

Phone No.:
204-437-2284 or
204-437-2060
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204-437-2556
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May 2020

MONTHLY REMINDERS

Vassar & Sandilands Spring Dump Hours

Burnable Yard Waste Only!

Vassar and Sandilands waste disposal sites will be opened from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM on the following days:

VASSAR:

Saturday, May 2nd, 2020

Saturday, May 9th, 2020

SANDILANDS:

Sunday, May 3rd, 2020

Sunday, May 10th, 2020

These dumps will only be open for the days listed above and will only be receiving yard waste such as trees, flax straw, grass, leaves, branches and natural debris.

Household garbage, recycling, or any non-burnable debris will not be accepted at these dump sites.

Victoria Day Office Closure

The RM office will be closed on

Monday, May 18th, 2020.

The office will reopen on Tuesday, May 19th, 2020.



THANK YOU!

The RM would like to THANK all the front line workers, support workers and critical services/businesses for all their hard work and accommodations during this difficult time. Our communities' need these services and we appreciate all the time and effort you provide to continue working during these conditions.

***Thank you for everything you do.
Communities working together!***

Public Meetings

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the RM is trying to make attending public meetings an easier and safer experience for everyone. Public Meetings 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. *An email address or phone number will be required to receive the invitation (email preferred).*



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Fax: 204-437-2556

Facebook: Rural Municipality of Piney



Upcoming GoToMeetings:

COTW Meeting – May 6th, 2020 @1:30pm

Regular Council Meeting – May 12th, 2020 @7:00pm

Agriculture Meeting – May 13th, 2020 @ 7:00pm

Regular Council Meeting – May 26th, 2020 @7:00pm

COTW Meeting – June 3rd 2020 @1:30pm

Regular Council Meeting – June 9th, 2020 @7:00pm

Regular Council Meeting – June 23rd 2020 @7:00pm



Invites you to attend the

Agriculture Virtual Meeting

Wednesday, May 13th, 2020

7:00pm – 9:00pm

to discuss the Draft Development Plan via GoToMeeting

The future of agriculture!

Join us as we discuss future growth within the RM of Piney and be a part of shaping the policies that will impact development within the Municipality. This includes input from agricultural producers and livestock operators.

The Virtual Agriculture Meeting will be accessible via computer, tablet, smartphone or by using your phone, through GoToMeeting. Those interested in attending this meeting must submit a request in order to receive a meeting invitation.

Please email Martin or Allison to request your invitation:

Martin Van Osch: martin@rmofpiney.mb.ca

Allison Driedger: bluestemdevelopment@gmail.com

Development Plan updates will be made available on our website: rmofpiney.mb.ca



Municipal Emergency Coordinator

COVID-19 Update

I hope this article finds you all well.

Economic Re-Start

Like every other level of government, the Province is working on an economic re-start plan. This will instruct us how to adhere to public health orders regarding social distancing and sanitizing strategies during the upcoming economic restart. It will also ensure a smooth transition from where we are now through to the "new normal".

We are watching and waiting for specific information, from the Province, on what will open and how it will operate.

Those awaiting word on the opening and safe operation of campgrounds, parks, and golf courses will not have to wait much longer. As the May long weekend approaches, Manitoba will be making public announcements on all such facilities. Be patient, information is coming.

Wildfires

We all need to stay vigilant and do our part to prevent wild fires during this pandemic.

PLEASE respect public orders regarding burn bans or access to back country areas.

PLEASE be careful when working on your property.

PLEASE be extra careful when out in the forest and back country.

PLEASE obtain a burn permit for open fires.

Burn permits are required for all open fires and are available through your local Conservation and Climate office.

Steinbach office: 204-346-6110

Report Forest Fires 1-800-782-0076

Personal Preparedness Plans

This pandemic has shown all of us the weak spots in our personal readiness. Assembling a preparedness plan is always a good idea. Be prepared.

A good preparedness plan may include:

- what to do in case of a given emergency;
- where to go in case of a given emergency;
- a contact phone list of important phone numbers;
- what to do with pets and/or livestock;
- listing of available food and water on hand;
- first aid information and materials.

Health Care/Mental Health

Try to remember the bravery and selflessness shown by so many of our health care workers during this difficult time. They risk their health and potentially their lives to help those in need. Let's support them at every opportunity. Without them we would truly be lost.

Caring for your mental health is important, as these situations bring a high level of stress and anxiety as it rapidly changes the way we work, socialize, and live.

Mental Health Crisis Services: 1-888-617-7715

<https://www.southernhealth.ca/en/finding-care/>

COVID-19 Update Continued...

Remember, It's Not All Bad

April 22, 2020 was Earth Day. And a historic Earth Day it was. Pollution and smog was down around 30% all over the globe. Paris, France is clear and smog free for the first time in decades. Proof of our impact on the planet and the environment we live in. This is definitely something to think about.

As many of us are at home more, we're able to spend so much more time with our families and our pets too.

This time bears witness to our strengths, our weaknesses, our hopes, and to our unity as Canadians.

Sources

For up to date reliable and accurate information and resources regarding Covid-19, please refer to the Province of Manitoba website or the Shared Health website.

