FALL 2026

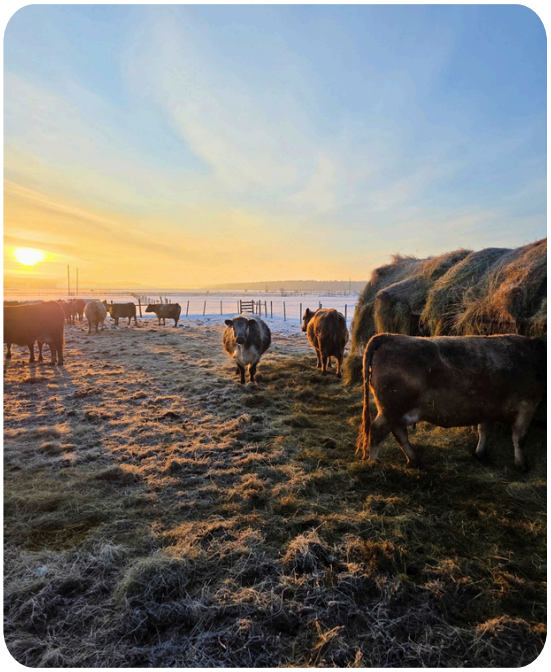
NEWSLETTER

County of Wetaskiwin No. 10

780.352.3321 www.county.wetaskiwin.ab.ca @wetaskiwincounty County of Wetaskiwin

Box 6960 Wetaskiwin, AB, T9A 2G5, 243019A Hwy 13







Message from the Reeve

Fall is here and the leaves are turning. Harvest is in full swing and the weather is cooperating. (At least at the time of this writing!). It's now a year into our term and your new Council is making some progress. One of the things we continue to prioritize is the stakeholder experience with the County. Whether that is a visitor at one of our campgrounds, a business trying to get a permit or a resident letting us know about a road issue, we want to leave you with a courteous and helpful interaction.

Over the past year we have established the Capital Planning Committee and are diving deep into the infrastructure deficit affecting the County. The County now has more knowledge and awareness of our inventory of assets and our financial position than at any other time since I've been on Council. This is great news from a planning perspective going forward, a little less than great news in terms of the financial impacts. We started with our bridges and have a pretty good handle on where we are now and where we need to be. We have identified 30 structures that are past end of life and in need of replacement within 10 years. In that time though, more bridges will join that list and at an accelerating rate. It is expected that in order to replace existing structures we would need to increase our spending in the bridge program by 2-3 million per year and ramp that up even more as the next wave of bridges fail inspection.

Alternatively, we are looking at all options including, bridge sized culvert conversion, low level crossings, single lane structures and in the worst case scenario, closure. Strategic repairs are taking place to help avoid having to replace multiple structures in the same year but many are beyond refurbishment. With all that said, this was only one part of our infrastructure deficit. Over the past few years we have become more and more aware of the condition of many assets that have been underfunded for a full replacement: paved roads, water, wastewater, gravel roads, and buildings have also historically been underfunded. The County has long relied on provincial grant programs to fill the void but these programs are also severely underfunded and can no longer be relied upon to replace our aging infrastructure.



When we started down this path a number of years ago we knew it was a large number but just couldn't say how much it was. That is when we decided to start looking at alternative means of generating revenue as the tax increases required would be in excess of anything palatable or even affordable. Our plan is to remain fiscally responsible, support industrial development and grow our way out of the deficit by increasing our non-residential tax base and keeping tax increases as low as possible, given our situation.

This year we focused our citizen engagements on our Hamlets and were able to visit Alder Flats, Winfield, Mulhurst and The Village at Pigeon Lake. Results were mixed but we definitely got a feel for what the residents value and see as priority within each Hamlet.

Next year we will finish off the Hamlet engagement with stops in Gwynne, Falun/Westerose and Buck Lake. While these will focus on Hamlet infrastructure and programming, all are welcome to attend and lend their perspectives. By all means, if you have any urgent issues to bring up or even non urgent, there is no need to wait until we come to your area of the County to let us know your thoughts. All of Council is available for a phone call or email throughout the year and would love to hear from you. A direct link to Report a Concern is also available 24-7, allowing residents to submit concerns online at any time. Please see page 6 for further information.

