

RLG Monthly Newsletter – April 2021

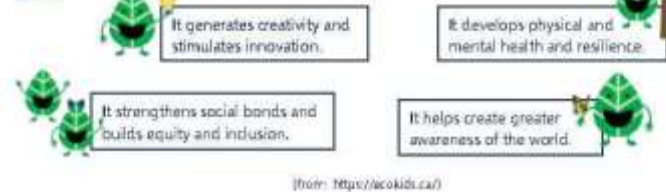
Making Food Fun

We know that when it comes to enjoying food, much of our pleasure comes from what we see long before it actually hits our taste buds. This same idea applies to our children. If your child is not always excited about eating, try 'dressing' it up to make it fun! Here are a few examples:



Physical Activity = Healthier Children (and Adults)

WHY?



(from: <https://acokids.ca/>)

So...get your kids moving!

- ✓ Place your baby on their tummy several times during the day.
- ✓ Let your toddler walk instead of ride in the stroller.
- ✓ Create opportunities for your older child to get plenty of exercise.

Vassar and Area Minor Baseball

SPRING HAS
SPRUNG AND...



ITS TIME TO
REGISTER FOR
BASEBALL!

Registration Is Open Until April 1st

Register at: vassarbaseball@hotmail.com

Or <http://vassarball.rampregistration.com/>

** If registering at vassarbaseball@hotmail.com, please indicate your child's name, birthdate, level they will be playing & if you are willing to coach/assistant coach**

Questions – email vassarbaseball@hotmail.com

COACHES ARE NEEDED TO ENSURE THAT WE CAN OFFER ALL LEVELS. Payment will be accepted at a later date once we have received confirmation from Baseball Manitoba/MB Gov't that baseball is able to start.

Grand Slam 9U – Midget 18U Players will have to be registered through RAMP once teams are confirmed.

COVID-19 RETURN TO PLAY GUIDELINES:

All Baseball games & practices will follow Baseball Manitoba's Return to Play Document. This document was created in collaboration with local baseball associations and in conjunction with Sport Manitoba, the Province of Manitoba's Restoring Safe Services Plan and current Public Health Orders. As our Province adapts and adjusts to Restore Safe Services, so shall baseball. All policies/guidelines will remain fluid at this time & will be adjusted based on Manitoba Health recommendations.

RM of Piney Non-Motorized Trail Plan Update

Calling all non-motorized trail users in the RM of Piney
We need your help developing the RM of Piney Trails Plan.

What is the trail plan?

The RM of Piney Trails plan is a document that will guide the future development and growth of the non-motorized trail system in the RM. This plan will make walking and cycling easier and safer.

Where are we at?

On Wednesday March 17th we hosted our first public input session on the trail plan. Over 20 people participated in the process and helped identified where they would like trails constructed. The session also provided opportunity for participants to identify trail priorities and what they would use the trails for.

Waiting on your Input!

The trail plan process is just in its initial phases and there are more ways to participate. **We are currently running a public survey that must be completed by April 15th, 2021.** To complete this survey, please visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GFKF5XZ>. Paper copies of the survey are available at the South Junction Co-Op, Carl and Kays in Sprague, and the Woodridge store with drop boxes for the surveys at these locations as well.



How can I get involved?

If you would like to be involved in the process or want more information please contact Allison Driedger @ bluestemdevelopment@gmail.com.

Transit Plan – Report Summary SERIES #2 – Justification & Demographics

For a more detailed report, visit our website:
<https://rmofpiney.mb.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Transit-Plan-Report-2-April-Newsletter.pdf>

JUSTIFICATION: Current and past surveys identify the importance of transportation support as a quality of life issue and of sharing transportation to larger centers. Public consultation reveals four primary types of passengers (with other destinations and travel needs identified):

1. Seniors travel to medical appointments
2. Seniors community social activities
3. Shopping in stores/services in Steinbach and Winnipeg
4. Events/attractions in the RM, Steinbach and Winnipeg

DEMOGRAPHICS: The RM of Piney is located in the southeast corner of Manitoba with a population of 1725 in a large physical area of 2433 square miles with 75% crown land. Many residents travel 1-2 hours northwest for shopping and services as there is no central community although Woodridge and Sprague are more populated. There has been growth particularly in Woodridge and Sandilands located closer to urban centers in the northwest section of the RM. Some also travelled south to the US prior to the closing of the border.

The latest census identifies 35% of residents are 60+ years old. The median age is 51 and median income of \$23,962 as compared to \$34,188 for Manitoba.

Connie Gamble

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office@rmofpiney.mb.ca



April 2021

MONTHLY REMINDERS

RM Office Closed for Easter

The RM office will be closed for Easter weekend from
Friday, April 2nd and Monday, April 5th, 2021.



