



CLEARWATER COUNTY HIGHLIGHTS

August | September

2018

A Newsletter
for Residents
of Clearwater
County

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Greeting from the Reeve

Hello everyone,

Our County is facing a delayed and difficult harvest this fall due to an unusually cold and snowy September. As of this date, we remain hopeful that the weather will normalize to give our farmers the opportunity to complete the harvest.

This newsletter is intended to keep you current on recent developments at the County.

We have wrapped up another busy summer, as always it is by far one of the busiest seasons for Clearwater County staff. With the unseasonably warm and dry weather, our Public Works crews have been hard at work throughout the County fulfilling road and bridge maintenance programs, gravelling, shoulder pulling and reconstructing roads, and completing the dust suppression program. See page 15, 20, 26 for some of the projects.

Vegetation management crews from the Agriculture & Community Services department have been busy with roadside mowing and spraying programs, which is a legislative responsibility to ensure compliance with provincial law. Both programs help enhance visibility for the safety of the travelling public, while also helping preserve the County's road infrastructure. Ag staff also travel the County providing education and enforcement throughout the weed season.

Council also keeps active with over 40 boards and committees, which we rely on for advice on a range of municipal issues – in terms of delivery of programs and services – that help shape our community. Every October, Council holds an Organizational meeting to designate their respective memberships on boards as well as to elect members-at-large to represent the community on select boards. If you are interested in becoming a County member-at-large representative on a community board, see page 18 for more details or watch for the County's advertisements in the local newspaper and the County website.

In late August, Clearwater County and the Village



John Vandermeer,
Reeve

of Caroline hosted an open house and vision session for the Caroline-Clearwater Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework and Development Plans. More information is available on page 14 or on the County website.

Council recently began the process of drafting the 2019-2022 Strategic Plan. On page 10 you will find information on how you can provide input on the plan, and Council's 180 Day Priority Activity Tracker, a newly developed tool to provide

the community an update on Council's priorities and associated governance tasks.

Clearwater County continues to partner with the Town of Rocky Mountain House and the Village of Caroline, in the spirit of our "Stronger Together" agreement, to help plan for our respective communities, for today, and into the future. Our Councils meet on a regular basis to discuss opportunities to enhance our existing partnerships, in an effort to provide efficiencies for the community as a whole. See pages 6-7 for our latest Tri-Council meeting highlights from September 10.

As we await publication of the Provincial Broadband Strategy, a high priority of Council is to seek provincial and federal funding towards our broadband project that is aligned with the province's regional solution.

In anticipation of the upcoming budget season, which is when program and service level decisions are made for the next year, I encourage you to learn more about Council's strategic plan and priorities. From broadband access, development areas and intermunicipal collaboration, to Nordegg development, innovative housing and advocacy, discussing your vision for our community with your respective Councillor helps with our governance and decision making process. Councillor contact information can be found on the opposite page. I look forward to providing you with another update before year's end.

Until next issue.

John Vandermeer, Reeve



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Agenda & Priorities Meeting

October 5

2019 Budget Deliberations

December 12, 13, 14

Upcoming Council Meetings

October 9

October 23 Organizational Meeting

November 13

November 27

December 11

December 25 cancelled

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



July 24

Land Use Amendment from Agriculture District “A” to Light Industrial District “LI”.

Council reviewed information from the public hearing, including applicant submissions, referral agencies comments and public input. Council granted third reading of Bylaw 1052/18 to redistrict 40 acres of “A” to “LI” for the purposes of a cannabis production facility.

Economic Development Strategy

Council reviewed four summaries of community input on economic development and approved four focus areas for the Economic Development Strategy, including: preparing to have growth of business; preparing to have growth of people; promoting opportunities; and, fostering a culture of growth.

Quality Management Plan

Council approved a harmonized Quality Management Plan for the Fire Discipline.

Alberta Master Games Use of Sasquatch Branding

Council approved Alberta Masters’ Games Organizing Committee request to use the Sasquatch brand to promote the Games taking place in Rocky Mountain House in August 2019.

Q2 Financial Report

Council reviewed the County’s second quarter operating and capital financial reports, including variances and project updates.

Intermunicipal Collaboration Frameworks

Council directed Administration to request exemptions from Municipal Affairs Minister for Intermunicipal Collaboration Frameworks (ICF) /Intermunicipal



Development Plans (IDP) with MD of Bighorn, Brazeau County, ID #9 (Banff) and ID #12 (Jasper). Council also authorized exemption request for IDP with the Summer Village of Burnstick Lake, and supported Yellowhead County’s request for ICF/IDP exemption.

Provincial Broadband Strategy

Council reviewed and approved a letter to Service Alberta Minister Brian Malkinson regarding the Province’s pending Provincial Broadband Strategy and detailing the County’s broadband initiative.

Local Authorities Election Act Amendments

Council reviewed and approved a letter to Municipal Affairs Minister Shaye Anderson regarding LAEA amendments and provide supplemental input on voter identification requirements.

Obsolete Bylaw Review

Council granted third reading of Bylaw 1054/18 to clean-up and remove 102 old bylaws that are expired, obsolete, inoperative or otherwise superseded.



August 28

Land Use Amendment from Agriculture District “A” to Light Intensive Agriculture “AI”.

Council granted second and third reading of Bylaw 1053/18 for the redesignation of +/- 27.7 acres from Agricultural District “A” to Intensive Agriculture District “IA” related to an existing greenhouse operation. The rezoning is intended for future subdivision, to separate the business from the balance of the land on the quarter.

Cannabis Retail Bylaw

Council granted first reading of Bylaw 1044/18 to amend the Land Use Bylaw to add four definitions: Cannabis Lounge; Cannabis Retail Sales; Licensed Premises; and, Retail Shop or Store; and to further clarify the intended guidelines for cannabis production facilities setbacks. A public hearing for this bylaw will be announced at a later date.

Leslieville/Condor Fire Station(s) Project

Council directed administration proceed with steps to develop a new public services building and firehall in the hamlet of Condor (estimated at \$4.0M for 2019 budget) and satellite fire station in Leslieville by modernizing the County’s existing Public Works facility (estimated at \$2.16M for 2020 budget).