We are always looking for low cost wins that can add value for residents. One such initiative is the recycling program now available at our transfer stations. With changes in legislation and the extended producer responsibility program, it is now feasible for rural residents to access recycling at a very low cost. We expect this program to be very close to cost neutral to the County!

With so many things going on there is always something positive to look forward to and celebrate, so this winter, why not head out to our now, year round recreation day use area at Twin lakes and try out our new skating loop. Afterwards, stop by the Village at Pigeon Lake to grab a coffee or stop for lunch at one of the many restaurants along the way.

— Reeve

Josh Bishop



County of Wetaskiwin Council 2026

Know Your Councillor

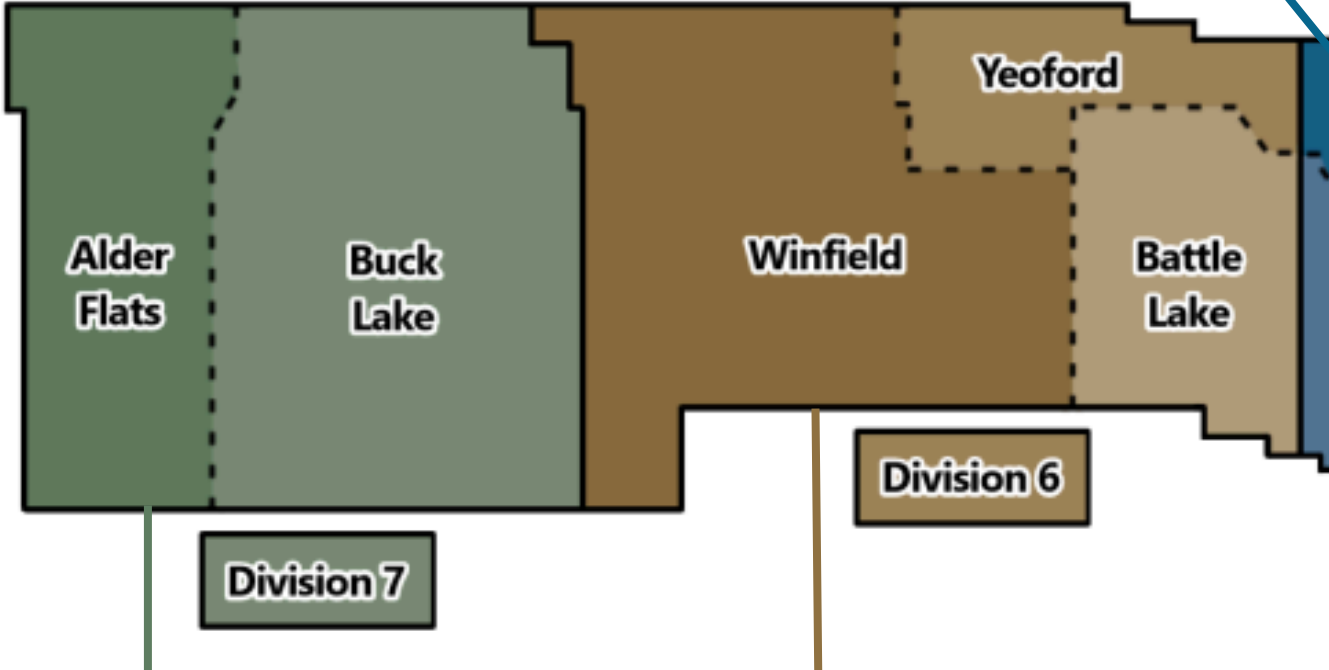
Not sure who represents your division? Use the map and contact information on this page to connect with your County Councillor.

For more information about County Council, including meeting schedules, agendas, how to attend a Council meeting, and more, visit www.county.wetaskiwin.ab.ca/council.



