Phone No.: 204-437-2284 or 204-437-2060 Fax No.: 204-437-2556 office@rmofpiney.mb.ca





**June 2020** 

# **MONTHLY REMINDERS**

#### **Dust Control**

When purchasing dust control from the RM, one must acknowledge that the product is Magnesium Chloride but we do not guarantee the dust control product being used. For safety reasons, maintenance of RM roads takes priority over any dust control application. The RM is not responsible for replacing dust control applications.

Requests for dust control are made by Pre-payments of \$255 plus GST (made payable to the RM of Piney) no later than Friday, June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Applications consist of 5 meters of road width x 100 meter strip. The area to be serviced must be staked out prior to application.

#### Information Phone Line

The *Information Only Line* is updated biweekly and in the case of an emergency, will be updated regularly with details as they are received and available.



Stay informed with current notices, important dates, available permits, road restrictions, fire bans and emergency updates!

If you need to speak with office staff or leave a voicemail, please call the office at 204-437-2284.

# **Canada Day RM Closures**

The RM Office will be closed for Canada Day Wednesday, July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020.



Woodridge Dump will be closed Wednesday, July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 and will reopen on Thursday, July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020.

# **July COTW Meeting**

The Committee of the Whole Meeting scheduled for July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020, has been rescheduled for July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020.



# **Ponds/Dugouts**

The RM of Piney would like to remind land owners located in Limited Rural Buffer Zones, General Development Zones, and/or Rural – Seasonal Residential Zones that ponds and dugouts for agriculture or recreational use require a Conditional Use approval, as stated in Section 2.88 of the Zoning By-Law.

For more information on the Conditional Use application process, please contact the RM office.



# Be Aware of All Fire and Travel Bans Issued

Please keep an eye out for the **yellow FIRE BAN notices on all RM of Piney signs when entering the RM**. Check the RM of Piney website: <a href="www.rmofpiney.mb.ca">www.rmofpiney.mb.ca</a> and our Facebook Page: Rural Municipality of Piney daily, for fire ban and travel restriction updates. For any bans issued by Conservation & Climate, be sure to check their website for details: <a href="http://www.gov.mb.ca/sd/fire/Restrictions/">http://www.gov.mb.ca/sd/fire/Restrictions/</a>.

The Province currently has a burn ban in place.



#### **Loans Available Now**

Are you a rural business facing challenges from COVID-19? Community Futures can help!

With loans of up to \$40,000 and a potential for 25% of the loan being forgivable, now is the time to apply.

https://cfmanitoba.ca/apply-online-for-relief-recovery-funding





# **Municipal Emergency Coordinator**

#### **Recent Kerry Wildfire**

There were definite indications that the recent wildfire near Kerry was caused by human error. This means that this fire could have been easily prevented. The financial cost of extinguishing this wildfire comes from the RM of Piney firefighting budget, ultimately RM of Piney ratepayers taxes.

#### **Our Firefighters**

I want to take a moment to congratulate all three fire departments for their amazingly fast response and the speed at which they extinguished the blaze. We are all very lucky to have these fine folks protecting us, sometimes at their own peril. If you happen to meet up with one of these fine firefighters, take a moment to pat them on the back and say "good job" or buy them a coffee. They have indeed earned it.

#### **Reporting Wildfires**

Although Manitoba has a 1-800 phone number to report wildfires, it is important to remember this phone number does not communicate with our fire fighters directly and could cause a delay in our firefighters responding. Please use 911 to report any fires in the RM. Our firefighters will be notified immediately and will be able to respond rapidly.

#### **Motorized Recreation**

- If using an Off Highway Vehicle (ATV/UTV/JEEP) in areas where backcountry travel is permitted, please stay on developed trails, stop frequently to check areas around the engine and exhaust for debris and carefully dispose of any debris found. A small shovel, axe, and fire extinguisher should be carried with your vehicle at all times.
- Ensure vehicles and trailers are properly maintained and chains are not dragging while travelling. Sparks and heated metal parts have caused wildfires in Manitoba.

#### Be Prepared

It pays to be ready to report and react to pending wildfires. Establish a plan for the temporary evacuation of your property due to wildfire, should the order be issued.