Condor Wastewater System – Letter to Wild Rose School Division

Council approved a letter to WRSD indicating the capacity of Condor lagoon in relation to their Corridor Capital Plan for schools, that the lagoon in Condor will be able accommodate increased population by September 1, 2019.

Town of Rocky Mountain House Wastewater Lagoon Update

Council received as information an update on the



Town’s wastewater lagoon and directed Administration to conduct a preliminary investigation and options for existing and alternative wastewater systems, including dialogue with neighbouring municipalities.

Broadband Resolution

Council amended and approved a resolution for Federal and Provincial Funding of Municipal Broadband Projects for submission to the Central Zone Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) zone meeting, and directed administration to seek a municipal “second” for the resolution.

Association of Summer Villages of AB Conference Invite

Council declined the invitation to attend the conference for Association of Summer Villages and indicated that they’d follow up with Summer Village of Burnstick Lake on any items of mutual interest.

Tri-Council Meeting Agenda

Council discussed agenda items to add to the Tri-Council meeting agenda, including: broadband, waste-





water, Stronger Together Agreement and common vision for area.

Town of Rocky Mountain House – Spray Park

Council accepted as information an update from Town representatives regarding the Spray Park project, funds collected to date and capital infrastructure upgrades required and the benefit to other community sports clubs. Council indicated that they'd consider the request for additional spray park funding of \$300,000.00 in their 2019 budget deliberations.

Communications Mid-Year Update

Council heard an update on the County's communications and channels, and accepted as information.

CPO Access to Canadian Police Information Centre Resolution

Council motioned to second the resolution from Mountain View County to request the Ministry of Justice and Solicitor General to encourage provision of direct access to the Canadian Police Information Centre, to use as a proactive and preventative tool.

Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers (CAPP) – State of the Industry Update

Council heard from CAPP regarding their membership, current demand and state of oil and gas industry, global prices, future production forecasts, pipelines and capacity, competitive challenges, policy solutions and advocacy efforts.

Tri-Council Meeting September 10

Stronger Together Agreement and Community Vision

Councils of Town of Rocky Mountain House, Village of Caroline and Clearwater County discussed the principles of the Stronger Together Agreement, re-endorsed the Agreement principles and directed Administrations to schedule a half-day facilitated regional Strategic Planning session in November.

Becoming One Municipality

Councils discussed regional service provision versus amalgamation, and the steps needed should the municipalities' desire to become one, including the importance of each community's identity, uniqueness and need for local autonomy. Councils agreed to additional dialogue regarding amalgamation at a future regional strategic planning session.

Clearwater Regional Emergency Management Agency (CREMA)

Councils reviewed the status of CREMA and directed Administration to set a regional committee meeting date in 2018.

Tourism/Random Camping

Councils discussed West Country recreational use and need to further address wastewater and garbage disposal, provincial lobby efforts and Bighorn Back-



Council Highlights

country Standing Committee work. Councils directed Administration to identify and provide an educational campaign (washrooms and dump station locations) information back to Councils through the Intermunicipal Collaboration Committee (ICC).

Municipal Wastewater Systems Needs Assessments

Councils discussed the three municipalities' wastewater systems and future upgrading requirements. Council directed Administrations to include the regional wastewater discussion on the next ICC meeting agenda for further review, including the concept of a centralized wastewater system that could address the broader needs of the region.

Waste Reduction Strategy

Councils discussed the Rocky Mountain Regional Solid Waste Authority's (RMRSWA) waste and recycling programs, along with alternatives for organics and agricultural plastics disposal. Councils directed Administration to provide the RMRSWA committee options for waste reduction strategies and asked that the RMRSWA provide a response to City of Lacombe on behalf of Tri-Council inviting Mayor Creasey to present further information regarding the "Sustane" project.

Regional Economic Development and Subdivision Development and Appeal Board (SDAB)

Councils discussed the municipalities' economic development activities and SDAB makeup and opportunities for regional partnerships. Councils directed Administrations to investigate and include regional economic development and a regional SDAB on the next ICC meeting agenda for further review.

Broadband – ONET Tour Invitation

Clearwater County invited Town and Village Coun-



cillors to join the County in attending a tour of the Olds Fibre Limited (ONET) to view the network operations centre and capacity of the municipal system in Olds. Town and Village Councillors accepted the invitation and directed Administration to set a tour date.

September 11

Speight Road/Cow Creek Committee Paving Request

Council accepted as information a request for paving Speight Road (Township Road 39-0) up to the Cow Creek Road (Range Road 8-4). Council indicated that they'd consider the request in their 2019 budget deliberations.

Big Brothers Big Sisters Red Deer & District Request for Funding Camp Alexo Phase 3

Council accepted as information a case for support in the completion of Phase 3 (Lodge) of the Camp Alexo Master Plan to address capital and infrastructure needs. The camp is located east of Nordegg, providing year-round camping experience for children and youth. Council indicated that they'd consider the request for funding of \$15,412 in their 2019 budget deliberations.





Reeve John Vandermeer pictured with Hannelie Eder, President of Rocky Airshow Society. She presented Clearwater County with a photo of the Snowbirds as a thank you for supporting the 2018 Rocky Mountain House Airshow.

RMH Airshow Society Gifts Framed Picture

Council received a signed and framed picture of the Snowbirds, as a thank you for supporting the Rocky Mountain House Airshow event that took place July 25, 2018.

Fall 2018 High School Awards Ceremonies

Under the “Post-Secondary Scholarship Program” Policy, Clearwater County Council budgets \$4,000 annually to provide a \$1,000 scholarship to one student from each of the four high schools located in the County. Council appointed members to attend four high school award ceremonies to present the scholarships..

Signage Request for Nordegg North Subdivision

Council tabled the request for direction on placement and cost of Children Playing Signs, pending more

information from the Nordegg Community Association.

Policy Review: Vehicle & Equipment Use by Staff

Council reviewed and amended the renamed Municipal Vehicles and Equipment Policy to ensure it meets Council’s purposes and objectives, and directed Administration bring back a revised policy.

September 25

Community Peace Officer Program Review and 6-Month Report

Council reviewed the County’s Community Peace Officer (CPO) report regarding CPO statistics; joint force operations; educational programming such as the Positive Ride Program; and, enforcement focused on the protection of infrastructure and public safety. Council also reviewed the CPO member compliment, and directed Administration bring back the 5th CPO position as part of 2019 budget discussions.