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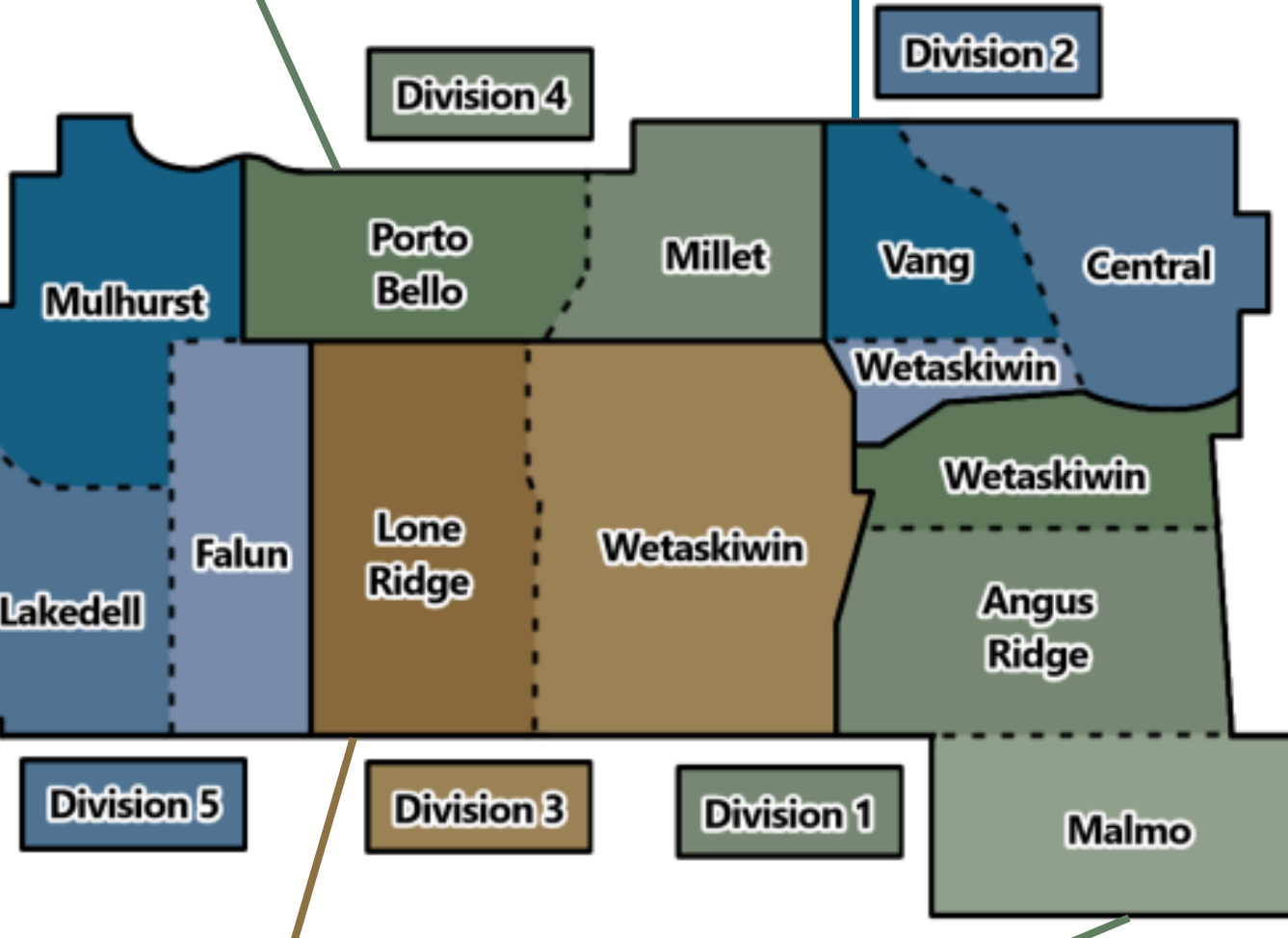
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Public Works

72-Hour Snow Clearing

As winter approaches, County road crews are preparing to keep roads safe and accessible across the County's 2,028 kilometres of roadways, including subdivisions and hamlets. During snowfall events, crews are dispatched when conditions are safe, using snowplows on paved roads and graders on gravel roads.

In the event the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) declares a snow event, defined as snowfall exceeding 10 cm, the County aims to have roads cleared within 72 hours after the last snowfall or when conditions allow.

