

SAPRAE CREEK NEWS



July 2025

Draper & Sapræe Creek

RURAL SUMMER CAMP

**Register for three action-packed
days of free summer camp fun!**

Water balloon fights, fish scale art, capture the flag and more!



Aug. 12 - 14 (Tuesday - Thursday)



9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.



Up to 20 participants at each camp

**Free to attend. Open to youth aged 6 - 14.
Spaces are limited - register early!**

To register, contact:
breanna.wallace@rmwb.ca | 587-941-1819



**REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY
OF WOOD BUFFALO**

Youth in Rural Communities: Your Voice Matters. Apply to MACOY today!


The Mayor's Advisory Council on Youth (MACOY) wants diverse voices at the table, and that includes **you**.





Join MACOY and help shape a stronger, more inclusive future.

Let's make sure every corner of the region is represented—starting with you.

No matter where you live—from Fort Chipewyan to Fort McMurray to Conklin – your perspective matters. When you join MACOY, you'll:

 Speak up for youth in your community.

 Build leadership skills and gain valuable experience.

 Share ideas on real issues like mental health, education, recreation and the environment.

 Help plan community projects and initiatives.

Applications are open until Aug. 18.

Apply at rmwb.ca/macoy



FREE FAMILY FUN @ VISTA RIDGE



FireSmart rebate program helping homeowners pay for upgrades



The **FireSmart Home Rebate Program** is available for all communities in the region.

Residents will be eligible to receive rebates until program funds have been exhausted, limited to one rebate per address and one rebate per homeowner.

Eligible home upgrades:

- Roof replacement - up to \$2,000 (e.g., repairing old/damaged asphalt shingles)
- Roof upgrade - up to \$2,000 (e.g., replacing wood shake shingles with asphalt shingles)
- Deck upgrade - up to \$1,000 (e.g., replacing wood decking with a fire-resistant material)
- Window upgrade - up to \$1,000 (e.g., replacing single-pane windows with multi-pane windows)
- Fence/gate upgrade - up to \$1,000 (e.g., replacing wooden fences or gates that attach to the home with a fire-resistant material)
- Siding upgrade - up to \$4,000 (e.g., replacing vinyl siding with stucco)
- New home construction - eligible for a siding or decking upgrade rebate



How to receive a rebate:

STEP 1 - Get a free Home Assessment

Ask for a free FireSmart Home Assessment at **rmwb.ca/FireSmart** or by calling Pulse. Details on how to apply for a rebate will be provided during the assessment.

Rural Water Sewer Service

Why connect?

Say goodbye to water deliveries and septic pick-ups! Once connected, deliveries and pick-ups will no longer be required at your property.

Flexible payment plan: **\$105 at 0% interest** spread out over 25 years through your bi-monthly utility bill.

Applications can be picked up and submitted at your local municipal office.

The cost will significantly increase after the connection window closes (end of construction season).

The Municipality will no longer coordinate or subsidize water delivery and septic pick-ups.

Eligibility

Ownership-You must be registered on Title

Tax-Account-your account must be in good standing

Utility Account- your account must be in good standing.

Historical Indigenous Residential Land Ownership Policy:

Approved by Council on October 8, 2024

May be eligible for the transfer of land from the RMWB to an Indigenous person having historical and continuing connection to a parcel of land

If a resident has resided on and used a parcel of land long-term, they may be eligible.

Getting Started!

1. Choose your certified contractor
2. Complete your application form.
3. Submit your application fee.

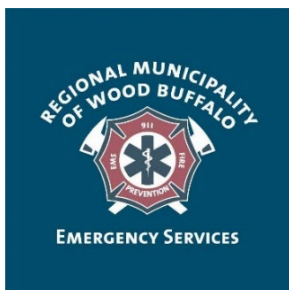
Have questions?

Visit rmwb.ca/rwss or connect with us through **Pulse** at 780-743-7000.



Join the Volunteer Fire Department

We need paid on-call members!



