



*Need some neighbourly assistance?*



REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY  
OF WOOD BUFFALO

**you've got**

**questions.**

**we've got Pulse.**

780.743.7000  
1.800.973.9663  
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# Introduction

Mister Rogers. Tim “The Tool Man” Taylor and Wilson. Fred Flintstone and Barney Rubble. Being and having a good neighbour makes our neighbourhoods more like a home rather than just a place to live.

The more support we have from each other in our northern community, the warmer it will be. You don’t need to be the girl (or boy) next door to be a good neighbour. In fact, being neighbourly is quite easy.

We are a big community with a small town feel. Getting to know your neighbour and occasionally lending a helping hand allows you to develop friendships with those who live near you.

Have you ever waved to a passersby as you mow the lawn? Do you see children playing together along your street? Have you ever returned your neighbour’s curbside collection bins from the street because they work long hours? Or have you ever asked someone to keep an eye on your property while you’re away for holidays?

The benefits of being neighbourly are plentiful and we believe that *good neighbours make great neighbourhoods*.

Being a good neighbour is also about educating yourself about your responsibilities within your community, so you can abide appropriately and help others do so as well.

This booklet provides an overview of municipal bylaws, permitting information, and general services in the region. It has been created to inform people just like you – residents, business owners and service providers – of your rights and responsibilities as members of the community. And as neighbours.

By working together, we can continue to create and enhance the vibrant, sustainable region we are proud to call home.

## Won’t you be my neighbour?

For more information and tips for being a good neighbour, visit [rmwb.ca/goodneighbour](http://rmwb.ca/goodneighbour).

You can also visit [rmwb.ca/pulse](http://rmwb.ca/pulse) or call Pulse at 780-743-7000. For rural residents, Pulse also has a toll-free number to avoid long distance charges: 1-800-973-9663.



# Maintaining Your Property

## Civic Number

### Street Numbering Bylaw No. 627

A visible civic number on your home benefits more than just the mail carrier; it assists emergency responders and municipal operations like curbside collection. That's why it is required under the Street Numbering Bylaw No. 627

All dwellings within the region must clearly display its given civic number on or near front entrances in numbers at least three inches in height and in a contrasting colour that can be easily read from the roadway.

It is also encouraged that civic numbers be clearly displayed at the back of properties that are adjacent to alleys or public walkways.

## Curbside Collection (Garbage & Recycling) Solid Waste Bylaw No. 07/043

Curbside collection is an area that residents can really help with. Home owners/occupants are responsible for the proper disposal of household garbage and recycling.

In the Urban Service Area of Fort McMurray, residents can visit [rmwb.ca/garbage](http://rmwb.ca/garbage) to look up collection days as well as what colour bins are to be placed to the curb. Remember that bins must be to the curb by 7:30 a.m.

Each dwelling within the region has three bins allocated for garbage and recycling:

### Bin #1 - Household Waste (Black)

- Regular household waste
- Please remember to place waste into plastic bags, then put the bag into the bin

### Bin #2: Paper and Cardboard (Light Blue)

- Newspapers
- Magazines
- Envelopes
- Books
- Cardboard egg cartons
- Corrugated cardboard
- Mixed paper
- Paper bags
- Phone books
- Boxes

### Bin #3: Plastic, Metal and Non-glass Drink Containers (Dark Blue)

- All plastics (except items for Bin #1)
- Plastic pop and juice bottles
- Tetra packs
- Plastic milk jugs
- Drink cans
- Juice and milk cartons
- Household aluminum products
- Tin cans



## What to Keep Out of Bins

- Hazardous household waste – for example, all purpose cleaners, hair spray, paints, shoe polish – learn more about this at [rmwb.ca/hhw](http://rmwb.ca/hhw)
- Electronic waste – for example, cell phones, CD players, curling irons, microwaves – learn more about this at [rmwb.ca/hhw](http://rmwb.ca/hhw)
- Hot ashes
- Animal waste
- Sharp objects such as needles and syringes

## Bins must be presented curbside by 7:30 a.m.

and are not permitted to weigh more than 61 kilograms (135 pounds) with the lids closed on collection day. Garbage and recycling placed outside or on top of bins will not be taken. In the case of a raven or other animal getting into your garbage, it only takes a few minutes to be a good neighbour and clean up the mess.

If your bins have been damaged or you have a new/rebuilt home and require bins, contact Pulse at 780-743-7000 or [rmwb.ca/pulse](http://rmwb.ca/pulse).

## Yard Waste

Curbside collection of yard waste begins in late spring and runs until snow begins to fall. Residents are asked to put yard waste into brown paper yard waste bags. When placing bags out for curbside collection, please put your bags at the curb next to your bins and not in the bins. Plastic and compostable plastic bags are not accepted.

