

Clearwater County Highlights

JUNE - JULY

A NEWSLETTER FOR RESIDENTS OF CLEARWATER COUNTY

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A Message from the Reeve

Hello everyone,

As we welcome summer, I am hearing from many that the warmth of the sunshine is very welcome! I hope each of you takes time this season to enjoy some much-needed relaxation time.



As I am sure each of you are hard at work, Council is too, bringing together their perspectives and experiences towards planning for the County's future. Together, we have formed a strong Council, each bringing to the table their deep community connections, innovative ideas, and shared commitment to focus on the well-being of residents, businesses, and communities.

Council is always trying to come up with new ways to reach and engage residents, so we decided to try something new. Starting in the fall of 2022 Council will be introducing a weekly drop-in session with a Councillor, a Councillor will be available for a three-hour period every week for residents to come in and have an in-person chat. More information can be found on page 12.

As a municipality we are always moving forward and working towards new goals. In early June, Council approved the 2022-26 Strategic Plan, see pages 18 - 19 for more information. Thank you to everyone that took the time to provide feedback, this document provides focus and purpose to all that we do. Council and Administration is always working diligently with best intentions of residents at mind.



Daryl Lougheed Reeve

A major project happening now is the Municipal Development (MDP) Review. The MDP is the plan for what our community would like to see happen across the county landscape. It describes how we live on the land and what we can do with our properties. It speaks to our obligations to each other to make sure that what we do with our land does not limit our neighbours' ability to use and enjoy their land.

The current plan was prepared in 2010 and much has happened since that time. In particular, the last few years have been difficult for our economy and our community. The review process is our community's opportunity to reflect on what has worked and where adjustments to the plan may be needed.

We encourage all residents to provide their feedback, pages 20 - 21 have more details on the ongoing work and ways that you can let us know what you think. You can find more draft materials and information on the Municipal Development Plan Review on the County website: <u>www.clearwatercounty.ca/mdp</u>.

I also want to take the time to mention the role of Council's governance which includes making important decisions regarding programs and service levels on behalf of the municipality. Council decisions are based on bylaws, policies and due diligence. Council asks that if you have concerns or questions, to talk to your division Councillor directly or call the County office (403-845-4444) and speak with the appropriate department.

Wishing you all the best this season, Reeve Daryl Lougheed



Clearwater County Council Term 2021-25



DIVISION 1

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Upcoming Strategic Planning Council Committee of the Whole Meetings

September 19, 2022

Upcoming Regular Council Meetings

August 23, 2022

September 13 & 27, 2022

Council meetings are held the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 9:00 a.m. at Clearwater County's Council Chambers. To watch Council meetings online, please visit

www.clearwatercounty.ca/council



www.clearwatercounty.ca



Regular Council Meeting June 14, 2022

Caroline Seniors' Housing Final Report

Council received the June 2022 Caroline Seniors' Housing Project Final Report for information as presented. No commitment was made by Clearwater County Council.

Consideration of Second and Third Readings -Bylaw 1121/22 Application No. 03/22 to amend the Land Use Bylaw

Council granted second and third readings to Bylaw 1121/22 for purpose of amending Clearwater County's Land Use Bylaw No. 714/01 to redesignate 21.18 acres of Plan 972 3235 Block 1, Lot 1 (Pt. SE 24-39-05 W5M) from Country Residence Agriculture District "CRA" to the Agriculture District "A".

Consideration of Second and Third Readings of Bylaw 1119/22 for Application No. 02/22 to amend the Land Use Bylaw

Council granted second and third readings to Bylaw 1119/22 for purpose of adding a new District to Clearwater County's Land Use Bylaw No. 714/01, being the Nordegg Historic Core Commercial/ Retail "NHC" District; and to also redesignate ± 3.24 hectares (8 acres) from the Agriculture District "A" to the Nordegg Historic Core Commercial/Retail "NHC" District within Plan 952 5023, Lot 1 and Plan 132 3535, Block 2, Lot 11 (Pt. SE and NW 27-40- 15-W5M).

Nordegg Recreational Vehicle (RV) Wastewater Dumping Station Project Tender Award

Council directed Administration to re-advertise construction of the Nordegg RV Wastewater Dumping Station, to receive contractor bids, in the fall of 2022, and, if within budget, complete the project construction in 2023.

Clearwater County Council 2022 - 2026 Strategic Plan

Council approved the 2022-2026 Strategic Plan as presented. See pages 18 - 19 for the condensed version!

May 2022 Operating Budget vs Actual Report

Council received the Clearwater County May 2022 Budget versus Actual Operating Report as information.

Councillor Attendance

Council approved Councillor attendance at the Canadian Municipal Network on Crime Prevention PART I of the Building Safer Communities Training scheduled for September 12, 19 and 26, 2022.

Council approved Councillor attendance to the 2022 Rural Health Professions Action Plan (RhPAP) Health Provider Attraction and Retention (A&R) Conference scheduled for October 4-6, 2022.



Federal Shadow Ministers for Rural Economic Development

Council directed Administration to draft a response to the Shadow Minister and Deputy Shadow Ministers for Rural Economic Development and Rural Broadband Strategy in response to their letter regarding rural communities' access to Federal support.

Regular Council Meeting June 28, 2022

Consideration of Second and Third Readings -Bylaw 1122/22 Application No. 04/22 to amend the Land Use Bylaw

Following public hearing proceedings, Council defeated second reading of Bylaw 1122/22 for the purpose of amending Clearwater County's Land Use Bylaw No. 714/01 to redesignate 7.15 acres of Plan 932 1255 Block 1, Lot 1 (Pt. SE 08-38-07 W5M) from Agriculture District "A" to the Recreational Facility District "RF".

Letter Response to Request for Three Issues Facing Economic Development from Members of Parliament

Council directed Administration to send a letter to Members of Parliament in Rural Economic Development and Rural Broadband Strategy, in response to their inquiry of issues affecting economic development in Clearwater County. With the identified key issues being:

Lack of investment in land, infrastructure, flexible training options and skilled labour force.

Watch Council meetings live! www.youtube.com/ClearwaterCounty

Clearwater County Taxpayers' Association -Concerns with Clearwater County's Broadband Policy and Broadband Committee Bylaw

Council received the Clearwater County Taxpayers' Association's concerns with Clearwater County's Broadband Policy and Broadband Committee Bylaw for information as presented.

