

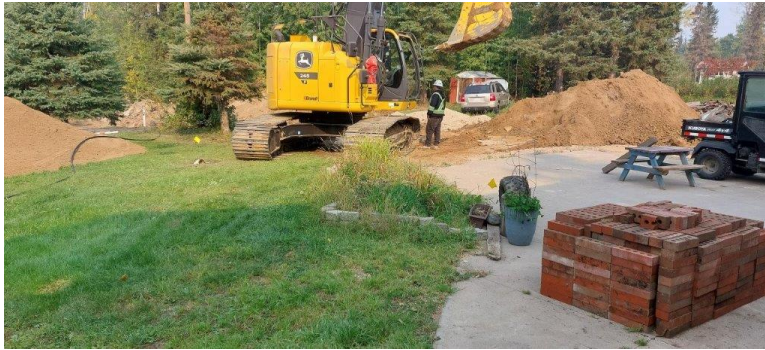
SAPRAE CREEK NEWS



August 2026



Updates to the Rural Water and Sewer Servicing (RWSS) connection program



Great news – at the May 19, 2026 Council Meeting in Anzac, Council approved an extension to the Rural Water and Sewer Servicing (RWSS) connection program period.

The eligibility period has now been extended **from five to seven years**.

What does that mean for residents in Sapræ Creek Estates?

If you haven't connected to piped sewer services, you now have until **June 30, 2028** to take advantage of the significant savings offered through the RWSS program.

As of Dec. 2025, **225 homes** in Sapræ Creek Estates have already connected to piped sewer services.

What happens if I connect after the program period has ended?

After the deadline of June 30, 2028, 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 can I get started?

- 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 for approval as part of your application. A list of certified contractors is available on the RMWB website.
- 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.

RURAL WATER & SEWER SERVICING RESIDENTIAL CONNECTION PROGRAM

Summer construction season is underway! Applications are still being accepted for program activities for the 2026 connection season.

The Rural Water and Sewer Servicing (RWSS) connection program provides piped water and sewer services to properties in Anzac, Conklin, Gregoire Lake Estates, Janvier and Saprae Creek Estates. This includes residential, small commercial, light industrial, institutional and vacant properties.

Steps to Connect

1. APPLY

Download the application package at rmwb.ca/rwss and submit completed forms to rwss@rmwb.ca. Application packages are also available at rural contact offices. You may authorize a certified contractor to apply on your behalf.

2. ELIGIBILITY REVIEW

Once your application is received, it will be reviewed by the RWSS Team to confirm property ownership (on title) and that all RMWB tax and utility accounts are in good standing.

3. CHOOSE A CONTRACTOR

Select a certified installer from the Alberta Municipal Affairs Private Sewage System Installer Certification List. Request a quote and discuss the scope of work.

Find local certified contractors at rmwb.ca/rwss.

Rural Water & Sewer Service

Hiring a certified contractor

A certified contractor must be selected from the [Alberta Municipal Affairs Private Sewage System Installer Certification List](#).

The following local contractors have been certified by Alberta Municipal Affairs as of July 2024:

Contractor	Contact information
B Mac Underground Services Ltd.	780-742-9848
Best Choice Plumbing, Heating and Wastewater Solutions	780-799-6267
Call First Plumbing & Heating	780-880-4726
Consun Contracting Ltd.	780-743-3163
H Wilson Industries (2010) Ltd.	780-743-1881
NC Transport & Equipment	780-713-1169
Parker Drainage and Waterproofing	780-799-0723
Qalipu Enterprises	780-598-4933
Rob Ryan Construction Inc.	780-799-6434
SENA Constructors Inc.	780-747-9664
Sureway Construction Management Ltd.	780-743-4788
Wellingdale Group Inc.	780-607-1431
Wood Buffalo Plumbing & Heating Ltd.	780-974-0521

Please note, this list is for informational purposes only. The RMWB is not recommending or endorsing these businesses. Any contract you enter with a certified contractor is strictly at your own risk.