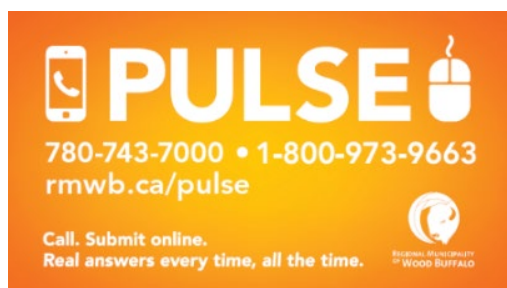
What we do:

We respond to fire emergencies, helping people and protecting property.

What you have:

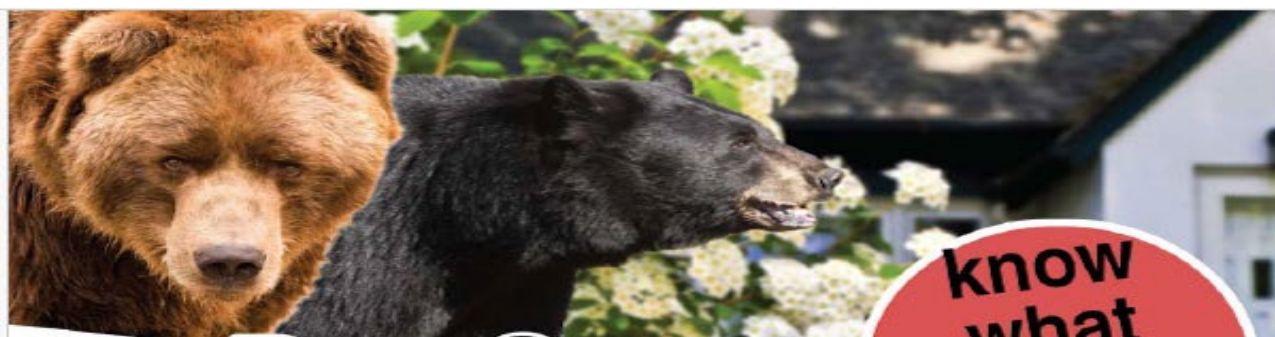
- Valid Class 5 license. (Q endorsement is even better)
 - Time for weekly training and ability to respond
- Contact: Regional Emergency Services: 780-792-5500

For any questions, please contact Pulse!



Residents in rural communities can contact the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo 24/7 by contacting Pulse via the following:

- 780-743-7000
 - 1-800-973-9663 (toll-free)
- www.rmwb.ca/pulse



Be BearSmart

DO N'T FEED BEARS

These items have odours that could attract a bear to your property. Keep your yard clean and store what you can in the house or garage.

- garbage ■ birdseed ■ pet food ■ compost
- fruit-bearing trees and shrubs ■ jerry cans
- motor oil ■ anti-freeze ■ rubber ■ vinyl
- insect repellents ■ air fresheners
- scented candles ■ BBQs ■ cooking oil
- food odours coming from open windows
- food and drinks ■ pop cans and other empties
- rabbits, chickens, other small domestic animals
- grain and livestock feed

Doing this can help prevent problems with other kinds of wildlife, too.

www.bearsmart.alberta.ca

If the presence of a bear is a safety concern, contact the nearest Fish and Wildlife office at 310-0000 or, if after regular business hours, call Report a Poacher at 1-800-642-3800.



Alberta
Government

COMMUNITY CLEANUP

Small actions make a
big impact!

Register at
rmwb.ca/cleanup.



Refresh your community and pick up the trash from winter

Get involved with the Adopt-A-Trail program or host a Community Cleanup event!

How can I register?

- Online at rmwb.ca/cleanup.
 - By calling Pulse
- At your local municipal rural office.

Registration for both programs will close Sept. 15, and all cleanup supplies must be returned by Sept. 30.

Learn more at rmwb.ca/cleanup.

Candidate nominations open for 2025 municipal election

New rules in place for campaigning, find more information at rmwb.ca/elections

Candidate nominations are now open to all eligible residents interested in running for the position of RMWB mayor, councillor or school board trustee.