Road Weight Restrictions

The RM has imposed 65% weight restrictions of normal loading as per Resolution No.59 as of March 13th, 2021. For more details, go to News/Notices at <http://rmofpiney.mb.ca>. **Restrictions will remain in effect until further notice.**

Vassar & Sandilands Dump Hours

Please check our Facebook page and website for dates the Vassar and Sandilands waste disposal sites will be opened in either April or May. These dumps 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.**



Financial Plan Public Hearing

Tuesday, April 13th, 2021 at 6:00pm

The RM of Piney intends to present its financial plan for the fiscal year 2021 at a virtual public hearing on Tuesday, April 13th, 2021 at 6:00pm in the Council Chambers. To ensure that everyone is able to participate, we are offering you to attend either by Zoom or Teleconference, or in person.

Council will hear any person who has questions, make a representation, or register any objections to the financial plan. Copies of the financial plan are available for review and may be examined ONLY by booking an appointment to view the material during the RM of Piney regular office hours.

NO OPEN FIRES NOTICE:



As of: March 24th, 2021

There is a burn ban in effect for **ALL OPEN FIRES** in the RM of Piney. Recreational fires in compliant pits will be permitted. This burn ban will remain in effect until further notice.



Buffalo Point Piney Stuartburn Waste Management Board

The BPPS Recycling and Waste Management Board was officially launched with the signing of the agreement between the RM's of Stuartburn, Piney and Buffalo Point First Nation. This exciting new partnership provides for a new and innovative opportunity to manage solid waste within Southeast Manitoba. Many operational details are evolving as the partners move away from Eastman Recycling's pick up service to our regional solution. Our primary goal is continued recycling services without interruption, but there will be some transitional challenges. We ask for your patience as the Board is committed to improve service delivery and a more environmentally sustainable approach to solid waste management for the Southeast Region.

Full Time Summer Job Position

The RM of Piney is accepting applications for the position of:
OFFICE ASSISTANT - SUMMER POSITION

Anticipated start date: May 31st, 2021

Applicants must be able to work in an office environment and be proficient with computers. This position is open to all young adults between 15-30 years of age. Qualified candidates are invited to submit a cover letter & resume stating experience, education, & references. Please submit your application by 4:30pm on Friday, May 14th, 2021 to the CAO at the RM office by emailing: martin@rmofpiney.mb.ca.



Happy Earth Day!

April 22nd

Earth Day is all about the environment and taking extra steps to be more environmentally friendly. We only have one planet, so let's do our best to take care of it!



Economic Development

New Sunrise Corner Website Launched

Sunrise Corner is the partnership of the RMs of Piney and Stuartburn promoting the southeast corner of Manitoba as an incredible place to live, work, play, visit, invest and explore. And what better way to do that than a new and improved website at www.sunrisecornermb.ca.

Sunrise Corner Tourism has a fresh new look with updated things to do, places to go and events to enjoy. In the coming months, we'll provide even more info to visiting tourists and staycationing residents including day-trip and weekend itineraries, handy maps, and a searchable business directory to find tasty local restaurants, quaint accommodations, and unique shopping experiences. Check out our Nature Shines blog for stories of local events, activities and attractions that will make your trip to Sunrise Corner one to remember and keep you coming back.

Sunrise Corner Economic Development is a brand-new site that provides details about the services we offer to businesses, community groups and residents in our three key areas of focus: business development, housing strategy, and tourism expansion. The site provides resources including local job postings, grant listings, and programs available from partner organizations. And there's so much more to come over the next couple months: robust maps, a searchable business directory, and details of distinctive facilities available to rent once we're able to safely host events again. We've also launched our Opportunity Shines blog to provide stories of local businesses and opportunities.

Win with our Website Scavenger Hunt

To get you more familiar with the new site, we're hosting a scavenger hunt contest where all the answers to the questions are on the website. All you have to do is visit the Opportunity Shines blog on the website & follow the instructions to enter. You could win one of many gift certificates to a local business.

Sign up for our E-Newsletter

Over the next few months, we will be developing two e-newsletters. The first one will focus on tourism – providing notice of upcoming events, suggested itineraries, and interesting attractions. The second will target local businesses and community groups with marketing ideas, grant programs and training opportunities. We invite you to sign up. Just go to the website and scroll to the bottom of any page to enter your email address and choose which newsletter you'd like to subscribe to – tourism, economic development or both.

Monique Chenier
monique@sunrisecornermb.ca



Southeast Farmer's Market

Saturday, April 24, 2021

10:00 am – 2:00 pm

**Pine Grove Seniors Center
South Junction, Manitoba
Indoor Market**

**Covid19
Guidelines in place**

Masks Required



For more information call
Jen - 423-2223
Shawny - 437-2600

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

MUNICIPALITY 101
Your Guide to Local Government

Administration & Staff

When a policy is created by council, who carries it out? Administration and staff are essential to the management of the RM. As a team, staff members work hard to provide things like newsletters, notices, building permits, road maintenance, and finance management for the RM (just to name a few).