Check your mail - property tax notices are out

The Municipality mailed out 2026 property tax notices to all residential and commercial property owners.

It is the responsibility of property owners to contact the municipality if they do not receive their notice. Late payment penalties will be applied to any outstanding balance of property taxes after June 30.

In addition to mail, there are a variety of ways to pay your property taxes:

- At a bank/financial institution
- Through online banking
- [RMWB's Online Payment Portal](#)
- In-person at a municipal office

The RMWB also offers the Tax Installment Payment Plan (TIPP) for monthly property tax payments for those without taxes included in their mortgage. For the full list of options and payment details, visit rmwb.ca/taxes.

Learn more at rmwb.ca/taxes or contact Pulse at **780-743-7000** or Toll Free at **1-800-973-9663**.

Rural non-residential small business property sub-class

Don't forget: Business owners that meet the criteria outlined in the provincial regulation can apply to receive a 25 per cent reduction from the rural non-residential municipal tax rate. Visit the RMWB website for more details and to apply.

Stay up to date on services, news, and projects in your community!

You may have noticed a refreshed look for **rmwb.ca**.



The new website provides a more reliable and user-friendly way to keep informed and connected.

Key changes include an improved mobile-friendly design and enhanced accessibility.

We've also streamlined the subscription process.

News, alerts, updates and more

Stay ahead of what's happening around your neighbourhood: get timely news delivered straight to your email inbox by subscribing to municipal updates.

Pick and choose the categories you're interested in:

- Municipal News (News Releases)
- Emergency Alerts
- Winter Maintenance Zones
- Construction: Fort McMurray - North of the Bridge
- Construction: Fort McMurray - South of the Bridge
- Construction: Rural Communities - North of Fort McMurray
- Construction: Rural Communities - South of Fort McMurray
- Fort Chipewyan Winter Road
- La Loche Winter Trail
- Legislated Public Notices
- River Breakup Community Updates

Subscribe for updates at **rmwb.ca/subscribe**.

If you're having trouble finding municipal information on our website, please contact Pulse at 780-743-7000 or rmwb.ca/pulse.

Rural Sharing Network

Connecting services, strengthening rural communities

The Rural Sharing Network brings together community organizations and service providers to build relationships, share information and collaborate on services for rural residents across the RMWB.

By participating, you can:

- Learn about programs and services available in each rural community
- Build connections with other agencies and community organizations
- Help identify community needs and service gaps
- Work together to improve supports for rural residents

Who can join?

- Non-profit and social profit organizations
- Government and municipal services
- Other service providers working in RMWB

Want to get involved?

If you represent a service provider or community organization in the RMWB that would like to join the Rural Sharing Network, please contact:

Aimee McCamon, Rural Relations Coordinator

Email: aimee.mccamon@rmwb.ca





Sunflower Mix

Free packs of the Sunflower Mix – Helianthus 'Autumn Beauty' are available from Wood Buffalo Communities in Bloom while quantities last.

Wood Buffalo Communities in Bloom
2026 SEED OF THE YEAR

Celebrate the year of the Therapeutic Gardening! Plant, grow and connect with the healing power of nature. Enjoy the vibrant shades of gold, orange, bronze and burgundy sunflowers.

rmwb.ca/CIB



REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY
OF WOOD BUFFALO

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!



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



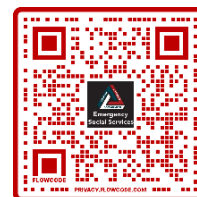
Want a presentation? Contact us if you'd like a presentation for your group, class or community at communitypolicing@rmwb.ca or call 780-788-4040 and ask for the Community Policing Coordinator.

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.



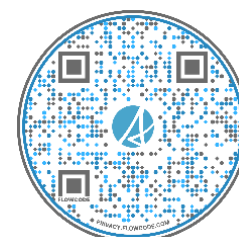
**Vulnerable
Persons
Registry**

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 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

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.





Wood Buffalo Victim Services provides victims of crime and trauma with support, information and referrals based on their needs. The intent is to ease the crisis and help them return to stability.