The following can go in your brown paper yard waste bags:

- Grass clippings
- Leaves
- Flowers
- Weeds

- Culled plants
- Small twigs less than 30 centimetres (12 inches) long

Each household is limited to four bags of yard waste per week and must weigh under 16 kilograms (35 pounds). Bags must be put out to the curb by 7:30 a.m. on the scheduled collection day.

## Bin Placement

To ensure curbside collection goes safely and efficiently, there are guidelines for proper placement of bins. Did you know that automated curbside collection vehicles cannot collect bins that aren't placed following these guidelines?

- Bins must be at least 30 cm from other bins and at least one metre from surrounding vehicles
- In winter months, place bins in front of windrows and snow banks and clear ice and snow from the collection area
- Do not cover bins with sheets or blankets
- Ensure bin lids are completely closed
- On streets with parking congestion, your curbside bins can be pulled away from the curb and towards the roadway (but not past the side view mirrors on the vehicles). Bins cannot block traffic flow.

### Hey neighbour! Guess what?

In the 1966 "Garbage Collection Bylaw," it was noted residents had to supply their own garbage receptacles for collection.



## Fat, Oil, and Grease Drainage

### Sanitary Sewer Utilities Bylaw No. 85/51

While it may seem harmless, pouring fat, oil and grease (FOG) down the drain, including toilets, can cause expensive problems down the line for residents, business owners and the municipality. FOG is a cooking by-product and can be found in meats, food scraps, baked goods, sauces, gravy, lard, margarine, butter, salad dressing and dairy products.

When FOG is poured down the drain, it builds up over time and creates blockages in residential pipes and municipal sewer systems. These blockages can result in backups, costly repairs, and even property damage. It's not just one home that could be affected; your neighbours could be affected too as FOG makes its way further down your drain and into the municipal sewer system.

There are a number of things that can be done to reduce the impacts of FOG:

**Keep a can handy:** Pour oil and grease into an empty can or jar and allow it to cool in the container before throwing away.

**Wipe before washing:** For greasy pans, wipe off excess grease with paper towel before washing.

**Seal the oil:** Mix FOG with an absorbent material such as cat litter or coffee grounds in a sealable container before throwing it in the trash.

**Protect your drain:** Use sink strainers to prevent food particles from entering your drain.

**Strain your cooking oil:** Strain or filter oil in deep fryers to extend the life of the cooking oil.

Do you own a food-related business? Visit [rmwb.ca/fog](http://rmwb.ca/fog) for tips on managing FOG in your business.

## Garage Sales

### Land Use Bylaw No. 99/059

Residents are permitted to host a sale of used household goods for a maximum of two consecutive days and for a maximum of three sales in one calendar year starting on January 1.

Any promotional signage must be removed within 24 hours of the sale ending.

### Hey neighbour! Guess what?

In 1948, Mayor and Councillors were compensated \$2 for every Council meeting attended.



## Grass, Weeds, Trees, and Shrubs & Pesticide Use

### Nuisance Property Bylaw No. 00/078

A beautiful neighbourhood makes for happy neighbours. Unkempt properties are not only unsightly, but can create animosity between neighbours. Property owners/occupants of both developed and vacant lots are responsible for property upkeep.

Grass and weeds are not permitted to exceed a height of 15 centimetres (6 inches) (Nuisance Weeds Bylaw No. 91/5). This includes the sometimes forgotten area behind fences in alley ways. It is also the responsibility of owners/occupants to manage the grass and weeds to the curb of the road, including the strip of grass that may be between the sidewalk and the road. This strip of grass is also known as a Right-of-Way. While this property does belong to the Municipality, it is residents' responsibility to maintain this area.

Following the Alberta Weed Control Act, property owners/occupants must destroy restricted weeds, control noxious weeds and prevent nuisance weeds from spreading or scattering. For more information on the Alberta Weed Control Act, visit [qp.alberta.ca](http://qp.alberta.ca).

Trees or shrubs growing on a property must not interfere with or endanger visibility to street signage or sidewalk and roadway clearance. It is also the responsibility of owners/occupants to control or eliminate insect pests harmful to the growth and development of trees and shrubs or any vegetable or plant life.

While pesticides are strictly regulated in Canada, they can be hazardous if not used carefully. To use pesticides safely, follow the directions on the label. When buying a pesticide, always look for a Pest Control Products (PCP) number on the label, this way you know the product has been tested and approved by Health Canada.

### Hey neighbour! Guess what?

The 1948 "Children Curfew Bylaw" stated "no child under the age of sixteen years shall be in a public place after the hour of Ten O'Clock at night during the summer months or after the hour of Nine O'Clock at night during the winter, unless accompanied by their parent or guardian."



