

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



Rural Municipality of  
**PINEY**



**June 2021 Newsletter**

## MONTHLY REMINDERS

### Burn Ban / Travel Ban Reminder

At the moment there are no burn or travel bans in place for the RM of Piney. For all updates, visit [www.rmofpiney.mb.ca](http://www.rmofpiney.mb.ca), subscribe to our E-Newsletters, or visit our Rural Municipality of Piney Facebook Page. Our information line can also be reached by calling 204-437-2845.



### Dust Control

Dust control is now available through the RM. 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.

Requests for dust control are made by **pre-payments of \$255 plus GST no later than Friday, July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021**. Applications consist of 5 meters of road width x 100 meter strip. The area to be serviced must be staked out prior to application. The RM is not responsible for replacing dust control applications.

### Animal Control

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



### Canada Day Closures

**Sprague Dump will be closed Thursday, July 1<sup>st</sup> and will re-open on Friday, July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021.**

The RM office will also be closed on July 1<sup>st</sup>.



A BIG  
*thank you*

**The RM of Piney would sincerely like to thank everyone involved in helping out during the recent wildland fires that affected our area. We strive on avoiding these situations but are glad to know the communities we have can come together during such a devastating and emotional time.**

**Thank you to all the brave fire fighters who put their lives on the line to keep our municipality safe. We cannot say it enough, thank you, we appreciate you!**

### Building Inspector Message

Building season is well under way in the RM of Piney in which we have seen a record number of building permits to date. The majority of permits have been for projects in the Woodridge subdivision ranging from sheds to seasonal cabins to houses. As construction has picked up in the RM of Piney and Stuartburn, I ask permit holders to please call 2 days in advance for inspections so I can accommodate your project timelines.

We encourage our ratepayers who are planning a project to contact our office or myself at 204-380-9624 to see which permit is required. There is some misinformation going around such as, "if a deck is not attached to a home, no permit is needed". This is not true. A permit is required for any deck that is 2 ft or higher from grade or built in the front of the home. Another example is a shed or small building, "that is constructed on wood skids would not need a permit". This again is not true. All structures require a permit whether or not it is constructed on skids.

Please sure that when applying for a building permit that it is classified correctly for the buildings intended use. A great example would be Pre-fab shed packages that folks want to use as a seasonal cabin, which can be achieved and meet MB code requirements. This means permit applications should have "seasonal dwelling" filled out & not "shed" as these are 2 very different builds. Filling out the permit application correctly will help you get the proper building insurance from your insurance provider. We will gladly help answer your questions regarding building or development permits.

Gary Hora  
Municipal Building Inspector



## Private Well Water Testing - June 17, 2021

The Seine Rat Roseau Watershed District will be assisting residents with private well water testing for the presence of *E. coli* & coliform bacteria. **The cost of private well water testing is \$22.31, including tax.** If you have experienced recent flooding, contact the SRRWD office for information on special discounts. Each legal location is eligible for one sample per well at the subsidized rate. Payment may be submitted by cash or cheque **ONLY**, with cheques made payable to **Horizon Lab Ltd.** Horizon Lab is offering a new expedited service where you pay \$10 extra to have their bacteria water test report sent by the next business day.

Water sample bottles & application forms can be picked up in advance at the RM office. Water samples must be taken on **Thursday, June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021** and be dropped off at the RM office **prior to 10am. Samples will only be accepted if accompanied by exact payment & completed forms.**

Please contact SRRWD at 204-326-1030 or 204-425-7877, by emailing [roseau@srrwd.ca](mailto:roseau@srrwd.ca), or at: [www.srrwd.ca](http://www.srrwd.ca)



## Municipal Elections

General Elections are held every four years. Candidates for Council are knowledgeable about the area and care about making the RM of Piney a better place to live and work.

**Senior Election Officer (SEO):** The SEO oversees the overall election process. They appoint election officials, assist with budgeting, registrations, nominations and make sure there is adequate staffing on Election Day.

**Candidate Nominations:** To qualify as a candidate, you must be at least 18 years old, a Canadian Citizen, and own property in the RM for at least six months. Candidates cannot run for more than one elected office during a term.