Province of Manitoba ~ <https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/>

Shared Health ~ <https://sharedhealthmb.ca/covid19/>

Help Next Door MB ~ <https://helpnextdoormb.ca/>
Network of community volunteers

Richard Gamble
richard@rmofpiney.mb.ca



Sprague RCMP

Sprague RCMP would like to advise the general public that their office staff hours have been reduced to one day a week, which is Thursday between 9am and 5pm, during the COVID -19 Pandemic. We are continuing to ask you to **NOT** 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.

Please continue to follow the recommended practices of Social Distancing, limiting non essential travel, and washing your hands frequently. Manitoba is doing a great job so far, but we need to continue these practices to help "flatten the curve", and limit the spread of this virus. Sprague RCMP are reminding the general public to **NOT** 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 received reports of several Break and Enters to properties in and around the Sandilands area in the past couple weeks. RCMP are actively investigating these matters and asking for the public's assistance. If you have witnessed anything suspicious in regards to these crimes, you are asked to contact the Sprague RCMP. You can also contact Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 or www.manitobacrimestoppers.com.

Richard Graham Cpl.
NCO i/c Sprague Detachment



Economic Development

COVID-19 Update

COVID-19 has impacted every business and resident in Sunrise Corner. How can we take this opportunity to make a change for the better?

Businesses

If you're a business providing an essential service, you may well be busier than you've ever been. For everyone else, this pandemic may be the catalyst you need to change your employment situation.

- Pivot your business – perhaps you're a restaurateur who could provide take-out or delivery, a retailer who could offer curb-side pick-up, a fitness instructor who could offer online instruction, a crafter who could make face masks, or a small manufacturer who could retool to make medical supplies.
- Work from home permanently – many employees are working from home temporarily, so perhaps it's time to make the arrangement permanent. Just think of the benefits: shorter commute time, reduced environmental impact, and being able to work in your PJs.
- Start a new business – if the pandemic has meant a temporary layoff, maybe it's time to think about working for yourself. Do a self-assessment to determine what you enjoy doing, what you're good at, and where there's a gap in provision of products or services in our region.

If you've been thinking about making a change or have ideas on how you can pivot your existing business to survive and perhaps even thrive in these challenging times, feel free to get in touch and we can brainstorm how to make your idea a reality.

Residents

So much of our experience during challenging events is how we position it in our minds and through our actions. I'm sure we'd all agree it's more positive to be "safe at home" rather than "stuck at home". So, what can we do to make the most of this unprecedented time in history?

- Focus on your health – regular exercise, plenty of sleep and eating healthier are always beneficial but now more than ever.
- Volunteer your time – assist a senior by delivering their groceries, read to an elementary student online, or help your local community group or church clean up their grounds.
- Become more self-sufficient – maybe it's planting a vegetable garden, renovating your home to be more accessible as you age, or connecting with your neighbours to see how you can help each other out.

We'll all look back on this time as one that defined us in one way or another. Let's do everything we can to say COVID-19 brought some much-needed improvement into our lives and livelihoods.

Monique Chenier
monique@sunrisecornermb.ca

COVID-19 Local Business Update

Current Services Available in the RM of Piney:

RM of Piney Office (204-437-2284)

Monday - Friday: 8:30am – 12:00pm and 12:45 – 4:30pm
By Appointment Only!

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#### Woodridge Waste Disposal Site

Wednesday & Sunday: 10:00am – 6:00pm

#### Menisino Waste Disposal Site

Tuesday & Saturday: 10:00am – 6:00pm

#### Sprague Waste Disposal Site

Thursday & Sunday: 10:00am – 6:00pm

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Woodridge Vintage Corner Store (204-429-2202)

Monday - Thursday: 9:00am – 7:00pm

Friday & Saturday: 9:00am – 9:00pm

Sunday: 10:00am – 6:00pm

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#### Woodridge Post Office (204-381-3920)

Monday: 9:00 – 11:30am and 2:30 – 5:00pm

Tuesday - Friday: 9:00 – 11:30am and 2:30 – 4:00pm

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Piney Post Office (204-423-2162)

Monday & Thursday: 9:00 – 11:00am and 2:30 – 4:30pm

Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday: 9:00am – 1:00pm

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#### **REDUCED HOURS** South Junction CO-OP (204-437-2643)

Monday - Friday: 8:00am – 7:00pm

Saturday & Sunday: 11:00am – 7:00pm

Take-out Only! Monday - Friday: 10:00am – 6:00pm

Take-out Only! Saturday & Sunday: 11:00am – 6:00pm

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Prevost Perennials (204-437-2464)

Monday - Sunday: 9:00am – 8:00pm **OPEN MAY 1ST**

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#### East Borderland Primary Health Centre (204-437-3015)

Monday - Friday: 8:30am – 4:30pm

\*Please call ahead to make an appointment!