## Home Occupation & Home-Based Business Business License Bylaw No. 01/031

Residents who operate a business out of their home are considered either a home occupation or a home-based business. Both require permits and licenses and may be subject to specific conditions. Those who operate businesses out of their homes can be good neighbours by reducing the business' impacts on their neighbourhood. Being mindful of things like noise, parking, lighting, etc. can be beneficial for everyone.

For more information and to apply for permits, visit [rmwb.ca/permit](http://rmwb.ca/permit).

## Noise

### Noise Bylaw No. 83/24

Noisy neighbourhoods can be frustrating; especially if you're working on shift and each hour of sleep counts. Did you know that the Municipality has a Noise Bylaw (No. 83/24). It covers loud, unnecessary or unusual noise that annoys, disturbs, injures, endangers, or detracts from the comfort, repose, health, peace, or safety of other persons. This includes, in conjunction with the Alberta Traffic Safety Act, that motor vehicles only emit the reasonably necessary noise for operation.

Certain noise restrictions are also imposed to address appropriate noise levels during the nighttime. The operation of devices powered by an engine (lawnmower, snow blower, etc.) may only occur:

- Between 8 a.m. and 11 p.m.  
Mondays through Saturdays
- Between 9 a.m. and 11 p.m.  
Sundays and statutory holidays

### Hey neighbour! Guess what?

The population of Fort McMurray in 1975 was 13,393.



## Nuisance Property

### Nuisance Property Bylaw No. 00/078

Nobody enjoys a nuisance, especially a nuisance neighbour with a nuisance property. That's just too many nuisances to handle.

"Nuisance," as defined by the Nuisance Property Bylaw No. 00/078, means any activity upon any property that is offensive to any person, or has or may have a detrimental impact upon any person or other property in the neighbourhood.

There are a variety of designations within the parameters of "nuisance," and while many have already been captured and outlined throughout the "Maintaining Your Property" segment of this document, the areas not yet outlined as a nuisance property are as follows:

- The causing of opaque or dense smoke and permitting such smoke to be emitted into the atmosphere for a period in excess of six minutes in any one hour, or at a point other than the opening to the atmosphere of the flue, stack or chimney, unless specifically authorized by Council by resolution or bylaw
- The generation of excessive dust and permitting such dust to escape from the property
- The storage or accumulation of or failure to dispose of discarded or dilapidated furniture or household appliances, scrap metals, scrap lumber, tires, and motor vehicle parts
- The failure to dispose of any rubbish or garbage accumulated upon any property
- The posting or exhibiting of posters, signs, billboards, placards, writings or pictures upon any fence or wall or any other property or parked vehicle, where the same are accumulated and become dilapidated and unsightly

- Any litter
- Failure to control any offensive odour
- Failure to remove any animal waste or defecation

### Hey neighbour! Guess what?

Before 1956, residents had to pay a licensing fee of \$0.50 per year to use a bicycle within city limits of Fort McMurray.



## Open Air Fire

### Open Air Bylaw No. 01/084

#### Fire Pits

Within the Urban Service Area of Fort McMurray, permits are required for all in-ground, permanent fire pits. Portable fire pits do not require a permit. All fire permits and fire pit inspections are issued by Regional Emergency Services (RES). Visit [rmwb.ca/fireprevention](http://rmwb.ca/fireprevention) to get a fire pit permit. There is a \$35 permit fee, and all approved permits are valid as long as the applicant resides at the address listed on the permit.

Is your back yard FireSmart? Learn about the principles of FireSmart and the preventative measures to reduce the risk of fires at home [rmwb.ca/firesmart](http://rmwb.ca/firesmart)

#### Fire pit guidelines are as follows:

- Fire pit construction shall be of non-combustible materials
- Maximum dimension of the fire pit is one metre
- The fire pit shall be covered by a screen with a grate opening not to exceed one-half inch
- Fire pits shall be located at least two metres from combustible materials including, but not limited to, buildings, fences, patio decks, trees, and bushes
- Fire pits shall be placed at least three metres away from property lines
- Fire pits shall be located at least 0.8 metres from any underground service. Contact Alberta One-Call Corporation at 1-800-242-3447 to have your underground utilities located and marked.

Once approved by RES, preliminary documentation will be left with the homeowner. At this time, the fire pit is deemed permitted and ready to use. An official permit will be issued and mailed to the residence within one week of the inspection.

Residences outside of Fort McMurray can obtain free permits between March 1 – October 31 from Alberta Agriculture and Forestry. Visit [wildfire.alberta.ca](http://wildfire.alberta.ca) for more information.

#### Hey neighbour! Guess what?

The “Sunday Entertainment” bylaw was introduced in 1969 to overcome provisions within the Alberta Lord’s Day Act. The bylaw allowed residents to participate in leisure activities where a fee may be charged, such as going to the theatre or a sports game, after 1:30 p.m. on Sundays.