Rocky Mountain House RCMP Enhanced Policing Services

Council reviewed Enhanced RCMP options for long and short term contracts and accepted as information, nothing that the County will continue support via the four RCMP positions currently funded in part by the municipality.

Rimby RCMP Request for Support Staff Funding

Council reviewed and declined the request for a funding partnership for additional administrative support in the Rimby RCMP detachment.

Town of Rocky Mountain House Quarterly Lagoon Summary Report

Council reviewed and received as information the Town’s quarterly lagoon summary and requested the



Council Highlights

Town's Director of Operations present future results, capital upgrade plans and regulation compliance to County Council.

Water and Wastewater Utility Fees Bylaw

Council granted first, second, permission for third, and third

Readings to Bylaw 1050/18 for residential and commercial wastewater and water rates for Condor, Leslieville and Nordegg, for 2019 - 2021.

Recovery of Taxes

Council reviewed arrears for property at NE-14-38-5-W5, Lot 1 Block 1 Plan 0821633 and that all attempts to collect outstanding taxes have been made and the property is scheduled for public auction November 2, 2018. Council set a reserve bid of \$350,000.00 and the following terms for property sale; cash or certified cheque, deposit of 10% at time of bid/sale and balance of payment to be paid within 90 days.

Draft 2019-2022 Strategic Plan

Council reviewed and amended the draft 2019-2021 Strategic Plan and directed Administration to advertise the draft Plan for public feedback until October 31.

Intermunicipal Development Plan (IDP) Exemption Resolutions

Council reviewed and chose to apply by resolution the IDP exemption related to MD of Bighorn, Brazeau County, ID #9 (Banff) and ID #12 (Jasper), Summer Village of Burnstick Lake, Yellowhead County.

Revised Draft Policy: Vehicle & Equipment Use by Staff

Council reviewed and approved a revised Vehicle & Equipment Use by Staff policy.

Agenda & Priorities Committee - Additional Meeting

Council set dates for an upcoming workshop on October 2 and an additional A&P Committee meeting on October 5 at 10:00 a.m. to finalize direction for operational and capital budget development.

Clearwater Community Police Advisory Committee (CCPAC)

Council reviewed the mandate of the CCPAC and directed Administration to send a letter to the Town of Rocky Mountain House Council to express concerns with redundancy with the Town's new Policing Committee, and to clarify the intent of the new Committee.

Keyera Delegation

Council heard from representatives from Keyera regarding their operations in Clearwater County, as well as pipelines that would impact the region.

Moving? ... Let us know

When purchasing or transferring a title, residents must update their address with Alberta Land Titles as well as with Clearwater County.

Please complete an address change form – available online or at the County office. Please note, your rural address sign (blue sign) is not a mailing address.



Council's Strategic Plan & 180 Days Priorities' Tracker

Summary

During Council's strategic planning workshops in November 2017 and June 2018, Council identified a number of goals and strategies to improve Clearwater County's economic development and prosperity. From this list, Council set some key priorities that were seen as both timely and most important for the success of the community.

Council's draft 2019-2022 Strategic Plan will be available for viewing on the County website in October, and Council invites public feedback on the Plan, by October 31. Thereafter, Council will review public input, make any necessary adjustments and adopt the Plan before the New Year.



CLEARWATER COUNTY COUNCIL 2017-2021

Council also wanted to have a tool to provide the community an update on their priorities and the governance tasks associated with moving forward. Below is Council's 180 Day Priority Activity Tracker and as resources allow, deadlines near, or priority goals are achieved, priorities will be moved up accordingly.

Moving forward, Council's priority tracker template will be updated every 180 days and reported on in the County Highlights Newsletter, online and discussed at Council's Strategic Planning sessions.

PRIORITIES	FIRST 180 DAYS Oct 24, 2017 - Apr 27, 2018	NEXT 180 DAYS Apr 30 - Oct 5, 2018
Prepare and review the 2018 budget, including a reserve strategy.	Completed Dec. 19, 2017.	
Create a broadband/internet business plan and community-wide infrastructure masterplan concurrently.	In progress. Reviewed initial draft Sept. 11, 2018.	Review final plan and determine project scope and phases.
Begin Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework planning process with Village of Caroline.	In progress. Vision/Public Consultation Phase 1 complete. Deadline to complete Apr. 1, 2020.	
Draft a Council Strategic Plan for 2019-2022.	In progress.	Draft plan for public consultation.
Review eastern fire hall(s) decision and conduct additional consultation.	In progress. Public consultation complete.	Conclude discussions related to facility needs for Leslieville/Condor. Direction to move forward with two facilities, for future budget consideration.
Review and address building/shop space deficit.	Complete. New building purchased on Jul. 9, 2018.	
Research community safety solutions.	Investigating options with RCMP.	Reviewed at Sept. 25, 2018, meeting.
Conduct community consultation related to Caroline ICF/IDP and draft plan.		Meeting to be scheduled fall 2018/early 2019.
Re-initiate joint development area and servicing discussion with Town of Rocky Mountain House.		Meetings to be scheduled in fall 2018.
Ten-year Capital planning		Preliminary discussion Sept 17, 2018.

MISSION STATEMENT

Through proactive municipal leadership, we will invest innovatively to generate and support economic growth, to position Clearwater County for a sustainable, prosperous future.



Clearwater County Broadband Project FAQs



From Previous Newsletter Issue Continued Broadband Project FAQs

(Public Engagement May 1 – June 15, 2018)

Do we have to use the County's broadband/ internet?

No, similar to the existing private sector market customers will have the decision as to what internet service they subscribe to – if any.

What will be the tie-in costs for a residential property or business that signs up?

Those costs will be determined once the County receives a completed County-wide conceptual deployment plan, completes a broadband business case and strategic action plan and associated marketing plans. Stay tuned.

Will the County subsidize existing internet service providers (ISPs)?

The County's fibre going past existing ISPs could certainly help with affordability. As well, Clearwa-

ter County Council has indicated that they wish to partner with existing local service providers to ensure efficiencies, with the ultimate goal of the majority of residents having access to quality broadband service.

