lacombe County at 403-782-8959.





# GET CHECKED.

The MAN VAN® will be on-site offering free baseline PSA (Prostate Specific Antigen) blood testing for men ages 50-70, which can help with the early detection of prostate cance

Additionally, all men over 18 will receive blood sugar, blood pressure, mental wellness check and waist circumference measurements.

PLACE: LACOMBE COUNTY OFFICE

ADDRESS: Hwy 12 & Range Rd 27-4 (west of Lacombe)

**DATE:** June 20, 2024 TIME: 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM



THE MAN VAN IS PROUDLY SPONSORED BY:

For more information about the MAN VAN® Program, visit **getchecked.ca** 



We know native pollinators are on the decline, but what is the number one thing we can do to combat this?

### Create more HABITAT!

You can purchase a package of pollinator seed mix and a Wild About Bees handbook.

### Wild About Bees Handbook

- How to create a high quality pollinator garden, specific for native pollinators
- Photo identification of all the species in your seed package
- Lacombe County's top 20 favorite pollinators
- Where to find further resources

### ALCLA Seed Mix - \$12.94

Site prep trips for optimum success This package contains 100% native wildflowers. The seeds selected in this mix were researched and are plants that are native to the Aspen Parkland Ecoregion.

Pick up your Wild About Bees handbook and seed package at the **Lacombe County Office** (Monday-Friday, 8:30am-4:30pm)

# **Lacombe County is holding** a PUBLIC HEARING

Reserve Land Designation (Bylaw No. 1408/24)

Lacombe County is holding a PUBLIC HEARING to hear your feedback on the proposed bylaw changes that would update lands designated as Reserve under previous iterations of the Municipal Government Act (MGA) to the appropriate designation under the current MGA and designate lands which are managed as Municipal Reserve, Environmental Reserve, and Public Utility Lot to the appropriate designation.

Bylaw 1408/24 will direct the management of County lands by clarifying the land's intended use, and bring additional legislative support to Policy RC(8) and Bylaw 1398/23.

#### **PUBLIC HEARING PURPOSE:**

A Public Hearing presents the proposed bylaw, and gives members of the public an opportunity to speak to Council provide input before adoption. Your input is valued and encouraged. Anyone wishing to comment on the proposed bylaw changes will have an opportunity to do so at the Public Hearing.

The Public Hearing will take place:

April 25, 2024 | 9:00 AM **Lacombe County Council Chambers** 

You can find information for the properties on our website (scan the QR code below) at www.lacombecounty.com or by calling 403-782-8959.

### Lots proposed to be designated as Environmental Reserve:

7720854;;R1	7822831;1;R9
7720043;;R1	7822831;1;R10
1836NY;;R	567TR;1;R1
5;3;39;22;NW	4238TR;A;R1
5;3;40;4;SW	914MC;1;R
892290;;1	1183MC;1;R
4;22;39;4;SE	5600MC;A;32R
4;24;41;23NW	4239RS;A;R
7820427;;R1	0924769;1;1
7821729;;R1	2020776;1;2
5034AX;A,B	2222602;1;1
7240AN;RLY;39	2322180;1;2
5;4;39;1;SE	3934AF;RLY;39
2335NY;;R2	3934AF;RLY;39
3575MC·B·R	2335NY··R1

### Lots proposed to be designated as Municipal Reserve:

1620098;1;2 856MC:2:R2	7520233;1;R1 1970EO::P
4:22:39:31:NE	
'': : ': . '.	7822831;2;R5
7702AY;1	3737KS;P1
5823BK;R	3737KS;P2
RN18;3;11	1628CL:R
6729NY;;E	1483MC;2;1R
5665MC;4;R	1483MC;2;8R
856MC;;R3A	1483MC;2;18R
856MC;;R5	7722679;1;55R
856MC;6;R6	7722679;1;65R
856MC;;R4	7521105;;R13
856MC;;R3	1723277;2;2
	0620731;1;4

Lots proposed to be designated as Public Utility Lot:

2220542;1;1





Scan the QR code above for information and maps related to this Public Hearing.

### **HOW DO I PARTICIPATE?**

Participate in the public hearing to voice your opinion. There are 3 ways you can provide input!

### 1) Attend and speak in person:

Lacombe County Office, Council Chambers.

Located 2.5 miles west of Highway 2 at the intersection of Spruceville Road (Range Road 27-4) and Highway 12.

### 2) Attend and speak virtually:

Instructions for accessing the meeting by phone or online can be found on our website (www. lacombecounty.com)

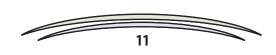
### 3) Provide written comments:

If you are unable to attend the Public Hearing, but want to provide input, send your comments to Jennifer Berry, Environmental Coordinator, prior to April 12, 2024. Your comments can be sent by:

> EMAIL: jberry@lacombecounty.com FAX: 403-782-3820, or MAIL: RR 3, Lacombe AB, T4L 2N3

All submissions will be public information

For more information, please contact Jennifer Berry, Environmental Coordinator, at 403-782-8959 or email jberry@lacombecounty.com.



# Continued from front: Lacombe County approves 2024 tax rates

The 2024 tax rates and tax rate changes for Lacombe County, the Provincial RCMP Policing Levy, Alberta Education, and the Lacombe Foundation are listed to the right:

# BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS AND TAX LEVY CHANGES

Since approving the budget in November 2023, additional budget requirements approved by the Council or significant changes to estimates required an additional \$262,340. These adjustments include:

- Increase of WCB Premiums \$71,010
- 2024 Line Painting Contract \$59,700
- Town of Blackfalds Bike Skills Park operating costs - \$6,000
- Additional contribution to the Bridge Reserve -\$125,630

These changes reflect the County's ongoing commitment to infrastructure, safety, and community development.

### **ALLOCATION OF TAXES**

Taxes collected from Lacombe County residents and businesses support a wide range of services and infrastructure. These include:

- Policing and Public Safety: Through the Provincial RCMP Levy, as well as our Community Peace
  Officers and County Fire Services, we ensure the
  community remains safe and secure through effective policing and emergency and fire services.
- Education: Contributing to the Alberta School Fund Requisition, supporting local education and school boards.
- Infrastructure and Public Works: Funding projects like road maintenance, bridge replacements, and the development of community facilities, like operational support for the Town of Blackfalds Bike Skills Park or covering a portion of the ice

Organization	Year	Tax Rates				
	2024	Residential	Farmland	Non- Residential	M & E	
Lacombe County		2.595	5.560	5.669	5.669	
	% Change	0.00%	1.00%	1.00%	1.00%	
Provincial RCMP Levy		0.1684	0.1684	0.1684	0.1684	
_	% Change	2.31%	2.31%	2.31%	2.31%	
Alberta School Fund		2.491	2.491	3.931	0.00	
	% Change	8.68%	8.68%	11.58%	0.00%	
Lacombe Foundation		0.0700	0.0700	0.0700	0.0700	
	% Change	1.01 %	1.01 %	1.01 %	1.01 %	
Combined Total	1	5.3244	8.2895	9.8385	5.9075	
	% Change	3.97%	3.22%	5.00%	1.04%	

plant replacement at the Bentley Arena.