## Sidewalk Snow & Ice Clearing

Roads & Transportation Bylaw No. 02/079

Life in the north comes with long, cold winters, including snow and ice.

Residents are responsible for removing snow or ice on sidewalks adjacent to their property within 48 hours after a snowfall. Snow clearing on municipally-owned land is maintained by the Municipality's Public Works team.

Did you know that the windrow created during municipal winter maintenance is the responsibility of the owner/occupant to remove?

If a property has any type of structure within three metres of a roadway or public space, accumulated snow, ice, dripping water on the roof/eaves/awnings must be removed.

Are you interested in being a good neighbour and creating relationships within your neighbourhood? Try being observant of those around you who may not be able to manage snow and ice removal. Whether they work long hours, are away on vacation, are not physically able, give them a call or knock on their door and offer to help if you're able to do so.

Find out more about sidewalk snow and ice clearing at [rmwb.ca/sidewalks](http://rmwb.ca/sidewalks).

If you'd like to raise your neighbourly status to angelic, visit [rmwb.ca/snowangels](http://rmwb.ca/snowangels), to find out how you can volunteer for those who need an extra hand this winter.

## Vehicle Storage

Land Use Bylaw No. 99/059 & Nuisance Property Bylaw No. 00/078

A motor vehicle shall not be parked in a front or side yard except on an approved driveway; property owners/occupants are not permitted to store or accumulate broken-down vehicles or motor vehicle parts on their property.

Only one recreational vehicle or utility trailer may be kept on a residential lot in the Urban Service Area. A recreational vehicle to be used on a property for living and sleeping is not permitted for longer than a two-week period per calendar year.

## Watering Your Lawn

Nuisance Property Bylaw No. 00/078

Be mindful of neighbours when watering your lawn with a hose or sprinkler system. Water can spray beyond the perimeters of your property causing safety issues or unwanted outflow to adjacent properties and sidewalks. With a little consideration, you can avoid raining on your neighbour's parade.



# Property and Land Development/ Home Improvements

Whether renovating your home, developing land, or simply making updates, property/land development and home improvements are common for new or experienced homeowners.

The Planning and Development department provides services related to land use planning and development permitting.

Do you know about the Land Use Bylaw No. 99/059? The Land Use Bylaw (LUB) regulates all use and development of land and buildings in the RMWB. Learn more about the LUB at [rmwb.ca/lub](http://rmwb.ca/lub).

Do you need a permit for that? Common projects that require permits include the following:

- building a home
- adding a legal basement suite
- starting renovations
- demolishing a structure
- building an accessory building (e.g. deck/shed/playhouse/garage)
- starting a home business
- building/occupying an office space
- making changes to water, sewer or storm lines
- locating/relocating a manufactured home
- putting up a sign

If you are unsure about whether or not a permit is required, or which permit you need, contact Pulse.

## Hey neighbour! Guess what?

In order to obtain qualified personnel in 1969, The New Town of Fort McMurray paid \$21,000 to build a single family residence to provide housing due to a shortage of available homes.



# Services and Utilities

## Hydrant Flushing

The RMWB conducts hydrant flushing throughout the region starting in springtime through the fall each year. Each spring, the Municipality commences its Preventative Maintenance program to ensure that the drinking water in the region is of the highest quality. The process also protects the Municipality's investment in its drinking water infrastructure and ensures that the hydrants are in good working condition for any emergency situation that may arise.

To see a schedule of where hydrant flushing is happening, visit [rmwb.ca/hydrants](http://rmwb.ca/hydrants).

Flushing is done from Monday through Friday, from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. During the flushing process, your water will continue to be of high quality and your service will remain uninterrupted. You may notice a fluctuation in pressure. If you notice some slight discolouration, run the cold tap for approximately 15 to 20 minutes. If the discolouration continues, contact Pulse.

## Paying Your Utility Bill

The RMWB provides water, sewer and garbage collection services to homeowners (where applicable). Utilities are billed once every two months.

### Utility Payment Options

- Pay in person at 9909 Franklin Avenue in Fort McMurray
- Mail a cheque to:  
9909 Franklin Avenue  
Fort McMurray, Alberta  
T9H 2K4
- Pay online through your financial institution using "Wood Buffalo Utilities" as the payee
- Sign up for the pre-authorized utility payment plan (PUPP)
- PUPP is a convenient way for residents to pay their utility bills through direct debit from their bank accounts. You can sign up for a pre-authorized payment plan if your utility account is not in arrears and you have a chequing account at a financial institution. To apply for PUPP, visit [rmwb.ca/utility](http://rmwb.ca/utility).
- Pay online by credit card at [pay.rmwb.ca](http://pay.rmwb.ca).



