



DECEMBER 2013



Summer Village of White Sands Newsletter

Dear Rate Payers,

I bring you greetings from Council and best wishes for a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year. I hope this finds you all well and that you had a good summer at the lake. Here is an update on some of the things going on around our Village:

- MOST IMPORTANT – Because we received a thick layer of insulating snow over a thin layer of ice on the lake, it is very dangerous right now for snowmobiling or ice fishing. When I was digging snow in the yard I found that the ground is not frozen yet. Please caution your children and guests.
- The Municipal Government Act is currently under review. Please write Municipal Affairs and tell them about all the positive aspects of your Summer Village and that we will be sustainable for years to come. Thank you for taking the time. This could be very important to us all in retaining our autonomous status. You can write Attention: Minister Doug Griffiths, Municipal Affairs, M.G.A. Review, Box 1333, Edmonton, Alberta T5J 2N2 or go to www.municipalaffairs.alberta.ca
- Thank you to all who helped clean up roots and weeds on the beach this summer. We could not do it all without you.
- If you wish to pay your taxes in monthly installments, a form is available on the website. Send it into the Village Office with a void cheque or your banking information to be received before December 31, 2013. For more information, phone the White Sands Administration Office at 403-742-8305 (Town of Stettler).
- Please shock your wells once or twice a year for your safety and the safety of your neighbours. To find out how, go to Alberta Agriculture, then to shock chlorination of wells. You should also have your water tested every year. The Health Unit in Stettler has the bottles and instructions. Call Lorne (403-742-0210) or Allan (403-740-6886) if you just come out on weekends and would like someone to pick up the package for you.
- Thanks to all who posted their house numbers to assist with emergency response. If you haven't done this yet, perhaps Santa could put the numbers in your Christmas stocking.
- The Stettler Fire Department ordered a new 5 ton, 4-wheel drive truck with brush guards and firefighting equipment for First Response to access hard to reach areas. It costs \$170,000 and is called B.R.A.T.
- Our maintenance man, Allan, has cleared a lot of plow windrows in driveways for folks who are at the lake regularly. If you are coming for Christmas, please phone him early the week before at 403-740-6886 to ensure yours is cleared.
- Stettler Landfill Authority has an Eco Centre at the Stettler Transfer Station for recycling paints, household hazardous waste (cleaners), florescent bulbs and ballasts, batteries, inkjet/toners, and small electronics (cell phones, mp3's, etc.). The Stettler Jr. B. Hockey Club and parents provided the labour to build the facility. Hours are Thursday to Monday 10:30 am-6:30 pm.

- The Stettler High School welding class did a great job of building our new gazebo. It may have taken some time, but the kids (between 16 to 18 years of age) gained a lot of skills from the experience. Allan assisted the two boys who erected it by carting the pieces up the hill with a rented skid steer. Well done WeldCats, Stettler Composite High.
- We have been working on our Emergency Preparedness Plan for the Village. We now have the hall, shop and one well which will work off of a generator in the event of an extended power outage. The Hall would have heat, some lights and one plug in. We are looking for an airtight wood stove if anyone has one they would like to donate or sell. We would like to set up a list of items we could access from ratepayers' cabins in the event they were needed during an emergency. Naturally this list will be kept in strictest confidence. We are looking for things like blow up beds, quads, heavy equipment, gas, diesel, firewood, drinking water, food or anything else you could think of that may help. We would also need your house address and cell phone number. Please send your list and details to Lorne at kathyandlorne@yahoo.ca or phone Lorne at 403-742-0210. For more information visit the Canadian Red Cross Website at: <http://www.redcross.ca/what-we-do/first-aid-and-cpr/first-aid-at-home/first-aid-tips/kit-contents>
- Thanks to the Trevor Lambs for their generous donation to the golf tourney.
- Thanks to the Hall Society for buying and installing the paving stones in front of the Hall and to the Moravec's and their helpers for looking after the trees and flowers around the Village this summer.
- We are looking into installing surveillance cameras around the Hall and the dump. There was an attempt to steal the Village truck and trailer this fall which will cost us about \$2,000+ in damages. Fortunately, the truck got stuck before they got away. We believe the culprits have been apprehended following committing several other crimes in Central Alberta.
- A cougar, bobcat or lynx has been spotted in the Village. Watch out for your pets.
- With assistance from the Stettler RCMP and the Hall Society, we have set up a Summer Village of White Sands Rural Crime Watch group. A form is enclosed if you would like to assist this group along with a letter from Al Habberfield (an ex RCMP officer who resides in White Sands). You can mail the form to Al Habberfield Crime Watch, Box 1023, Stettler, Alberta T0C 2L0. Al will establish a fan out list from the information on the form attached which will then be forwarded to the RCMP to obtain your criminal record check. This is mandatory and at no expense to you.
- The fire truck turn around by the main beach access on Lakeview Avenue is nearing completion and will be completed in the spring. An area had to be made available where the fire truck could pull in and back down the path to draw water from the lake. There will be no parking in this area including by the well. We will also be doing some leveling by the outhouse to allow the truck to maneuver for those that draw cpr from the side of the truck.
- There will be angle parking available for 10-12 vehicles next to this area. We had no plans to clear on the lake side of Lakeview Avenue, but Atco Electric cleared the brush under the electrical lines allowing for parallel parking on that side. There should be no reason to have Lakeview Avenue blocked on a busy weekend. Blocking the roads can have serious implications if there were an emergency.

Enjoy the season and please keep safe!

Respectfully

Lorne on behalf of
Myself, Colin and Barry
Summer Village of White Sands Council



To Residents of the Summer Village of White Sands:



My Name is Al Habberfield. My wife (Debbie) and I now live in the Summer Village of White Sands year round at #7 Ranch Road. I am the President of the SVWS Rural Crime Watch.

We are in the process of organizing a Rural Crime Watch Association in the Village. The Stettler RCMP are involved and have attended some meetings in the last month. We have had two meetings to date and have approximately 30 members and are looking for as many as possible. The association will be part of the Provincial Rural Crime Watch. A fee of \$200.00 is required by the Province and will cover the cost of signage, crime watch kit, etc. The Summer Village has stated that they will be paying the fee so there will not be any fees for the members. Thank you to the Village for that. The signs will be posted throughout the Village. All residents of the Village can be members even if you are only here during the summer. Attached is the application form for you to fill out if you are interested.

You do not need your legal or subdivision - just your street address. Also, please provide your email address. I will be using your email address to inform you of meetings, any suspicious activities and follow-up of the suspicious activities. We are also looking into the purchase of cameras to be set up at the maintenance shop and the Village entrance. The Village will also pay for the cameras. Just an example of what can occur here. Someone had tried to steal the maintenance Ford truck and flatdeck trailer by smashing out the locks, hot-wired it, however got stuck in the snow and left it behind. Hopefully this will not happen again. The rural crime watch should be a good deterrent for those who want to come into the Village with criminal activities in mind.

If you see something or someone that you are not sure about, call the RCMP or myself Al Habberfield at (403)916-4412 or (403)740-5922 or email me at ahabberfield70@gmail.com

Crime Watch Association Application

Crime Watch Group:		
Name:		
Telephone:	Birthday (month/day/year)	
Address:		
City:	Province:	Postal Code:
Email:		
Legal Description:		
Subdivision	Lot	
Other Residents over Age of 12 Years		
Name		Birthday
Surname	Given	(month/day/year)
Surname	Given	(month/day/year)
Surname	Given	(month/day/year)
Alberta Residency: AB Drivers License Number or AB Health Care Number or Legal Guardians Signature		
Criminal Record: <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes:		
Outstanding Criminal Charges: <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes:		