Check Provincial Road Conditions

Dial 511

511.alberta.ca

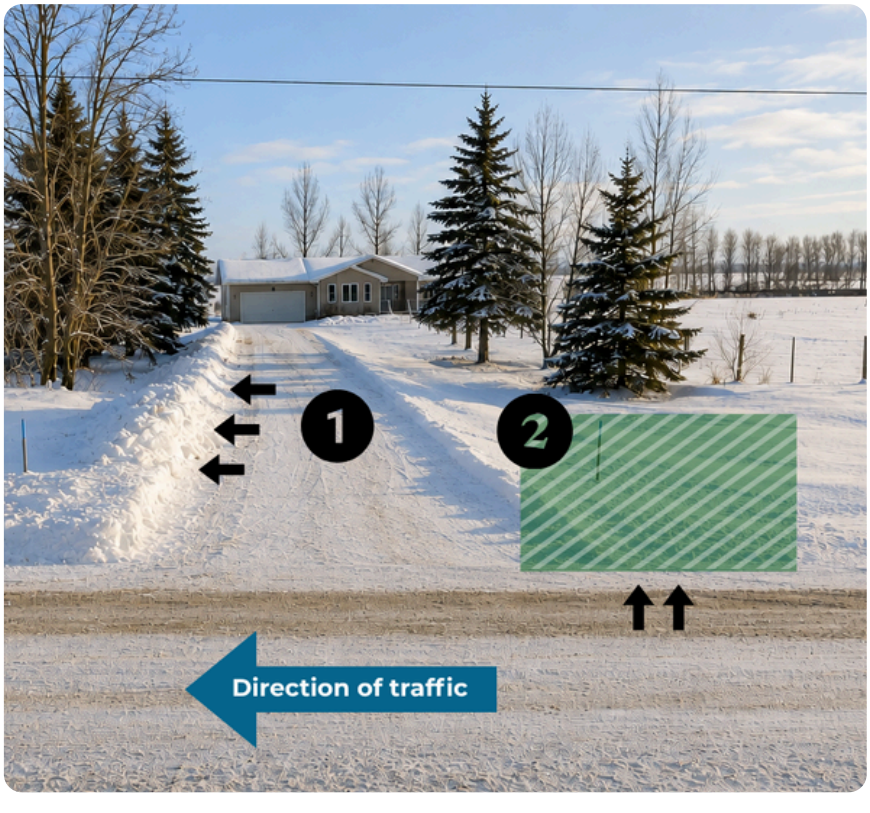
Scan to Report a Concern

Report a Concern

Residents can report County road concerns, faded or damaged blue signs, and non-emergency maintenance concerns through the Report a Concern feature on the website. Visit www.county.wetaskiwin.ab.ca and click Report a Concern on the homepage, or scan the QR code.

A Simple Way to Reduce Driveway Windrows

When clearing your driveway after a snowfall, a few simple steps can help make snow removal more efficient and reduce snow buildup at your driveway entrance during road maintenance operations.



1. Move snow from your driveway onto your property. Standing, facing the driveway, move snow over to the left side of your driveway.

2. And clear the area by the road on the right side of your driveway. This creates room for snow displaced by the grader, helping minimize windrows at your driveway entrance.

Reminder: It's illegal to move snow from driveways into the road or rights-of-way.

Thank you for helping keep roads safe and supporting efficient snow clearing operations!



Responding to June's Heavy Rainfall

June brought exceptionally wet conditions across the County of Wetaskiwin, putting significant pressure on roads, bridges, culverts, drainage systems and wastewater infrastructure.

Prolonged rainfall saturated roads and ditches and raised water levels across the County. In late June, Public Works crews worked around the clock to monitor bridges, culverts and high-water locations.

Flooding damaged several roads through washouts, erosion, and water overtopping. Crews installed barricades, signage and traffic restrictions where needed to keep motorists safe and prevent further damage. As water levels receded, crews shifted to repairs, hauling gravel to washout locations, repairing erosion around bridges and addressing potholes, soft areas and damaged road surfaces.

Protecting Utility Infrastructure

The heavy rainfall also put significant pressure on wastewater infrastructure. More than 12 inches of rain was recorded over one week, including approximately 4.5 inches in a single day, resulting in significant stormwater infiltration and overwhelming sewer systems around Pigeon Lake.



Utility crews responded around the clock, with staff reassigned to support continuous operations. Many pieces of equipment, including six third-party hydrovac trucks, were deployed to support lift stations around Pigeon Lake, helping manage increased flows and keep the system operating. Crews also reinforced lower-lying lift stations with sandbags and closely monitored sewer and lagoon levels throughout the event.