New rules are in place for 2025 municipal election

Changes to the [Local Authorities Elections Act](#) require candidates to submit a notice of intent to appear on the official register of candidates before accepting campaign donations and incurring expenses. In addition, all candidates must complete the nomination process to appear on the ballot.

The general election for the RMWB and all municipalities in Alberta will be held on Oct. 20, 2025.

Call for candidate nominations

Nominations are now being accepted from candidates for the upcoming 2025 municipal election. Prospective candidates must file their notice of intent and complete the nomination process by **noon on Monday, Sept. 22, 2025**.

Find the notice of intent form, nomination forms, required documentation and additional information for interested candidates at rmwb.ca/elections.

Potential candidates with questions or in need of assistance, can contact the Elections Office through Pulse at 780-743-7000 or email elections@rmwb.ca and a Legislative Services staff member will assist.

Remember to have your bins out by 7:30 a.m. on your collection day

Stay on track with ease —check the [garbage and recycling calendar](https://rmwb.ca/collectioncalendar) for all collection dates visit rmwb.ca/collectioncalendar.



What you need to know

- ✓ **Set your bins out on time** – Place them at the curb by **7:30 a.m.** on collection day.
- ✓ **Remove them the same day** – Bins **must not** be left on the street overnight.

Winter bin placement tips

Make sure your bins are placed in a clear, accessible spot. Bins blocked by snow, ice, or other obstacles may not be collected.

- ❄ Place bins **in front** of snowbanks, never on top or behind.
- ❄ Keep **one-foot** in-between bins and keep them **3 feet** from vehicles.
- ❄ Ensure bins are **firmly closed**.

Thank you for helping keep the community clean and running smoothly!

For more details, visit rmwb.ca/garbage or contact Pulse at 780-743-7000, 1-800-973-9663, or rmwb.ca/pulse.



WOOD BUFFALO

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

What is it?

- A voluntary program that offers a safe, respectful way to promote healing after harm has occurred.
- Allows offenders to take responsibility for their actions and allows the community to see its role in contributing to reconciliation.
- Provides an opportunity for everyone involved to have a voice and determine actions and outcomes to ensure accountability.

Learn more:

Restorative Justice Contact Information:

- Phone: 780-788-4253
- Toll Free: 1-888-788-4250
- Email: restorative.justice@rmwb.ca

Get involved.

We need committed volunteers to help! Please contact us.

Community Policing - presentations available

The Wood Buffalo Community Policing Unit has a great list of presentations they can bring to communities when requested.

Available presentations

- A Career in the RCMP - Gr 7-Adult
- ATV Safety - Gr 10-Adult
- Being a Good Citizen - ECDP-Gr 6
- Being a Mountie - ECDP-Gr 6
- Bicycle Safety - ECDP-Gr 6
- Bullying (includes Cyberbullying) - ECDP-Gr 9
- Consent - Gr 7-Adult
- Crime Scene Investigations - ECDP-Adult
- Drug Awareness
 - For Teens (cannabis, alcohol, vaping and opioid awareness) - Gr 7-12
 - For Adults (includes clandestine drug labs, methamphetamines, opioids)
- Fraud & Identity Theft - Adult
- Halloween Safety - ECDP-Gr 6
- History of the Force - Gr 4-Adult
- Online Safety (includes Cyberbullying) - ECDP-Gr 6
- Online Safety (include Cyberbullying, Social Media & the Law) - Gr 7-Adult
- Personal Safety - ECDP-Adult
- Police & Canadian Law (for New Canadians) - Gr 10-Adult
- Property Crime Prevention - Adult
- Restorative Justice - Gr 9-Adult
- Senior Safety - Adult
- Sexting - Gr 7-Adult
- Traffic
 - Impaired Driving (Alcohol & Drugs) - Gr 9-Adult
 - Distracted Driving - Gr 9-Adult
 - Winter Driving - Gr 9-Adult
- Unhealthy Relationships/Dating Violence - Gr 7-Adult
- Youth Criminal Justice Act - Gr 7-Adult
-



Want a presentation? Contact us if you'd like a presentation for your group, class or community at communitypolicing@rmwb.ca or call 780-788-4040 and ask for the Community Policing Coordinator.

