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

PINEY
Municipality / Municipalité



December 2026

MONTHLY REMINDERS

Need to Contact your Councillor?

Reeve, Mark Bernard: 204-381-6521
reeve@rmofpiney.mb.ca

Ward 1, Ken Prociw: 204-381-8484
ward1@rmofpiney.mb.ca

Ward 2, Sherri Kuhl: 204-381-2165
ward2@rmofpiney.mb.ca

Ward 3, David Beaudry: 204-381-8628
ward3@rmofpiney.mb.ca

Ward 4, Charlene Hovorka: 204-381-9349
ward4@rmofpiney.mb.ca

The cellular lines include both voicemail and Wi-Fi calling capabilities. This means that even in areas with limited cellular coverage, calls can be made and received anywhere a Wi-Fi connection is available, providing greater flexibility and reliability for Councillors while they are in the community, at home, or travelling.

Each line also has voicemail, to ensure that callers can leave messages if a Councillor is unavailable at that time. This ensures direct communication without the need to manage separate voicemail accounts.



The RM Office will be closed starting December 24th, 2026 and will re-open to the public on January 4th, 2027.

Reeves Reflections

A Busy Start for Piney's New Council

Welcome to Reeves Reflections, a monthly update from your Reeve, Mark Bernard. This column is intended to keep residents informed about Council activities, municipal initiatives, and my personal reflections as we work together to move the RM of Piney forward.

Our **Vision** is to create a safe, healthy and prosperous environment in which to live, work and play, while encouraging sustainable development that enhances the way of life for all.

Our **Mission** is to provide responsible governance focused on families, communities and a diversified economy.

Council is responsible for setting municipal policy, passing bylaws, approving budgets, and making financial decisions. Administration, led by the CAO, manages day-to-day operations and implements Council's decisions.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the recent municipal election. I would also like to recognize former Reeve Anderson and former Councillor Edbom for their service to our municipality. Congratulations to returning Councillors Ken Prociw and David Beaudry, and welcome to new Councillors Sherri Kuhl and Charlene Hovorka.

The new Council began its term with orientation, governance training, and attendance at the Association of Manitoba Municipalities Fall Convention. We also held our first regular Council meeting, where key organizational and operational matters were addressed to establish a strong foundation for the term ahead.

Our first month has been busy, but productive. I am encouraged by the professionalism, teamwork, and thoughtful discussion around the Council table, and I look forward to working together on behalf of our residents.

Thank you for your support. See you next month!

Reeve Mark Bernard



Bid Hourly Contractor Forms

2027 Bid Hourly Forms are now available online to all contractors interested in submitting their bids to do any work for the RM in 2027. The form can be found under "*Our Services* – Roads & Infrastructure" on our website.

UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

DEC 2	**Committee of the Whole** 10am in the council chambers
DEC 8	**Regular Council Meeting** 10am in the council chambers
DEC 22	**Regular Council Meeting** 10am in the council chambers

For agendas and minutes of each meeting, visit our website: www.rmofpiney.mb.ca

Radon Monitoring Lending Program

Radon Testing Kits Available Through the RM Office

The RM office has radon screening devices available for short-term loan, that will provide households with an accessible way to test indoor radon levels and make informed decisions about mitigation. The best time to test is during the heating season. Whether you've got an older home or a newer home, or your neighbor has already tested, you still should test for radon. Radon levels vary naturally from day to day and month to month influenced by changes in the weather, the surrounding environment or how you use your home.



Contact the RM on how to sign-out a radon screening device. Residents may borrow a radon device from the RM office for up to 4 weeks. A $25 deposit is required, that will be returned once the device is returned.

Traffic Gravel Haul

RM of Piney Public Works

2025-2026 Cost Comparison

For 2025, the total cost for traffic gravel including hauling, spreading, repairing municipal roads, and projects to date was $228,648.02, which covered 19,807 tonnes of gravel.

For 2026, the cost for traffic gravel was $112,413.06 with hauling costing $193,204.99. The total cost for traffic gravel including hauling, spreading, repairing municipal roads, and projects to date is $305,618.05. This amount covers 24,721.16 tonnes of gravel for 2026.

