



No Spray Agreements

Saddle Hills County will be conducting a roadside spraying program for weed and brush control during the months of May through October 2009. All areas of the County may be affected. Areas that were brushed in 2008 will be sprayed, as well as anywhere noxious weeds are found.

Any landowner who prefers that no spraying be conducted adjacent to their property on a particular section of County roadway is asked to please come into the County office to sign a No Spray Agreement. If you choose to sign this agreement, you will be responsible for the weed and brush control in the road right-of-way adjacent to your land. No Spray Agreements are valid for one year only and must be renewed annually to ensure our information is kept up-to-date and accurate.

Any landowner along a highway that does not want spraying adjacent to their land is asked to contact Ledcor at 780-814-8126.

For more information, please contact the Manager of Rural Development, Amy Kaut, at 780-864-3760 or akaut@saddlehills.ab.ca.

SEND IN YOUR Snappiest Snapshot

Saddle Hills County is presenting a photo contest for residents who enjoy local photography. Residents can send their favourite shots from any season as many times as they wish to Saddle Hills County and be entered to win \$30 for first place, \$20 for second place, and \$10 for third place. Prize money will be awarded for each of the following categories: (1) Scenery, (2) Industry, and (3) People, places, things. Submissions should include both JPEG format digital and 8" x 10" print copies of the photo and will be considered property of Saddle Hills County. Submissions will not be returned to the submitting resident.

Deadline for submissions is August 14th, 2009. Submissions should be addressed to "Photo Contest" and mailed to the address in the green area below. When making a contest submission please include information about the photographer (ie. name, mailing address, email address, and phone number) and information about the photo (ie. geographical location, date taken, and the category).

Where in the County is this?

A CONTEST TO TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF SADDLE HILLS COUNTY GEOGRAPHY

If you know where this photo was taken, you could win great prizes! Cut out this photo and keep it on your fridge or another safe place with your answer. This is the last photo of six that have been displayed in previous editions of the Saddle Hills County Community Update. Watch next week for instructions about how to send your answers for your chance to win!

Attention

OILFIELD PERSONNEL & INDUSTRIAL PESTICIDE APPLICATORS!

The Peace Region Agricultural Fieldmen are hosting two Pest Awareness Workshops for oilfield and industry to discuss weeds and pests of concern, how they spread, how they can be controlled, and the legislation in place to help control these pests. These are invaluable information sessions if you work on oil leases, pipelines, gas plants or are otherwise affiliated with the oilfield.

There will be Pesticide Applicator CEUs available, and pesticide applicators may register an information booth to network with oilfield companies for a cost of \$50.

March 31, 2009 – Little Smoky Hall
April 7, 2009 – Rycroft Memorial Hall

The workshops run from 1:30pm – 4:30pm. For more information or to register, please contact:

Normand Boulet, Agricultural Fieldman
MD of Smoky River
780-837-2222

Susan Kerekanich
MD of Greenview
780-524-7615

Land Use Bylaw Review Open Houses

Saddle Hills County is in the process of reviewing and updating our Land Use Bylaw #106-2001. Download the current land use bylaw at www.saddlehills.ab.ca. Some questions under review are:

- Should agriculture land be preserved or should residential development be encouraged?
- Should one subdivision from every quarter section of land be permitted? (as per the current Land Use Bylaw).
- Current lot size restrictions under Agriculture District for Country Residential parcels are set at a minimum of 5 acres and maximum of 10 acres? Do you agree with these size restrictions or should these be changed?

We are looking for your input and comments on these and other land use planning issues. Do not wait until you intend to subdivide or develop your land to find out if the Land Use Bylaw will accommodate your needs. Your input into this process is valuable. Open House dates and times are forthcoming. Plan to participate!

What is the Land Use Bylaw?

The purpose of the Land Use Bylaw is to set out the procedures to process and decide on planning matters such as (but not limited to):

- a change of land use (redesignation);
- list the permitted and discretionary uses and development rules (minimum standards) for each land use district;
- and divide the County into a series of land use districts as shown on the land use (zoning) maps.

The Land Use Bylaw also establishes provisions (in general or zone specific) that pertain to things such as:

- minimum and maximum lot areas,
- floor areas of buildings,
- building setbacks from property lines,
- location of fences,
- sign regulations and locations,
- design and appearance of buildings,
- lot density,
- and many more items.

What's Happening in the Cattle Industry?



On March 24th, 2009, the Grimshaw Legion Hall will be the location of a day of free workshops on topics pertinent to the Cattle Industry. Meetings will take place from 11:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. as lunch will be provided by the Clear Hills County of Clearhills, MD of Peace and MD of Fairview.

Amber Havens (Canadian Cattle Identification Agency) will provide an update on Traceability and the Animal Health Act.

Rick Ratzlaff (Canadian Federation of Independent Business) will speak on Opportunities for Farmers

Livestock Identification Services (LIS) will have a representative on hand to speak about Manifests & Livestock Transport Permits.

Questions that producers have regarding **Tag Readers** will also be answered.

To register for free, contact:

Aaron: phone: 780-685-3925 cell: 780-834-0228 aaron@clearhillscounty.ab.ca
Fred: phone: 780-835-4903 cell: 780-834-7017 fred@mdfairview.ab.ca

Pondering a Shelterbelt? APPLY BEFORE MARCH 15

If you own more than 5 acres, you can get free shelterbelt trees from PFRA. Application forms are available at the County office or online at www.agr.gc.ca/pfra. Application must be submitted to PFRA before March 15, 2009 to receive trees in May.

Council Meeting RESCHEDULED

The regularly scheduled council meeting for the 24th of March has been rescheduled to the 31st of March. See the saddlehills.ab.ca web calendar for a full list of Council Meetings.