SAPRAE CREEK ESTATES SEWER PROGRAM

The 2024 construction season has wrapped up, but you can still **get your Rural Water and Sewer Services (RWSS) application started over the winter**. This will help ensure your home is ready to start being connected next construction season and you take advantage of the significant savings offered through the RWSS program.

214 homes in Saprae Creek Estates have already connected to piped sewer services through the RWSS program.

The end of next construction season is the deadline to connect your home

The Municipality will cover a large portion of the cost to connect your home to piped sewer services up to the end of the 2025 construction season for Saprae Creek Estates.

After this deadline, you will be responsible for the full connection cost, which can be anywhere between \$40,000 to \$110,000 as opposed to the lower cost of \$10,000 with 0% interest available now. The full cost of trucked sewer pickups will also be your responsibility if your home isn't connected by the deadline.

How do I start my application over the winter?

- Review the RWSS Homeowners Guide and important information at rmwb.ca/rwss.
- Contact a certified contractor to discuss what the work connecting your home will entail. A contractor quote must be submitted in the spring to the Municipality for approval as part of your application. While quotes won't be approved over the winter, contractors can still prepare everything so work can begin next construction season. A list of certified contractors is available on the RMWB website.
- You're in control of the entire application process, but your contractor can take the lead on everything if you prefer.
- Your Municipal tax and utility accounts must be in good standing. Outstanding balances must be paid before your RWSS application can be approved.


Need help?

Connecting your home to piped water and sewer may seem complicated, but we're here to help guide you through the process. Call 780-743-7000 to learn more, ask questions and get help starting your application.

Find everything you need to know about the Rural Water and Sewer Servicing Program, including more details on how to apply at rmwb.ca/rwss

What will my utility bill look like once I connect to piped sewer services?

Below is an example of what your bi-monthly utility bill will look like once your home is connected to piped sewer services.



**REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY
OF WOOD BUFFALO**

9909 Franklin Avenue, Fort McMurray, AB, T9H 2K4

UTILITY BILL REPRINT

DOE, JOHN

SAPRAE CREEK ESTATES

SRV ADDR: 062-LONG BRIDGE LANE

ACCOUNT#

BILLING PERIOD: 2024/04/30
TO: 2024/06/30
BILLING DATE: 2024/06/30
PENALTY DATE: 2024/07/39

INV #: 5000001

DATE	DESCRIPTION	CODE	READING	CONSUMPTION	AMOUNT
2024/06/30	GARBAGE COLL SAPRAE C	A			66.72
2024/06/30	RURAL WATER AND SEWER	A			65.00
2024/06/30	SEWER CONSUMPTION	A	3311	70	17.64
2024/06/30	FIXED CHARGE SEWER	A			28.86
2024/06/30	WATER CONSUMPTION	A	3311	70	29.96
2024/06/30	FIXED CHARGE WATER	A			56.28
AMOUNT DUE					264.46

Please Note: All charges/payments shown are up to and including the 'Billing To Period' date of this invoice.

Your bill explained

- 1 Includes curbside collection, waste disposal, recycling fees.
- 2 RWSS Program Bi-Monthly Connection Fee
- 3 \$0.63/m3 variable rate - based on the same water consumption, at a reduced rate
- 4 Fixed rate for sewer (\$14.43 per month) x 2 months
- 5 \$1.07 /m3 variable rate - based on water consumption on water meter.
- 6 Fixed rate for water (\$28.14 per month) x 2 months

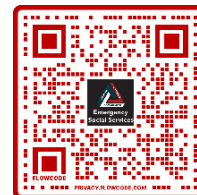
These are 2024 rates from the Council approved Fees, Rates and Charges Bylaw.
This Bylaw is updated annually and its customary to see increases to utility rates as part of the updates.