Recycling Incentive Program Ending December 31st, 2026

The Recycling Incentive Program will be coming to an end for 2026, but we encourage you to keep recycling!

A reminder that the November and December winning ticket numbers will only be announced in the January and February newsletters, so hold on to your tickets, as the winners will only be announced in the new year.



Investing in Piney's Future

The Rural Municipality of Piney is proud to share another funding success that helps strengthen local services while reducing the financial burden on ratepayers. Through a partnership with the Association of Manitoba Bilingual Municipalities (AMBM), the RM has secured up to **$40,000 in grant funding** to support and strengthen municipal economic development capacity during the 2026-2027 fiscal year.

This funding will support the municipality's economic development efforts, including the work of an Economic Development Officer and initiatives focused on attracting new residents, supporting local businesses, helping employers address workforce needs, and encouraging sustainable growth in our community.

Partnerships like this are important because they allow the RM to expand services and pursue new opportunities without relying solely on property taxes. By working collaboratively with organizations such as AMBM and programs supported by Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC), the municipality can bring external funding into our community to support projects that benefit residents, businesses, and future growth.

Council and administration remain committed to actively pursuing grant opportunities that strengthen municipal services, build community capacity, and create long-term value for ratepayers. Every successful grant application helps bring additional resources to Piney, ensuring local tax dollars go further while supporting a strong and vibrant future for our region.

New Piney App Makes Staying Informed Easier Than Ever

With the heightened interest and participation in our recent municipal elections, perhaps one of your New Year's resolutions is now to become more informed about what's happening locally. If so, we have some exciting news.

Launching December 1, the RM of Piney is introducing a new mobile app designed to make staying connected with our municipality easier, more convenient & Simply Better.

Municipal Information at Your Fingertips
Whether you're a year-round resident, seasonal property owner, local business operator or tourist, the Piney app puts important information right on your phone. Looking for upcoming community events? Check the calendar. Interested in local employment opportunities? Browse job postings. Need the latest newsletter or a building permit application? Find documents in one convenient location.

Emergency Notifications When They Matter Most
Perhaps the most important feature is the ability to receive emergency notifications directly on your phone. Following the devastating 2025 wildfires, residents told us they wanted more ways to receive timely emergency information. We listened. The Piney app provides another important communication channel to help keep residents informed when it matters most.

Looking to the Future
And there's more coming. In the not-too-distant future, residents will be able to pay their property taxes through the app. Is there other information and functionality you want and need? Great, simply let us know on the App Feedback Form.

Download the App and Win
To celebrate this exciting launch, the RM of Piney is introducing a contest with monthly prize draws (like gift cards to local businesses) for registered app users. Entering is simple:

1. Visit your favourite app store and search "Piney". Look for the RM of Piney logo.
2. Download and open the app. Click the bottom-right corner to register a new account.
3. Enter your name and email address, then watch for an email to verify your account.
4. Log in and you're automatically entered into our monthly prize draw – the first winner will be announced at the first council meeting in January 2027.

The holidays are just around the corner, so why wait until January? Download the Piney app today and take the first step toward achieving your first resolution of 2027.

Stay informed. Stay connected. Live Simply Better!

Monique Chenier, Economic Development Officer
monique@rmofpiney.mb.ca

Did You Know? The Piney app was developed free of charge through an initiative discovered when council attended the spring 2026 Federation of Canadian Municipalities Conference.

PROTECTIVE SERVICES

Sprague RCMP

With December here, many of us are getting ready for Christmas, spending time with family and friends, and preparing for another Manitoba winter. It's a busy time of year, and with everything going on, it's easy to overlook some of the little things that can keep us safe.

Living in the RM of Piney, we know how quickly winter driving conditions can change. A road that was clear in the morning can be covered in snow or ice by the afternoon. Whether you're heading into Steinbach for some Christmas shopping or travelling to visit family, take your time and drive according to the conditions. It's also a good idea to keep some warm clothing, blankets, and a few emergency supplies in your vehicle. Getting stranded on a rural road in the middle of winter is never a good situation.