Community Services: Supporting senior services through the Lacombe Foundation Requisition, ensuring that the County's elderly residents receive the care and support they need.

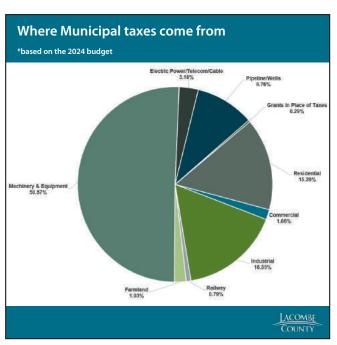
### A FORWARD-LOOKING APPROACH

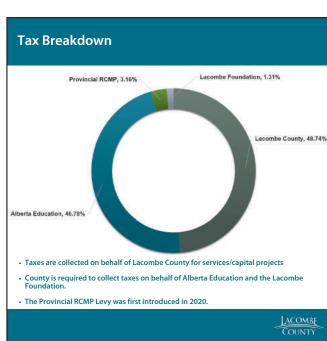
Lacombe County's approach to the 2024 tax rates demonstrates a balanced consideration of

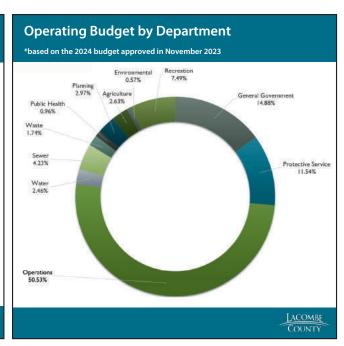
growth, market values, and the need for essential services. By maintaining a stable rate for

residential taxes and carefully adjusting farmland and non-residential rates, the County aims to support its development while ensuring fiscal responsibility. "The 2024 budget adjustments and the resulting tax levy are designed to strategically support significant County initiatives, including public safety, infrastructure development and maintenance, and support for our neighbouring communities," said County Manager Tim Timmons. "We are committed to enhancing our community's well-being while carefully managing the financial contributions required from our residents and businesses."

Residents and businesses are reminded of the value their tax contributions bring to the community. They enhance the quality of life and provide essential services that make Lacombe County a great place to live and work. With the approved tax rates and the strategic allocation of resources, Lacombe County is set to continue its sustainable growth and community development trajectory.







# **Understanding Your 2024 Property Tax Payments: A Guide for Lacombe County Taxpayers**

As Lacombe County prepares for its annual property tax assessment and collection process, it's crucial for all taxpayers to be informed and prepared for the upcoming deadlines. Our aim is to ensure that each resident and business owner is equipped with the knowledge to fulfill their obligations smoothly and ef-

Here's everything you need to know about the 2024 property tax cycle:

### **Property Tax Notices Dispatched**

Lacombe County will send out our 2024 Assessment and Tax Notices in May. These notices serve as your

> formal announcement of the property tax due for the current year. Please watch your mail for these important documents.

### **Haven't Received Your Notice?**

If you have not received your tax notice by the end of June, it is imperative to contact the Lacombe County Office im**mediately.** Timely communication ensures you remain informed of your tax obligations and prevents any penalties for late payments.

It is **YOUR** responsibility to ensure you have received your property assessment and tax notice.

### **Updating Your Mailing Address**

YOU - the taxpayer- are responsible for ensuring Lacombe County has your correct mailing address. Updates to your mailing address are essential for receiving your tax notice and other important communications from the County.

In addition to being responsible for ensuring Lacombe County has your new mailing address, you need also to ensure that the Alberta Land Titles Office has your correct mailing address.

Updates to your mailing address are essential for receiving your tax notice, other important County communications, as well as any mailings from the Alberta Land Titles Office.

Please provide any changes to your address promptly to avoid any miscommunication by calling:

- Lacombe County at 403-782-6601 or emailing info@lacombecounty.com.
- Alberta Land Titles changes can be found at https://servicealberta.ca/pdf/ltmanual/CHANGE OF ADDRESS.pdf.

### **Assessment Complaint Process**

Questions regarding your property assessment can be answered by County assessment staff. If you disagree with your property assessment, you can file a complaint through the formal complaint process. The deadline for filing complaints will be indicated on your notice, and it is essential to act swiftly if you believe your assessment is inaccurate.

Detailed instructions on how to lodge a complaint are available on our website (https://www.lacombecounty.com/en/livinghere/assessment.aspx) and at our office.

### **Payment Deadlines and Options**

All property tax payments are due no later than August 31, 2024. Lacombe County offers several convenient payment options.

- By Mail: Send your payment to Lacombe County, RR3, Lacombe, AB T4L 2N3. Ensure your mail is postmarked by Canada Post no later than August
- RD 274, Lacombe County, AB, during office hours. Additionally, a secure envelope mailbox is available at the road entrance for non-cash pay-
- are sent several days before the deadline to ensure the funds are received in the County's bank account by the deadline. Payments not received in the County's bank account after August 31 will receive a late payment penalty.
- www.lacombecounty.com. Note that this service incurs a fee, which does not go to Lacombe County.
- a single annual payment. Enrollment forms are available at our office and online.

### **Late Payment Penalties**

- Didn't receive your assessment/tax notice? Contact us right away!
- See an error on your assessment notice? Con-
- Received your assessment/tax notice? Pay it
- Don't want to pay it all at once (or do you find you're always last-minute)? Sign up for the Tax

Payments after the August 31 deadline will incur a 6% penalty on September 1 on the outstanding taxes. A further 10% penalty will be applied on December 1 for outstanding tax balances after November 30.

### Why Stay Informed?

formed and meeting your tax obligations on time, you contribute to the continued development and mainte-

and efficient tax process for everyone involved.

### **Responsibilities for Residents TAXPAYERS' GUIDE**

Watch for your 2024 Assessment & Tax Notices

We will send out our 2024 Assessment notices serve as your formal announcement of the property tax due for the current year. Please watch your mail for these important documents.



3 Updating your mailing

<u>YOU</u> - the taxpayer - are responsible for ensuring Lacombe County has your correct mailing address.