Emergency Social Services (ESS)

ESS provides individuals or families with supports when they are displaced due to an emergency. Registration centres or other evacuation sites are set up to register evacuees and provide immediate basic needs. This support is available to provide a safe place for evacuees to plan their next steps as they transition to recovery.

Registration centres may provide the following services:

- Food/water
- Shelter
- Clothing
- First Aid/emotional support
- Family reunification
- Animal care and rescue assistance



To learn more about ESS, or to join the ESS Team, scan the QR code below:

VPR

Emergencies happen. If you are a vulnerable person living in the region, you may be at greater risk during an emergency.

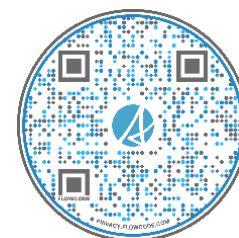


The Vulnerable Persons Registry (VPR) is a service that improves the safety of vulnerable residents living at home.

This is done by communicating directly with registrants during emergencies and by sharing key information to first responders about individuals on the VPR. Click [here](#) to find out more about the VPR.

MAERS

The MyAlberta Emergency Registration System is available to all residents of Alberta as a tool to assist during an evacuation or emergency. Albertans can register themselves and their family members in advance of an emergency using their MyAlberta Digital ID. Click [here](#) or scan below to pre-register today.



NOTICE TO RURAL RESIDENTS

Water and septic service reminders

To allow water and septic delivery trucks access and to provide continuous service for all residents, please follow to the requirements below:

- 1) **Basement water tanks or water tanks that are not visible:** All customers must have their volume posted in a visible place so water delivery contractor can see proper date and amount of water required (displayed in litres).
- 2) **Hanging branches and wires on driveways:** Make sure that delivery vehicles have a minimum 15 feet of clearance. All low hanging branches must be trimmed to prevent damage to trucks, and low hanging wires are to be raised.
- 3) **Provide clear access:** All vehicles/obstacles must be removed on driveways during the delivery schedule and the ensure the water delivery vehicle is able to drive within **15.24 meters** of the delivery point for water.
- 4) **Ensure pets are contained:** For the safety of contractors and pets, all dogs are to be tied up or inside your home, for service provider to access your property.
- 5) **Keep access points clear of snow and ice:** During winter months, keep driveways and pathways to water and septic hook ups, clear of snow and ice and thaw receivers and caps for hose access.
- 6) **Maintain cam-lock/hoses:** The winterization and maintenance of the cam-lock fitting and hoses is the responsibility of the home-owner. All cam-locks and hoses are to be drained and water to be removed to prevent freezing and breakage of cam-lock.
- 7) **Safety of septic tanks:** All septic tanks will be equipped with a “stinger” and an approved lid on the tank.
- 8) **Driveways:** If your driveway is soft (spring thaw), it is the homeowner’s responsibility to contact the RMWB to suspend delivery or to add a proper hose with the required cam-lock and extend down driveway to location of delivery.

For more information:

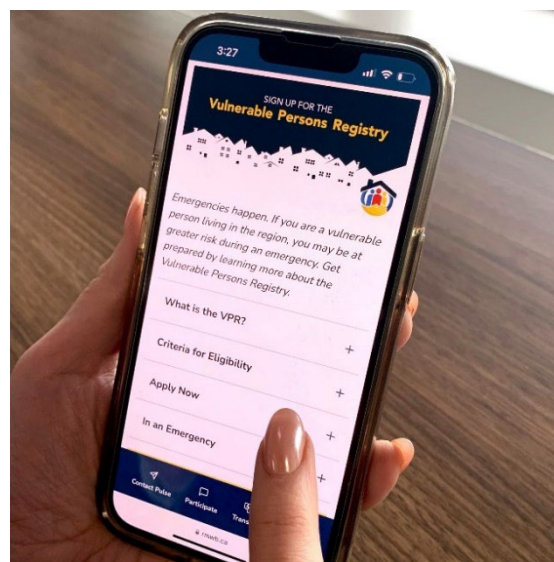
refer to the Water Utilities Management Bylaw (Bylaw No. 07/035) Part X

If you have questions or require any additional information, call the Pulse Line at 780-743-7000



Emergencies happen. If you are a vulnerable person living in the region, you may be at greater risk.