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Dueck Drug Store Deliveries (204-425-3473)

Friday morning: Primary Health Centre in Sprague

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#### Carl & Kay's Fine Food (204-437-2353)

Monday - Wednesday & Saturday: 9:00am – 6:00pm

**\*NEW\*** Thursday & Friday: 9:00am – 8:00pm **\*NEW\***

Sunday: 1:00pm – 5:00pm \*Orders due on Sunday\*

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Sprague Post Office (204-437-2353)

Monday - Friday: 10:00am – 12:00pm and 2:00pm – 3:45pm

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#### Access Credit Union (Sprague Branch)

Monday - Friday: 10:00am – 12:30pm and 1:30pm – 4:00pm

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Service to Seniors (204-437-2604)

Weekly Meals on Wheels available to seniors!

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#### Sprague River Inn (204-437-2245)

Beer Store Only: Tuesday – Sunday 10:00am – 6:00pm

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Sprague Auto (204-437-2835)

Monday – Saturday 8:00am – 5:00pm

*Information is subject to change, please call ahead!

RM of Piney Fire Fighters

The RM of Piney fire departments are urging everyone to remember fire safety as they deal with the COVID-19 pandemic. As people find themselves spending more time at home for work, self-isolation, or practicing physical distancing, they should remember the importance of preventing fires in or around their homes.

Along with other essential services, the fire department has had to implement safeguards and physical distancing protocols in the workplace. Residents of the RM of Piney are advised that services will continue during the COVID-19 pandemic response:

- Alternate training procedures are in place to ensure that firefighters are, as always, prepared to respond.
- FIRE HALLS are closed to public access until further notice.

The firefighters also urge the public to remain vigilant in the ongoing battle to prevent unintentional fires and injuries by practicing fire prevention and fire safety during these extraordinary times. "Regardless of the circumstances, additional time at home with family members provides an excellent opportunity to discuss fire safety and review your homes fire escape plan".

Here are some simple things that people can do to protect themselves and their families:

- Test smoke and carbon monoxide alarms using the test button. If the alarm fails to sound, check and replace batteries if necessary. Make sure everyone knows the sound of the alarms.
- Develop or review your home fire escape plan to make sure everyone in the household knows what to do if a fire occurs. Make sure to designate someone to help older adults, children, and anyone else who may need help to escape.
- Use care when using and recharging electronic devices such as laptops, tablets, or mobile devices. Check electrical cords and charge cables to ensure they are in good condition. Don't overload electrical circuits. Avoid placing electronics on soft surfaces like beds or upholstered furniture when recharging to avoid the risk of overheating.

As the RM of Piney Fire Service continues to do our best to protect the community under these extraordinary circumstances, it is imperative that the public does all that they can to practice fire safety in the home and take the necessary steps to protect themselves and their families from the risk of fire and carbon monoxide poisoning.

Always remember, in an emergency CALL 911!



2019
YEAR IN REVIEW

This is the third Piney Regional Chamber of Commerce Year in Review. We continue to build on the year-over-year success due to our engaged membership. We're proud of the work we are doing in our communities and would like to share a few of those accomplishments.

PRCC Milestone Achievements:

Development of PRCC Strategic Plan:

After securing funding in 2018 for an environmental scan of regional economic development, the next step was to review the findings of that consultant report and generate our own Strategic Plan for the PRCC. A small committee was formed and, from there, we were able to identify five key areas where we will focus as a Chamber. Those five items are the development of a PRCC website, continued focus on youth retention and community awareness through our annual Career Symposium, Community Services Co-op development, establishing a visioning committee and continuing to provide training opportunities for members. One key element in all of this was the need to drive our local government to see the value in the position of an economic development officer for the RM of Piney to support further economic development and bolster the efforts of the PRCC. Our local council supported this goal when, in late 2019, they successfully hired our new Economic Development Manager. The position was developed to be shared with the RM of Stuartburn to provide regional benefit.

2019 Career Symposium:

The 2019 Career Symposium was our largest and most successful event to date as a Chamber. We continued our partnership with Ross L Gray School as well as the RM of Piney and, with supportive funding secured from provincial grants as well as the RMs of Piney and Stuartburn, we were able to create a memorable event for everyone in attendance.

We showcased 30 exhibitors and welcomed guest speakers from the Canada Border Services Agency, RCMP and the Canadian Armed Forces. Our keynote speaker Kevin Chief delivered a powerful and inspirational message that impacted students, exhibitors and community members in attendance.

2019 Meeting Guests Included:

Allison Driedger of Bluestem Consulting, Dave Smith of Community Futures Triple R, MLA Dennis Smook, Derek Radics of XplorNet, Jenny Dupas of Eastman Tourism & Monique Chenier of Sunrise Corner Economic Development & Tourism.

PRCC Voice of Business in the Region:

The PRCC continues to advocate and has been an active voice for businesses in the region for the following concerns:

1. Regional Health Care Changes
2. Local Border Services Hours of Operation
3. Regional Internet & Cell Service
4. Housing initiatives
5. Tourism initiatives
6. Education

EXPLORE LOCAL

Become a Member Today:

The PRCC will work to continue membership growth and increase the strength of the organisation. While we are still a young organization, we continue to look for new ideas to improve the economic environment of our region. To accomplish this, we need more new members who are willing to be part of that change. If you might be that person, or know of a company or organization that is not already a member, consider taking in a meeting to see what we are all about.

Happy Mother's Day!