Council has also indicated they will continue to act as an advocate in terms of backhaul costs and the inequities that exist currently in the province. Reduction of backhaul costs to rural and remote locations would benefit both a municipal broadband provider as well as existing private sector ISPs.

What is the difference between a "lit" or "dark" systems?

Dark Fibre refers to unused or 'dark' network infrastructure that is a mixture of cabling, switches and repeaters. Data is transported over fibre networks by passing light through the optical cables. If there is no data being transported, there is no light – this means that the fibre is 'dark'. Dark Fibre is essentially fibre infrastructure not in use.

Clearwater County Council has also indicated that a County-owned "lit" system is preferred to expedite the access to quality broadband service to the majority of residents and businesses.





Will residential taxpayers pay for the infrastructure and then also have to pay for service?

Clearwater County Council has set aside substantial reserves to begin the broadband project (close to \$6 million) and will request federal and provincial funding as well as apply for all grants available. The Province of Alberta is also in the process of developing a provincial broadband strategy, which may impact how soon broadband can spread further out into the County.

Approximately 90% of the County's revenues comes from non-residential properties (industry, oil/gas), so the lion's share of any tax revenue utilized for the project will not come from residential taxes.

Yes, users will need to pay a monthly subscription for their internet services, as they would do now and with similar costs. The only difference is that you should receive a far superior service/speeds.

How does the County plan to leverage the partnership with the Town of Rocky Mountain House?

Although no formal agreement(s) are in place, as

per the Municipal Government Act, municipalities that share a common boundary are required to create a Intermunicipal Collaboration Frameworks that specify what and how services are funded and delivered to ratepayers by April 1, 2020. Clearwater County Council has indicated they intend to continue to work with neighbouring municipalities as the broadband project unfolds, in the best interest of the community as a whole.

Why do taxpayers have to pay for capital infrastructure for a service that they may not use?

The role of municipal government as prescribed by the Municipal Government Act is:

- To provide good government.
- To provide service, facilities or other things that, in the opinion of Council, are necessary or desirable for all or a part of a municipality.
- To develop and maintain safe and viable communities.
- To work collaboratively with neighbouring municipalities to plan, deliver and fund intermunicipal services.

With a decreasing population and shifting dynamics of industry, Clearwater County Council has indicated



Clearwater County Broadband Project FAQs – continued



that now is the time for broadband – in order to secure the community's future prosperity as growth and innovation are essential to the community's success.

How do you know what the take rate will be?

Although there are no guarantees, Clearwater County Council has also indicated that the initial fee to sign-up needs to be low enough that it doesn't hinder uptake or 'take rate'. The County will also develop a business case and marketing plans which will give a better idea of anticipated take rate on a municipal system. Potential partners also have existing residential, industrial and commercial customers.

When will the construction start?

Council anticipates that construction will begin 2019, again with a phased plan, beginning with the higher density areas surrounding Rocky Mountain House and along the highway 11/12 corridors.

What are the next steps?

Completion of the County-wide broadband infrastructure masterplan is the first step, followed by business case and marketing plans. Thereafter would be the County tendering engineering and construction contracts.

What contingencies will be put in place for the 50-year lifecycle of the fiber?

Similar to any of the County's other capital assets (road, bridges, water and wastewater systems), money will be set aside in reserves, in this case after 5-7 years, for maintenance and required future capital upgrades.

What is the County's population and premises number?

According to Statistics Canada's 2016 census, Clearwater County population is 11,947 people and 4699 private dwellings occupied by usual residents.

What is the role of the Town of Rocky Mountain House? Have you considered a co-op model?

Clearwater County Council has indicated they'd like to work with as many partners as possible - be it municipal, provincial, federal, First Nations or ISPs - to make the broadband project as efficient and effective as imaginable. At this early stage in the planning process, partners have been invited to discuss possible options, but nothing formal is in place at this point in time.

Intermunicipal Collaboration

IDPs and ICFs

Recent changes to Provincial legislation requires all municipalities with common boundaries to adopt Intermunicipal Development Plans (IDPs) and Intermunicipal Collaboration Frameworks (ICFs).

What is an IDP?

An IDP is a high-level policy plan created by neighbouring municipalities. It is designed to foster cooperation and integrated development near municipal boundaries. It guides the growth of future development by identifying general locations for major land uses and shared services.

What is an ICF?

An ICF highlights and formalizes existing collaborative work between adjacent municipalities and provides a forum to work together. The primary goal of ICFs is ensuring neighbouring municipalities work together regarding shared service delivery and cost-sharing.

Clearwater County & Village of Caroline IDP and ICF

Currently, Clearwater County is in the process of drafting IDP and ICF with the Village of Caroline. Open House and Visioning Sessions took place August 29-30, 2018. Input and ideas from the open house will be used to draft the IDP/MDP revisions/framework with further public engagement and input to follow in January 2019. More information is available at www.clearwatercounty.ca/p/caroline-and-area-plan



92 members of the public attended two days of visioning sessions in Caroline.



Hamlets Update

Condor Lift Station Construction

Construction to the Condor Lift Station is underway and is scheduled to be completed by early October 2018. The construction includes replacement of the existing building and electrical / mechanical upgrades.



Condor
Lift
Station



Condor roadways marked in blue.

Sewer Line Flushing

Annual sewer line flushing was completed September 10-11 in the hamlets of Leslieville, Condor and Nordegg.

SAVE THE DATE: CATTLEMEN'S DAY - THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15

The annual Cattlemen's Day is a tribute to the hard working cattle producers in Clearwater County. Approximately 75 to 100 producers attend the gathering which features a great roast beef lunch. Cattlemen's Day is proud to feature quality speakers that present topics of significant interest to the local producer. A trade show accompanies this event featuring agencies and businesses with an interest in agriculture.

For more details about this event, please visit www.clearwatercounty.ca



Winners 2018 Rural Beautification Awards

Properties nominated for the 2018 Rural Beautification Awards were judged in early August. The winning properties featured below will receive a cast iron gate plaque presented at the Rocky Mountain House Ag Society banquet in spring of 2019.

.....



Working Farm: Roger and Bonita Bott

.....