Why should victims of crime and trauma contact us?

Our support workers are empathetic listeners. They will give you information to help you make decisions that are best for you and your circumstances. Part of our role is to make sure you are treated fairly. You have rights under the *Alberta Victims of Crime Act*.

Please call or email to speak to a support worker. We can arrange to meet in your community.

Wood Buffalo Victim Services

Phone: 780-788-4250

Toll Free: 1-888-788-4250

Email: victim.services@rmwb.ca

For any questions, please contact Pulse!

PULSE
780-743-7000 • 1-800-973-9663
rmwb.ca/pulse

Call. Submit online.
Real answers every time, all the time.



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



Individual \$10
Tiger (under 6) \$5
Family \$30

Open Daily
9am-6pm
Check in at Guest Services

**VISTA
RIDGE**

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 September Newsletter submissions:
August 25, 2026



Applications open for Arts, Culture and Heritage Grant funds

Take your creative project from idea to reality!

Do you have a creative project that you need support for? You may be eligible for an Arts, Culture and Heritage Grant that provides up to \$5,000 for arts, culture and heritage-related projects in Fort McMurray Wood Buffalo.

What projects are eligible?

The grant supports projects that contribute to a diverse, inclusive, and vibrant community as envisioned in the [Wood Buffalo Culture Plan](#).

Applicants must apply under one of three funding streams.

- **Create** - Supports the creation and production of new arts, culture, or heritage work from initial idea to completion for individual exploration or public presentation.
- **Present** - Supports public-facing arts, culture, or heritage events and presentations. Projects must prioritize public engagement or audience experience.
- **Develop** - Supports skill-building, learning, and professional development opportunities related to arts, culture, and heritage practice.

The eligibility list varies but most creative projects are eligible for the Arts, Culture, and Heritage Grant – from performing arts to heritage restoration to cultural activities. Review the 2026 Grant Guidelines for details on eligibility criteria and the application process.

Individuals and groups may apply for a maximum of \$5,000. The deadline for grant applications is Aug. 31, 2026, at 4:30 p.m. MT.

How do I apply?

Apply through the Community Investment Program (CIP) Grant Portal . Need help with the application process? Contact Pulse to connect with the CIP team for one-on-one support.

Get started today by visiting rmwb.ca/CIP.



Positions open for animal welfare and community investment committees

Apply to join the Animal Welfare Committee or Community Investment Program Approval Committee by Aug. 23 at rmwb.ca/boards

(Fort McMurray, AB – July 23, 2026) – The Municipality is recruiting members for two Council-appointed committees this summer.

Applications are open for the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee and the Community Investment Program Approval Committee.

Animal Welfare Advisory Committee

The Animal Welfare Advisory Committee is a new committee that will provide expert advice to Council on animal welfare matters, including the health, safety and humane treatment of domestic and companion animals. Two Council members will be supported by five community members, including:

- One registered veterinarian
- Two representatives from registered animal rescue groups
- Two public-at-large members – experience is required in animal welfare, public education, or rural animal husbandry.

Community Investment Program Approval Committee

The Community Investment Program Approval Committee approves and allocates grants to local non-profit organizations. Two Council members will be supported by nine community members, including:

- One Indigenous representative
- One oil sands industry representative
- One general business community representative
- One external funding organization representative

- Two public-at-large representatives
- Three social profit organization representatives

Applications close on August 23

Positions are open to both urban and rural residents. Travel assistance is available for members who are required to travel to Fort McMurray from rural communities.

Apply to join by August 23 at rmwb.ca/boards

Applications will be reviewed by Council once the application deadline passes. If you have any questions about the application process, please review the “How to apply for a Board or Committee position” guide.

You can also contact Pulse at rmwb.ca/pulse or by calling 780-743-7000 or 1-800-973-9663.



Calling all students - Join MACOY and advocate for the youth of Wood Buffalo

Apply to join the Mayor’s Advisory Council on Youth by Aug. 10

If you are a student entering grade 9 to 12 in September, apply to join the Mayor’s Advisory Council on Youth (MACOY).