Clearwater County Regional Leslieville Wastewater Treatment Facility Project Tender Award

Council tabled the item to a future Council meeting, to allow time for Administration to bring forward any information that might be gathered from Alberta Transportation regarding status of outstanding grant applications.

Allocation of 2021 Surplus

Council approved to support future initiatives in accordance with the recently approved strategic plan with transfers to identified internally restricted accounts.

Village-County Intermunicipal Collaboration Committee Recommendations: Alberta Community Partnership Grant - Amalgamation Study and Action Plan

Council tasked the Village-County Intermunicipal Collaboration Committee with undertaking and overseeing the Village of Caroline – Clearwater County Amalgamation Study Project.

Council directed Administration to hire a consultant, with funds received from the Alberta Community Partnership grant, to prepare an amalgamation report and coordinate and facilitate processes based on report findings.



June 14, 2022 Notice of Motion Item 11.1 - Weekly Drop In Sessions with a Councillor

Council directed Administration to schedule Councillors, on a weekly rotation for a trial period of one year from start, at a salary basis, for a 3-hour 'drop-in' session with residents in the Councillors' office, beginning September 2022, to allow councillors and residents opportunity to additionally engage and discuss matters of interest.

Council Authorization

Council authorized Councillor attendance to the Bentley annual fair days parade scheduled for August 4, 2022.

Council authorized Councillor attendance to the Rocky and District Chamber of Commerce Tri-Council session scheduled for June 29, 2022.

Regular Council Meeting July 12, 2022

Clearwater Trails Initiative and Nordegg Off Road Cycling Association Presentation

Council received a presentation from Clearwater Trails Initiative and the Nordegg Off Road Cycling Association.

Rocky Gas Co-Op Request for Grant Funding -Nordegg Natural Gas Supply

Council approved the Rocky Gas Co-op's request for grant funding in the amount of \$600,000 in 2022 and \$800,000 in 2023, as recommended by the Strategic Planning Committee, to provide natural gas services to the Hamlet of Nordegg. Council also approved a 2022 budget adjustment to increase Planning & Development operating expenses by \$600,000 and transfers from the Nordegg restricted surplus by the same amount.

First Reading of Bylaw 1125/22 for Application No. 05/22 to amend the Land Use Bylaw

Council granted first reading of Bylaw No. 1125/22 for purpose of redesignating +/-15.46 acres of Plan 832 2665, Block 1, Lot 1 along with +/-2.5 acres of the SW 13-37-06 W5M from the Agriculture District "A" to the Industrial District "I" and directed Administration to proceed to a public hearing.

Request for Grass Mowing Services

Council approved Chedderville All Hallows Church and Cemetery Society's request for annual grass mowing services at the Chedderville Cemetery.

June 28, 2022 Notice of Motion Item 12 - Hwy 11 Twinning between Rocky Mountain House and Hwy 22

Council directed Administration to reach out to the company completing the study (AECOM) for the Highway 11 twinning between Rocky Mountain House and Highway 22 (south) to gather information on this project.

TABLED ITEM 7.1 - Clearwater County Regional Leslieville Wastewater Treatment Facility Project Tender Award

Council awarded the construction of the Regional Leslieville Wastewater Treatment Facility to Everest Construction Management as per the recommendation from Magna Engineering Services Inc. based on the tender evaluation. The total budget, including engineering and construction, for 2022 and 2023, would then be \$10,610,224.66 which equates to a \$958,462.66 increase.

Councillor Attendance

Council authorized Councillor attendance to the Alberta Coordinated Action for Recycling Enterprises (CARE) Conference that is scheduled for September 7 - 9, 2022 in Leduc.



Call to Action to the Government of Alberta

Council supported the National Police Federation Call to Action to retain the RCMP in Alberta and directs Administration to provide a copy of Clearwater County's logo as a signatory for inclusion in the Call-to-Action re-release.

Regular Council Meeting July 26, 2022

STARS Foundation

Council received the STARS Foundation update for information as presented, the presentation included statistics on STARS activity throughout Clearwater County.

Riverview Campground

Council received information from Johan Feddema from the Canadian Camping and RV Council as presented.

Fall 2022 Resolution - Seconder Request

Council seconded the resolution of Ponoka County for submission to the Central RMA Zone Meeting, the resolution from Ponoka County is a funding request related to municipal firefighters providing Emergency Medical Services (EMS) in absence of ambulances in the region.

September 30 - National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

Council recognized September 30, National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, as a paid holiday for Clearwater County staff beginning in 2022.

Second Quarter Financial Report 2022

Council reviewed the second quarter financial information and received for information.

First Reading of Bylaw 1124/22 for Application No. 06/22 to amend the Land Use Bylaw

Council granted first reading of Bylaw 1124/22 for the purpose of amending Land Use Bylaw 714/01 to redesignate +/- 4.99 from the manufactured Home Park District "MHP" to the Hamlet Residential District "HR" and directed Administration to proceed with a public hearing.

First Reading of Bylaw 1126/22 for Application No. 08/22 to amend the Land Use Bylaw

Council granted first reading of Bylaw 1126/22 for the purpose of amending Land Use Bylaw 714/01 to redesignate +/-50.0 acres, located in the northwest corner of the quarter section, from the Agriculture "A" District to the Intensive Agriculture "IA" District and directed Administration to proceed with a public hearing.

First Reading of Bylaw 1123/22 for Application No. 07/22 to Amend the Land Use Bylaw

Council granted first reading of Bylaw No. 1123/22 for the purpose of amending Land Use Bylaw 714/01 to redesignate the Institutional District "P" portion (approx. 18.0 acres) of the quarter section back to the Agriculture District "A" and directed Administration to proceed with a public hearing.

For highlights of Council meetings, please visit www.clearwatercounty.ca/highlights



Capital Projects Status Report

Broadband Project

Phase 2A - Rocky Mountain House to Sundre

Work Remaining:

- Caroline PoP site connection (in progress)
- Caroline Fortis main power feed to PoP site
- Caroline power system install
- Caroline generator connection
- Fibre testing
- Clean-up and remediation (in progress)
- Final deficiency inspection planned 3rd quarter

Phase 2B - Sundre to Olds

Poor weather conditions have continued to make for slower pace on construction activities. Work Remaining:

- Fibre and vaults completion (in progress)
- Fibre testing
- Clean-up and remediation
- Final deficiency inspection

Phase 6 – Ferrier to Nordegg

Ferrier to Nordegg fibre network testing has been completed. Work remaining:

• Final deficiency inspection planned 3rd quarter

Phase 1 – Ferrier Tower

Tower structure installation complete with mounting of radio and antennae components planned for end of the month.