Updates to your mailing address are essential for receiving tax notice, other

important County communications, and

### Didn't receive a notice?

If you didn't receive your 2024 Assessment and Tax Notice by mid-June, contact the Lacombe County Office immediately.

It is **YOUR** responsibility to ensure you have received your notice.





### **Assessment complaint** process

Questions regarding your property assessment can be answered by County assessment staff.

There is a deadline for filing a complaint, which will be indicated on your notice.

# Payment deadlines and options

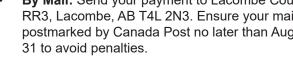
All tax payments are due no later than offers several convenient payment options (mail, in person, electronically, credit card, payment plan)

DON'T PROCRASTINATE! Lacombe County has a zero-tolerance policy for late payments.



www.lacombecounty.com





- In Person: Visit our County Office at 40403 RGE ments.
- Electronically: Payments can be made via internet banking or, for businesses, EFT. Ensure funds
- By Credit Card: Use OptionPay via our website,
- Tax Installment Payment Plan (TIPP): Enroll in TIPP for monthly payments instead of making

DON'T PROCRASTINATE! Lacombe County has a zero-tolerance policy for late payments.

- tact us right away!
- TODAY, and avoid any late payment worries!
- Installment Payment Plan (TIPP).

\*\*These penalties do not apply to taxpayers enrolled in TIPP.

Property taxes are a significant aspect of municipal finance, directly affecting the quality of services and infrastructure in Lacombe County. By staying innance of our community.

For any queries, assistance, or to update your information, please contact the Lacombe County at 403-782-6601. Let's work together to ensure a smooth



# **SUBDIVISION & DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY**

Do you have questions about subdivision or development activity?

### **Contact Us:**

Planning Services
(403) 782-8389

planning@ lacombecounty.com

Dale Freitag
Director of
Planning Services

Cajun Paradis Senior Planner

Natasha Wright
Planner / Development
Officer

Nicklas Baran
Planner / Development
Officer

Kerrie Taylor Economic Development Officer

Allison Noonan
Planning Services
Administrative Assistant

Daniella Gonzalez
Planning Services
Receptionist

### March 1, 2024 to March 31, 2024

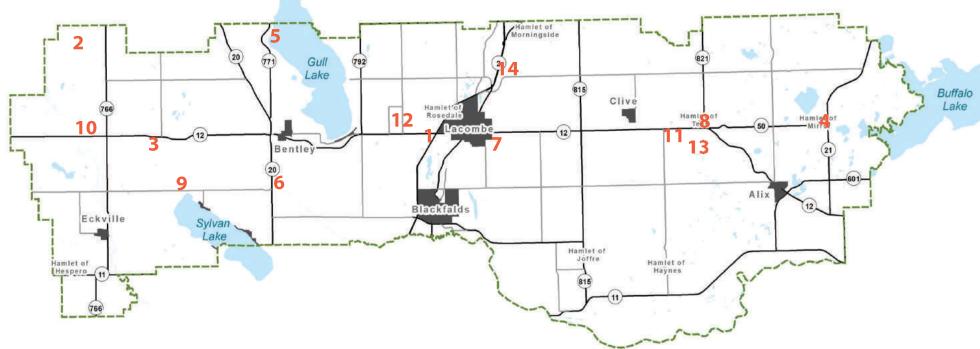
**Development Applications Received** 

No.	File No.	Applicant	Legal Description	Proposed Development	Decision (otherwise pending)
1	19/24	Premium Built Structures	Lot 6 Block 1 Plan 102 3182 (Wild Rose Commercial Park)	Façade Sign	Approved
2	20/24	Kevin Hancher	SW 32-41-3-W5M	Single Family Residence	Approved
3	21/24	Daniel & Tracie Robinson	NW 19-40-2-W5M	Addition to Existing residence and Deck	Approved
4	22/24	Wally Klinck	Lots 1-3 Block 12 Plan 7159Al Lots 9-10 Block 11 Plan 7159Al (Hamlet of Mirror)	Outdoor Storage (Renewal, No Changes	Approved
5	23/24	William & Theresa Hibbert Hien Tu	Lot 2 Block 6 Plan 856MC (Birch Bay, Gull Lake)	Tourist Home	
6	24/24	1240050 Alberta Ltd	SW 3-40-1-W5M	Single Family Residence w/attached Shop	
7	25/24	DB Bobcat Services Ltd	Plan 932 0031 (W1/2 NE 21-40-26-W4M)	Sand & Gravel Pit (Renewal, No Changes)	Approved
8	26/24	Peter & Florence Dueck	Lots 17-20 Block 1 Plan RN29 (Hamlet of Tees)	Detached Garage	Approved
9	27/24	Melissa Reimer	Lot 1 Block 1 Plan 222 1429 (SE 4-40-2-W5M)	Single Family Residence	Approved

### **Subdivision Applications Received**

No.	File No.	Applicant	Legal Description	Proposed Subdivision	<b>Decision</b> (otherwise pending)
10	S-008-24	Dale Guidi	Pt. SE 29-40-3-W5M	1st Parcel Out	Approved
11	S-009-24	Nick Lesher	NW 23-40-24-W4M	1st Parcel Out	Approved
12	S-010-24	Jason Lunn	Pt. SE 31-40-27-W4M	Boundary Adjustment (Existing Gravel Washing & Processing Operation)	Approved
13	S-011-24	Nick Lesher	SW 24-40-24-W4M	1st Parcel Out	Approved
14	S-012-24	Michael & Brenda Fournier	Lot 8 Block 1 Plan 922 0475 (Milton Area)	Residential	

### MAP OF ACTIVITY



# **Property Assessment: Updates**

### **2024 Property Inspections**

To ensure the property assessment evaluation accuracy, assessors re-inspect properties throughout the year in Lacombe County. We aim to revisit your property at least once every 5-6 years. Our assessors will inspect (and re-inspect) properties for various reasons.

In 2024, municipal assessors will be completing three primary property inspection projects, including:

- Continue Re-Inspection of Non-Residential properties throughout the County. These property owners may also receive letters requesting additional information about their property. Specific focus will be on campgrounds, golf courses, gravel pits and properties held under a lease, license or permit from the Crown or municipality.
- Sale Verification Inspections. Physical inspection of properties that have transferred ownership in the past year throughout the municipality. These property owners may also expect to receive letters requesting information about the sale/purchase of the property as well as its physical characteristics.
- New Development/Construction, Renovations, Additions or Changes in Use. Property changes were brought to our attention by issuing a development, safety codes permit, etc. Lacombe County may contact these property owners to verify any information not readily accessible.