“MACOY is an incredible way for young people to connect with the Municipality and get involved with what happens in the community,” said Mayor Sandy Bowman. “It’s also important to us that youth perspectives and

ideas are shared with us as a Municipality. We strongly encourage anyone interested to apply, including students from across the region.”

MACOY members work closely with the Mayor and other community leaders to bring the youth perspective to municipal initiatives and advocate for local youth on important matters to the community.

MACOY members also participate in meaningful volunteer work, support community events, and make a real positive impact throughout the region.

MACOY volunteer and community events

In the 2025/2026 MACOY term, MACOY members learned a lot about the region, municipal processes, and the value of volunteering.

Last year, MACOY members went on a bus tour around Fort McMurray to learn about municipal services and meet the people who support those services. This included going to the Material Recovery Facility, the Regional Emergency Coordination Centre, Transit Station, and the Water Treatment Plant.

MACOY members also participated in mock Council meetings to learn more about processes in municipal government and volunteered at various events, like igNIGHT and Santa’s Village.

They learned about the positive impact municipal services and volunteering opportunities have on the community.

Apply online today!

If you’re ready to give a voice to youth in the region, meet new people and build valuable skills for your future, apply online by Aug. 10 at rmwb.ca/MACOY.

For questions, contact Pulse online or by calling 780-743-7000., or toll-free at 1-800-973-9663.

Community Standards Bylaw

This summer, RMWB Bylaw Services is out checking in on properties, following up on concerns and making sure communities across the region stay clean, safe and welcoming for everyone.

We all play an important role by keeping our homes and yards well-kept, being mindful of noise at night and making sure we’re not draining water onto our neighbours properties.

Learn more about what is included in the Bylaw at rmwb.ca/communitystandards

To report a concern in your neighbourhood, visit Pulse online, or call **780-743-7000**.

RURAL SNOW AND ICE

What snow plowing priorities are most
important to your community?

Take the survey and share your thoughts!

rmwb.ca/RuralSnow



REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY
OF WOOD BUFFALO

Know Before You Go.

Public Spaces are E-Scooter-Free Zones.



E-Scooters are not allowed in any public spaces within the RMWB, including:

- Sidewalks, walking paths and multi-use trails
- Roads and streets
- Parks and public plazas

One quick ride could be a costly mistake.

Riding an E-Scooter in any public space may result in:

- A **\$500** fine, and/or
- **Impounding of the E-Scooter**, including impound fees

Why?

- E-Scooters can and have caused serious collisions and safety risks.
- Many E-Scooters can travel at speeds over 50 km/h and are difficult to stop quickly.
- The Provincial Traffic Safety Act and Municipal Bylaws do not allow E-Scooters in public spaces.



Protect your head. Wear a helmet.

If you're riding an E-Scooter on private property, or riding a bike or push-scooter in a public space:

- ✓ Wear a properly fitted helmet
- ✓ Use lights and reflective gear, especially when it's dark
- ✓ Keep both hands on the handlebars
- ✗ Never carry passengers
- ✗ Avoid distractions like your phone and headphones



Share sidewalks and trails.

Public sidewalks and trails are shared spaces that need to be safe for everyone.

Please remember:

- ✓ Walkers always have the right of way
- ✓ Keep sidewalks and trails free from hazards
- ✓ Be aware of your surroundings
- ✓ Slow down and respect other people using the trail

Questions?

Scan the QR code to learn more about sidewalk and road safety.

Visit rmwb.ca/TrafficSafety



Call Pulse at **780-743-7000**
or toll free at **1-800-973-9663**.
Submit an online request at rmwb.ca/Pulse

COMMUNITY EVENTS CALENDER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3 Heritage Day	4	5	6	7 	8
9	10	11	12	13 Baseball Canada 18U National Championship	14 Baseball Canada 18U National Championship 	15 Baseball Canada 18U National Championship
16 Baseball Canada 18U National Championship	17	18	19	20	21 	22
23	24	25 September Newsletter Submission Due	26	27	28 	29
30	31					