## Snow Removal & Winter Maintenance Zones

Throughout the winter season, the Municipality makes every effort to ensure that roadways are kept safe and passable for everyone, as well as maintaining service levels for municipal services like emergency services and transit.

### Primary and Secondary Routes

Snow plowing and removal priorities are based on traffic volume, usage and location within the transportation system. Primary routes take first priority, followed by secondary routes. Primary and secondary routes will be maintained more than once a week as appropriate, while residential streets will follow Winter Maintenance Zone schedules.

- **Primary Routes** include Thickwood Boulevard, Confederation Way, the downtown business area (Morrison Street, Hardin Street), Franklin Avenue, Hospital Street and MacKenzie Boulevard.
- **Secondary Routes** include school zones, urban transit routes and main accesses to neighbourhoods.
- **Residential Streets** include lightly trafficked streets that are mainly built up on both sides with a mix of residential and local facilities. Residential streets fall under the Winter Maintenance Zone program.

## Winter Maintenance Zones

Winter Maintenance Zones facilitate snow removal and routine maintenance in Fort McMurray's residential neighbourhoods while providing consistency to residents who rely on on-street parking.

Fort McMurray's residential neighborhoods have been divided into five Winter Maintenance Zones, one for each weekday. From October 15 to April 15, each neighborhood's zone will be active on the same weekday, every week. Visit [rmwb.ca/WMZ](http://rmwb.ca/WMZ) to find your zone.

On the day that each zone is active, crews will plow the streets, clear any snow they may have placed on sidewalks, and perform other routine maintenance as required. On-street parking will not be available in each zone on the day that it is active. Find out more about the program at [rmwb.ca/snowplow](http://rmwb.ca/snowplow).



## Winter Roads, Trails and Provincial Highways

The Municipality cleans and maintains streets throughout the year, including winter maintenance, street sweeping and pothole repair. The Municipality does not, however, maintain provincial highways, except for in special cases or isolated locations.

The Municipality is responsible for maintaining the Fort Chipewyan Winter Road, La Loche Winter Trail, a portion of the Lac La Biche Trail and a portion of Highway 69 (renamed Sapræe Creek Trail), as well as airstrips, bridges, public sidewalks, traffic lights and rights of way.

Did you know that Alberta Transportation is responsible for the maintenance of Highways 63 and 881? For more information on highways, phone 1-800-390-2242.

Do you travel on one of the winter roads? Plan ahead and stay safe when using winter roads. There is no radio or phone coverage in some areas, so let someone know you're travelling along winter roads before you head out.

Find up-to-date information about these areas including load limits, safety notices, and other alerts at [rmwb.ca/winterroads](http://rmwb.ca/winterroads), or by contacting Pulse.

## Solid Waste & Landfill

The municipal landfill is located approximately 8.5 kilometres south of Fort McMurray on Highway 63. The landfill is open seven days a week (exception of Christmas Day and New Year's Day). The regular hours of operation are 8:15 a.m. to 5:45 p.m.

### Secure your load

As per the Roads and Transportation Bylaw No. 02/079 and the Solid Waste Bylaw No. 07/043, it is required that every load transported over a public roadway be covered or secured in a manner to prevent any debris from falling from the vehicle. The fine for this bylaw is \$150.

For any questions, contact Pulse.

### Hey neighbour! Guess what?

A new truck was purchased in 1956 for the use of the Town Police at a cost of \$2,510.



## Street Maintenance

The RMWB cleans the streets throughout the year. Whether crews are hauling snow in the winter or sweeping during the remaining seasons, they rely on the cooperation of residents removing vehicles from streets about to be cleaned. Resident's assistance is also encouraged in reporting pot holes, so they can be filled. If you park along the street, please observe any posted signage. For Winter Maintenance Zones, signage is posted on residential streets to direct motorists not to park on the street one day a week. The weekday will be indicated clearly on the signage.

In addition, sometimes temporary No Parking signs are placed in areas targeted for street sweeping or other maintenance a minimum of 48 hours before work begins. Forty-eight hours after signage has been placed, crews will enter the area to start the work.

Please be advised that vehicles parked in areas where signage has been posted for 48 hours will be ticketed and towed so equipment can enter the area to work.

### Hey neighbour! Guess what?

In 1965, those who enforced animal control with the Fort McMurray Police Department were formally titled Dog Catchers.



# Transportation

## Self-Propelled Vehicle Usage

Parks and Recreation Bylaw No. 99/028

A self-propelled vehicle, as defined by the Parks and Recreation Bylaw No. 99/028, means any vehicles propelled by human power on which a person may have, for example bicycles, scooter, skateboard, etc.