**Budgeting & Expenses:** The SEO assists with budgeting and election expenses. Budgeting for the election is usually comparable to the neighbouring municipalities.

**By-elections:** By-elections can be triggered when the SEO receives a request from Council due to a vacancy on council before the next General Election. This request marks the beginning of the campaign period.

**Wards:** Wards are established by Council. They are the numbered boundaries that divide the municipality into equal voting groups. Residents must vote in the ward where they live or own property. Councillors may be elected 'at large' or by the ward system (the Reeve is always elected 'at large'). Councillors elected in each ward represent the municipality as a whole, not just their ward.

**Voting:** To be eligible to vote, a person must have been a resident of the municipality for at least six months. Non-resident land owners can vote in municipal elections granted they provide proof of ownership, picture I.D. and the non-resident voter consent form (found on our website).

Stay tuned for our next article on "Municipal Finances".

Sources: "2018 Election Official Manual," *Manitoba Municipal Relations* "Municipal Act Procedures Manual," *Indigenous and Municipal Relations*



## BPPS Recycling & Waste Management

The BPPS Board would like to introduce Adelard Bibeau to the team. Adelard will be our Equipment Operator, moving material to the correct facility. We encourage everyone to welcome Adelard to the new position. His experience and approach will help guide the services forward.

The Board would like to remind everyone to please use the bins as directed by the signage posted. It is imperative that all waste or recyclable land up in the correct location. Failure will result in additional costs or delays. The Board wants to maintain a cost effective and efficient approach to the transfer of materials to the appropriate receiver.



## Transit Plan Report 4 - Transit Options

For a more detailed report, visit our website: <https://rmofpiney.mb.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Transit-Plan-Report-4-June-Newsletter.pdf>

A number of travel options may be available with different types of vehicles, driver options and booking arrangements.

**Privately owned** vehicles are currently used for both personal and an informal ride matching of seniors with volunteers. The size and style of the vehicle may determine if those with physical challenges are able to enter and exit with ease.

A **corporate owned** vehicle refers to an entity which owns a vehicle(s) and provides scheduling and operation of a transit service for a fee. **Ownership costs** of corporate owned vehicles could be approximately 60 cents to \$1.10/km depending on vehicle type. **Fares** will be based on ownership costs, grants, funding & operating costs such as drivers, admin and dispatch costs.

**Accessible / Handi transit** (corporate / agency owned / independent contractor), refers to door-to-door transportation of seniors and those mobility disadvantaged. In 2020, about 70% of rural municipalities in MB have accessible transit service. Each jurisdiction has different protocols & cost for service, none are intended for urgent or emergency service.

**Taxi/Vehicle for Hire** is defined as seating capacity of 10 or fewer occupants used to transport a passenger in exchange for compensation where the vehicle is hired for a single trip and the passenger controls the route or destination travelled.

**Technology Supports** include various computer applications being developed which match drivers with those wanting a ride in various "APPS"; an application ride sharing platform.

**Car-sharing** is a membership based service where members receive an access key and an online account that allows them to book a vehicle, where they want it, when they want it.

**Bus Charter** are vehicles hired to transport groups of people to specific destinations. Charter vehicles can range from larger passenger vans to buses seating 16-56 passengers.

Connie Gamble



**Looking for a Summer Job!!!**  
**Want to work outside and enjoy the summer??**  
**Want to work by a pool??**

**Come Join Our Team...**  
**Enjoy the fresh air**  
**Learn new skills**  
**Flexible hours**



**Vassar Community Recreational Centre**

**VCRC is anticipating 4 -6 full time and part time positions for the summer of 2021**













**Jobs are sponsored by: Canada Summer Jobs Program, HomeTown Green Team Program, Metis Employment and Training**

**Preference will be given to employees who can:**

- **PROVIDE LIFEGUARDING AND INSTRUCTING SERVICES.**
- **PERFORM GENERAL MAINTENANCE AND UPKEEP (INCLUDES BUT NOT LIMITED TO GRASS CUTTING, PAINTING, JANITORIAL WORK)**
- **ORGANIZE/ DIRECT IN PERSON OR ONLINE YOUTH PROGRAMMING.**
- **BE ORGANIZED AND ARE ABLE TO DEAL WITH MONEY.**