Phase 6 - Nordegg Tower

Tower public engagement has been concluded; Nordegg Telecom Tower Public Consultation Process FAQ (answers to frequently asked questions) document provides information based on the public engagement responses (<u>www.clearwatercounty.ca/p/</u> <u>broadband-faq</u>).

Tower structure installation complete with radio and antennae components planned for end of the month.

EOI (Expression of Interest)

On May 6th, an Invitation for Expressions of Interest for Clearwater County's Broadband Infrastructure Partnerships and Development Opportunities (EOI-05/2022) was posted on the APC website. A link to the EOI is available on our website. This is the 2nd EOI that has been posted for Broadband.

RFP (Request for Proposal) for Network Operator

On July 12th the Request for Proposal for Network Operations Managed Services: Clearwater County's Broadband Network (RFP-05/2022), which was posted on the Alberta Purchasing Connections (APC) website, closed. Submissions are under review.

Public Works Infrastructure

Gravel Road Rehabilitation

Construction staff and resources have been reallocated to assist with the major reconstruction projects on the James River Road. Crew on James River Road reconstruction have begun road shoulder repair as river washout repair is almost complete.

Crews are preparing to return to construction on Range Road 4-4, a 1600m project south of Township Road 38-0. Crews have approximately 800m of road grade roughed in and surface gravel applied. Contractor hoe has started ditch work to prepare for restart of road construction.

Crews are working on Range Road 6-3, a 1600m project south of Township Road 37-4, has roughed in approximately 1600m of road with surface gravel applied. A planned road closure for a culvert replacement will be advertised when weather permits.



Capital Projects Status Report Continued



Grading/ Base/ Pave

River Road project includes reconstructing RR 7-4A from Hwy 11 to Hwy 11A approx. 4Km. It also includes a 300m pedestrian trail connection from Hwy 11A to the south entrance of the North Saskatchewan River Park. Tenative completion date of Oct. 2, 2022. Paradox Access Solutions Inc has been awarded the contract for this project.

Nordegg Phase 2 Residential Subdivision

Includes 28 residential lots and 4 commercial lots. This portion of the project includes site clearing, grading, curb and gutter, sidewalks, sanitary services, and water services. Shallow utilities and landscaping will be completed in 2023 under a separate contract. AIC Construction Ltd. has completed rough grading of Lane 2. AIC is installing water main on Lily Avenue. AIC is continuing rough grading on lots as weather permits. Water, storm and sanitary lines continue to be extended west along Lily Avenue. Lane 2 preparation will continue as weather permits. The budget in 2022 is \$3,285,000.00.

Nordegg Industrial Subdivision Phase 2

WSP Engineering has commenced the detailed design and storm water management plan for the Nordegg Industrial Subdivision Phase 2. The design and permitting applications will occur over the next few months. Detailed design is scheduled to be completed beginning of September.

Nordegg South Access Road

The new access will provide a direct route for quarry traffic to Hwy 11 reducing the amount of heavy truck traffic within the hamlet and provide a second access for the hamlet in general. West Country Engineering is working on detailed design of the road and bridge is anticipated to be completed in 2022 with construction to commence in 2023.

Nordegg Paving Projects

Stuart Street Asphalt Overlay, Quarry Road Base/ Pave, Coal Miner's Crescent Base/ Pave, Commercial Core Phase 1 Paving, Nordegg Public Services Front Parking Lot Base/ Pave, and the Manufactured Home Park Base/ Pave (A&B). T.B.L. Construction Ltd. has been awarded the contract for this project, and the projected start is August 2022.

Grading Projects

Beaver Flat Road: Detailed design, land acquisition, utility coordination and permitting is almost complete. The tender for this project has been extended and is scheduled to close July 28, 2022. A pre-tender meeting was held July 14, 2022, onsite with staff, the engineering consultant, and prospective bidders. Due to the complexity of this project, construction completion is scheduled for Fall 2023. The budget in 2022 is \$7,409,000.00.



Capital Projects Status Report Continued

Twp Road 41-0 Access Road Cost Share: Prentice Creek Contracting Ltd. has begun construction with approximately 250m of the 425m project roughed in at grade. The contractor plans to commence operations as weather and ground conditions permit.

Facilities

Leslieville Fire Training area phase 2 includes the construction of the concrete and gravel pads for fire training, water main with hydrants, concrete U-dyke, and the completion of the internal road. Urban Dirtworks Inc. was the low valid bidder and has been awarded the contract.

Nordegg Cemetery

Preliminary planning is underway for a new cemetery to service the Nordegg area. Planning, permitting, and consultation is expected to be completed over the next 2 years with construction tentatively scheduled for 2024.

Rocky to Nordegg Trail

Multiple priorities have been established in 2022 for advancing the Rocky to Nordegg Trail. Currently, the trail is constructed from the Forestry Trunk Road to Saunders/ Alexo. Construction priorities in 2022 include:

- Install bridge on Shunda access road for trail tie in from Shunda Viewpoint. -Bridge has been re- decked and is currently staged adjacent to the Harlech Road (Swale Road)
- Construct new trail and bridge installation from Saunders to just west of Baker Road.
- Benches and tables on the Taunton Bridge. -Complete

Construction schedule is dependent on AEP permitting and is scheduled to commence in the coming months.



Leslieville Recreation Area

Preliminary planning is underway for the 8-acre area directly south of the Leslieville Public Services Building/ Fire Training Area. Planning includes user group consultation, visioning, and development recommendations. These recommendations will be presented to Council in the coming months. Staff supplied feedback and are waiting for a revised draft plan.

Public Works Operations

Condor Sanitary Lines/Curb & Gutter/Drainage Improvements

The contract was awarded to Northside Construction Partnership. Mobilization is scheduled for July 18th. Work is to be completed by November 1st, 2022.

Nordegg RV Dumping Station

Administration will be re-tendering this project, in the late fall/early winter 2022.