Retired Farm: Gene and Donna Nichols



Winners 2018 Rural Beautification Awards



Acreage Over 15 Years: Miles and Carmen Jensen

.....



Acreage Under 15 Years: Mike Day and Shelley Sommervill

.....



Working Well Workshop

If you are interested in learning how to better manager you water well, join us **October 30** at the Canalta Hotel 6-9 pm (light supper included). Contact Danielle for more information 403-845-4444.



Penalties now in Effect on Unpaid Taxes

Clearwater County property taxes were due on September 17, 2018. An 8% penalty was applied to all outstanding taxes on September 18, and an additional 4% penalty will be applied to all outstanding tax balances December 17, 2018.

Payment Options include: Online (please contact your bank for more details, and keep in mind electronic payments may take up to 5 days); by mail; and in person during office hours. An after-hours drop box

is located at the front door of the main office. Please include your remittance portion of the notice.

Combined Assessment and Taxation Notices were mailed in May. If, for some reason, you have not received your 2018 tax notice, and you own property in Clearwater County, please contact the County office at 403-845-4444. Address change forms can be found on the County's website or at the County office.

Board Committee Members Needed

Clearwater County invites applications from interested residents for the following boards/committees:

- Ag Service Board – 2 Members for FOUR YEAR TERM
- Central Alberta Economic Partnership (CAEP) – 1 Member for ONE YEAR TERM
- Clear Water Landcare Board – 2 Members for THREE YEAR TERM
- Municipal Planning Commission – 2 Members for ONE YEAR TERM
- Physician Recruitment & Retention Committee – 2 Members for ONE YEAR TERM
- Rocky & District Recreation Parks and Community Services Board – 1 Member for THREE YEAR TERM
- Rocky Mountain House Library Board – 1 Member for THREE YEAR TERM
- Rocky Senior Housing Council – 1 Member for ONE YEAR TERM
- Subdivision Development Appeal Board – 4 Members and 3 Alternate Members for ONE YEAR TERM

As per the new MGA, mandatory training must be completed to sit on the SDAB; training will only be provided on November 7, 2018.

For complete details on board positions or to complete an application forms, visit the County Office or our website www.clearwatercounty.ca. Submissions will be received for the above positions from County residents at the County office until **October 12, 2018 at 4:30 P.M.**

Applications may be submitted as follows:

Fax: 403-845-7330

E-mail: thaight@clearwatercounty.ca

Mail: Clearwater County, Box 550, Rocky Mountain House, AB, T4T 1B4

Attention: Tracy Haight

Council will appoint members-at-large during their 2018 Organizational Meeting, which takes place Tuesday, October 23, 2018.



British Columbia Wildfire - Helping Our Neighbours

In 2018, Clearwater Regional Fire Rescue Service (CRFRS) were once again asked to help the Province of British Columbia battle wildfires. Crews assisted with structural protection while being staffed in the Williams Lake area, Prince George, and other areas across the B.C. landscape.



CRFRS deployed to battle wildfires in Williams Lake, B.C.

Nordegg Development



Nordegg Manufactured Home Park

In August 2017, Clearwater County tendered a Mobile Home Park Project in Nordegg along Quarry Road (north east portion of the townsite). The initial phase of the tender is construction of two cul-de-sacs with 30 trailer spots, along with site grading for a future third Cul-de-sac to the west. PME Inc. was the successful bidder and MPE Engineering Ltd. was retained as consultant for the project. Ground work commenced in the fall of 2017 on deep underground utilities and continued until winter shutdown.

This summer work resumed with final installation of deep underground utilities that tied in to the existing water system in Nordegg. Lines have been pressurized, checked for leaks and chlorinated. Surface grading is underway in preparation for shallow utilities to be installed before landscaping is completed. Fortis is scheduled to install power to the project before the end of 2018.

With weather always being a factor in the construction industry, the project had a tentative completion date of August 2018, but with landscaping and shallow utilities remaining, the final completion may take place in spring of 2019.

Rocky-Nordegg Trail Receives \$125K Grant

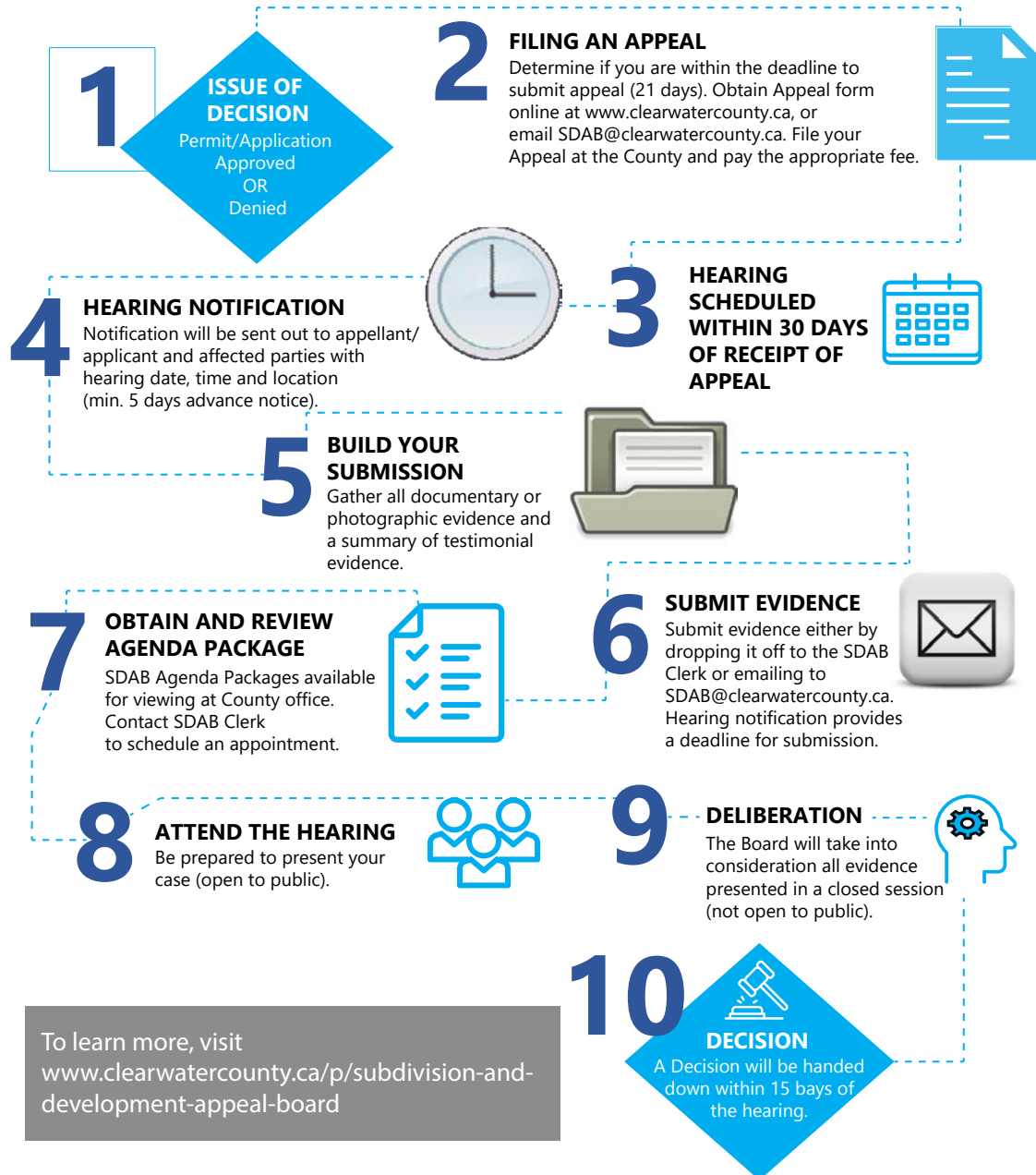
The Rocky To Nordegg Rail Trail grant supports environmental integrity, sustainable economic diversification and social well-being. Alberta Environment and Parks will be assisting with the trail development from Beaver Dam to Harlech, and Clearwater County will be constructing the bridge at Shaunda Creek, with site preparation starting in late September.