*Due to restrictions and requirements from COVID-19 job duties may change as the summer progresses.*

**Please send resume and cover letter to: VCRC c/o Shirlee Preteau Box 15, Vassar, MB R0A 2J0**  
**Or Email: [shirleepreteau@gmail.com](mailto:shirleepreteau@gmail.com) Closing Date: June 4th, 2021**

 <p><b>ROSS L. GRAY SCHOOL</b>          21 Carham Street          Sprague, MB R0A 1Z0          Phone: (204) 457-2375 Fax: (204) 457-2895          Principal: Mr. Jared Baines          Website: <a href="https://rlg.bhd.ca/">https://rlg.bhd.ca/</a></p> <p><b>JUNE 2021</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Smell a flower </p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Spot a butterfly </p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Find a green leaf </p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Hear a bird sing </p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Feel the wind blow </p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> See a squirrel </p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Touch a bug </p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Feel the rain </p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Watch the sun set </p> <p><b>Here is a list of items to explore and experience.</b></p> <p><b>Make sure to check off the items you hear, see, smell or touch!</b></p> <p><b>Spending time with your family is valuable in many ways!</b></p> <p>Here are some reasons why:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ To share your values with your children</li> <li>➤ To teach your children lessons about life</li> <li>➤ To show your family members you care about them</li> <li>➤ To share chores</li> <li>➤ To create memories together</li> </ul> 	<p><b>Vassar Pool Newsletter</b>          May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021</p> <p><b>Fun Fact!</b>          May 22<sup>nd</sup> to May 28<sup>th</sup> is Safe Boating Awareness week! Throughout swimming lessons, students learn about being safe in boats! Ask your child what they know about boat safety! Remember to always wear a lifejacket while boating!</p> <p><b>Future Life Savers and Lifeguards</b>          As of this time, we are unsure if these courses will be offered. Please feel free to ask any questions about when your child can take these, and what the courses entail!</p> <p><b>Contact Information</b>          Please feel free to contact us with any questions or comments!          Email at <a href="mailto:yassarpool.rmpiney@gmail.com">yassarpool.rmpiney@gmail.com</a> or Vassar Pool on Facebook!</p>	 <p><b>What's New?</b></p> <p>Hello everyone! Its that time of year again when many people are wondering what the summer at Vassar Pool will look like. With restrictions constantly changing and new information coming up, it is hard to know what things will look like come June. It is our hope that we can run swimming lessons of course but we have to wait for more information in regard to covid. Ideally, we would like to have one set of June lessons, two in July and one again in August similar to last summer. The TENTATIVE dates are as follows:</p> <p>Session 1: June 21<sup>st</sup> – July 2<sup>nd</sup>          Session 2: July 5<sup>th</sup>- 16<sup>th</sup>          Session 3: July 18<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>          Session 4: August 2<sup>nd</sup>- 13<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p>These dates are completely tentative and no times will be put out until we have more information! Please do not request dates or times as we are unsure what this summer will look like!</p> <p>Thank you for your continued support and understanding!</p>
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**Ross L. Gray Graduation**  
**June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 12:00pm**





# Southeast Farmer's Market

Saturday, June 12, 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!



## SERVICES TO SENIORS UPDATE

### What's Available?

Weekly Meals on Wheels for vulnerable seniors, mobility equipment, general questions and assistance via phone and limited grocery and prescription drop off. Transportation continues to be available for all seniors in RM of Piney at subsidized rates for Medical and Essential shopping. Steinbach \$25 and Winnipeg \$50. Free Activity Bin rentals. Each bin contains, puzzles, games, movies, books and more. Call for more information. 204-437-2604 or email

[lqdseniors@gmail.com](mailto:lqdseniors@gmail.com)

JOIN US  
**JUNE 10TH**  
MONTHLY CHAMBER MEETING  
VIRTUAL ZOOM MEETING AT 7PM

**PINEY REGIONAL**  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

## Economic Development Update

### Assistance for Community Club Volunteers

Sunrise Corner recognizes the volunteers who work tirelessly to fundraise and maintain their community buildings. These community halls and related facilities like skating rinks, pools, tennis courts and curling arenas are truly the social heart of each community. And we know how difficult it has been these past 15+ months to host events, hold fundraising drives, and sometimes even do maintenance.