Leslieville Sanitary/Curb & Gutter/Drainage Improvements

Tender was posted at the end of July 2022 with a closing date, to receive contractor bids, of August 9, 2022. Construction is tentatively scheduled for September and October, 2022, weather and contractor scheduling dependent.



Capital Projects Status Report Continued

Regional Leslieville Wastewater Treatment System

A tender was publicly posted to receive contractor bids which closed on June 10th, 2022. Four bids were received. The approved construction budget, for 2022, was \$1,917,762 resulting in the low valid bid being over budget. Agenda item to be brought to Council. Clearwater County, via Magna Engineering Services Inc., have conditionally been approved for a grant from 'Alberta Innovates' for \$500,000 towards the Leslieville wastewater upgrades.

Nordegg Commercial Septage Receiving Station Construction has been completed.

Tamarack Trail Dry Hydrant The design is currently underway.

Bridges (Replacement/Rehabilitation)

BF 08142: located over Lobstick Creek, on Lobstick Drive, Leslieville, began construction on March 28th, 2022, and was completed on May 27th, 2022.



BF 02394: located on Raven River, on RR 6-1, had the tender close on April 28th, 2022. Four bids were received with Pearl Rose Construction Ltd. being the low valid bidder.

BF 7171: located over Blueberry Creek, on RR 5-0, had the tender close on April 21st, 2022, at 2:00 p.m. A total of 12 bids were received with Chevallier Geo-Con Ltd. being the low valid bidder. The project is scheduled to be completed by October 15th, 2022.

BF 7038: located over Tributary to Red Deer River, on Range Road 4-4, had the tender close on May 26th, 2022. A total of four (4) bids were received with In-Line Contracting Ltd. Being the low valid bidder. The project is scheduled to be completed by October 15th, 2022.

AEP Fish Passage – Culvert Replacement

A tender was publicly posted to receive contractor bids for four culvert replacement sites (CW-12, CW-104, NSR-1 and Unnamed-1), which closed on June 8th, 2022. A total of five (5) bids were received. The bids are currently being reviewed.

Bridges - General

A grant of \$1,500,000 was obtained, from 'Alberta Environment & Parks' (AEP), for the replacement of BF 78211, located over Logan Creek, on Township Road 31-2. This structure was identified by AEP as a barrier to fish passage. The replacement is to aid in fish passage at this crossing. Construction is scheduled for 2023.

Solid Waste & Recycling Master Management Plan Study

On June 16th, 2022, Tetra-Tech, along with Clearwater County Administration, conducted a S.W.O.T. analysis of Clearwater County's solid waste and recycling services. Analysis to be incorporated into the definitive version of the Solid Waste & Recycling Master Management Plan Study.



Weekly Drop In Sessions with a Councillor

Beginning in September 2022, a Councillor will be available for a three (3) hour drop in session once a week.

A schedule will be made available to the public in mid to late August, on our website <u>www.clearwatercounty.ca</u>.

These sessions are intended as an informal opportunity for Councillors to reconnect with residents, or meet new ones, and hear their feedback, ideas and concerns. The goal is to encourage face-toface meetings with Councillors, in a relaxed and safe setting, in the newly established office at the County's Main Administration building.

These sessions provide additional opportunities, outside of the formal public engagement process, for Councillors to build relationships, share information and hear what is on people's minds, while ensuring Councillors availability to hear from residents on a regularly scheduled basis.



Stay tuned for more information!

Council Tour West Fraser

June 6, 2022 Council had opportunity to tour West Fraser Sundre Forest Products. This tour provided opportunity for Council to gain a better understanding of West Fraser internal operations and understanding of the work being done in our communities.







Earlier this year, in collaboration with **West Fraser**, Clearwater County Agriculture and Community Services offered affordable white spruce and lodgepole pine seedlings

suitable for starting or renovating a shelterbelt and for enhancing or rejuvenating a natural area.

Thank our partner and sponsor, West Fraser, for making this program happen!



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Broadband Project Update

At the May 24, 2022 Regular Council meeting, Council approved Bylaw 1120/22 which established the **Broadband Council Committee**. These Committee meeting agendas and recordings are available on our portal at <u>clearwatercounty</u>. <u>civicweb.net/portal/</u>. Meeting recordings are also available on our YouTube page: <u>www.youtube</u>. <u>ca/ClearwaterCounty</u>. These meetings are scheduled on an as needed basis, determined by the Committee.

Since 2018, Clearwater County has undertaken the development of an open access broadband network and associated business plan. The County asked for input from Internet Service Providers (ISPs) with the goal of aligning the business plan with both the needs of the County's residents and businesses as well as the current and planned infrastructure and services that ISPs have available within the County.



The objective of this plan is to guide the County's investment and direction to construct broadband infrastructure to accelerate the delivery of improved broadband services by telecommunication providers in the County.

As part of the ongoing public engagement strategy for this project, **Clearwater County's Broadband Committee** directed Administration to release the DRAFT Broadband Business Plan for public feedback prior to approval.

Feedback was collected through an online survey from June 21 - July 18, 2022. Read more: www.clearwatercounty.ca/broadband.

New! Property Assessment Map

Clearwater County has created a property assessment view map where you can view assessment information of any property.

This property viewer allows you to access property information such as land-use, addresses, tax roll numbers and assessment information of properties within the municipal boundary of Clearwater County.

For further information and inquiries regarding your assessment, please call 403-845-4444 or email <u>assessment@clearwatercounty.ca</u>.

Check out the map today! www.clearwatercounty.ca/p/property-assessment-map

-	Parcel Informati	m Q	41-9	41.8	.41-/	41-6	41.5	41-4
- 40 12 .	40:11	40:10	40-9	40:8	40-7	49.6	40-8	16-4
39:12	39(1)	39-10	3919	39-8	39.7.	19 C	2 194	994
1 38/12	38-11	38,10	38,9	38-8	38.7	38.6	3	385
37.12	37.15	37-10	37.9	97:9	3757	3546	37-6	37-



Nordegg Rock Blast Pile



Please be advised that as of **August 1, 2022 the Nordegg blast rock pile is no longer available to the public.**

Public access is restricted while the County uses this material to construct the new south access off of Highway 11, east of the current access (Stuart Street). The new access will provide a direct route for quarry traffic to Hwy 11 reducing the amount of heavy truck traffic within the hamlet. This road will also provide a second access for the hamlet in general. Detailed design of the road and bridge is anticipated to be completed in 2022 with construction to commence in 2023. Following completion of the project, and if there is remaining material, public will again be permitted to utilize the material.