# What happens during an inspection?

An in-person inspection consists of the following:

- physically collecting/verifying measurements of buildings and other structures
- reviewing improvements, such as the type of construction, number of bathrooms, basement development, heated/cooled areas, etc.),
- requesting details regarding the sale/ purchase of a property (so the Assessor can determine if they can use it to determine typical market values for similar properties).

When we arrive at a property, we will attempt to make contact at the residence or primary building and are happy to explain why we are there and what we are doing. Each Lacombe County Assessor carries an ID.

County assessors may collect this information by requesting a physical 'walk-thru' of each building when the owner/occupant is present (otherwise, the Assessor tries to do an external 'walk-around'). Other collection methods may include in-person interviews, drive-by, mail, email, or phone surveys asking you for information about your property or market research based on listings or public advertisements.

### Why do we assess properties?

Assessment is the process of valuing property to fairly and equitably distribute a municipality's total property tax requirement among property owners. Assessment establishes the value of a property in relation to similar properties and does not itself generate property taxes. Property taxes are generated when the Provincial school & municipal tax rates are applied to the assessed value of your property.

If you have questions or concerns, don't hesitate to get in touch with us at the Lacombe County Administration Office.



# **Scholarships** available through **Red Deer Polytechnic**

Did you know: Lacombe County supports THREE scholarships at Red Deer Polytechnic (RDP). Students can apply from March 1-May 31 (and will be notified in June/ July if they are the successful recipient, with funds will be paid out in the fall). Learn more at https://www.rdpolytech.ca.

### **Lacombe County Leadership Scholarship**

Eligibility: A student entering the first year of any Red Deer Polytechnic (RDP) post-secondary program in the upcoming academic year as a full-time student. Student must be a current or former resident of Lacombe County and have graduated from a high school within Lacombe County in the last three years.

Criteria: Academic achievement and demonstrated excellent leadership qualities through community involvement.

Value: 1 @ \$1850.00

### **Lacombe County Leadership Scholarship for Apprentice**

Eligibility: A 1st year RDP apprentice who attended an Apprenticeship program in the most recent academic year. The apprentice must be continuing their studies in the subsequent year of the program at RDP in the upcoming academic year. The apprentice must be a current or former resident of Lacombe County.

Criteria: Academic achievement, financial need and demonstrated excellent leadership qualities through community involvement.

Value: 1@ \$1850.00

### **Lacombe County Scholarship for Rural Students**

Eligibility: A full-time RDP student who attended a Bachelor of Science program in the most recent academic year. The student must be continuing fulltime studies in the subsequent year of the program at RDP in the upcoming academic year. The student must be a Canadian Citizen or landed immigrant. Preference given to a student who is a current or former Lacombe County resident pursuing a career in Agriculture or Agri-Business, Environmental and Conservation Sciences or Veterinary Medicine. Secondary preference to a student with a rural background.

Criteria: Academic achievement and financial need.

Value: 1 @ \$1850.00

Apply from March 1 to May 31. Learn more at rdpolytech.ca.

# What is Sanitary Sewer F.O.G.?

What Is FOG? FOG stands for Fats, Oils and Grease. Fats, oils and grease are natural by-products of cooking and food preparation process. Common sources of FOG include meat fats, cooking oils, sauces, dairy products, marinades, food scraps, dressings, baked goods, lard, butter, shortening and margarine.

### Should FOG go down the sink or toilet?

No. Fats, oils and grease may seem harmless as it flows easily down the drain. However, as it cools,



FOG solidifies and sticks to sides of sewer piping, eventually causing restrictions, backups or overflows.

### **Does FOG affect** sewer rates?

Yes. Sewer utility costs are recovered or "paid for" by the town, hamlet

or subdivision using that specific utility. Increased emergency CCTV camera inspections, jetting and pump outs due to plugged main lines directly reflect utility billing.

### How can I protect my property?

It's recommended by licensed professionals that you have your sanitary sewer line CCTV

inspected and hydro-jetted every 3 years (generally speaking). A heavily treed yard or aged plumbing may need more maintenance. It's best to



consult with a licensed professional.

### Flushable Wipes?

Did you know that wipe products claiming to be "flushable" aren't telling consumers the whole story? Actually, wipe products flushed plug service lines, damage municipal liftstation pumps and increase sewer maintenance costs. The only paper that should ever be flushed is toilet paper.

### **Can Water Damage Steel?**

Yes. When a pump intake becomes plugged or partially obstructed by FOG, wipes or unflushables, this restriction causes pump "cavitation". Simply stated, cavitation is the formation of air bubbles around a pump's impellor when flow is restricted. These air bubbles generate heat and shockwaves when they collapse resulting in impellor damage.



Severe wipe blockages may lead to service line replacement

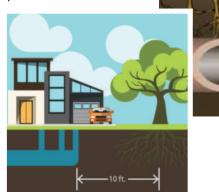
Cavitation damaged impellor from liftstation pump



### Responsible **Tree Planting**

Small trees <20 ft. tall should be planted no closer than 10 ft. from your sewer service. Larger varieties like Poplars can easily grow 80 ft. tall and send their roots down that far as well. Roots that deep are looking for a constant high nutrient water supply, the same as what's in your sanitary sewer

Only one hair-like root is needed to enter your sewer line. It knots back and forth creating a "beavertail" looking root ball, drawing up nutrients from the wastewater. This causes sewer back-ups by catching toilet paper traveling down the pipe. If the root ball becomes brittle and breaks free, the cost to homeowners can be significant.

















# **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

# ACOMBE COUNTY

# **SPOT** light

JV ROOFING LTD.

In the bustling world of construction and renovation, finding a team you can trust is paramount. This is where JV Roofing Ltd., a family-owned business based in Lacombe County, shines. Under Owner and Director Jerome Veilleux's guidance, this company has thrived and become a quality and reliable company in the industry.

Founded 15 years ago, JV Roofing Ltd. has grown from a modest operation to a thriving enterprise boasting a team of 10 dedicated employees. Specializing in roofing, siding, and exterior renovations, they have carved a niche through their unwavering commitment to excellence. But what sets them apart goes beyond their services; it's the passion and dedication that Jerome and his team bring to every project.

"When you choose JV Roofing, you're not just getting a job done," Jerome explains. "You're getting exceptional service from a group of individuals who genuinely care about serving your with excellence."

The journey of JV Roofing has been one of perseverance and commitment. Jerome's decision to open his own business stemmed from a desire to put his years of experience and expertise in the roofing industry to good use. Over the years, the business has flourished, thanks to their meticulous attention to detail and a relentless pursuit of quality.

"Word of mouth has been key to our growth," Jerome Reveals. "But we're not stopping there. We have plans for expansion, with a focus on boosting our online presence and reaching more clients across Alberta."