As I write this article, we're in yet another difficult lockdown. However, we also see that more than 50% of Manitobans have received at least one vaccine shot. We definitely see the light at the end of the tunnel. And we want to help community groups move ahead toward a strong reopening.

#### What Sunrise Corner is doing

- We are planning website blog and social media content to include the status of community events. Send us an email to let us know what you're planning and we'll start promotion, even if it's tentative.
- We're meeting with community groups to brainstorm ideas (virtually or socially distanced, inside or outside). Are there activities you'd like to add to your event or do things a little differently this year? Perhaps you have an idea for an entirely new event or attraction? Drop me a line to reserve your meeting time.
- We are adding a new resource to our website to profile community venues with their capacities, amenities and rental details to help increase rental revenue for community groups. It won't be long before venues will be open to rent for all kinds of meetings and events – everything from an annual general meeting, executive retreat, employee appreciation event or town hall, to a family reunion, social, wedding or milestone birthday party.

I'd like to introduce our Sunrise Corner summer intern. Lexi Olifirowich will be working on several projects in the coming months, including reaching out to all community groups to compile an inventory of venues in the region. Welcome Lexi!

#### What community groups can do

- Email your upcoming event details to [info@sunrisecornermb.ca](mailto:info@sunrisecornermb.ca).
- When our summer student Lexi calls, please invest a few minutes to answer questions about your venue.
- Like and share all local events on social media to help get the word out as we start to reopen.

Looking forward to better days ahead – full of the welcoming community spirit we're known for in Sunrise Corner.

Monique Chenier  
Economic Development Manager



# Last-Minute Checklist for Protecting Your Home and Property from Wildfire



## Evacuation Tips

Monitor conditions and follow the advice of local authorities. **If ordered to evacuate, do so immediately.**

- Review your evacuation plan for your family and pets.
  - Visit [www.getprepared.gc.ca](http://www.getprepared.gc.ca) for helpful tips and evacuation plan templates.
- Have your "ready to go kit" (emergency kit) ready and stocked with cash, portable radio, prescription medications, eye glasses, change of clothes, pet food, flashlights and batteries, etc. Make sure your phone numbers, insurance information and other important documents for your go bag are current.
  - Visit [www.getprepared.gc.ca](http://www.getprepared.gc.ca) for a more complete list of emergency supplies.
- Before evacuating:**
  - Turn off air conditioning.
  - Turn off your electricity and gas.
  - Close all doors, garage doors and windows. If weather seal or doors have gaps, seal with duct tape.



## Quickly address outside surroundings

Complete a scan around your home and property and take steps to remove combustibles.

- Remove leaves, pine needles and other debris from your roof and gutters.
- Mow grass and weeds within 10 metres of the house to 10 centimetres in length, or less.
- Clear all dead plants, leaves, and weeds within 10 metres of your home. Maintain a 1.5 metre non-combustible zone around your home and deck by sweeping or raking down to mineral soil, rock or concrete.
- Move combustible items, such as toys, patio furniture, cushions, decorative items, firewood, and potted plants, that are on and under your deck and within 10 metres of your home. Move all combustible items into your home or garage.
- If you have a propane tank located on your property:
  - Propane tanks should be moved to 10 metres away from structures.
  - Remove weeds and other debris from area around large stationary propane tanks so there is no combustible material near tank.
- If you have a combustible fence that attaches to your home:
  - Secure gate in an open position.
  - Clear vegetation and debris along both sides of combustible fence lines.



## Check around the house

Check vents on roof, foundation and exterior walls to prevent embers from entering your home.

- Check your attic and foundation (crawl space) vents to see if they are screened and in good repair. Use duct or metal tape to temporarily cover damaged vents and those with 3 millimetre mesh screening.
- If you store cardboard boxes and other easily ignited materials near a vent in your attic or crawl space, move them as far away as possible from vent(s).
  - Another option is to place tape over vent(s) at these locations. Be sure to remove tape when you return home.
- Cover dryer vents and wall-mounted make-up air openings for furnaces with a plywood cover, metal tape or duct tape.