The quick response helped minimize impacts and maintain essential services. Following the rainfall, crews continued with repairs, system monitoring and lagoon management to support recovery and ongoing operations.

Keeping the County Moving

Wet conditions increased maintenance demands across the County's gravel road network. Between rain events, crews continued grading, drainage work and repairs while advancing other summer maintenance and capital projects where conditions allowed.



By July, rainfall had decreased by approximately 73% compared with June, allowing crews to return to regular summer operations and address work delayed by the wet conditions.

June's rainfall demonstrated how quickly extreme weather can impact County infrastructure. Throughout the event, crews worked to keep roads safe, maintain essential services and protect infrastructure while responding to rapidly changing conditions.

2026 Road Capital Projects

Location	Status	Budget	Project Description
Bev-Etta Estates	Complete	$1,300,000	This project improved drainage throughout the Bev Etta Estates subdivision. The project also involves resurfacing the roadways within the subdivision to provide an optimal driving surface for residents.
Range Road 255	Complete	$3,366,203	This project provides road users with an all-weather dust-free driving surface from the Highway 2 overpass at Township Road 470 to Highway 616. The project involved repairing any existing failed areas, widening the road to a width of 9.0m, stabilizing the subgrade with cement and sealing the road surface with a double aggregate seal coat. Culverts through the centerline of the road were also replaced during this project.
Township Road 472A	Complete	$601,966	Roadway rehabilitation improvements to extend the service life of Township Road 472A. The project involves resurfacing the roadways to provide an optimal driving surface for residents. This project also intends to improve drainage by replacing several culverts along Pipestone Road.
Bridge File 00168	Complete	$2,252,400	Construction on Bridge File 00168 is now complete, and the bridge has officially reopened to the public. The County was successful in receiving Provincial STIP funding to complete this project in a timely and cost-effective manner.
Bridge File 08525	Complete	$356,615	This project consisted of replacing the existing single span concrete bridge with a bridge sized metal culvert designed to accommodate seasonal stormwater flows. The County is pleased to share that construction on Bridge File 8525 has been successfully completed ahead of schedule.
Range Roads 252 & 254	Complete	$549,200	This project improved the quality of Range Road 252, south of Highway 13, to mitigate the demand for weekly and annual maintenance. This project also improved the quality of Range Road 254, south of Highway 13, to support the high concentration of residents in the area and improve access to Bear Hills Transfer Station. Shoulder pulls are a vital municipal road maintenance process designed to restore road widths back to County specifications.
Range Road 12	Complete	$350,000	This project improved the condition of Range Road 12 (Lakedell Road) from south of Highway 13 to the Lakedell Agricultural Society for half a mile, providing road users with an all-weather dust-free driving surface.



Bridge File 00168 (Before)



Bridge File 00168 (After)



Bridge File 8525 (Before)



Bridge File 8525 (After)



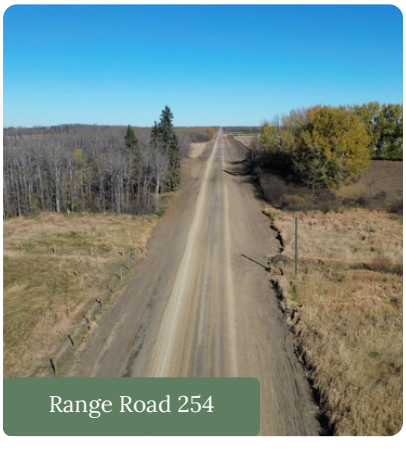
Bev-Etta Estates (Before)



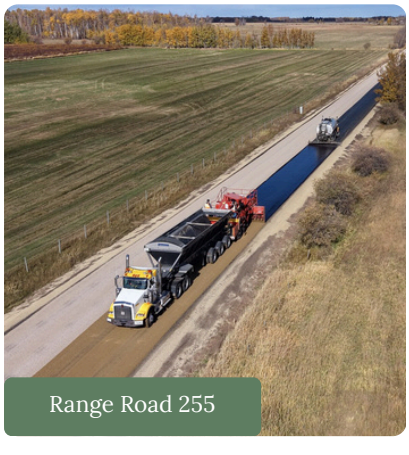
Bev-Etta Estates (After)



Range Road 252



Range Road 254



Range Road 255

Planning for the Future of County Bridges

Earlier this year, we shared information about the challenges facing the County's aging bridge network and the work underway to plan for future rehabilitation and replacement.