December also means more people are travelling and leaving their homes unattended over the holidays. If you're heading away for a few days, make sure your doors are locked and consider having a neighbour or friend keep an eye on your property. We live in an area where neighbours still look out for one another, and that can go a long way in preventing theft and other property crimes.

With Christmas parties and family gatherings taking place throughout the month, we also want to remind everyone to make responsible decisions when it comes to driving. Impaired driving is something we continue to deal with, and unfortunately, it only takes one poor decision to change someone's life forever. If you plan on drinking, make arrangements to get home safely.

Finally, Christmas can be a difficult time for some people, particularly those who live alone or don't have family nearby. Taking a few minutes to check in on an elderly neighbour or someone who might need a hand can make a bigger difference than you realize.

From all of us at the Sprague RCMP Detachment, we wish everyone in the RM of Piney a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Enjoy the holidays, take care of each other, and stay safe.

For all non-emergency matters, please contact the Sprague RCMP Detachment at (204) 437-2041. Criminal record checks can be completed at our office on Tuesdays and Wednesdays between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. If you require immediate police assistance, please call (204) 437-2222 or 911 in the event of an emergency.

Cpl. Kevin Reimer
Sprague RCMP

DECEMBER
Festivities

Service Canada
Tuesday, December 1st from 10:00am – 3:00pm
East Borderland Primary Health Care Centre in Sprague

Stay & Play at RLG School
December 2nd & 8th from 9:30-11:30am
Ross L Gray School in Sprague

PRCC Meeting
Thursday, December 10th from 6:30 – 9:00pm
RM Piney Council Chambers in Vassar
12 Tastes of Christmas – Bakers Networking/Tasting

Southeast Farmer's Market
Saturday, December 12th & 19th from 10am – 2pm
Pine Grove Seniors Center in South Junction

Vassar One Stop Derby
Saturday, February 13th, 2027
Vassar Community Recreation Centre

Exercises at Vassar Hall
Monday-Friday 9-9:30am Weights/6:30-7pm Cardio
Vassar Community Recreation Centre

"Meet Your Neighbours" – Coffee Groups
Mondays at 1pm in S.J. & Thursdays at 1pm in Sprague

Piney Indoor Activities
Mon: Ballet 5pm / Tue: Martial Arts 5pm / Curling 6:30pm / Wed: Pickleball 1 & 6:30pm / Th: Archery 7pm
Piney Community Hall

Moms & Tots
Every Thursday from 12pm – 2pm
Woodridge Community Club

Community Christmas Hamper Donations
Donations are still being accepted!

Joy to the World the Lord is come

International Christian Fellowship
Christmas Program & Potluck
Border Church HWY 89, Piney, MB.

December 13, 2026
11:00 am

Everyone is invited to attend this celebration.

ROSS L. GRAY SCHOOL

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

COME JOIN US!

DECEMBER 10, 2026 AT 7:00 PM

DRESS REHERASAL
DEC. 10TH AT 9:30 A.M.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO ATTEND BOTH THE EVENING AND MORNING CONCERTS



Food for Friends



ROSS L GRAY SCHOOL STUDENT COUNCIL IS COLLECTING NON-PERISHABLE **BREAKFAST FOOD** ITEMS TO DONATE TO OUR LOCAL CHRISTMAS FOOD HAMPER.



PLEASE BRING FOOD TO THE SCHOOL UNTIL MONDAY, DECEMBER 14TH.