As with any business, challenges have been plentiful. Jerome has faced his fair share of obstacles, from navigating market trends to managing cash flow. Yet, it's these challenges that have molded him into the resilient entrepreneur he is today.

"The most valuable lesson I've learned is to persist and never give up," Jerome reflects. "Success is just around the corner if you keep pushing forward with determination."

However, perhaps Jerome's biggest success lies not just in the growth of his business but in the strong team he has built around him. "Having people working alongside you is truly the foundation of any

accomplishment," he emphasizes. "Together, we've overcome challenges, celebrated victories, and pushed each other towards even greater heights."

As for the choice of Lacombe County as the company's base, Jerome couldn't be happier. The picturesque surroundings, coupled with ample space for equipment, make it an ideal location. And for Jerome, being close to Sylvan Lake is the icing on the cake.

Looking to the future, Jerome is optimistic about what lies ahead for JV Roofing Ltd. with a blend of expertise, passion, and a commitment to excellence, they are well-equipped to tackle whatever challenges come their way.

"I'm also a skilled carpenter journeyman, from roofing to siding to crafting beautiful custom woodwork; there's nothing we can't handle," Jerome adds.

Indeed, JV Roofing Ltd. is more than just a roofing company; it's a testament to the power of dedication, teamwork, and a relentless pursuit of excellence. And as they continue to grow and expand their reach, one thing is certain – the future looks bright for this family-owned business.

### **FOLLOW THEM ONLINE**

Website: <a href="https://jvroofingsiding.com/">https://jvroofingsiding.com/</a>
Facebook: <a href="mailto:@JV Roofing & Exteriors Ltd">@JV Roofing & Exteriors Ltd</a>.

Instagram: @jv\_roofing









### COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

March 28, 2024

### **VETERINARY STUDENT SUPPORT**

The County Manager was directed to develop and implement a two-year pilot veterinary student billet program in partnership with local veterinary clinics. The billet program is intended to support veterinarians and veterinary students within Lacombe County and help address the shortage of qualified large animal veterinarians

Lacombe County will send a letter to the Provincial Agriculture Service Board recommending consideration of a veterinary student billet program, a provincial veterinary student grant, and a provincial clinic support program. These recommendations will also be presented as a potential resolution at the Fall 2024 Provincial Agriculture Service Board Conference

# POLICY RC(1) APPLICATION – CLIVE SCHOOL PLAYGROUND PROJECT

The request from the Clive School Council Association for funding in the amount of \$125,000 for the Clive School Playground project was deferred to the April 11, 2024 Council meeting. The County Manager was directed to prepare a report and recommendation regarding financial support for the project, for consideration at the April 11, 2024 Council meeting.

# POLICY RC(1) APPLICATION – VILLAGE OF CLIVE BALL DIAMOND FENCING PROJECT

Lacombe County will provide financial support in the amount of \$29,176 to the Village of Clive for its Ball Diamond Fencing Project.

# INTERMUNICIPAL COLLABORATION FRAMEWORK REVIEW

In response to an invitation from Alberta Municipal Affairs to participate in a review of the Municipal Government Act requirements related to Intermunicipal Collaboration Frameworks (ICFs), the County Manager was directed to draft a response to the ICF Review Survey, on behalf of the Council, for consideration at the April 11, 2024, Council meeting.

### LACOMBE REGIONAL WASTE SERVICES

# COMMISSION SEASONAL LOT TIPPING FEES

The matter of Lacombe Regional Waste Services Commission Seasonal Lot Tipping Fee was tabled.

# RCMP DETACHMENT COMMANDER'S ATTENDANCE AT UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETING

Local RCMP Detachment Commanders will be invited to attend the June 4, 2024 Committee of the Whole Meeting to discuss issues that are relevant to Lacombe County.

# UTILITY SERVICES BYLAW OF THE HAMLET OF MIRROR

Bylaw No. 1411/24, a bylaw of Lacombe County pertaining to water, wastewater, and garbage collection services in the Hamlet of Mirror, received first, second, and third reading, and was passed.

### **TOWN OF BENTLEY ARENA ICE PLANT**

Council was provided with a presentation regarding upgrades to the Town of Bentley Arena ice plant.

# Policy updates mean invoices for fire department responses

Springtime means the start of a busier season is approaching, with increased traffic on roads, agricultural burning, and heightened activity on local farms as the seeding season starts. Lacombe County reminds you to review your insurance coverage and ensure your policies cover potential emergencies is crucial.

Under our updated Fire Protection and Emergency Response policy, any resident or business utilizing emergency services, whether due to road incidents or on-property emergencies, will receive an invoice for these services. This policy adjustment, which changed in January 2021, aligns with best practices and effectively supports our fire departments and community.

Specifically, the policy means Lacombe County residents and businesses will be billed for structure fires, while vehicle owners will be invoiced for motor vehicle accidents occurring within the county. It's essential to know that these charges are typically covered by insurance if you have the right coverage.

This approach aims to directly involve property and vehicle owners in the funding of our volunteer firefighters and fire department operations, eliminating the need to rely solely on taxpayer dollars. Many municipalities have adopted similar practices, recognizing the benefits of such a model.

We encourage you to contact your insurance provider to confirm coverage for these potential invoices. If you have questions or need further clarification, please don't hesitate to reach out to Lacombe County at 403-782-8959.



# Regularly Scheduled Meetings for Lacombe County Council

<u>Committee of the Whole</u> - First Tuesday of every second month at 9 a.m.

<u>Council & MPC</u> - Second and fourth Thursday of every month, starting at 9 a.m.. The public and media are welcome to attend all Council & MPC meetings. An agenda will be posted to the website prior to the meeting.



Council Highlights & Minutes can be found on our website at www.lacombecounty.com/en/ our-government/agendas-andminutes.aspx

### COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

### April 11, 2024

### PUBLIC HEARING FOR BYLAW NO. 1409/24 VILLAGE OF ALIX/LACOMBE COUNTY INTERMUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

A public hearing was held for Bylaw No. 1409/24 pertaining to proposed amendments to the Village of Alix Lacombe/County Intermunicipal Development Plan. Following the Public Hearing, Bylaw No. 1409/24 received second reading.

### PLANNING DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Council received an update on the projects and initiatives of the Planning Department for the month of March 2024.

### COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING NOTES

The following recommendations from the Committee of the Whole Meeting held on April 2, 2024 received the approval of Council:

- That the that the Mirror Lot Inventory presentation be received for information; and further, that the County Manager be directed to complete an inventory and assessment of the underground servicing infrastructure in the Hamlet of Mirror in 2025 and subsequently undertake an underground servicing strategy.
- That the County Manager be directed to prepare a report and recommendation regarding the marketing of current County-owned properties in the Hamlet of Mirror for consideration at a future Council Meeting.
- That the Local Government Fiscal Framework Plan presentation be received for information.
- That the Hydrogen and Energy Transition for Rural Alberta presentation be received for information.
- That the Lacombe County New Pavement Plan be approved as presented; and further, that the County Manager be directed to prepare a report and recommendation regarding implementation of the key recommendations of Lacombe County

New Pavement Plan, for consideration at a future Council meeting.

 That the Housing Opportunity matter be discussed at a future Council meeting, on a closed meeting basis.

# INTERMUNICIPAL COLLABORATION FRAMEWORK REVIEW SURVEY

The draft response to the Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework review survey, as completed by the County Manager, was approved and will be submitted to Alberta Municipal Affairs on behalf of Lacombe County.

### SYLVAN LAKE WATER/WASTEWATER COMMISSION BUSINESS PLAN REVIEW TERMS OF REFERENCE

Council endorsed a letter to be sent to Sylvan Lake Regional Water and Water and Wastewater Commission (SLRWWC) in response to their invitation for comments and feedback regarding the proposed Terms of Reference for the updating of the SLRWWC Business Plan.

# SYLVAN LAKE AND AREA HEALTH FOUNDATION

Lacombe County, as part of the area serviced by the Sylvan Lake Advanced Ambulatory Care Service, supports the Sylvan Lake and Area Urgent Care Committee in the formation of the Sylvan Lake and Area Health Foundation.

### VILLAGE OF CLIVE AND LACOMBE COUNTY INTERMUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE/ INTERMUNICIPAL COLLABORATION FRAMEWORK COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Village of Clive and Lacombe County Intermunicipal Development Plan/Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework Committee Terms of Reference were approved as presented.

## POLICY RC(1) FUNDING APPLICATION – BENTLEY ARENA

Lacombe County will fund 48% of the cost of the Bentley Arena Ice Plant Replacement, to a maximum of \$383,717. This contribution will be funded from the County's Recreation Capital Assistance Reserve.

### POLICY RC(1) FUNDING APPLICATION – CLIVE SCHOOL PLAYGROUND PROJECT

Lacombe County will contribute up to \$100,000 to the Clive School Council Association's Clive School Playground project. This contribution will be funded from the Recreation Capital Assistance Reserve.

### BYLAW NOS. 1406/24 AND 1407/24 DWELLINGS ON AGRICULTURAL 'A' DISTRICT PARCELS

Bylaw Nos. 1406/24 and 1407/24 pertaining to dwellings on Agricultural 'A' District Parcels received second and third readings and were passed.

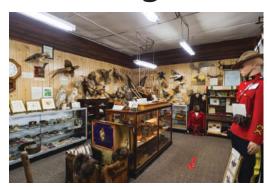
### **BYLAW NO. 1410/24 TAX RATE BYLAW**

Bylaw No. 1410/24 was presented for Council's consideration and, by resolution, received first, second and third readings and was passed. This bylaw pertains to the rates of taxation to be levied against assessable property within Lacombe County for the 2024 taxation year.

### MEDICINE LODGE SKI HILL SOCIETY

Representatives of the Medicine Lodge Ski Hill Society provided Council with a presentation regarding the history and operations of the Medicine Lodge Skill Hill as well as proposed improvements to the facility. The Medicine Lodge Ski Hill Society has submitted a Policy RC(1) Funding Application in the amount of \$327,435 to support the facility upgrades as well as a Policy RC(2) Funding Application in the amount of \$25,000 for operational support. The County Manager was directed to prepare a report and recommendation regarding the County's support for improvements to the Medicine Lodge Ski Hill for consideration at a future Council meeting.

# Alix Wagon Wheel Museum to celebrate its 50th Anniversary





The Alix Wagon Wheel Museum celebrates its 50th anniversary this year on June 8 starting at 2 p.m. There will be a short program at 3 p.m. in the museum, followed by refreshments at the Drop-in Centre. It is also celebrating the improvements made on the Parlby/Persons Case display and materials with assistance from the Alberta Government CIP Grant and the U.F.A. Historical Society. The touch screen and the permanent displays of some pictures and narratives make it easier to research and view the materials.

Alix Wagon Wheel Museum is on Main Street in Alix. Its exterior has many murals depicting the history of Alix, such as a covered wagon drawn by a horse and a bullock hitched together, early buildings including a church, railway station, and businesses. The building was originally a pool hall, built by Oliver Siddons in 1929.

The museum began when a group of local people started to collect artifacts and historical records which were stored in the basement of the Drop-in Centre. In 1974, the Alix Wagon Wheel Museum Association was formed, and the purchase of the former Pool Hall on Main Street completed. Following this, there were renovations made and the artifacts moved in. Since its beginning, there has been a lot of volunteer work, including volunteer work on the building and volunteer work on the operation of the museum. The museum's operation has been enhanced by summer students working and learning partially funded by Young Canada Works, Canada Summer Jobs, and STEP.

Since the move was made from the Drop-In there have been many additions from individuals, businesses, organizations and families. There are displays of information about Local History-Making events such as the burning of the Creamery; artifacts from early churches and schools - both Alix School and the surrounding country schools; Indigenous artifacts and pictures including information about the Tail Creek Settlement; a pioneer kitchen, a taxidermied bird/animal collection; a beauty/barbershop; War Memorabilia and Service Clubs Records; pioneer tools; sports equipment; and businesses though the years.

# **AROUND THE COUNTY**









Visit us on our website

& social medias

(0)

Baby & Toddler Time Ages 0-3 Creative Explosion Ages 3+ Tasty Tales Story Time Ages 3-7 Reading Buddies Ages 6-10 Youh Art Club Ages 10+ Cribbage Club Ages 18+ Chess Club All Ages

\*For more program information check out our website and social media

### **Borrowing**

Our library card gives you access to a variety of services, eResources such as eAudio, eBooks, eMagazines & more!

Hours

Sunday 1 pm - 5 pm 10 am - 8 pm Monday Tuesday 10 am - 6 pm Wednesday 10 am - 8 pm Thursday 10 am - 6 pm Friday 10 am - 6 pm Saturday 10 am - 5 pm

Contact

403-885-2343 www.blackfaldslibrary.ca

Eagle Builders Centre 5302 Broadway Avenue, Blackfalds, AB TOM 0J0

Available at Alix and Area Community Resource Centre



Lacey Dee's Holistic Health- In Alix Monthly (Thursday) Contact Lacey Malowski- Holistic Registered Nurse
Alternative & holistic health services to help you uncover the root cause of your illness. Detox foot baths, microcurrent therapy, holistic nutrition, vitamin infusions/injections, food intolerance testing. 587–317–4748
Book online: https://lacey-dees-holistic-health.square.site/

Alternative Acupuncture- In Alix Monthly (Tuesday)
Contact Lisa Cardinal- Doctor of Acupuncture Revitalize your health, naturally & holistically & boost your wellbeing with acupuncture services.