Visit [www.firesmartcanada.ca](http://www.firesmartcanada.ca) for additional resources and information.



## RM of Piney Fire Departments

I wanted to start the June article with a great deal of appreciation. Thank you to our community, our supporters, our fellow teammates, our neighbours, neighbouring fire departments, the provincial fire crews and to all who provided words of support and encouragement.

This month, our fire fighters struggle with words and emotions following a difficult month of May. Our thoughts lay with the horrible impact to our beautiful forests, the wildlife that call it home, and how the lives of our residents have changed. The beauty will return before the memories have faded.

These events reinforce the need for planning ahead and supporting organizations such as the Piney Emergency Assistance Teams (PEAT) as much as possible. Individuals can also protect their properties, be FireSmart and be ready to act without panic. Working with and listening to the direction of officials is essential.

Despite the challenges that presented themselves this past month, our spirits are lifted as we recognize the selfless acts of those men and women who pulled together at some of the hardest times. It is truly an inspiration to see the caring of neighbours, community and strangers alike, truly the strength of our rural home! Credit must be given to the huge efforts that ensured the best possible outcome. It is essential that we continue to be vigilant whenever possible, be aware of our actions and think about how we view our surroundings. Enjoy what this region has to offer and protect it for the future.

Bill Stowe  
Municipal Fire Chief

# PROTECTIVE SERVICES



## Sprague RCMP

Have unwanted firearms or ammunition that you don't know what to do with? Sprague RCMP will take these items off your hands and have them safely disposed. Pro tip... please don't just show up at the Police Station with firearms in hand! That will get very exciting... real quickly! You'll also give our poor office manager Lori a heart attack! If you have unwanted firearms or ammunition to turn over, please call Sprague RCMP at (204) 437-2041, and make an appointment with one of our officers to bring the items in. That way we can ensure everyone stays safe, and the firearms or ammunition are dealt with in a safe manner.

Quick shout out to all the volunteer fire fighters, and other members of the community that worked together in fighting the forest fire near Woodridge/Sandilands. Your effort and dedication was inspiring! The forest fire threat remains high, let's work together to reduce the chances of further fires.

With the Province currently under Code Red restrictions, Sprague RCMP Detachment is currently 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 call (204) 437-2222 or 911.

Richard Graham Cpl.  
NCO i/c Sprague Detachment

## slam the scam!



**SCAMMERS CAN FAKE THEIR CALLER ID. IF YOU RECEIVE A CALL SAYING YOU OWE MONEY TO THE CANADA REVENUE AGENCY:**

- Check your account balance in My Account at [canada.ca/my-cra-account](https://canada.ca/my-cra-account) OR
- Call us at 1-888-863-8657 to speak with a CRA agent

For more information, go to [canada.ca/taxes-fraud-prevention](https://canada.ca/taxes-fraud-prevention)



## Municipal Emergency Coordinator

The wildfire between Woodridge and Sandilands is finally listed as under control by Manitoba Conservation and Climate, and the RM has lifted the State of Local Emergency. Cleanup is under way. We all breathe a sigh of relief after experiencing a challenging couple of weeks. One of the things that struck me, so profoundly, was the gathering of the community to stand against the wildfire. The RM was in a State of Local Emergency, council and staff was stationed in the Emergency Operations Center, brave fire crews from both the RM and from Conservation and Climate were in the field battling the blaze, the Woodridge PEAT group had mobilized. During the wildfire, I briefly visited the Woodridge Fire Station and saw residents from around the RM dropping off whatever food and drink they had available in an effort to show support. These incredible donations were unsolicited and these fine folks showed up for no more reason than they wanted to help. Additionally, the selfless efforts of the PEAT volunteers cannot be overstated.

Our next task is to review and analyse the events of the wildfire so we may strive to enhance our response. So the next time a horrible event like this occurs we may have the tools to overcome whatever adversity is thrown our way.

Vaccinations are now under way in Manitoba. To find out when you can be vaccinated, visit the MB Government website for details: <https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/vaccine/index.html>

Richard Gamble  
Municipal Emergency Coordinator