

DRAPER ROAD NEWS



May 2025



Some municipal service fees and rates are increasing April 1

In November, RMWB Council approved increases to several user rates and fees as part of the annual update to the user fees, rates and charges bylaw. These include:

- Utilities (water, sewer, garbage + curbside)
- Transit
- Landfill
- Cemeteries
- Development and building permits and services

The increases will help offset the cost of delivering these services.

Rural transit fare increasing April 1, 2025

Rural transit cash fares for adults and children are increasing by 11%, effective April 1.

- **Adult fares (ages 13 – 64):**
 - Current fare: \$12
 - New fare: \$13.50 (11% increase).
- **Child fares (ages 5 – 12):**
 - Current fare: \$6
 - New fare: \$6.75 (11% increase).

Utility rates increasing by 10-15%

Utility rates for municipal water, wastewater, and certain solid waste services are increasing by 10 to 15%. The changes vary depending on the size of the property's water meter and between rural, urban, and commercial services.

New fee structure in place for some administrative services

Additional new fees cover certain ambulance services and community backyard rink applications.

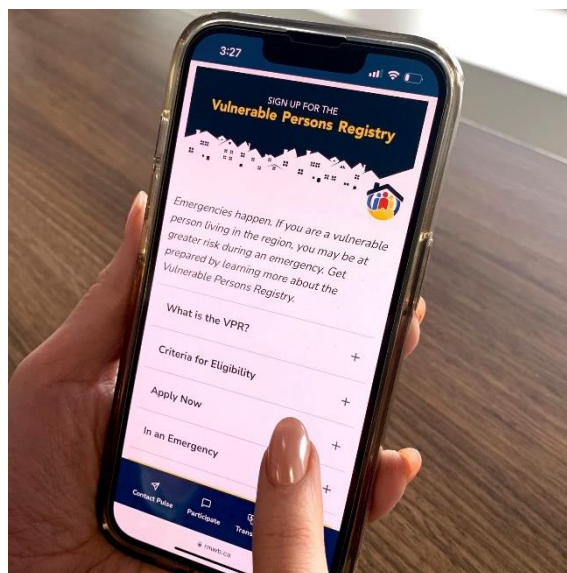
To view the updated rates and learn more about user fees and charges, visit rmwb.ca/userfees

SIGN UP FOR THE **Vulnerable Persons Registry**



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

Upcoming changes to utility billing for water and sewer services



Effective April 1, in addition to garbage collection charges, Draper residents will begin receiving utility bills for water and sewer services. The fees will be billed in accordance with the rates set in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo's Fees, Rates and Charges Bylaw 24/026.

You can expect to receive a utility bill from the Municipality once every two months. While the amount of your water and sewer bill will depend on your household usage, based on typical household water usage in Fort McMurray we have estimated the average fees for a Draper residence to be approximately \$235 per bill.

For years, these services have been subsidized by the Municipality in the Draper community. Following a Council Resolution on July 13, 2010, Draper residents received a \$135 rebate from the Municipality toward their monthly costs of water delivery services. In 2016, the Municipality began fully subsidizing the cost of water delivery and sewer pickup services in Draper, only charging residents for the costs of garbage collection.

However, this is not sustainable and a consistent approach to utility billing is being implemented across the region. Recovering costs through user fees for garbage collection, water and sewer services will help ensure the long-term sustainability of reliable, high-quality services for Draper and all communities in Wood Buffalo, while reducing the subsidy from the Municipal tax base.

We understand this change represents a significant adjustment for Draper residents. Please know that this decision was made with careful consideration to balance service delivery across the region.

We are committed to providing clear and transparent information to help residents through this transition. If you have questions, or for more information, please visit rmwb.ca/utilitychanges or contact the Municipality through Pulse at 780-743-7000.

Census 2025

Can we count on you?

The 2025 Municipal census is underway until June 30, 2025.

It's important for everyone, including Municipal residents in rural communities to complete the census.

Why should you fill out the Census?

- It helps us to understand the needs of your community.
- It helps us plan for community services, to make Wood Buffalo a better place to live, work and explore.
- It provides demographic information to industry, community groups, businesses and the social profit sector. This information also supports and enhances diversity in the region.

You can complete the census online at rmwb.ca/census, call Pulse at 780-743-7000 or watch for an enumerator at your door.

Bring your creative vision to life in the region



The **Arts, Culture and Heritage Grant** provides **up to \$5,000** for projects that create, inspire and preserve within the cultural landscape of the region.

Apply early!

Individuals and groups may apply for a maximum of \$5,000. The deadline for grant applications is Dec. 31, 2025 at 4:30 p.m. MST or until the total \$50,000 funding is exhausted, whichever comes first.

Apply early through the Community Investment Program (CIP) Grant Portal as funding is awarded in order of completed applications received.

What projects are eligible?

Projects must align with one or more [Wood Buffalo Culture Plan](#) priorities. The eligibility list varies and ranges from performing arts to heritage restoration to landscape design.

Projects that have received grant support in previous years include:

- **Palette Town**, a video showcasing the potential for art in Wood Buffalo.
- **Rock the Rails**, an annual skateboard and BMX competition that also features local musical acts.
- **Lavender Skies: Exploring Queer Creativity in Wood Buffalo**, a local art show at the Kirschner Family Community Art Gallery at MacDonald Island Park.
Get started today by visiting mwb.ca/CIP.

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.

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.



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.

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.

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

Interested?

Contact: Regional Emergency Services: 780-792-5500

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.



COMMUNITY CLEANUP

Small actions make a big impact!

Register at

[rmwb.ca/cleanup.](http://rmwb.ca/cleanup)



REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY
OF WOOD BUFFALO



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.



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 June Newsletter submissions: **May 26th, 2025**



COMMUNITY EVENTS & PROGRAMS CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 Community Clean up Kiyam Park 12-1:30 PM	2 Roof Top Camp Out Begins Tim Hortons Eagle ridge 	3 On the River Keyano Theatre 7:30 PM
4	5  Red Dress Day	6	7	8	9	10 Mother's Day Market Salvation Army 10-3 PM
11 	12	13 Grief and Loss Support Group SOS 5-6:30 PM	14	15	16 	17 Clearwater Horse Club Spring Market & Western Day 12-4 PM
18	19 Happy Victoria Day!	20	21 Infinite Patterns – Jubilee Gallery Tour RMWB 2-3 PM	22	23 	24 The Queen's Ball The Dancery 6 PM
25	26	27	28	29 Heart of Wood Buffalo Excellence Awards Suncor Theatre 6-9 PM	30 GYS Garage Sale 5 PM	31 June Bug Family Festival Mac Island 10 AM