Direct billing to health insurance. 587-930-7999 Book online: alternativeacupuncture.ca





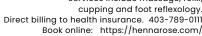
Prairieland Psychology- In Alix Alternating Wednesdays Contact Jessica Harvey- Registered Provisional Psychologist Primary modalities used are Acceptance and Commitment Therapy, Existential Therapy, Solution-Focused, and Emotion-Focused. For adults, kids, teens, couples, families. Services billable to health insurance. 780-691-7962

Book online: Prairielandpsychology.janeapp.com

The Wellness House- In Alix Alternating Mondays (Begins May 13) Contact Cally Erickson- Registered Provisional Psychologist For children, youth, families, adults and couples. Focus on trauma and EMDR. Services billable to health insurance. Call/ Text: 403-741-7155 or Email: thewellnesshouse.cs@gmail.com





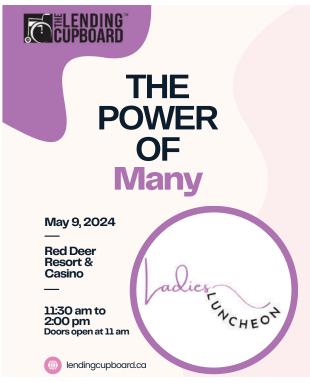


Foot Care by Kaitlin- In Alix Monthly (Tuesday) Contact Kaitlin Nielsen/ Cheryl Saunders- Foot Care Nursing Advance nursing foot care, basic maintenance and hand/foot reflexology Diabetic and high-risk care, personalized foot assessment and care plan Book in home and clinic, 587-377-6099 https://footcarebykaitlin.ca/





Contact us for assistance or service provider directly to book and for more information on fees. 403-396-3369 Bay 1, 5008 50 Ave, Alix AB



Join us on Thursday, May 9 from 11:30 am - 2:00 pm at Red Deer Resort & Casino - Events Centre for our annual Ladies' Luncheon. Indulge in delicious food and drinks, participate in exciting raffles, and be dazzled by a fabulous fashion show.

As we approach Mother's Day this event is a great opportunity to share with and celebrate all women in our community while contributing to the success of TLC

Tickets are \$50 and are on sale now. They can be purchased online here: https://www.lendingcupboard.ca/events or in-person at our office (1, 7803 50 Ave, Red Deer).

All funds raised at the Ladies' Luncheon go towards supporting The Lending Cupboard's mission of providing medical equipment and daily living aids to Central Albertans to enhance their quality of life.



# Free Income Tax Filing

FCSS Volunteers trained by the CRA can help file returns for individuals with LOW TO MODEST INCOMES & WITH SIMPLE TAX SITUATIONS.

> Opens: March 1, 2024 Closes: April 30, 2024

Eligibility for the Community Volunteer Income Tax Program: Individual: Maximum total income \$35,000 Couple: Maximum total income \$45,000

Your tax situation is not simple if you are:









return for a deceased person

LACOMBE **BENTLEY** 403-782-6637

CLIVE

# JOIN US ON MAY 25TH @ 2PM LOCATION: MEGLOBAL ATHLETIC PARK





During the event, there will be a variety of activities beyond walking or running. Expect carnival games, tug-of-war, music, food, parachute games, various sports, the opportunity to pie peers and faculty, and much more! Stay until sunset for a demonstration of unity during our luminary ceremony.

Relay For Life Canada is a powerful, community-driver event where people of all ages come together to celebrate cancer survivors, remember loved ones lost, and fight back against the disease. Participants form teams and take turns walking or running around a track, symbolizing the ongoing battle against cancer. Through fundraising efforts, Relay For Life supports vital cancer research, prevention, and support services while fostering a sense of unity and hope in communities across Canada.

#### **FUNDRAISING**

Participants can fundraise online by going to the LCHS Relay for Life website, linked at the bottom of the page. While we strongly recommend that each participant aims to raise a minimum of \$50, it is not mandatory to participate.

### HOW TO SIGN UP

Sign up by going to the web page linked below. Scroll to the bottom that they are a cancer survivor. The cost is \$20 per person and \$75 for

# INVOLVED

nstagram: @lchs relay for life

can sign up together or independently and we will match you vith others. Every team will be led by one captain. Teams must choose a distinct name and theme, dress in themed attire and show team spirit to be considered for a special prize!

Each participant can sign up be part of a team consisting of 6 to 10 members. If your group exceeds this number, please divide into two teams. Alternatively, if you have a smaller squad, you

Facebook: @Lchs Relay For Life



### **Facility Rental Financial Assistance Grant**

Are you a community/volunteer organization or business with limited budget capacity looking to utilize City facilities?

Did you know that there is grant support available to assist your group or business?

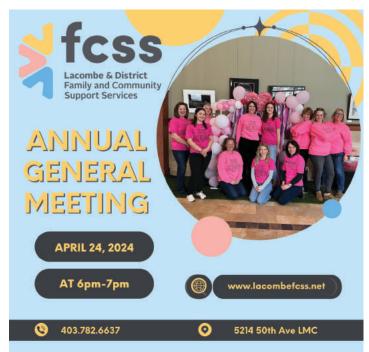
For more information on the application process and guidelines, please call (403)782-1251 or visit www.lacombe.ca/grants.

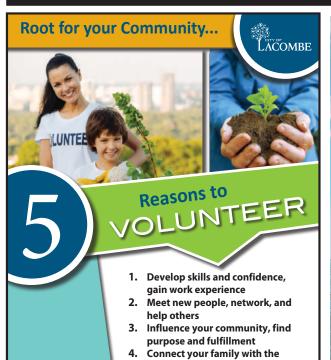




The City of Lacombe is "Refreshing" its Recreation and Culture Master Plan. In April and May households will be surveyed to gather their thoughts about the current and future provision of recreation and culture services. Look for a postcard in the mail with a unique access code that will allow your household to complete a questionnaire online. All completed surveys will be entered in a draw for a new tablet! For more information visit lacombe.ca/rcmasterplan or contact <a href="mailto:smitchell@lacombe.ca">smitchell@lacombe.ca</a>



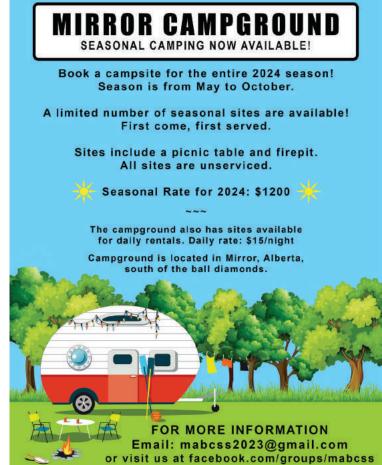




community

Enrich your mental and physical wellbeing







### **MORNINGSIDE HALL UPDATES & EVENTS**

There are many exciting activities coming to Morningside Hall in 2024!

