



## Winter Transfer Station Hours

Transfer station hours will change to the winter hours starting on December 7.

Transfer	Location	Day	Hours
Woking	SW-18-76-5-W6	Tuesday	12:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Blueberry	SE-3-80-8-W6	Wednesday	12:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
		Saturday	1:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Bonanza	NW-33-79-12-W6	Friday	12:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
		Saturday	8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Gundy	SW-32-76-13-W6	Saturday	10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

## Cookbook for Christmas

Christmas is just around the corner. What a better gift than a Canadian Farm Women's Classic Cookbook? Cost is \$25.00 per cookbook. Call Carran at 780-774-2286 to order yours.

## Christmas Bingo

On December 5th, the Silver Valley Ladies Club will be hosting a Christmas Bingo at 7:30 p.m. at Silver Valley Hall. Lap Cards are \$2.00 with extra cards priced at \$0.25. Great prizes will be available for winning. Hope to see you there!

## Council Declares County an Agricultural Disaster Area

At their November 10th, 2009 meeting, Saddle Hills County Council declared the municipality as an Agricultural Disaster Area. Based on the new information presented by the County's Agricultural Services Board in relation to poor harvest conditions for the month of October; the lack of quality hay; the prices being charged for bales and the poor pasture conditions causing producers to begin their feeding operations earlier than usual, County Council agreed to bring the matter back for further discussion.

Council received information relating to growing season precipitation, forage production potential, forage supply and the local crop conditions. The weather that occurred across the municipality as a whole during the month of October has been viewed as detrimental to an already shaky year for agricultural producers. All agricultural producers have experienced financial hardship due to the recent weather developments. Excessive amounts of crops remain unharvested and cattle producers who had previously experienced a cold spring and dry

summer, now are faced with further feed supply shortages where grains would be used as supplemental feeds. Also shortages of straw further hinder beef producers ability to adjust to forage shortages. The Agricultural Disaster Area declaration puts agricultural producers in line for any Agricultural relief that could be announced by the Provincial or Federal Governments.

Reeve Tim Stone has stated "I can't recall ever having seen a more challenging October for harvesting which has added to the total overall condition in our County for all farmers."

Council will now be presenting this information to MLA Hon. Hector Goudreau with the desire to have him bring the information forward to the Honorable Minister of Agriculture, George Groeneveld in hope of taking Alberta's disaster situation forward to the Federal Minister of Agriculture & Agri-Food. For further information, please contact Dianne Nellis, Chief Administrative Officer at 780-864-3760.

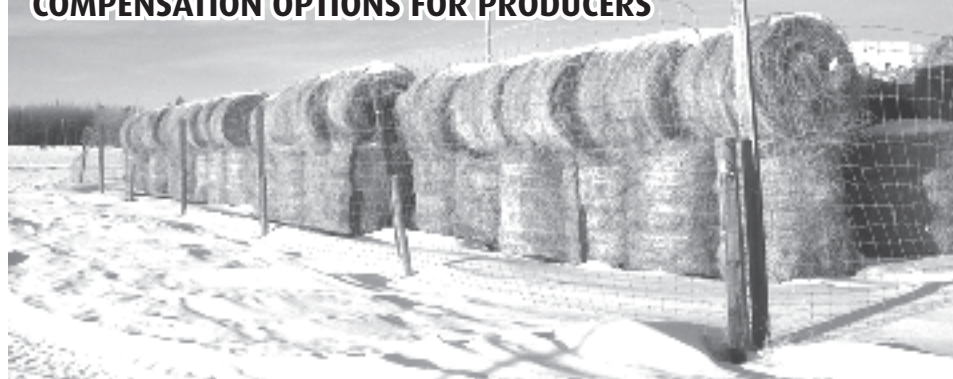
## Woking Skating Rink

Come with the kids and help us get the Woking rink winter-ready as we build the frame work to flood the ice for this winter's skating season. We start Saturday, December 12 at 10:00 a.m. For info call Pam at 780-933-2542 or sign up at the Woking Store.

## Christmas Light Up

On Saturday December 5, the hamlet of Woking will celebrate the season at their Christmas Tree Light Up in Town Square (main street). Join us at 3:00 p.m. for hot chocolate, treats, sleigh rides, and a visit from Santa!

## Wildlife Damaging Stacked Hay COMPENSATION OPTIONS FOR PRODUCERS



With winter on its way, livestock producers are thinking about their options to keep wildlife out of their stack yards. The best solution is prevention, through fencing, dogs and hunting. However, if depredation is occurring, producers may be eligible for the Wildlife Damage Compensation on Stacked Hay program, which is facilitated by both AFSC and Fish & Wildlife. There is no premium paid in order to be eligible for this program; however, only stacked hay that is being protected will be considered for compensation. Compensation is determined by multiplying the quantity of damaged feed by the crop insurance high price option.

In order to file a claim under this program, contact your local Fish & Wildlife office as soon as possible after depredation has occurred. A Conservation Officer will inspect the damage and provide recommendations to prevent further damage.

If the stacked hay is sufficiently protected and monitored, the claimant may then contact AFSC to be considered for compensation.

For more information on this or other compensation programs, contact your local AFSC office at 780-864-3896 or Fish & Wildlife at 780-864-4101.

## Food Safe Course

Alberta Health Services is offering a food safe course at Silver Valley Hall on January 18 and 19, 2010 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. both days.

Registration is \$100 per registrant. Visit [saddlehills.ab.ca](http://saddlehills.ab.ca) to download a registration form and follow the instructions included. A prompt response and payment is necessary to ensure registration in this course. Contact Alberta Health Services at 780-513-7517.

The Alberta Food and Food Establishments Regulation, passed on November 19, 2003, introduced changes to the educational requirements for food handlers.

The new Regulation now requires that where 6 or more food handlers are working in a food establishment at any time (e.g. during any shift), then at least one person who has care or control of the food establishment during that shift must hold a certificate in food sanitation and hygiene training, and that person must be present at the food establishment during that shift.

When there are 5 or fewer food handlers working on the premises at any time, then at least one member of the management or supervisory staff of the food establishment must hold a certificate in food sanitation and hygiene training.

It is the responsibility of all food establishment owners and operators to ensure that their management staff, supervisory staff and/or food handlers are adequately trained to meet the requirements of the new Food and Food Establishments Regulation. Owners and operators of food establishments that fail to comply with these educational requirements could have their Food Establishment Permit suspended or cancelled.

Alberta Health Services currently offers a food handler training program, called Foodsafe, that provides the food sanitation and hygiene training required by the Regulation.