Organize ahead of time:

- Where to go if evacuated
- How/where to evacuate pets and/or livestock
- Contact list of resources (neighbours, relatives, friends)
- Plans for re-entry once evacuation order is lifted

#### **Pandemic Preparedness**

With the re-opening of the province, people are out and about enjoying the weather and the great outdoors. One of the more useful things I have assembled is what I call a "Go Bag". This is a small bag that can be carried on your person and contains everything you need to venture out during the pandemic. When you are ready to go out just grab the Go Bag and off you go. No rounding up supplies every time or stocking multiple vehicles.

# Municipal Emergency Coordinator Continued...

Go Bag contents should include, but not be limited to:

- Hand sanitizer
- Facial tissues
- Non-medical masks
- Cold relief medications
- Nitrile/rubber disposable gloves
- Emergency contact list (police, fire, medical, family, neighbours, etc.)

Richard Gamble richard@rmofpiney.mb.ca

#### **Animal Control**

#### Spring is here...

Just a friendly reminder that pets must remain under control at all times and remain on the owner's property. When walking your animals on the street please keep them in your control and leashed at all times.

Walking traffic has increased during the current pandemic and it is important that public safety be respected while walking with your pets.





# SPRAGUE & DISTRICT HISTORICAL MUSEUM INC.

WILL RE-OPEN ON SATURDAY, JUNE 6 FOR THE 2020 SEASON.

HOURS OF OPERATION:
1:00 TO 5:00 PM
EVERY SATURDAY & SUNDAY
FROM JUNE 6 TO SEPTEMBER 6
(October by appointment)

You can call the following numbers for appointments during the week: 204-437-2210 ~ 204-437-2535

Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic there will not be a picnic.

We have to follow Guidelines set by the **Province**.

These will be posted at the entrance.

Limit of 2 people in small buildings &
five people in large buildings

Questions: Call Doris at 204-437-2210



## **Economic Development**

There are milestones in life when people pause and take stock: graduation, marriage, birth of a new baby, a health scare or serious illness, death of a loved one.

A worldwide pandemic takes that pause to a whole new level.

COVID-19 has resulted in changes to nearly every aspect of our day-to-day lives – a lot of those changes have been unsettling but some are good. With no daily commute, as many people work from home, they've had some extra time to enjoy the simple things in life like eating meals together as a family or going on a nature walk. COVID-19 has forced people to rethink what's truly important: family, friends, health, social connection, self sufficiency. And what better place to find those things than with a rural lifestyle.

Turns out, the pandemic has been a catalyst for generating interest in the rural lifestyle. After two months of working from home, workers are realizing that it is possible to consider alternatives to living in the city. As a result, local realtors are seeing an increased number of calls from city dwellers seeking out rural real estate. And Sunrise Corner has so much to offer those who are interested in getting back to what's truly important:

- Larger lot sizes to accommodate a garden
- · Four-season recreation right out your back door
- Countless trails for both motorized and non-motorized activities
- Abundant wildlife where you're likely to see deer, rabbits, and countless birds each with their unique song, right in your backyard every day
- · Plenty of space for social distancing
- · Friendly small-town community spirit

Attracting new families to our region provides countless benefits that translate into improved economic opportunity and quality of life for all residents in the area:

- New students for schools
- New volunteers for community clubs
- New customers for local businesses
- New businesses to fill current product and service gaps
- New jobs to keep our youth in the community instead of leaving for the city to work

The RM of Piney's tagline "Simply Better" perfectly describes what living here means. Life is simpler. The pace is a little slower compared to larger centres. You get to know your neighbours. The simple things in life like a walk down a quiet lane, the satisfaction from growing your own food, or a family of deer visiting your backyard at dusk are better than the often-frantic pace and crowds of the city.

Many people, it seems, are now thinking simpler is better. And we couldn't agree more.

Monique Chenier monique@sunrisecornermb.ca

# Southeast Farmer's Market

Saturday, June 13, 2020 1:00 – 5:00 pm

# **Pine Grove Seniors Center South Junction, Manitoba**

Outdoor Market Social Distancing Rules will apply No Canteen





For more information call

Jen - 423-2223 Gary - 437-2247

All Vendor types welcome!