**April 19:** Pancake Supper/Card Games 5:00 PM | Dinner

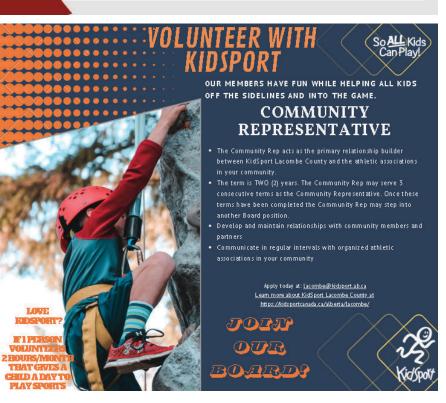
May (Date TBD): Spring Clean Up

May 14: Annual General Meeting (AGM)
Taco Bar / Bottle Drive

6:00 PM | Doors Open 6:30 PM | Dinner (Meeting to follow)

To learn more, please contact Glynna Thompson at 403-872-4254.





### April 19, 2024 - County News



### Book your upcoming event now!

- training/workshops · meetings
- anniversaries
- weddings
- celebrations of life exercise classes

Visit www.lacombe.ca/lmc or call 403-782-6668 ext 1

Home of Anna Maria's Cafe, Mary C. Moore Public Library and Lacombe & District FCSS.

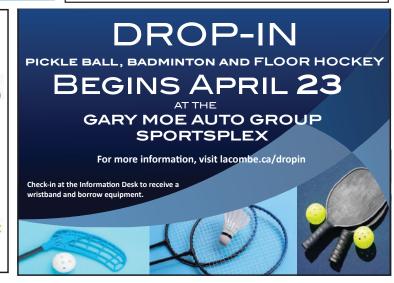
> Need financial assistance with room rentals? See if you qualify at lacombe.ca/grants













Move your body, make connections & socialize!

**Bentley Seniors Drop In - Town Office** Call 403.748.2160

### **Wellness Mornings**

• Mondays 10 to 11 am

Wednesdays 10:30 to 11:45

**Seated Range of Motion Exercises** Chair Yoga - light movements

### Seated Range of Motion

Join us in our seated exercise programs! These programs allow our clients to participate in an exercise program safely from the comfort of their homes. Research has shown that range of motion exercise has many benefits, including:

> Increased mobility, maintenance, and function of joints. Improved movement efficiency. Increased Independence. Decreased pain.

Chair Yoga Never worry about falling or about your mobility level again. This class is designed to accommodate for those in wheelchairs, or who are concerned about their balance. The class is stretch-worthy while still being relaxing. It's the perfect balance for those looking for a yoga class that meets their mobility needs.



### WELLNESS MORNING PARTNERS:

BENTLEY SENIORS DROP IN, FCSS/TOWN OF BENTLEY, EDMONTON SENIORS CENTRE, BRENDA STRAFFORD FOUNDATION/REC@HOME servus

### **Camp Silverside Invites YOU in 2024!**

We are excited about the upcoming summer camp season! We have some new activities under development, great staff returning, and all the favorites your kids love. Registration is open and we think you will be able to find a camp that fits no matter the age of your children from grade 1 to grade 12.

Register online at https://silversides.ca/camp-2024, or contact the camp with any questions.

See you this summer 403-478-2689

campsilversides@onehopecanada.ca



### A Summer Camp for Everyone

Family Camp - June 28 - July 1 - \$350/family

**Squirt Camp** - July 2-5 - \$200 (Grades 1-3)

Adventure Grades 4-6- July 7-12, July 28-Aug 2- \$380

Explorer Grade 2-4 - July 14-19, Aug 4-9-\$355

Middle School Mayhem Grade 6-9- July 21-26 - \$395

Teen-A-Palooza - August 11-16 - \$395 -

(Grade 8-12)

MAY 2024						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28	29	30	MAY 1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9 County Council 9AM	County News Submissions Due	11
12	13	14	15	16	17 County News Published	18
19	VICTORIA DAY (Office Closed)	21	22	23 County Council 9AM	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	JUNE 1

Upcoming Events: JUNE 4 - Committee of the Whole meeting | JUNE 13 - County Council meeting | JUNE 20 - The ManVan | JUNE 27 - County Council Meeting

# Help us promote YOU!



Do you know a business, person, place or volunteer you want to see profiled in County News?

Do you have a photograph you want to share?

If so, email communications@ lacombecounty.com with your ideas, photographs or stories.

### We'd love to hear from you!

403.746.3607

403.358.9400



Follow us online, and stay up-to-date on Lacombe County news, events and other information!













Dana Kreil, Div. 7

Senior Administration

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Fax | 403.782.3820

is published by Lacombe County and printed by CentralWeb. If you have feedback or story ideas, please contact:

> Nicole Plewis, Communications Coordinator communications@lacombecounty.com 403.782.6601

Lacombe County Directory				
RR3, Lacombe Alberta T4L 2N3 www.lacombecounty.com				
Department Numbers:		Main O	ffice - 403-782-6601	
		Planning Serv	rices - 403-782-8389	
		Community Serv	rices - 403-782-8959	
		Operat	ions - 403-782-8379	
		Public Works S	Shop - 403-782-3567	
General				
After Hours Emergency Answering Service			403.357.1210	
Administration Fax			403.782.3820	
Public Works Fax			403.782.5356	
For Service Requests, see our website	- or phor	ne the switchboard at	403-782-6601	
Council		Home	Cell	
John Ireland, Div. 1 (jireland@lacombecour	nty.com)		403.392.3981	
Brenda Knight, Div. 2 (bknight@lacombecour	nty.com)	403.788.2168	403.550.2168	
Barb Shepherd, Div. 3 (bshepherd@lacombecour	nty.com)		403.340.9724	
Dwayne West, Div. 4 (dwest@lacombecour	nty.com)		403.660.2328	
Ken Weenink, Div. 5 (kweenink@lacombecour	nty.com)		403.350.8014	
Allan Wilson, Div. 6 (awilson@lacombecour	nty.com)		403.506.3735	

(dkreil@lacombecounty.com)