If you have any questions please contact Public Works at <u>publicworks@clearwatercounty.ca</u> or 403-845-4444.

2022 Seniors Week

June 6 - 12 was Seniors Week! Recognized annually across the province, Seniors Week is an opportunity to show appreciation for older adults and their many contributions to our communities.

Agriculture and Community Services Staff delivered beautiful flower arrangements to the The Ravines at Park Avenue, Good Samaritan Society Clearwater Centre, Westview Lodge, Mountain Sunset Manor and McLeod Manor.



Clearwater Regional Family and Community Support Services developed a **2022 Clearwater Seniors Resource Directory**. Included in the

directory is helpful phone contact information for local organizations, online resources, health information, and more!

Pick up your copy of the directory at the County Administrative Building today! Directories are available at various other locations, for more



information visit<u>www.rockymtnhouse.com/p/fcss-</u> family-community-support-services.



Highway 11 Functional Planning Study

This study is focused on the 41-kilometer section of Highway 11 between Highway 22 and Township Toad 390 (east of Benalto). Highway 11 is an important route for movement of goods, people and services.

Alberta Transportation determined that twinning Hwy 11 was necessary after evaluating safety concerns, traffic volumes, the highway's classification, and economic development opportunities.

CIMA Canada Inc. (CIMA+) is conducting the functional planning study on behalf of Alberta transportation.

Additional information is available at: www.alberta.ca/highway-11-twinning-project.aspx

NEXT STEPS

In the coming months the study will evaluate options presented, decisions are made considering stakeholder and public feedback, technical requirements, AB Transportation's policies and standards, as well as Provincial funding availability and priorities.

A final open house is tentatively scheduled for winter

if 2022-23. Following this open house the study team will present the proposed plan to the Province, Clearwater County, Lacombe County, Red Deer County and the Town of Eckville.



RCMP Community Engagement

Staff Sergeant Dinsdale of the Rocky Mountain House RCMP Detachment would like to meet with and hear from local community members in the Rocky Mountain House RCMP Detachment area who may have any comments and/or concerns about policing issues in the following geographic areas: Rocky Mountain House, Caroline, Leslieville, Nordegg, O'Chiese First Nations, Sunchild First Nations, Big Horn First Nations and Clearwater County.

> September 6, 2022: Leslieville Community Hall @ 7pm

The event will begin with a short presentation on the current state of policing and crime in the Rocky Mountain House Detachment area, followed by a question and answer period. There will also be a short questionnaire available that we invite all attendees to fill out if they wish. All residents of Clearwater County are invited to attend and participate in this event.

If you are unable to attend, you are welcome to submit this feedback in a written format via mail: Rocky Mtn House RCMP 4428 45 Street Rocky Mountain House, AB T4T 1P3 or email: <u>KRMHcommunityfeedback@rcmp-grc.gc.ca</u>.

COUNTY

Educational Agriculture Tour (EAT)



Winchell Farm



Aasman Riding Arena



Terpsma Farm



Simmelink Dairy Farm

The Educational Ag Tour (EAT) is a combined effort between the County and the Rocky Mountain House Agricultural Society. It is an event for all of the grade 4 students within Clearwater County; touring 4 Farms with around 4 stations within those farms.

This year we went to the Winchell Farm, Aasman Riding Arena, Terpsma Farm and the Simmelink Dairy Farm.

Some of the educational stations included: goats, sheep shearing, bees, piglets, horse care, forages, cattle roping, atv safety, beef byproducts, and 4H.

Thank you to the following sponsors that graciously donated funds to the Rocky Mountain House Agricultural Society to support the 2022 EAT.

Rocky Mountain House UFA / Matthews Petroleum	\$500
Helen Hunley Insurance Ltd.	\$400
Farm Credit Canada	\$500
Corteva	\$500
ATB Financial	\$100
Rocky Credit Union	\$250
BW Bouwman Plumbing Ltd	\$250
Bernie Lublinkhof Welding Ltd	\$500
Rocky Auto Distributors Ltd	\$100
Evergreen Co-op	\$250

Thank you!



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2022 Rural Beautification Awards

Do you know someone who puts that extra effort into their year?

Lets celebrate their hard work and dedication!

Rural Beautification Awards are presented to residents across the County that have been recognized for their hard work and extra effort in creating a beautiful property.

The annual awards competition held in the middle of summer, with five judges that tour nominated properties representing the horticultural, landscape, agriculture and media industries.

After spending the day visiting various nominated properties, winners are chosen in different categories.



Winners receive a cast iron plaque for their property gate commemorating their achievement!

Past example of winning categories include:

- working/active farm,
- retired farm,
- recreation property,
- acreage under 15 years,
- acreage over 15 years.

Nominations were accepted until July 29, 2022.

Learn more about this award, and follow for updates on the 2022 winning properties: <u>www.clearwatercounty.ca/p/ag-awards</u>.



2020 Winner Rental Acreage: Axel Stien



2019 Winner Acreage Under 15 Years: Doug and Darlene Lumsden



2019 Winner Active Farm: Gordon and Laurel Koples



2022-26 Council Strategic Plan

Our Vision

Our communities are connected by our appreciation for, and stewardship of, our natural beauty, our economic prosperity, our quality living, and the diversity of our wonderful people.



Our Purpose

Through proactive municipal leadership and regional partnerships, we will invest innovatively to generate and support economic and population growth that positions Clearwater County for a sustainable, prosperous future.





Grow our population and economy by attracting people, investment, businesses, and industry.



Work with our neighbours, our partners, and our communities to find ways to encourage economic growth, enhance our quality of life, and celebrate what makes us amazing.



Stewardship

Responsibly maintain the physical spaces, on and below ground, within and surrounding County limits.



Ensure the health and well-being of our communities and its residents.



Reduce the fiscal burden of future Councils, as well as the community, for generations to come.