We care about the safety of our residents, so before you ride, make sure you are knowledgeable about how to operate your self-propelled vehicle as well as the rules pertaining to its use.

Any person operating a self-propelled vehicle on any trail will:

- Be in control of the movement of the self-propelled vehicle
- Yield the right-of-way to all other users
- Ride to the right hand side of the trail
- Equip the self-propelled vehicle with brakes, a bell or horn, and a head lamp and tail lamp

Any person operating a self-propelled vehicle on any trail will not:

- Ride to the side of another self-propelled vehicle traveling in the same direction except when passing the other self-propelled vehicle
- Use the self-propelled vehicle to carry more persons at one time than the number for which it was designed

All riders and passengers must wear a properly secured safety helmet.

## Off-Highway Vehicle Usage

Off-Highway Vehicle Bylaw No. 98/078

Off-highway vehicles (OHV) are widely used in the Municipality; their safe use should be a priority for operators, their passengers and pedestrians. An off-highway vehicle is any vehicle designated for cross-country travel on land, water, snow, ice, marsh or swamp land or on other natural terrain. This includes motorcycles and minibikes, snow vehicles and all-terrain vehicles.

Operation of an OHV is prohibited on public property within the boundaries of Fort McMurray. There are three designated OHV staging areas along the outskirts of Fort McMurray: Snye Park, Abasand Staging Area, and Sitshaw Park (Horse Pasture).

Be aware of the dangers of OHV use and practice safe riding at all times. An OHV is only as safe as the person operating it – use good judgment and courtesy, wear appropriate protective gear and maintain your vehicle. OHV users are expected to follow the same regulations and laws as other motorized vehicle drivers.

View a map of the designated staging areas, or get more information on OHV rules and regulations at [rmwb.ca/OHV](http://rmwb.ca/OHV).



## Parking

### Roads and Transportation Bylaw No. 02/079

It's safe to say no one enjoys getting a parking ticket. The Municipality takes safety very seriously, and parking standards are in place to ensure the safety of motorists as well as pedestrians. Parking regulations in Fort McMurray are extensive and can be confusing to some, so below is an overview of the information you need to know to avoid being ticketed and towed.

Unless otherwise identified, instructed by a Bylaw Officer, or to avoid conflict with other traffic, no person shall stop or park a vehicle:

- Within ten metres of an intersection, stop sign, yield sign, or crosswalk
- Within five metres of any fire hydrant
- Within a Fire Zone or Transit Zone
- On a sidewalk or boulevard
- Facing oncoming traffic
- On any bridge
- Within one and one-half metres of access to a garage, private road or driveway, or a vehicle crossway over a sidewalk
- If a "No Parking" or "Street Maintenance" sign is posted
- Without moving a vehicle parked on-street for over 48 hours

If you have any questions that are unanswered about parking, contact Pulse.

## Pedestrian Safety

Pedestrian safety is very important, here are some tips to help avoid accidents or injuries:

- Make sure to be visible to drivers at all times.
- Wear lightly coloured or reflective clothing at night and brightly coloured clothing during the day.
- Make eye contact with drivers in stopped and approaching vehicles to ensure they see you before you cross in front of them.
- Put your phone away when walking or crossing the street.
- Don't wear headphones. Your ears can tell you a lot about what is happening around you.
- Know and follow all traffic rules, signs, and signals. Being aware of the rules that vehicles must follow allows you to anticipate what drivers will do.
- Never assume that a driver will give you the right of way.
- Use crosswalks when crossing the street.
- Stay on sidewalks whenever possible. If a sidewalk is not available, walk on the side of the road facing traffic. This will help increase your visibility to drivers.
- Avoid walking along highways or other roadways where pedestrians are prohibited.



## Transit Bylaw No. 92/15

Save money and be mindful of the environment by taking municipal transit to destinations in Fort McMurray and some rural communities. For detailed information, [rmwb.ca/transit](http://rmwb.ca/transit) or contact Pulse.

## Vehicle for Hire

### Vehicle for Hire Bylaw No. 13/001

When using a taxi in the RMWB, you have rights as a passenger to have the best experience possible. As a passenger, you have the right to:

- Decide on the route. The taxi cab chauffeur shall take the most economical route to a destination unless otherwise requested by you.
- Observe the taxi meter. The meter should be illuminated and visible at all times by all passengers.
- See the driver's chauffeur permit and taxi licence. A Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo issued taxi cab chauffeur permit and taxi cab licence should be clearly visible to all passengers.
- Refuse multiple hiring. A taxi cab may carry two or more strangers from a common starting point to one or more destinations if the original hirer agrees.
- Ask for a receipt. The chauffeur may not refuse to provide a receipt in the amount of the fare.

As a passenger, you are responsible for:

- Paying the correct fare.
- Being courteous.
- Wearing a seat belt at all times.
- Respecting the rules of the road.