The historic railroad from Nordegg to Rocky Mountain House and its planned conversion into a world class multi-use trail system will align with the environmental, economic and social objectives of the Alberta Environment and Parks 2016-18 Business Plan.



Subdivision and Development Appeal Board Process

The Subdivision and Development Appeal Board (SDAB) hears appeals about decisions made by Clearwater County, and provides a decision based on evidence presented. It is an independent quasi-judicial board, making impartial decisions applying the principles of justice and procedural fairness.



31st Annual West Country Ag. Tour

Agriculture and Community Services had a fantastic turn out for their 31st annual West Country Ag Tour on August 23. From a Land-care perspective there were a few take-home messages.

The Clearwater County cover crop trial plots— showcasing brassicas, legumes and grasses—showed the benefits of vegetative cover for soil health.

A rainfall simulator demonstrated the amount of rainfall runoff and infiltration from five soil samples from conventional till, cover crops, heavy grazing, light grazing and riparian area.

The Korth family shared their experience with a grizzly and Chiara Feder (Environment and Parks) and Jim Duncan (area rancher) talked about the do's and don'ts of living in bear country.



Environmental Farm Plan

The majority of the 100+ farms with an Environmental Farm Plan in Clearwater County completed their plan prior to 2005. EFP's now have an expiry date of ten years meaning any EFP beyond ten years old requires renewal. You need a current EFP to be eligible for cost-share funding under the Canadian Agriculture Partnership (CAP) program's Environmental Sustainability and Climate Change section.

Plus, EFP's have moved to a web-based delivery—a WebBook—making it easier to complete and keep current. Contact Landcare staff to help convert your outdated EFP binder into a computer-based EFP.

Click the link for more information or to register for an EFP online:

<http://www.albertaefp.com/>



Caring for My Land Program

Caring for my Land is a local program made possible with funding from the provincial Watershed Restoration and Resiliency program. Cost-share grants are available to strengthen land against drought and flooding and to protect water sources. Landowners may be eligible for up to \$5,000 per applicant for grazing and winter feeding management, protection of riparian and upland areas and tree planting for shelterbelts and riparian buffers.



Watershed Fact

“Abraham Lake, formed by the Bighorn Dam, was named after Silas Abraham (First Nations, Stony). He was a wilderness guide for many early European visitors—e.g. Martin Nordegg”.

Sourced from the North Saskatchewan River
Watershed Alliance publication:
LIVING in the SHED.

Canadian Agricultural Partnership (CAP)

The CAP program launched in the spring of 2018 with an investment of \$406 million, toward a variety of programs and grant incentives. There is an environmental stewardship component to this program. For more information see: <https://cap.alberta.ca/CAP/Programs/role/Primary%20Producer-Farmer-Rancher> or call 310-FARM.



Mountain Pine Beetle

In Michael Crichton's science fiction work *Prey* the world is threatened by minute nano-machines that multiply on their own and begin to consume the Earth. In the computer world, a so-called virus can wreak havoc on the cyberworld. Digital currency – for example Bitcoin – can be connected to a virtual wallet through iPhone or Android devices and what do they call it? Nano-wallet.

Nano comes from the Greek word nanos meaning dwarf. It generally means one-billionth part of something – ten to the power of nine – but has been applied to time (nano-second), technology (nano-machine), and scale (nano-particle). Some call it the science of the very small down to a billionth of a meter.

So, it is with a simple, small beetle native to pine forests of a significant portion of western North America. Mountain pine beetle (MPB) is small and it is devastating vast tracks of pine forests.

Beetles are assassins of mature, 80 plus year old, lodgepole, jack, limber and white bark pines. If pine have been decimated, they will switch to but are unable to reproduce in spruce. By then, of course, the damage is done.

Sundre Forest Products have been monitoring the townships in their forest management area (FMA) since 2007. Pheromone bait traps are put out in June and about one half the sites checked in August and then all are pulled down mid-fall.

The intent is to attract overflying beetles to the traps, determine the extent of attack and develop an action plan. This proactive approach is a great example of early detection and rapid response. Beetles are not long-distance flyers and rely on wind to carry them greater distances.