Our Story

There are few regions more renown than Clearwater for our richness and diversity in natural beauty, resources, and culture. Famed explorer David Thompson introduced our region to the world over 200 years ago, and his adventurous and entrepreneurial spirit forged our modern-day community. We have grown by attracting those looking for natural, authentic lives where they can connect to the land, to their neighbours, and to their own souls. The clarity and connectedness Clearwater provides has historically been the driving attraction to people from around the world. That allure still draws people to our communities, today. Much has changed in the past century with the addition of growing communities, globally connected transportation nodes and networks, bustling business opportunities, and innovative industries. Yet, we still retain and protect our natural attractions and cultural treasures. Clearwater offers up world class fishing and hunting, yet our wilderness areas and ecological reserves transition beautifully into our beloved Banff and Jasper National Parks to the West.



2022-26 Council Strategic Plan

Our traditional natural resource industries are changing and innovating with new diversified agriculture businesses and environmentally friendly energy production, while also ensuring we maintain plenty of room for residents and tourists alike to enjoy our unique natural beauty and heritage.

Clearwater truly offers prosperity at your own pace. As the perfect backyard destination with endless recreation and proximity to urban centres, we continue to draw in visitors. But more and more those visitors wish to become residents.

Milestone 1: Building Partnerships and Relationships

Actions:

- 1.1 Regional Growth and Service Initiatives
- 1.2 First Nation Relationships
- 1.3 Provincial and Federal Government Advocacy
- 1.4 Local Community Organization Partnerships

Milestone 2: Growing and Diversifying our Economy

Actions:

- 2.1 Economic Development Strategy
- 2.2 Nordegg Growth Initiatives
- 2.3 Brand and Story Outreach

Everyone has a reason to love here, but now they are finding their way to live here. They are excited by new innovations in traditional industries that help protect our pristine environment while also creating jobs, entrepreneurs, and sustainable prosperity. They feel like they belong in our diverse communities where they are welcomed like it has always been their home. Clearly, opportunities abound in Clearwater, where we grow and live and prosper, together.

Milestone 3: Innovative Planning and Development

Actions:

- 3.1 Agriculture Master Plan
- 3.2 Commercial and Industrial Development Master Plan
- 3.3 Area Structure Plan for each Growth Hamlet
- 3.4 Municipal Development Plan Review

Milestone 4: Financial Stewardship

Actions:

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- 4.1 Restricted Surplus Policy Development
- 4.2 Asset Management Policy
- 4.3 Operational Capacity Review

This is the condensed version of the 2022-26 Strategic Plan, the full version is available at: www.clearwatercounty.ca/p/strategic-plan



Municipal Development Plan (MDP) Review

The Municipal Development Plan (MDP) is a collection of policies that act as an overall "blueprint" for future land use and physical changes in Clearwater County. It provides a long-term vision (25 to 30 years from now) of the type of community that County residents desire. From there, policies focus on topics such as land use, protecting the natural environment, economic development, infrastructure, and community amenities and services provide direction on how to reach the vision.

The MDP guides and directs future physical growth and development. It seeks to ensure that growth is orderly, economical, and beneficial while balancing the environmental, social, and economic needs and desires of the community.

Reviewing an MDP requires everyone efforts from residents, businesses, community groups to Council and Committee members.

In Clearwater County, this review started in 2019 by Clearwater County Council.

To gather Council's direction and perspective, Administration in conjunction with a consulting firm, Parkland Com-



munity Planning Services, conducted workshops with Council members throughout 2019. During this process, Council directed that the existing MDP be updated rather than replaced because the goals are on the right track, and only a couple of areas were identified as needing expansion and further public engagement. These included: subdivision of land, aggregate and resource extraction, and private campgrounds and private recreational uses, just to name a few.

In 2020/21, various public engagement events took place to gather public feedback on the proposed changes. See below timeline of public consultation that took place during the previous years and events that will be taking place during this year.



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Municipal Development Plan (MDP) Review

Like a complex puzzle, decisions for one topic can have an impact on others. For example, a proposal for residential use needs to be considered in relation to the ability to provide the required infrastructure and the capacity of available community support services. This means applying the direction of several topic areas and policies of the MDP as part of the assessment of whether or not the proposal should be approved.



If you have thoughts or comments about the current or proposed MDP you can email staff at <u>MDPReview@clearwatercounty.ca</u>, call 403-845-4444 or send in your comments via mail to:

MDP Update Clearwater County, Box 550 Rocky Mountain House, AB T4T 1A4 The updated MDP (draft July 2022) will shape our community for generations to come. During July/ August, the public will have one last opportunity to provide feedback on the draft document:

Community Survey:

Subdivision in Agriculture District Complete the online survey July 15-August 19, 2022.

Open Houses:

- August 3: Leslieville
 - Session 1: 3:00-4:30pm
 - Session 2: 7:00-8:30pm
- August 6: Nordegg
 - 2:00-3:30pm
- August 9: Virtual
 - 7pm to 8:30pm
- August 10: Rocky Mtn Hse
 - Session 1: 3:00-4:30pm
 - Session 2: 7:00-8:30pm
- August 11: Caroline
 - Session 1: 3:00-4:30pm
 - Session 2: 7:00-8:30pm
- August 17: Virtual
 - 7:00-8:30pm

Using the camera on your smart phone, scan the QR code to access the survey,



or visit: <u>https://arcg.is/191SWe</u>

MDP Review Open AUG 9 & 17 VIRTUAL OPTION REPLACE CURRENT 2010 MDP ByLaw 923/10 MDP Review AUG 9 & 17 Visit www.clearwatercourder to the total of total of total of the total of total of





2022 Firefighter Advancement Ceremony



Clearwater Regional Fire Rescue Services hosted their annual advancement ceremony, where Recruits are recognized for their completion of National Fire Protection Association



(NFPA) 1001 Level 1 training. The 2022 ceremony was held on June 22, at the fire hall in Rocky Mountain House.

The following Fire Fighters were recognized for their commitment and hard work over the last 18 months to complete the required training:

Station 10 - Leslieville Matt Phillips

Station 20 - Condor Garret Rempel Kathleen Townsend

Station 30 - Caroline Kayla Rudzcki Logan Rudzcki

Station 50 - Nordegg Ian Pops

Station 60 - Rocky Mountain House Tyler Berry Wayde Hodgen Anthony Stewart Each of them received their black helmet at the ceremony which signifies advancing from recruit to a firefighter.



