

Phone: 204-437-2284 or
204-437-2060
office@rmofpiney.mb.ca
Hours: Monday – Friday
8:30am – 12:00pm
12:45pm – 4:30pm



Need to Contact your Councillor?

Wayne Anderson: 204-527-0569
Ken Prociw: 204-429-2143
Dale Edbom: 204-423-2089
David Beaudry: 204-437-2528
Mark Bernard: 431-997-5077

September 2024

MONTHLY REMINDERS

The RM Office will be closed:
Monday, September 2nd and
Monday, September 30th, 2024.



Board of Revision

The Board of Revision scheduled for September 17th, 2024 has been moved to October 15th, 2024.

If you have any discrepancies with your 2025 assessments and would like to meet with Manitoba Assessment, your request in writing must be submitted by letter or email to the RM office no later than 4:30pm on October 1st, 2024. Board of Revision will be meeting on Tuesday, October 15th, 2024.



RM of Piney Forest Tours

Saturday, September 21st from 1:00 – 3:30pm

WELCOME TO NATIONAL FOREST WEEK

Tours will be provided rain or shine for ages 12 & up. Participants will meet at the Piney Community Hall and need to supply their own transportation to and from each touring site. Call Carrie at 204-437-2284 to reserve a spot!



Review of the Draft Community Grants Policy



Tuesday, September 17th, 2024

6:30pm – 8:30pm

6092 Boundary St. in Vassar

The RM of Piney will be holding a public meeting to go over the draft copy of the Community Grants Policy. The policy encompasses grants offered by the RM of Piney, benefiting community organizations that serve the public.

The meeting will be open to all RM of Piney community organizations as well as the public. We ask that if you would like to attend and have any questions in regard to this policy, that you submit all comments and/or concerns to carrie@rmofpiney.mb.ca in advance and all comments received will be taken into consideration.

Thank you and hope to see you there!

RM of Piney Seedling Program

White Spruce Seedlings Available

\$6.25 per bundle (25 seedlings)



Ratepayers can pre-order seedlings. Contact the RM office to reserve your seedlings today!

Payments can be made in cash, cheque, debit, or by credit card (with a 2% service fee).

Once the seedlings are ready for pick up, a notice will be posted on our website and Facebook Page. Ratepayers with pre-orders will be contacted directly with pick up dates. Seedlings must be picked up during regular office hours.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Let's Make it Easier to Shop Local

For many, September is the time for a reset. The start to a new school year and unofficial end of summer brings fresh beginnings. This is the perfect time for businesses to look back at the goals they set back in January and make a plan to achieve those goals by the end of the year.

Why not start with making sure potential customers know how to reach you when they need your products or services? In a rural area like Sunrise Corner with about 3,600 people across 17 hamlets spread over 3,600 sq km, it takes more than the population of your own community to ensure the success of your small business. It takes the entire region.

Bottom line, potential customers need to know your business exists and how to reach you. The majority of people in our region want to support local businesses, but literally don't know they exist, so go to larger trading centres to buy products or pay steep travel charges for services. And with so many new people moving to our area, word of mouth isn't what it used to be when everyone knew everyone else.

That's where having a strong online presence is critical. That may sound daunting to a small business owner who doesn't have the technical know-how to build a website or figure out social media. That's where Sunrise Corner is able to help with our online directory. Best of all, listings are free for Sunrise Corner-based businesses and instructions are on the website to help you add or update your listing. If you need assistance, send me an email – I am more than happy to add the listing for you.

Visit the online directory (link below) where you can search by community, category or key word. We start by adding a basic listing for businesses as we learn about them, but we can enhance listings with photos, promotions and product/service features and benefits.

And a suggestion for Sunrise Corner residents: Check out the businesses in our region, you may be pleasantly surprised. You'll likely learn about a local product or service you need but hadn't heard of before. Remember, shopping local supports our neighbours, friends and families, and makes our communities stronger and more self sufficient. Sounds like a good goal to pursue for the rest of 2024.

Monique Chenier
monique@sunrisecornermb.ca

Visit Sunrise Corner's
Online Business Directory



www.sunrisecornermb.ca/business-listings/

*Listings exclusively for businesses physically located in Sunrise Corner
(the RMs of Piney and Stuartburn).

Embracing Bilingualism

Workforce Needs Assessment Survey

Hello/bonjour! In last month's newsletter, we announced that the RM of Piney has become a member of the Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMBM). We also announced one of the first initiatives being launched by AMBM on our behalf: a workforce needs assessment survey.

The purpose of the survey is to better understand and address the shortage of skilled labour in both French and English. The information we receive will help AMBM's efforts to recruit and prepare individuals for the workforce, and support eligible businesses in recruiting, hiring and retaining skilled staff. The survey includes the opportunity to provide feedback on current challenges your business is having in hiring employees including affordable housing, transportation and training.