Since then, the County's Capital Planning Committee has continued to review our bridge inventory and improve the information used to make long-term capital decisions. This work is giving Council a clearer picture of our bridge infrastructure and where future investments will have the greatest impact.

A Better Picture of Our Bridge Network

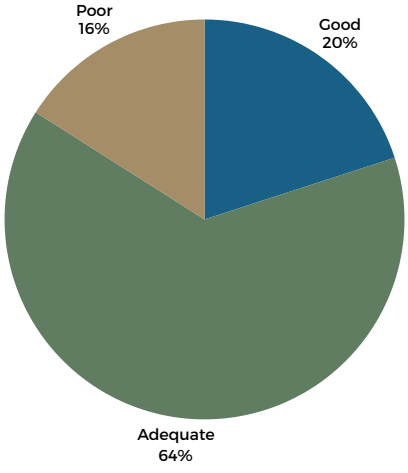
The County is responsible for approximately 170 bridges and bridge-sized culverts, representing an estimated $155 million in infrastructure. The average age of a County-owned bridge is approximately 50 years.

Our updated inventory shows:

- **20%** are rated good
- **64%** are rated adequate — continuing to perform safely but requiring planned maintenance and rehabilitation over time
- **16%** are rated poor and are the highest priority for rehabilitation or replacement

The 27 structures currently rated poor have an estimated replacement cost of $26.2 million, and 13 structures are currently load restricted.

Condition of County Bridges





Better Information, Better Planning

Bridge condition is important, but it is only one part of determining where the County should invest.

Through the Capital Planning Committee, bridges are evaluated using several factors, including traffic counts, Bridge Inspection and Maintenance (BIM) condition ratings, detour length if closed, emergency response, local access and load ratings.

For example, two bridges may have similar condition ratings, but one may carry significantly more traffic, provide important local access or require a much longer detour if closed.

Considering these factors together gives Council a better understanding of how each bridge fits within the overall road network and helps prioritize investments where they will have the greatest impact.

A Long-Term Funding Challenge

Local bridges were historically managed by the Province of Alberta. Responsibility was transferred to municipalities in the early 1990s, along with provincial funding intended to support the work.

Today, municipalities can apply for bridge funding through the Strategic Transportation Infrastructure Program (STIP). The County appreciates the significant STIP funding received over the past two years, including approximately $1.4 million for Bridge File 168 on the Correction Line and $611,250 for Bridge File 2485 on Township Road 472A (Pipestone School road).

This funding makes a significant difference, but with $26.2 million in estimated replacement costs for our 27 poor-rated structures, there is still a significant funding gap to address.

Planning for the Long Term

Council is working on a long-term strategy to address this infrastructure deficit while maintaining the remainder of the bridge network.

This includes maintaining and rehabilitating existing structures to extend their useful life, prioritizing replacements based on need and continuing to pursue provincial funding.

It also means looking at alternatives. Not every existing bridge may need to be replaced with the same type of structure. In lower-traffic areas, options such as different bridge designs, lower-cost structures or low-level crossings may provide safe and reliable access at a lower long-term cost.

There is no single-year solution to the County's bridge infrastructure needs. However, the work underway through the Capital Planning Committee is providing better information to guide those decisions — helping the County understand what we own, what condition it is in, how it is used and where investment will have the greatest impact.



Haultain Bridge: Oldest Bridge in the County

Utilities

New Recycling Program

County of Wetaskiwin residents are now participating in Alberta's Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) recycling program through Circular Materials, bringing new recycling opportunities to both curbside collection areas and County transfer stations.



Curbside Recycling

The program launched in October 2026 and includes every-second-week curbside recycling collection for residents who currently receive County curbside garbage collection service. Recycling collection is available in Mulhurst Bay, Lakeland Estates, Alder Flats, Buck Lake, Gwynne, Winfield, Curilane Beach, Westerose/Viola Beach, Beachside Estates, and Woodwind Estates.

Transfer Station Recycling

Recycling is now available at all County transfer stations. Residents can place accepted recyclables in designated recycling bins without sorting materials, and recycling does not need to be bagged when using transfer stations. The service is available to all County residents with a valid transfer station (RFID) card. To find out more about transfer station (RFID) cards, visit www.county.wetaskiwin.ab.ca/tscard.