## Hey neighbour! Guess what?

The oldest documented RMWB bylaw dates back to 1947 when the Municipality was called the Village of McMurray.



# Public & Private Places

## Cemeteries

The Public Works department administers the arrangements for burials, plot reservations, and maintenance of the Fort McMurray and Abasand cemeteries. To arrange for a burial, reserve a plot, or for more information, please contact Pulse at 780-743-7000. The municipality does not arrange for funerals or headstones, please contact private industry for this service.

## Memorial/Recognition Bench & Tree Program

The memorial/recognition program provides individuals, groups and organizations an opportunity to contribute towards tree planting or benches to remember, observe or acknowledge an event, occasion or person.

### Memorial/Recognition Tree

- \$800
- Choice of tree

Coniferous:

- Colorado Spruce
- Scots Pine
- Swiss Stone
- Siberian Larch

Deciduous:

- Fruit bearing - Crab Apple, Russian Olive, Mountain Ash
- Other - Ash, Linden, Maple

- Memorial plaque
- Tree to be located in parks or other natural settings, suggested locations will be confirmed prior to installation.

### Memorial/Recognition Bench

- \$1,800
- Standard wooden bench with gravel pad
- Memorial plaque
- Bench to be located in natural settings, suggested locations will be confirmed prior to installation.

### Hey neighbour! Guess what?

The community of Fort Chipewyan is the oldest settlement in Alberta, established in 1788.



## Graffiti

### Nuisance Property Bylaw No. 00/078

What is graffiti? Is it vandalism or is it art?

It's vandalism. Graffiti is defined as writings, drawings or symbols applied to any surface without the consent of the property owner, authorized agent, or designate.

The act of graffiti, or tagging, is punishable under the Criminal Code of Canada, as well as Nuisance Property Bylaw No. 00/078. If convicted, taggers could face imprisonment or monetary fine. Contact the RCMP if you witness someone in the act of tagging.

### Reporting Graffiti

If you spot graffiti on public property, be sure to let us know. Our goal is to have a crew member attend to the graffiti within 48 hours of reporting.

### Want to do something about graffiti in your neighbourhood? Organize a Wipe Out event!

A Wipe Out event can be as simple as gathering a few friends or neighbours and selecting a time and date to paint over graffiti together. When you're done painting, celebrate your hard work and beautification efforts with a pizza party.

Email [graffiti@rmwb.ca](mailto:graffiti@rmwb.ca) to organize your own Wipe Out event. The Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo will work with your group to provide the necessary supplies to make your Wipe Out event a success.

## Parks

### Parks and Recreation Bylaw No. 00/078

Wood Buffalo boasts many beautiful parks and trails for residents to enjoy. The Parks and Recreation Bylaw No. 00/078 has been put in place to preserve the integrity of these spaces so they can be enjoyed by all residents for years to come. Please note that the bylaw states that no person within a park shall:

- Disobey any sign
- Enter a body of water located in or flowing through a park or in a municipal storm pond
- Interfere with the use of a designated area within a park by a person or group to which exclusive use has been granted
- Camp or erect a tent
- Start or permit to be started any fire unless it is confined to fireplaces or appliances provided in the park or in any portable appliance, and then only at such locations within a park that allows for such
- Leave a fire unattended
- Make or sell goods or services unless such activity is approved, permitted, and licensed



## Public Disturbance

### Public Disturbance Bylaw No. 02/011

The last thing that a good neighbour needs is a fight. Did you know that fighting or other physical confrontation in any public place is strictly prohibited and comes with a costly penalty of \$250 and potential criminal charges from the RCMP. ?

## Shopping Bags

In 2010, the Single-Use Bag Bylaw was implemented, which banned the use of single-use plastic shopping bags in certain types of establishments.

In being conscious of our region's ecological footprint, as well as making an effort to reduce the negative effects plastic bags have on the environment, residents are encouraged to shop with reusable bags. Keep your reusable bags where you'll remember them for your shopping trips – near the door, in your car or at work or school.

### Hey neighbour! Guess what?

Watch your mouth! In 1948, you would be found guilty of an offence for cursing in public.

## Smoking & Cannabis

### Smoking and Vaping Bylaw No. 18/015

In July 2018, the Smoking and Vaping Bylaw No. 18/015 was adopted to regulate smoking and vaping in public places, work places, and public transportation vehicles and property.

Smoking tobacco or vaping is not permitted in any designated public dwelling or within ten metres of any entrance/exit within the Municipality regardless of whether or not a "No Smoking" sign is posted.

Smoking cannabis is not permitted to be consumed in public, much like with how alcohol consumption is treated.

Smoking in any public transportation vehicle is not permitted.