Top left to right: Tyler Berry, Garret Rempel, Wayde Hodgen, Matt Phillips, Ian Pops Bottom left to right: Anthony Stewart, Kathleen Townsend, Kayla Rudzcki, Logan Rudzcki



Left to right: Andrew Park, Kristofer Heemeryck, Wayde Hodgen, Tyler Berry, Anthony Stewart, Ken Wedman, Ryan Moncrieff, Les Rude



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www.clearwatercounty.ca

Fire Station Tours & Community Events

In June, students from Condor toured the Condor Fire Station, where they learned important lessons about fire and life safety.

Clearwater Regional Fire Rescue Services (CRFRS) values the opportunity to provide better understanding of what the fire department does for our community.

Fire station tours and community events provide members of the public an opportunity to meet the dedicated CRFRS firefighters, learn fire and life safety information, tour the fire halls, and learn more about firefighting equipment and apparatus.

CRFRS attends various community events, and offer

fire station tours in Condor. Caroline. Leslieville, Nordegg, and Rocky Mountain House.

Visit www.crfrs.ca for more details on station tours and community/ event requests.



Emergency Preparedness

Will you be ready in an emergency?

In uncertain times, the right information can help keep you and your family safe. One of the easiest, fastest and most convenient ways to stay in-theknow during trying times or emergency situations is with your smartphone. The Province of Alberta has a collection of emergency apps (available for both iOS and Android) that can help ensure you have what you need, no matter what life throws at you.



511 Alberta Know before you go with 511 Alberta.



AQHI Canada

Track current outdoor air quality and forecasts for communities across Canada.



Being prepared can take the inconvenience out of unexpected situations.



Alberta Fire Bans

Find the most current information on fire advisories, restrictions (including OHV) and bans in Alberta.



Alberta Emergency Alert

Issues warnings so you can take action in the event of an emergency or disaster.



Should I Eat This Fish?

Finds fish consumption advice for selected fish and waterbodies in Alberta.

Alberta Rivers: Data and Advisories





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Alberta Wildfire

See where wildfires are burning, and get updated information on wildfires and conditions across Alberta.





Post-Secondary Scholarships Available

Clearwater County provides scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 to one student graduating from each of the four (4) High Schools in Clearwater County, and there is now also a \$1,000 scholarship available to a home-schooled student. including:

- 1) West Central High School (\$1,000)
- 2) St. Dominic High School (\$1,000)
- 3) David Thompson High School (\$1,000)
- 4) Caroline High School (\$1,000)
- 5) Home-schooled student in Clearwater County (\$1,000)

The scholarships are intended to recognize the importance of youth achievement in the area of community service and to encourage academic advancement.

The deadline for applications is August 31, 2022.

For full information on eligibility, application process and for application forms, visit our website: <u>www.clearwatercounty.ca/p/scholarships</u>.



Explore David Thompson Tourism Region

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David Thompson Country is the regional tourism brand for Caroline, Rocky Mountain House, and Clearwater County. Popular locations include Nordegg, Abraham Lake, Burnstick Lake, Cow Lake, Crimson Lake, Crescent Falls, Ram Falls, Siffleur Falls, and the Ya Ha Tinda area.

The David Thompson Country brand is used to grow the tourism industry in our region, trying to attract and connect visitors with our local businesses.

If you have any questions about David Thompson Country please contact the Clearwater County Economic Development Officer, Jerry Pratt at <u>ecdev@clearwatercounty.ca</u> or 403-845-4444.





MRWS Water Quality Testing



The Medicine River Watershed Society (MRWS) is embarking on a water quality testing program for the Medicine River and its major tributaries.

MRWS water testing is a citizen science-based program administered by CreekWatch, a program by the non-profit RiverWatch Institute of Alberta. CreekWatch provides portable laboratories, volunteer training, and data management for many creek monitoring groups in Alberta.

CreekWatch water testing program evaluates river water for seven parameters and compares changes throughout the year. Physics parameters monitored include water temperature and turbidity (clarity), chemistry parameters include dissolved oxygen, ammonia/nitrogen, phosphorous, ph, and chlorides. CreekWatch offers training videos explaining each of the seven tests and procedures, which rival a highschool science class.

Changes during the year are influenced by temperature, sunlight, runoff, land use, and agricultural practices. Analysis of the readings and how they change through the year can help MRWS determine overall health of the river and if additional testing is be required to locate contamination sources.

For the 2022 testing program the MRWS frequently samples three locations through the open water months.

Two of the locations are on the Medicine River upstream and downstream of Eckville and the third is the major tributary of Lasthill Creek which includes sub-tributaries of Horseguard, E&W Lobstick, and Blueberry Creeks, which together comprise the largest sub-watershed within the Medicine River watershed.

The water testing of the Medicine River also follows the recommendations of the Red Deer River Watershed Alliance (RDRWA) which recommends more thorough and frequent testing of the tributaries within the Red Deer River watershed.

Alberta Environment and Parks has a continuous fixed monitor station on the Medicine River near HWY 54, which monitors the Medicine River downstream of all the 14 tributaries in the sub-watershed.

Historically, water quality testing and monitoring of the Medicine River has not been done since a 2006-2007 program that was also conducted by the MRWS. That testing was more focused on contamination by nutrients and bacteria from fertilizers, pesticides, and agricultural practices.

CreekWatch analysis is a broader scope to compare rivers across the province. One of the major objectives of the MRWS testing is to explain the brown colouration of the water which has previously been attributed to the agricultural industry – quite possibly incorrectly accused.



MRWS Water Quality Testing

The Medicine River spans about 80km from Medicine Lake to its confluence into the Red Deer River just east of Dickson Dam (Gleniffer Lake). The Medicine River and its tributaries traverse across parts of Clearwater, Ponoka, Lacombe, and Red Deer counties.

The watershed is fed entirely from springs and surface runoff, so the water quality and flows vary considerably from mountain stream fed rivers. The Medicine River sub-watershed is one of 15 sub-watersheds within the Red Deer River Watershed which spans the entire province across central Alberta.



Upgrades to Local Amenities

Cowboy Trail Campground has been a busy spot lately with its latest addition of a new playground! We received comments from campers that while the campground was beautifully maintained and the river and trails offered great recreation opportunities, families with younger children would really benefit from a playground on site.