In addition to community economic development activities, AMBM assists bilingual municipalities by offering free services to businesses that wish to benefit from bilingualism as an added value in Manitoba's growing economy. When responding to the survey, you will have the opportunity to indicate if you would like to be contacted by AMBM about the free business services available to eligible businesses.

The survey will be sent out to all businesses in the RM of Piney in early September to learn more about the staffing needs within each organization. Even if you're working on your own, we're interested to learn about your plans for your business in the future and any succession plans you might be considering.

Responding to the survey takes about five minutes and you'll be entered into a draw for a chance to win a \$50 gift card or one of the grand prizes of \$1000 to promote your company.

The survey will be administered by AMBM and your responses will be strictly confidential. Survey results will be combined for the entire municipality and no personal or identifiable information will be shared outside of AMBM.

We have been reaching out to businesses over the last couple weeks to update the contact information we have on the Sunrise Corner business directory at www.sunrisecornermb.ca/business-listings/. If we have not connected by email or phone and you are interested in receiving the survey, please email info@sunrisecornermb.ca.

Thank you/merci.





FULL-TIME TERM EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANT

With the support of the Association of Manitoba Bilingual Municipalities (AMBM), the RM of Piney is excited to bolster its commitment to economic development within the municipality by inviting applications for Economic Development Assistant. This term position will work in partnership with the Economic Development Council for Manitoba Bilingual Municipalities (CDEM) in achieving strategic priorities while supporting the promotion of our bilingual municipality.

Job Type: Economic Development Assistant – Full-Time Term Position

Closing Date: Open until a successful candidate is found

Wages: \$20.12 - \$28.43 based on qualifications

The Position:

The Economic Development Assistant is responsible for supporting initiatives within the borders of the Rural Municipality of Piney that foster a progressive municipal environment to support economic growth. The successful candidate will work directly with the RM of Piney and CDEM/AMBM while liaising with other project partners, including Sunrise Corner Economic Development, and local stakeholders to create the winning conditions for a welcoming and inclusive municipality.

General Responsibilities include but are not limited to:

- **Strategic Collaboration:** Work in tandem with CDEM and AMBM to implement their strategic goals, particularly in supporting economic development in bilingual municipalities.
- **Community Building:** Enhance the municipality's ability to attract, welcome, and retain residents by addressing affordable housing, transportation mobility, and connectivity.
- **Inclusion Efforts:** Stimulate municipal-community partnerships aimed at fostering lasting ties between locals and newcomers, thereby promoting inclusion.
- **Employer Engagement:** Raise awareness among employers about the benefits of hiring bilingual newcomers and help them develop cultural competencies and skills in equity, diversity, and inclusion.
- **Advocacy:** Contribute to initiatives that raise awareness and mobilize municipal governments and rural communities about the benefits of immigration, diversity, and inclusiveness.
- **Local Development:** Collaborate with regional organizations in local business and community development activities.
- **Business Growth:** Attract new business development, and work towards retaining and expanding existing local businesses.

Qualifications/Skills:

- Post secondary education in business, commerce, rural development or economics preferable. Relevant work experience will also be considered.
- Strong communication and writing skills.
- Proficient with Microsoft Office.
- Experience with social media.
- Experience working with volunteers, government and businesses in economic and community development activities.
- Have ability to work independently under minimal supervision and as part of a team.
- Excellent organizational and time management skills with demonstrated ability to prioritize tasks.

Communication proficiency in English and French is an asset, not a requirement. We welcome all applicants who are passionate about economic development and community building, regardless of their language proficiency.

Conditions of Employment:

- Familiarity with rural Manitoba, the Association of Manitoba Bilingual Municipalities (AMBM), and Economic Development Council for Manitoba Bilingual Municipalities (CDEM);
- Positively represent the Rural Municipality of Piney to the public and stakeholders;
- Valid driver's license and access to vehicle.

Please include a cover letter detailing how your experience and education make you the best candidate for this position. This position will remain open until a suitable candidate is found.

Rural Municipality of Piney
Attention: Martin Van Osch, CAO
Box 48, Vassar, MB R0A 2J0
204-437-2284 (phone)
204-437-2556 (fax)
martin@rmofpiney.mb.ca

We thank all candidates in advance however only those under consideration will be selected for interview.

Keeping Your Rural Property Safe

As the vibrant colors of fall begin to paint the landscape, it's a good time for rural landowners to think about property safety. With shorter days and longer nights, the risk of crime can increase. Here are some practical tips to help you keep your property safe as we transition into the fall season.