Apply to be added to the Vulnerable Persons Registry (VPR) - a free, voluntary and confidential service for residents living at home who would be at greater risk during emergencies.



To sign up or learn more visit – rmwb.ca/vpr

Step up in an emergency

Be the Helping Hand When It Matters Most -

*Volunteer with the
Emergency Social Services
team*

Join a team that helps
residents during an
emergency or disaster.

- Build your knowledge, confidence, and experience.
- No experience required. Training will be provided.



RMWB.ca/ESSVolunteer

For more information call:

- [780-743-7000](tel:780-743-7000)
- Toll Free [1-800-973-9663](tel:1-800-973-9663)



What we do:

Emergency Social Services helps people during large emergencies or incidents in the Municipality.

Who we are:

Volunteers, community partners, and municipal employees who work together under the Emergency Management Branch of Regional Emergency Services.



Walking Safety Tips



Walk Facing Traffic: If there is no sidewalk and you must walk on the side of the road, choose the side where you are facing oncoming traffic. This gives you the best chance to see traffic approaching closest to you and take evasive action if necessary.

Cross Safely: Look both ways before crossing any street. Make eye contact with any drivers who may be turning. Give them a wave. Make sure they see you.

Walk Single File: Unless you are on a sidewalk separate from the road, you should walk single file. This is especially important on a road with lots of curves. While it can be enjoyable to walk down the road two or three abreast chatting merrily, drivers don't expect it.

Stay aware of bikes and runners: Share the road and path with bikes and runners. Bike riders should alert you when approaching from behind with a bike bell or a "passing on the left/right." Listen for them.

Be Visible: Wear bright colors when walking in daytime. When walking at night wear light-colored clothing and reflective clothing or reflective vest to be visible.

Hang Up and Eyes Up: Chatting or texting while walking is as dangerous as doing that while driving. You are distracted and not as aware of your environment. You are less likely to recognize traffic danger, passing joggers and bikers or tripping hazards. Potential criminals can also see you as a distracted easy target.

When walking your pet: keep your pet on the side away from traffic so that they don't accidentally dart into the roadway.



IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

PULSE (MUNICIPAL SWITCH BOARD)	1-800-973-9663 780-743-7000	PULSE@RMWB.CA	RMWB.CA/PULSE
COMMUNITY CONTACTS:		SOCIAL MEDIA:	
RCMP	780-788-4000	 @WOODBUFFALORURALCOMMUNITYCONNECTION  @RMWOODBUFFALO  @RMWOODBUFFALO	
FISH & WILDLIFE	780-743-7200		
HEALTH LINK	811		
ALL EMERGENCIES	911		

To submit information to the newsletter please email:

Info.rr@rmwb.ca

Deadline for the August Newsletter submissions:

JULY 25TH, 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 Canada Day Parade 10:30am Franklin Ave	2	3	4 Chipewyan Prairie First nation Treaty Days 	5 Hello Summer Music Festival @SMS Stadium Shell Place
6 Hello Summer Music Festival @SMS Stadium Shell Place	7	8 Summer Family Mindfulness @ Syncrude athletic park 10-11am	9	10	11 Giants vs. Okotoks Dawgs @7pm 	12
13	14	15 Beach Bash Early Start Learning Center 10- 1pm	16	17	18 YMM Patio Party Heritage Shipyard 6PM 	19
20	21	22	23	24	25 Marianas Trench Mac Island 8PM 	26 Black Horse Pub Golf Tournament 1:30PM
27	28 Drama Force 2025 WBRL 2- 3PM	29	30	31		