




2009 Tax Notices

Just a friendly reminder that 2009 tax notices have been mailed out. There is still time to save the 3% discount if payment is received on or before July 31, 2009.

COUNCIL & ASB Meeting Dates

Saddle Hills County Council and Agricultural Services Board summer meeting dates are as follows:

County Council:
July 14 & August 11
10:00 a.m.

Agricultural Service Board:
July 21 & August 18
9:00 a.m.

Growing Forward: New Ag Funding Program

The federal and provincial governments have launched a new agricultural funding program called Growing Forward. There is money available in a variety of categories, including:

- Water Management and Dugout Construction
- Grazing and Winter Feeding
- Manure Management
- Energy Efficiency
- And many more.

Programs are delivered on a first come, first served basis and producers must be approved for funding before they begin their project. This funding is not retroactive. Some Growing Forward programs began accepting applications in April; others will not be launched until September.

For more information or to register for the program, call the Ag-Info Centre at 310-FARM (3276) or go to www.growingforward.alberta.ca

Recreation & Cultural Capital Fund

The Saddle Hills County Recreation and Cultural Capital Fund provides funding for recreation and cultural capital projects that enhance and benefit the quality of lives of Saddle Hills County residents.

The application deadline is July 15, 2009. For more information contact the Saddle Hills County Office.

Fire Advisory In Effect

A Fire Advisory is currently in effect for Saddle Hills County. Due to extreme dry conditions, open burning is not recommended at this time except within industrial processes and properly designed and maintained recreational fire pits. Caution is advised. A Fire Ban may be issued at any time so residents are encouraged to keep up to date on the current fire ban information by browsing to www.albertafirebans.ca or calling the County Office at 780-864-3760.

WOKING Communities in Bloom

The community of Woking is participating in Communities in Bloom this year. This program is all about working together to improve the community. Judges will be in Woking on July 18 to tour the area and check out the beautification efforts taking place.

Residents are encouraged to take some extra time on their yard work before July 18 so that we can show the rest of Alberta the best side of Woking!

Agricultural Service Board Summer BBQ's

The Saddle Hills County Agricultural Services Board will be hosting several barbecues this summer in communities around the County. For more information call Saddle Hills County at 780-864-3760.

Woking Fire Hall
July 27, 2009
11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Blueberry Community Hall
July 28, 2009
11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Gundy Community Hall
July 29, 2009
11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Savanna Community Hall
July 30, 2009
11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Free Shelterbelt Trees

If you own 5 acres or more, you can get free shelterbelt trees from PFRA. Application forms are available at the County office or online at www.agr.gc.ca/pfra. Applications are now being accepted for delivery in May

of 2010. The earlier you apply, the better your chances of receiving the trees you want, so get your applications in now. Deadline for applications is March 15, 2010.

NEW ASB RENTAL EQUIPMENT Livestock Tag Reader

As of January 1, 2009, all Alberta cattle producers are required to age verify their calves as part of the new Alberta Livestock and Meat Strategy.

In order to help facilitate this process, Saddle Hills County, in conjunction with Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development, now has a Gallagher HR3 RFID tag reader for rental to County ratepayers from the administration building in Spirit River.

A \$200 damage deposit is required to rent the reader; the first two days of rental are free and each subsequent day is \$25.

Producers are encouraged to phone the County office (780-864-3760) to reserve the reader before coming to pick it up.

This reader is for independent use only; the producer must pick it up, read his livestock tags, download the tag numbers and return the reader on his own.

For hands-on assistance or more information on age verification, please contact Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development at 310-FARM (3276) or the Peace Country Beef & Forage Association at 780-523-4033.