- 1. Enhance Lighting:** Good lighting is a powerful deterrent to crime. Ensure that all entry points, including doors and windows, are well-lit. Motion-sensor lights are particularly effective as they can startle potential intruders and alert you to their presence. Solar-powered lights are an eco-friendly option that can be placed along pathways and driveways.
- 2. Secure Doors and Windows:** Check all doors and windows to ensure they are secure. Install deadbolts on exterior doors and consider reinforcing door frames. For windows, especially those on the ground floor, use locks or security bars. Don't forget to secure outbuildings like barns and sheds, which can be targets for thieves.
- 3. Install Security Cameras:** Modern security cameras are more affordable and easier to install than ever. Place cameras at key points around your property, such as entrances, driveways, and near valuable equipment. Many cameras now offer remote monitoring via smartphone apps, allowing you to keep an eye on your property even when you're not there.
- 4. Maintain Landscaping:** Overgrown bushes and trees can provide cover for intruders. Keep your landscaping trimmed and ensure that there are no hiding spots near windows and doors.
- 5. Use Alarm Systems:** An alarm system can be a significant deterrent. There are various options available, from basic systems that alert you to more sophisticated ones that notify local authorities. Make sure to display signs indicating that your property is protected by an alarm system.
- 6. Get to Know Your Neighbours:** A strong community is one of the best defenses against crime. Get to know your neighbors and look out for each other. Consider forming a neighbourhood watch group to keep an eye on suspicious activities. Sharing information and staying connected can help keep everyone safer.
- 7. Secure Valuables:** Keep valuable items out of sight and locked away. This includes tools, machinery, and recreational vehicles. If possible, store them in a locked garage or shed.
- 8. Regularly Check Your Property:** Make it a habit to walk around your property and check for any signs of tampering or unusual activity. This can help you spot potential security issues before they become serious problems.

By taking these steps, you can help ensure that your rural property remains safe and secure throughout the fall season. Remember, a little preparation can go a long way in preventing crime and giving you peace of mind.

Promoting Wildland Fire Safety in the Rural Municipality of Piney

Wildland fires pose a significant risk to communities, especially those located near natural landscapes. In the Rural Municipality of Piney, where the wildland-urban interface is expanding, it's crucial to raise awareness and educate residents about fire safety. In this article, we'll explore FireSmart™ concepts and provide practical tips for safeguarding homes against wildland fires.

Understanding the Risks

The RM has experienced its share of wildland fires and as the population grows and more homes are built near forests and grasslands, the risk escalates. Therefore, proactive measures are essential to protect lives, property, and the environment.

FireSmart Concepts

FireSmart Canada has developed practical, effective, and science-based programs that provide you with tools to be better prepared when wildfire occurs. FireSmart is a comprehensive approach to wildfire prevention and mitigation.



Key concepts to consider:

- 1. Defensible Space:** Create a defensible space around your home by clearing vegetation, leaves, and debris. Maintain a buffer zone of at least 30 meters (100 feet) to reduce the risk of fire spreading to structures.
- 2. Fire-Resistant Landscaping:** Choose fire-resistant plants and materials for landscaping. Avoid highly flammable vegetation near your home.
- 3. Hardening Your Home:** Strengthen your home's resilience by using fire-resistant roofing, siding, and windows. Install spark arresters on chimneys and vents.
- 4. Emergency Preparedness:** Develop an evacuation plan, assemble an emergency kit, and stay informed about local fire conditions.

Preventing Wildland Fires

Here's how residents can contribute to fire safety:

- 1. Fire Bans and Restrictions:** Follow local fire bans and restrictions. When conditions are extreme, all burning (including fire pits and solid fuel appliances) may be prohibited.
- 2. Home Preparedness:** Clear leaves, debris, and flammable vegetation from around your home. Trim tree branches away from roofs and power lines. Store firewood and propane tanks away from structures.
- 3. Community Action:** Host events to raise awareness of wildfire risks. Encourage neighbors to participate in fire-adapted planning.

By implementing FireSmart principles and understanding local risks, residents of the RM of Piney can protect their homes and contribute to community safety. Let's work together to prevent wildland fires and ensure a resilient future for our beautiful landscape. Remember, every action counts!

FireSmart, Intelli-feu and other associated Marks are trademarks of the Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Centre (CIFFC)

Piney Pinecreek Border Airport's Transition

The Rural Municipality of Piney has announced the termination of its current operations agreement with the State of Minnesota for the joint operation and capital improvement of the Piney Pinecreek Border Airport.

For many years, the RM of Piney has supported the airport by contributing to its operational costs. The airport has been a vital part of our community, facilitating medical transfers of patients from Roseau to Winnipeg.

Recently, the State of Minnesota prepared a "Capital Improvement Plan" identifying critical upgrades needed at the Piney Pinecreek Border Airport to ensure safe air travel. The plan estimated the cost of these upgrades at approximately \$2.5 million. The existing agreement equitably split these costs between the State of Minnesota and the RM of Piney. However, given the municipality's fiscal responsibility and limited tax base, Council determined that it could not support the current agreement. As a result, notice was issued to terminate the agreement effective January 1st, 2025.