It was a 400-kilometer flight on strong winds in 2006 that brought an invasion from central B.C. to the Grande Prairie and Peace River area and as far east as Slave Lake and Whitecourt. Since then MPB hitchhiked aerially into the Bow Valley corridor putting



Canmore on alert. This year Jasper National Park was mass attacked.

Here are steps residents and visitors can take:

1. Be careful with firewood. If you bring firewood home from an infected tree you risk passing MPB on to trees in your neighborhood.
2. Be informed the signs of MPB. Pick up information factsheets from our office.
3. Be a caretaker by keeping trees healthy. Diversify your woodlot with non-pine species. Trees that are stressed from lack of moisture, poor pruning, truck or root injury or topped are at greater risk. Rule of thumb? If you are going to top it just drop it.
4. Be realistic about a tree's life expectancy. Say a fond goodbye to pine trees in or past their prime especially if MPB is in your neighborhood. Assess your pine trees before they become a problem. Plant the next generation before eventually needing to remove older ones.
5. Be responsible. The provincial government doesn't control trees on private or municipal land. MPB becomes the landowners concern when MPB invades land not belonging to the Crown.



To Cull or Not to Cull



Though not as severe as southern and eastern areas of the province, Clearwater County producers have experienced substantially reduced yields of forage and cereal crops with harvests as much as 60 percent less than last year.

With little moisture throughout the season, grass has stopped growing, stockpiled pasture is burning off and additional forage may be too expensive to justify purchasing.

Some cattlemen may be weighing alternative feeding options as well as the possibility of culling their herds. Cows may already be showing a loss of condition given the quality of pastures. Early weaning is an option to consider along with creep feeding calves.

It can be difficult for an under-condition cow to stay warm in the winter, consuming more feed than usual with no weight gain. Thin cows in late pregnancy do not produce high-quality colostrum, leaving next year's calves at risk of disease. Milk production also suffers and likely will not improve during lactation.

Reproductive efficiency may be impaired after calving, resulting in an extended calving season and more open cows. If early weaning is not possible this season, then calves should still be creep fed to take pressure off the mother and allow her to build condition for the winter ahead. By 150 days of age calves have a fully functioning digestive system so early weaning should not reduce gains.

Most experts agree that waiting into the fall to cull the herd is far too late. Given current conditions, the

value of cull-cows is steadily dropping, and the longer a producer waits, the less the return.

Selling less profitable cows should start with the bottom 5 to 15 percent beginning with pregnancy testing, and selling open cows and those older than 10 to 12 years.

Feet, legs, udders and other physical traits are also factors to consider when culling. Look for the ones that are slow breeders or poor producers while keeping the ones that will breed early. Usually the cows that are slow breeders are not in optimum health and will not raise the best calf.

Having reduced the size of the herd it may still be possible to stockpile feed reserves whether as silage, baled forage or swath grazing. Mother nature is certainly unpredictable with no guarantees for the winter ahead but being prepared for a harsh one may be the prudent thing to do.

There is the Livestock Tax Deferral Provision for livestock producers who may have to sell off large numbers of cattle due to feed shortages. This federal program allows farmers who sell part of their breeding herd due to drought or flooding to defer a portion of sale proceeds to the following year.

For more information on culling or feed options, visit <https://www.agric.gov.ab.ca> or to take advantage of free ration balancing service by calling Clearwater County's Agriculture and Community Service department at 403-845-4444.



Summer Construction Season Wrapping Up



Taimi Road - Completion of the placement of a new Bridge Culvert located on TWP 40-3.



Crews preparing to place the strutting to support the weight of the Taimi Road Bridge Culvert.



Large coulee at the north end of the Taimi Road construction project.



Drought Conditions in Southern Alberta May Affect Hay Volumes



Almost always a balancing act between maturity and climate, haying in August has proven to be less reliable than it traditionally has been. It is not an easy task to consistently put up high quality hay that will bring premium prices. It must be cut at the perfect time, dried down as fast as possible, baled quickly at optimum moisture and then carefully stored out of the elements.

Placing bales on the ground outdoors is certainly the most economical storage method. It also has the greatest potential for dry matter loss, especially at the bottom of the bale where moisture levels remain the highest and air movement is the lowest.

Making bales as dense and as large as possible reduces the likelihood of bales to sag. This will minimize surface area contact with the ground. Large diameter bales have less volume per unit of surface area exposed. A 2-inch layer of weathered hay on a 4 x 4-foot bale works out to 16 percent of volume while a 6 x 5-foot bale is just 11 percent.

If hay is to be stored outside, then stacks should run north/south or at an angle northwest to southeast. Ample room should be left between stacks to allow for easy access, good ventilation and sun exposure. Use a ridge bale at the top of the stack for ventilation

and snow and rain run-off.

When tarping, stack ends should be left open to allow air circulation throughout the stack, while tarps should be overlapped 1.5 meters and cover at least 1 meter at the side of the stack. If bales are stored in single rows, then they should be placed end to end with a small space between them.

While some producers prefer the mushroom method of stacking with one bale on end topped with one bale on its side, recent studies have indicated that the lower bale tends to suffer greater spoilage than other methods. Often the top strings on the lower bale break. This allows additional moisture in which can cause the bottom bale to freeze to the ground.

Time, labour and fuel costs often dictate when and how round bales are stored. That said, the advantages of careful bale handling and protection from the elements can translate into higher returns and better quality feed for livestock.

For assistance in determining the real weight of your bales, whether for marketing or harvest purposes, call Clearwater County's Agriculture and Community Services department to rent the bale scale, either for a half day or a full day at 403-845-4444.



Fright Night At The Site... is back

PG-13

OCTOBER 5, 6, 12, 13.