If you can't make it, bake it or grow it...
You can buy it at the Farmer's Market!



Although we're unable to celebrate Canada Day as a large group this year, the South Junction Community Club has something special planned for July 1st!

Canada Day 2020 will be one to remember as we commemorate July 1st in Southeast Manitoba with a virtual celebration that everyone will enjoy!

We'll be sharing photos and videos from past events as part of the celebration and we're also going to be giving away prizes throughout the day, July 1st!

To enter the prize draws, you must privately message our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/sjcommunityclub/) with your name and phone number. Contest opens on June 15th. If you are not a Facebook user, you'll have to find someone to send in an entry on your behalf. Entry deadline is June 30th. Entries limited to one per person.

Prize winners will need to make arrangements for prize pickup at the SJCC by appointment.



## **PROTECTIVE SERVICES**



## Sprague RCMP

Sprague RCMP is still working with restricted office hours as a result of COVID-19. The administration staff hours continue to be one day

a week, which is Thursday between 9am and 5pm. We are continuing to ask you to <u>NOT</u> attend the Sprague RCMP Detachment, unless your matter is urgent. For all non urgent matters, please call (204) 437-2041 and leave a message, your call will be returned. Should you require immediate Police assistance you can call (204) 437-2222 or 911.

As the weather improves, and some of the social gathering measures are eased by the Provincial Government, please continue to follow the recommended practices of social distancing, limiting non essential travel, and washing your hands frequently. I'm sure everybody is eager to enjoy the beginning of summer, but please do so responsibly. Sprague RCMP are reminding the general public to <a href="NOT">NOT</a> call Police for COVID -19 related matters. Reports of non-compliance can be made to the Manitoba Government Inquiry line at (204) 945-3744.

Sprague RCMP has learned that members of the public believe that during this time of social distancing, Police are less likely to stop vehicles for speeding, check for impaired drivers, or enforce other provisions of the Highway Traffic Act. I want to assure you this is NOT true. You will see the members of the Sprague Detachment on the highways, on the back roads, and even on the waters this summer. We remind you to have fun this summer, but drive safe... and drive sober! We'll see you out there!

Richard Graham Cpl. NCO i/c Sprague Detachment



# RM of Piney Fire Fighters

#### **Time for sunshine**

There are many little things you can do to make sure your house is Fire SMART. It all starts with finding the problematic areas around your house and making improvements.

Cleaning up dead trees from winter and emptying eavestroughs of leaves and pine needles is a great first step in minimizing the risk of fire spread in the event of a wildfire burning thru. Assessing vegetation growth and maintaining a fire-resistant perimeter around the household are simple ways of increasing house survivability.

https://firesmartcanada.ca/homeowners/

Special Thanks to all the community members in Sprague, Kerry and St. Labre areas for all your support and assistance during our recent fires. We appreciate your hard work!

#### Reminder

Open fires are prohibited from April 1<sup>st</sup> to Nov. 15<sup>th</sup> annually, except under a burning permit or in enclosed approved firepits such as grated campfire pits in provincial campsites.

## **Public Meetings**

During the COVID-19 pandemic, public meetings held by the RM will now be accessible via computer, tablet, smartphone or by using your phone, through GoToMeeting invites.

If you wish to attend an upcoming meeting please contact the RM Office and specify which meeting(s) you would like to attend.

Email: office@rmofpiney.mb.ca
Phone: 204-437-2284 / 204-437-2060
Facebook: Rural Municipality of Piney

#### **Upcoming GoToMeetings:**

COTW Meeting – June 3<sup>rd</sup> 2020 @1:30pm Regular Council Meeting – June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020 @7:00pm Regular Council Meeting – June 23<sup>rd</sup> 2020 @7:00pm

COTW Meeting – July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020 @ 1:30pm Regular Council Meeting – July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020 @ 7:00pm



# 2020 Local Spring Pet Vaccine Clinic



# UPCOMING EVENTS IN JULY:

Piney Regional Chamber of Commerce

July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020 – Zoom Meeting

South East Farmers Market Every Friday in July – S.J.