Smoking butts are to be disposed in ashtrays and never to be discarded on the ground or out a vehicle window.



# Responsible Pet Ownership

Many pets live and enjoy northern life in Wood Buffalo; with the beautiful Birchwood Trails, spacious off-leash parks, and a variety of pet stores, animal support organizations, and veterinary clinics, the amenities for our four-legged friends are abundant.

The RMWB also advocates for the safety and well-being of all animals. Bylaw Services plays an integral role in ensuring pet owners have emergency support services, dispute mediation, safe off-leash parks, and the ability to reunite with lost pets. Non-pet owners are provided with professional dispute resolution support to promote community safety and responsible pet ownership.

You have the purr-fect opportunity to do your part by being knowledgeable pet owners. After all, pets are neighbours too.

## Licensing Your Pet

### Animal Control Bylaw No. 02/031

In the RMWB, it is a pet owner's lawful duty to register pets within 14 days of becoming a pet owner or taking up residency within the Municipality. There are many benefits to licensing your pets; should your pet ever get lost, a registered pet is easily identifiable and returned to its owners as quickly as possible at no cost to its owners.

Through compliance, having the most accurate pet population documented can help identify the needs for our region in terms of recreational pet services, health services, and emergency response services.

Another great benefit of licensing your pet is that it's extremely affordable! For only \$15.00 annually, all neutered pets (cats and dogs) can be official RMWB residents. If your pet is not neutered, the fee, the fee is \$50.00, and pet owners over the age of 60 years can register their furry companions at no cost. To register your pet visit [www.rmwb.ca/bylaw](http://www.rmwb.ca/bylaw) or call Pulse at 780-743-7000.

## Livestock

### Land Use Bylaw No. 99/059 & Animal Control Bylaw No. 02/31

Livestock, fowl or fur-bearing animals, (other than domestic pets), are not permitted in any residential districts. However, horses, donkeys, goats, llamas, alpacas, and other similar animals may be kept as pets or for personal enjoyment on lots of greater than 0.809 hectares in the residential districts of Sapræe Creek, Conklin, Draper, Janvier and Anzac; and a maximum of three horses is permitted on any single lot where the Development Authority is satisfied that the animals are confined.

### Hey neighbour! Guess what?

A bylaw passed in 1947 forbade horses or cattle to run at large between the hours of 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Those who breached the bylaw were fined \$25 and failure to pay resulted in 30 days imprisonment.



## Pets at Large

### Animal Control Bylaw No. 02/031

Occasionally pets can escape the safety of their permitted property and become “at large” as per the Animal Control Bylaw. By having your pets licensed and wearing an issued licence tag, pets are easily identified and can be returned home.

If you see a pet at large, do not approach it unless it comes to you and appears to have a soft, relaxed, and happy demeanor. Contact Bylaw Services to report the at large animal so it can be returned home safe and sound, as quickly as possible.

If your pet has escaped and is now lost, it could be with Animal Control Services. The RMWB Animal Control In-Care Gallery displays photos and descriptions of cats and dogs that have been found in the community. Visit [rmwb.ca/animalcontrol](http://rmwb.ca/animalcontrol) to view the In-Care Gallery.

If your pet does find its way to Animal Control Services, know that they are in the good hands of our Animal Health Technologists who ensure the safety and care of lost pets or strays.

## Pets in Public

### Animal Control Bylaw No. 02/031

While we see our own pets as family, some people do not enjoy or are frightened of animals. Being mindful of this, as well as the fact that animals can be unpredictable in undesirable or uncomfortable situations, it is necessary to follow certain precautions with your pets when in public.

Pets must be on a leash at all times when outside their owner’s or guardian’s property, unless at an allocated off-leash park.

If any animal defecates on a property that is not the owner’s property, the owner must remove the waste immediately. There are a few options for proper disposal of animal waste:

1. Double bag your animal waste and put it into a park garbage bin.
2. Keep that pet waste and put it in a Green Cone composter.
3. Double bag your animal waste and take it to the municipal landfill located 8.5 kilometres south on Highway 63. Animal waste drop-off is free of charge.

Even the most adorable pets have their moments. Be responsible for your pets and help prevent pet safety issues. No animal can attack, threaten, harass, chase, bite or injure any person or other animal.

## Wildlife

We live in the north, and with that comes wildlife. Any animal in the region can pose a threat if they are surprised or if the encounter is not handled properly. For information about preventing and managing human encounters with bears, cougars, coyotes, wolves, and other wildlife, visit [aep.alberta.ca](http://aep.alberta.ca).

Sightings can be reported to our local Fish and Wildlife Office at 780-743-7200 or the 24/7 Report a Poacher line at 1-800-642-3800.





REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY  
OF **WOOD BUFFALO**