Chief Administrative Officer: The CAO's responsibilities are widely varied. The CAO oversees administration, financial management, human resources, and provides Council with advice on legislative requirements.

Administrative Staff: The staff in the office are there to assist the CAO with financial and administrative duties. Answering public inquiries, preparing financial statements, organizing and filing, and updating the website are all part of their duties.

Public Works: The public works staff takes care of services rate payers use on a daily basis. They oversee and implement projects such as gravelling and paving, drainage, street lighting and civic address signage.

Other Staff Members: The RM can hire professionals or extra help for special projects and initiatives such as tourism, economic development and emergency management.

For a full list of RM staff, visit: www.rmofpiney.mb.ca. Stay tuned for next month's article about "Council Meetings".

Sources: "Municipal Act Procedures Manual," Indigenous & Municipal Relations

PROTECTIVE SERVICES



Sprague RCMP

Spring has sprung! Sprague RCMP is seeing increased traffic flow on our roadways as people return with the nicer weather to open their seasonal cabins. Unfortunately, this has also resulted in several reports of break ins that happened over the winter months, and went undetected until now. If you're the victim of a break in, or theft, call the Sprague RCMP to report the incident. We can't help if we don't know it's happened!

What can you do to reduce your risk? I'd suggest the following. If you can't come and check on your property through out the winter months, speak to your neighbours or friends who live in the area. Ask them to keep an eye out, and report suspicious activity or vehicles to the RCMP. Make sure you take anything of value with you when you close up for the season. This includes firearms! Never leave firearms in your seasonal residence over the winter months, even if you have a gun safe. The bad guys will just take the whole safe with them, and open it later. Don't leave items in clear view, and consider improving security/access to your property. A solid gate is going to stop more curious criminals than a rope gate, or nothing at all! If you would like more information on how to prevent thefts from your property, feel free to call the Sprague RCMP and speak to one of our officers. We'd be more than happy to speak with you about securing your property.

With the Province still under Code Red restrictions, Sprague RCMP Detachment continues to be closed for walk up service. If you are an essential worker, you can still get criminal record checks completed. Please contact our office at (204) 437-2041 to get further details. Should you require immediate Police assistance you can call (204) 437-2222 or 911.

Richard Graham Cpl.
NCO i/c Sprague Detachment



RM of Piney Fire Departments

April is here at last. Everyone is tired of being shut in and looking forward to getting outside. This is a month of nature's transition from dormant winter mode to full bloom of summer. Until things green up, there is significant risk of wildfires that can get out of hand quickly putting nature, people, buildings and entire communities in danger. We all need to do our part to reduce and if possible, eliminate this risk.

April 1st is the date that Burn Permits are now required. This means that no open fires are allowed without a permit except in an approved fire pit. An approved fire pit can not have a fuel burning area bigger than 3 ft in diameter and 2 ft in height. Permits can be requested from Sustainable Development at 204-437-2348 or 204-346-6110. No burning is allowed before 6:00pm or when winds exceed 15 km/hr unless authorized by a Natural Resource Officer. **Currently there is an Open Fires Burn Ban on for the RM that will remain in effect until further notice.**

There are things you can do right in your own yard to help reduce your personal risk in the event of a major fire. By removing dry pine needles from your eavestrough or cedar mulch in gardens or window wells, you could reduce the risk of a house fire if a spark were to ignite near your home. Raking up dry leaves around your home and removing all wood piles that are piled against a building, are just a few simple ways to reduce the severity of a wildfire. For other ideas on how to keep your home and property safe, visit the Firesmart Website at <http://firesmartcanada.ca>. You will sleep better at night knowing that you made the effort. Let's all have a safe and happy spring and get into summer with a smile.

Bill Stowe
billstowe@rmofpiney.mb.ca

slam the scam!



THE CANADA REVENUE AGENCY WILL NEVER SEND OR REQUEST E-TRANSFERS OF ANY KIND!

CRA will **only** send you payments by direct deposit or by cheque in the mail.

For more information, go to canada.ca/taxes-fraud-prevention

Canada Revenue Agency

Canada



Municipal Emergency Coordinator

With the warmer weather here, we can spend so much more time outside. Traditionally, to do yard work, home renovations, or perhaps use the BBQ. Often a spring yard cleanup could involve gasoline powered equipment such as: power rakes, mowers, trimmers, and wood chippers. I would like to remind you to please be careful with the fuels required for many of these tools. Things can get out of hand very quickly when it comes to handling combustible liquids. Ensure that fuel is stored in a proper sealed container designed specifically for the fuel being stored. The fuel container should also be stored away from direct sunlight or any heat sources.

Spring cleanup may also involve burn piles for yard waste. Please observe all fire regulations and be sure to get a burn permit. Let's ensure there will be no accidental fires in 2021.

Richard Gamble
richard@rmofpiney.mb.ca

PINEY REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Monthly Meeting

WHEN: APRIL 8TH, 2021 @ 7PM

WHERE: VIRTUAL ZOOM MEETING