CEREAL, PEANUT BUTTER, NUTELLA, PANCAKE MIX, SYRUP, JAMS/JELLY







DECEMBER 5TH

AT 9AM-11AM

BREAKFAST WITH THE GRINCH

HOSTED BY

MIDDLEBRO COMMUNITY CLUB

PANCAKES | SAUSAGE | EGGS | COFFE/JUICE

$10 ADULTS $5 KIDS (5-12 Y/O)

4 Y/O AND UNDER FREE

MIDDLEBRO COMMUNITY HALL, MIDDLEBRO

MIDDLEBRO COMMUNITY CLUB

TEXAS HOLD'EM

Poker Tournament

SAT DEC 5

$30.00 ENTRY

LUNCH AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

Registration 10:30 am
Game starts @ 11 am
Up to 3 re-buys, 30 players max, 75% pay out, No pre registration
Contact Gary Dowhy @ 204-437-2251
License: LGCA 4763-TH-53358







WOODRIDGE COMMUNITY CLUB

69 Denis Street, Woodridge

CHRISTMAS CRAFT and BAKE SALE

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5th 2026

11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

30+ tables of unique handmade/ homemade gifts, crafts, decorations, baked goods, treats and so much more!



Admission: FREE

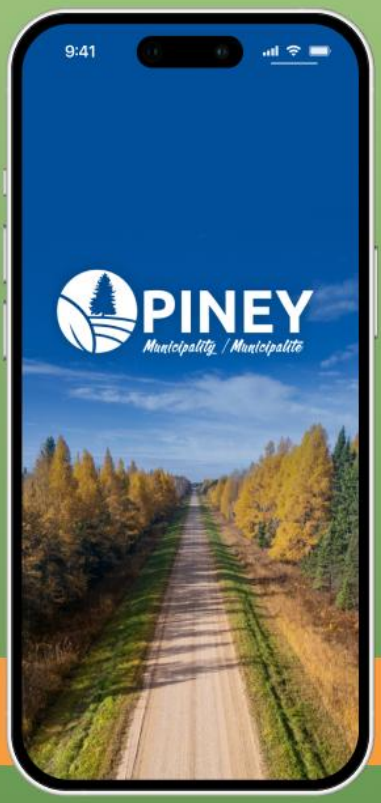
You can bring a 'tin for the bin' in support of local Food Banks

There will also be a . . .

CANTEEN, SILENT AUCTION & MORE!

Community Christmas Program
Sunday Dec. 6, 2026
@ 3:00 pm
at the Sprague Hall
Lunch to follow
Everyone Welcome!
Anyone who would like to sing in choir ~
Practice starts Sunday Oct 25th
at the Sprague Baptist Church
at 7:00 pm (Every Sunday)

RM OF PINEY APP NOW AVAILABLE!



RESIDENTS OF THE RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF PINEY
NEVER MISS AN UPDATE

News & Events | Documents | Job Postings

1 DOWNLOAD
Scan the QR code or visit your app store of choice and search: 'Rural Municipality of Piney'

2 REGISTER
Simply fill out your info and check your email to verify your app account.

3 LOG IN
Log in to get the latest news, events, jobs, & more right at your fingertips!

DOWNLOAD NOW

GET IT ON Android

Download on the App Store

Ladies Christmas Party

Hosted by:
International Christian Fellowship, Piney
Our evening will include supper, a Christmas activity, a devotional and gift exchange game.

Tuesday, December 8, 2026
6:00 PM

If you wish to play the gift game, please bring a wrapped "Christmas-y" item worth @ $5.00
Feel free to be as creative as you want.

Please Note: That we would appreciate you all to RSVP by December 1st, so we can plan accordingly. All ladies welcome!
Call or text Bev @ 204-381-6500

We are looking forward to celebrating this evening with you!

~~~ EBCH ~~~

Christmas Lights Fundraiser

Donate $5 per light bulb or
light up an entire tree for $75 donation

Proceeds towards
East Borderland Community Housing
Assisted Living Community

Trees will be lit up in front of
East Borderland Primary Health Care Centre
and East Borderland Community Housing

Donations can be dropped off at East Borderland Primary Health Centre in Sprague.
Please place your donation in an envelope, including your name and address.
Tax receipts will be issued for all donations $20 or more.

Questions? Call Danielle Charrette 204-371-1983

TIMBERLINE community housing

Together We Can
East Borderland Community Housing Inc.
PO Box 207, Sprague, MB, R0A 1Z0
www.timberlinehousing.ca
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