\$20 Cash @ Gate (10 pm cut off) / Opens at 7 pm / **Starts at 7:30 p.m.**

For more information call: 403-845-6680 or frightnight.chs@gmail.com or www.confluencechs.ca

To volunteer Email: frightnight.chs@gmail.com

Family Fright October 13 1-4 pm

 Like us on **Facebook**  Rocky Mountain House National Historic Site



Parks
Canada

Parcs
Canada

CONFLUENCE
HERITAGE
SOCIETY



Christenson Sports & Wellness Centre



Doran Stewart Fitness Centre

Fall & Winter Fitness Class Schedule

MORNING	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
6:15 AM - 7:00 AM				Rise & Ride		
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM			Cycle & Core			
10:00 AM - 11:00 AM		Low Impact Zumba		Gentle Fitness		Cardio Core / Strong Mix-up
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM			Beginner Fitness		Beginner Fitness	
AFTERNOON	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM	Chair Yoga	Nordic Walking	Chair Yoga	Nordic Walking	Chair Yoga	
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM		Cardio Core		Strong		
EVENING	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
5:15 PM - 6:15 PM	Strong		Strong			
5:45 PM - 7:00 PM		Kundalini Yoga		Kundalini Yoga		
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM		Free Fall Sampler		Free Fall Sampler		
6:15 PM - 7:15 PM	Synergy Circuit		Synergy Circuit			
7:15 PM - 8:15 PM				Full-Bodied Yoga		
7:30 PM - 8:15 PM		Spin		Spin		
YOUTH	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
4:00 PM - 4:30 PM		Dance 3-5 Years			Superhero Training	
4:45 PM - 5:30 PM		Dance 6-9 Years			Learn to Train	
5:00 PM - 5:30 PM			Have-A-Ball			

Drop-ins welcome, Fitness Class schedule may vary dependant on class registration.

403.845.3720 • guestservices@rockymtnhouse.com

Recreation & Community Services
Town of Rocky Mountain House



Free Fitness Sampler

This fall we're offering free fitness classes Tuesdays & Thursdays from 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM
This is your chance to try something new and find what fits your wellness goals, at no cost.



Tuesday	Class	Thursday	Class
Sep. 11	Spin	Sep. 13	Chair Yoga
Sep. 18	Strong	Sep. 20	Gentle Fitness
Sep. 25	Cycle & Core	Sep. 27	Low Impact Zumba
Oct. 2	Synergy Circuit	Oct. 4	Chair Yoga
Oct. 9	Cardio & Core	Oct. 11	Gentle Fitness
Oct. 16	Cycle & Core	Oct. 18	Low Impact Zumba
Oct. 23	Synergy Circuit	Oct. 25	Full Bodied Yoga
Oct. 30	Kundalini Yoga		

No pre-registration required. Arrive early to ensure your spot.

Recreation & Community Services
Town of Rocky Mountain House

▪ 403.845.3720 ▪ guestservices@rockymtnhouse.com ▪



Frequently Requested Numbers

Clearwater County Office	403-845-4444
Clearwater County Office Fax	403-845-7330
Clearwater County After Hours Emergency Number	403-844-8500
Clearwater Mutual Aid Co-op (CMAC) - Oil & Gas Emergency	1-866-950-CMAC (2622)
24 Hour Burn Notification Line	403-845-7711
Alberta One Call	1-800-242-3447
Alberta Environment	403-845-8240
Alberta Highway Service	403-845-7899
Alberta Land Titles	780-427-2742
Chamber of Commerce - Serving Clearwater County and Town of Rocky Mountain House	403-845-5450
Family and Community Support Services	403-845-3720
Fish and Wildlife	403-845-8230
Health Unit	403-845-3030
MLA Jason Nixon	403-871-0701
Rocky Mountain House Regional Solid Waste Authority	403-845-4121
Town of Rocky Mountain House	403-845-2866
Village of Caroline	403-722-3781
Fire Ban Information	www.albertafirebans.ca

Attention All Clearwater County Drivers and Parents

Children may forget basic road safety rules as they walk, bicycle and ride the bus to schools.

Help keep all our children safe by reviewing these basics as a driver or a parent with your children:

- Use caution when driving through residential areas and adhere to speed limits in school or playground zones.
- Scan farther down the road and obeying posted speed limits. Always be prepared to slow down or stop.
- Avoid loud music and other distractions when driving.
- Use caution when approaching intersections or mid-block crosswalks. Parked or stopped vehicles may hide a pedestrian who is crossing the road. The fine for failing to yield to a pedestrian in a crosswalk or passing a vehicle stopped at a crosswalk to permit a pedestrian to cross is \$575 and four demerit points.
- Watch for the school safety patrol in their orange vests and stop as directed. Patrolrollers play a vital role in directing children safely across the street.
- Be very cautious in parking lots or when backing out of a parking stall or driveway.
- Watch for children between parked vehicles and on sidewalks – they may dash out into the street after a friend or a toy.
- Do not text while driving and only use hands-free devices.

Reminder of Speed Limits in School and Playground Zones

School zone is 30 km/h unless otherwise posted and is in effect on school days from 8 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. unless other times are posted.

Playground zone is 30 km/h unless otherwise posted and is in effect from 8:30 a.m. to one hour after sunset.

A vehicle is not permitted to pass another vehicle travelling in the same direction in either school or playground zones during the times that these zones are in effect.

Everyone should remember that:

- Children have difficulty judging the speed of oncoming vehicles.
- Children may have a tendency to dart out into the street in pursuit of a friend, pet or toy.
- Their short height makes children harder for drivers to see.
- A child's reaction to danger differs from that of an adult; for instance, the approach of a car may prompt a child to run faster across the street instead of staying on the sidewalk.
- Fatigue and lack of attention increase the risk of a child suffering a pedestrian injury on the way to or from school.

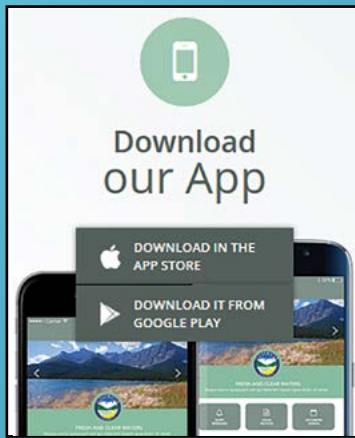


This message brought to you by:



Let's all work together to ensure our community's children are safe and ready for every school day.





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Subscribe to our newsletter

Stay up-to-date with the latest news and events happening in our community. Register online at the new website: www.clearwatercounty.ca.

Tell us what you think about the newsletter or provide suggestions for future editions at admin@clearwatercounty.ca.

Call us at 403-845-4444

Office Hours: Weekdays, 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

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Box 550, Rocky Mountain House, AB T4T 1A4
admin@clearwatercounty.ca