Despite this termination, operations at the Piney Pinecreek Border Airport will continue uninterrupted until January 1st, 2025, ensuring no immediate disruptions for the community and airport users.

It is important to note that this does not mark the end of the Piney Pinecreek Border Airport. Discussions between the RM of Piney and the State of Minnesota are ongoing, and there is still a possibility of finding a solution to continue operations.

The future of the Piney Pinecreek Border Airport will become clearer in the coming months as these discussions progress. While this decision marks a significant change, the RM of Piney remains committed to serving the community and working towards its betterment.

Let's Connect

MIDDLEBRO COMMUNITY HALL

HALL RENTALS: CONTACT



DONNA @ 204-881-8409 TEXT OR CALL
JODIE @ 204-437-2437



Facebook : MIDDLEBRO COMMUNITY HALL



Middlebro.Community.Club@gmail.com



All Welcome to check the hall out for your special day, meetings, Commercial kitchen, plus more..
Call or Text for Appointment

And the Winner is...

Ticket Number 012890 is the July Recycling Incentive Program Winner!



WELCOME
BACK TO
SCHOOL

Arborsgate School

Meet the Teacher Night: September 4th (4-6pm)
Start Date: September 5th

Ross L. Gray School

Kick Start Day (Meet & Greet): September 4th
Start Date: September 5th (K-12 school day)

UPCOMING events

Southeast Farmer's Market

Friday September 6th, 2024 from 3 – 8pm
Pine Grove Seniors Center in South Junction
Canteen will be open inside the Pine Grove Seniors

PRCC Meeting

Thursday, September 12th, 2024 at 7pm
RM Piney Council Chambers in Vassar
Guest Speaker: Konrad Narth, MLA for La Vérendrye

Middlebro Outdoorsman's Dinner & Dance

Saturday, October 5th, 2024 at 6pm
Middlebro Community Club

Sprague Thrift Store

Wednesdays & Thursdays from 10am – 4pm
Located at Sprague Community Fellowship along PR308

CRA In-person Support Clinic & Service Canada

First Tuesday of the Month from 10am – 3pm
East Borderland Primary Health Care Centre in Sprague

"Meet Your Neighbours" – Coffee Groups

Mondays at 1pm – Pine Grove Seniors Club in S.J.
Thursdays at 1pm – Evergreen Seniors Club in Sprague

Public
Information
Session

Alzheimer Society
MANITOBA
Dementia Care & Brain Health

ABC's of Dementia

Learn about dementia and how it impacts a person's abilities, behaviours and communication.
What can you do after noticing these changes in yourself or someone you know?

Wednesday, September 11th, 2024

10:30 – 11:30 am

Piney Regional Senior Services
15 Prevost St., South Junction, MB

Presented by: Sierra Dueck, South Eastman Regional Coordinator

No registration required!



South Eastman Region
10 Chrysler Gate
Steinbach, MB
(204) 326-5771

alzheimer.mb.ca

sierradueck@alzheimer.mb.ca

Woodridge Community Club invites you to attend our dine-in **FALL SUPPER**

Saturday, September 14, 2024

4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

at the Woodridge Community Centre
69 Denis Street, Woodridge, MB

Menu will include some of your favorites . . .
fried chicken, meatballs, perogies, mashed potatoes,
garlic sausage & sauerkraut, a variety of side dishes
and a dessert buffet.

TICKETS MUST BE PURCHASED IN ADVANCE!

Tickets can be purchased from any WCC board member,
at the Woodridge Vintage Corner Store
and the Woodridge Garage
before September 9th.

There will be no tickets on sale at the door.
Questions? Call 204-429-2344

Adult/Teen: \$25

Youth (6 – 12 years): \$15

Children under 5 years: Free

Middlebro Seniors
are hosting a

FALL Potluck Evening

Sunday September 22

Middlebro Community Hall
At 5:00 pm

All Seniors from Middlebro, Buffalo Point
or around the RM of Piney are welcome.

Reconnect with your neighbours, meet
newcomers, meet neighbours from outside
Middlebro.

**FREE
ADMISSION
& PARKING**

For more information
Call Sharon 431-997-5384

PINEY ANNUAL FALL ATV DERBY

Saturday, September 28, 2024

Registration Is 10:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

At The Piney Community Hall

-PRIZE MONEY IS 20% - 15% - 10% - 5% OF
TOTAL HANDS (less insurance fee)

-ALL HANDS \$5.00 EACH, FOOD & REFRESHMENTS
AVAILABLE AT THE PINEY HALL

-Quick Pick - Piney Hall

-Food Will Be Available On The Trail

*FOR INFO CONTACT: Wally 431-205-1248
Terry 204-795-8591 or Nancy 204-408-0874