Cow Lake campground was also fitted with a new BearSmart fish cleaning station that should be a great benefit for all the anglers who frequent that lake! Other local campgrounds also benefited this year from a successful grant application for BearSmart garbage bins to help keep our campers safe. Anyone who has been out to beautiful Burnstick Lake Campground and Day Use area lately will have noticed the brand new dock that has replaced the old one that had fallen into disrepair.

The new dock is larger and offers lots of room for fisherfolk to cast their rods into the pristine waters. The dock also features new cleats for temporarily tying up boats to allow passengers to safely embark and disembark for a day out on the lake.





Caring for My Land Program (C4ML)

Clearwater County's Caring for my Land Program is intended to assist producers by reducing the financial burden that comes with implementing beneficial management practices.

Offering **25% - 75% funding (for up to \$5,000)** through Alberta Environment and Parks "Watershed Resiliency and Restoration Program" (WRRP) and EPCOR.

WRRP focuses on improving upland and lowland areas making watersheds more resilient to seasonal runoff and high water events



and periods of drought or water deficiency.

Aberta Environment and Parks

Eligible rural farm

and non-farm landowners will receive:

- 75% cost share funding for riparian fencing along streams, creeks, rivers, springs and surface water bodies;
- 25% cost share funding for eligible dugout fencing and off site watering systems (projects benefiting watershed resiliency will be prioritized); and,
- 50% cost share funding for all other projects and approved expenses up to \$5,000 reimbursement per project.

Eligible Projects include (but not limited to):

- Off-site watering systems
- Riparian or streambank fencing (include grazing plan)
- Cross fencing for rotational grazing to distribute nutrients
- Beaver pond levelers or exclusion fencing
- Bridge material for livestock crossings
- Portable windbreaks/shelters for winter feeding and bedding sites to help distribute nutrients away from runoff areas
- Development of berms, catchments or filtering buffers to catch runoff
- Establishment of eco-buffers, shelterbelts and deep rooted perennial forage to filter and retain water

Ineligible Projects include:

- Replacement of existing fence
- Drilling a new well
- Constructing a new dugout

All projects must directly or indirectly protect natural surface water.

For application forms or questions about the program, please call 403-845-4444, visit <u>www.clearwatercounty.ca/landcare</u> or email <u>landcare@clearwatercounty.ca</u>.





County North Quarter Eco-Buffer Project

Clearwater County staff took on an Eco-Buffer project at Clearwater County's North quarter property in June. This along with the shelterbelt, will also be an educational component on the property and will be showcased at future tours or workshops.

To start, herbicide was applied to the area, and worked up in preparation for planting the seedlings. From there, the area was flagged for planting of the seedlings. 12"x12" hemp mats were placed over each individual seedlings, to supress future weeds from over-taking.



We thank our collaborators and sponsors on this project, Repsol and EPCOR.



Living in Bear Country

During the month of July, Mountain View BearSmart Society, Clearwater County and Alberta BearSmart hosted workshops on Bear and Cougar Safety.

The presentations focused on bear biology, the importance of removing attractants, appropriate actions to take when encountering a bear and how to reduce human-bear conflict at your home and community.

Fish and Wildlife officers presented information on bear trapping, *The Wildlife Act*, and provided bear spray training.

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Learn more about BearSmart, report and track wildlife sightings:

www.clearwatercounty.ca/wildlife.





Sasquatch and Partners



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Sasquatch and Partners is a multi-county initiative encouraging responsible recreation on public land. We thank you for treading carefully while enjoying Sasquatch's backyard.



Sasquatch's message of respect and ecological stewardship in the west country focuses on building a sense of community pride and ownership by residents, workers and visitors that will be effective and sustainable in the long term.

Learn more on our website: www.clearwatercounty.ca/backyard Visitors to the west country will see Sasquatch signs around the area. The "Welcome to Our Backyard" campaign encourages users to enjoy the great outdoors, but to use respect and to take care of the natural spaces – so that they are preserved for now and for future generations.

The awareness campaign encourages visitors to camp and travel in areas that are safe for the traveller and for the environment by:

- Promoting responsible use of the natural areas of the west country including preserving aquatic habitat and the integrity of sensitive areas.
- Mitigating the risks related to random camping near well sites and use of pipeline rights-of-way
- Keeping recreational activities compatible with industry and environmental stewardship
- Finding positive solutions to some of the challenges that arise when industry and recreation intersect in the west country.

Did you know? There are 19 Welcome to Our Backyard/ Sasquatch signs in Clearwater County!

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www.clearwatercounty.ca

Subscribe to our Email Newsletter

Sign up to receive important Clearwater County updates delivered right to your inbox.

Feel like you are missing out on County news? Are you not one for reading the newspaper, County Newsletter or listening to the local radio station? Do you live out of town and only check your mail once every couple weeks? Anyone is welcome to sign up to receive important Clearwater County News right to their email inbox. Important information that affects all County residents will be sent out via this email notification as well as posted in traditional sources. For example, Clearwater County solid waste changes, updates to the Municipal Development Plan or Land Use Bylaw, Road Closures, etc.

Sign up now: visit <u>www.clearwatercounty.ca</u> and scroll to the bottom of the page to sign up.



Frequently Requested Numbers

Clearwater County Office 403 845 4444
Clearwater County Office Fax
Clearwater Mutual Aid Co-op (CMAC) - Oil & Gas Emergency 403 844 8500
Clearwater County After Hours Emergency Number 1 866 950 CMAC (2622)
24-Hour Burn Notification Line
Alberta One Call
Alberta Environment
Alberta Land Titles
Rocky Mountain House & District Chamber of Commerce
Family and Community Support Services
Fish and Wildlife
Health Unit
Highway Services – Volker Stevin
Member of Legislative Assembly (MLA) Jason Nixon 403 871 0701
Town of Rocky Mountain House
Village of Caroline
Summer Village of Burnstick Lake
Fire Ban Informationwww.albertafirebans.ca



#SasquatchSelfie Contest

Send us your photos to win prizes!



1 Take a selife with the Sasquatch!

2 Email the picture to landcare@clearwatercounty.ca (include name and contact information)

3 Contest closes: August 26, 2022

Share your selfie using **#SasquatchSelfie**





Publication Mail Agreement No. 40031689

Return undeliverable items to: Clearwater County, 4340 - 47 Avenue, Box 550, Rocky Mountain House, AB T4T 1A4 admin@clearwatercounty.ca

Call us at 403-845-4444 Office Hours: Weekdays, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.





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