FAQ

When does it start?
Recycling is now available at all County transfer stations, and curbside recycling service has started in eligible communities.

Who can use curbside recycling?
Anyone who currently receives County curbside garbage collection will also receive curbside recycling collection.

What bags do I use for curbside recycling?
Place recyclables in clear or blue transparent bags. Black garbage bags and other opaque bags will not be accepted. Bags should be tied or sealed to keep materials contained.

Do I need to rinse containers?
Yes. Containers should be empty and rinsed before being recycled. Labels do not need to be removed.

Do I need to sort my recyclables?
No. Accepted recyclable materials can be placed together for curbside collection and transfer stations. The program uses a single-stream recycling system.

Who pays for the recycling program?
The recycling program is funded through Alberta's Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) system and managed by Circular Materials. Under EPR, producers are responsible for funding the recycling of packaging and paper products.

What should I do if my recycling wasn't collected?
For missed collections, service concerns, or collection questions, contact Integrity Waste Solutions:

Phone: 780.437.5000
Email: customerrequest@integritysolutions.ca

What Can I Recycle?

The program accepts many common household packaging and paper products. Recycling is collected as single-stream recycling, meaning accepted materials can be placed together and do not need to be sorted into separate categories.

Examples of accepted materials include:

- Paper and cardboard
- Cartons
- Plastic containers and packaging
- Steel and aluminum cans
- Glass bottles and jars
- Foam packaging

For a complete list of accepted materials, visit the www.county.wetaskiwin.ab.ca/recycling.



Recycling Collection Schedule

Recycling collection occurs **bi-weekly.** Set your bags out by **7:00 a.m.** on collection day. Holidays may affect your collection schedule. Visit www.circularmaterials.ca/AB for collection updates and service disruptions.

Monday Collection Areas

Collection began: October 5, 2026

- Alder Flats
- Buck Lake
- Gwynne
- Winfield
- Curilane Beach
- Westerose/Viola Beach
- Beachside Estates
- Woodwind Estates

Thursday Collection Areas

Collection began: October 1, 2026

- Mulhurst Bay
- Lakeland Estates

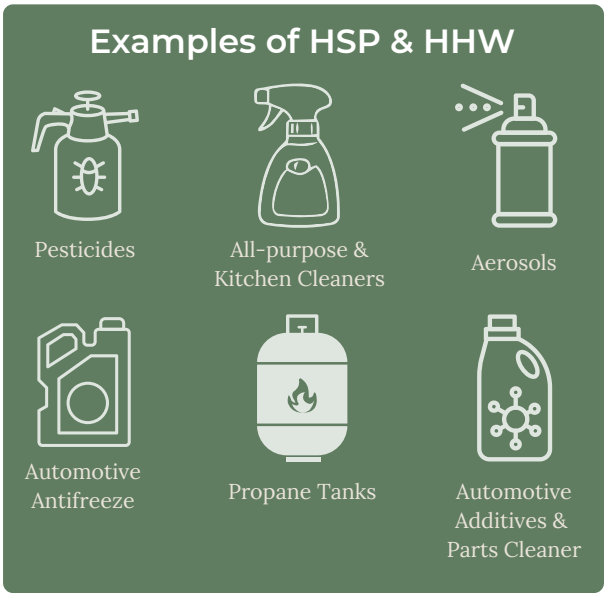
Scan for More Information

Coming Soon: Permanent Hazardous Waste Sites

The County of Wetaskiwin is establishing five permanent collection sites for Household Special Products (HSP) and Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) at the Buck Lake, Mulhurst, Lakedell, Gwynne, and Millet transfer stations.

Once operational, these sites will provide residents with a convenient, year-round option for disposing of accepted hazardous household materials. Common examples include aerosol sprays, hazardous household cleaners, propane tanks, automotive antifreeze, and other designated products.

As a result of this new service, the annual Recycling Roundup program will be discontinued. Instead, residents will be able to access HHW and HSP collection throughout the year at the designated transfer stations.



Please note that these collection sites are not yet available. Residents are encouraged to watch the County website and County Facebook page for updates, opening dates, and additional announcements as the program is rolled out.

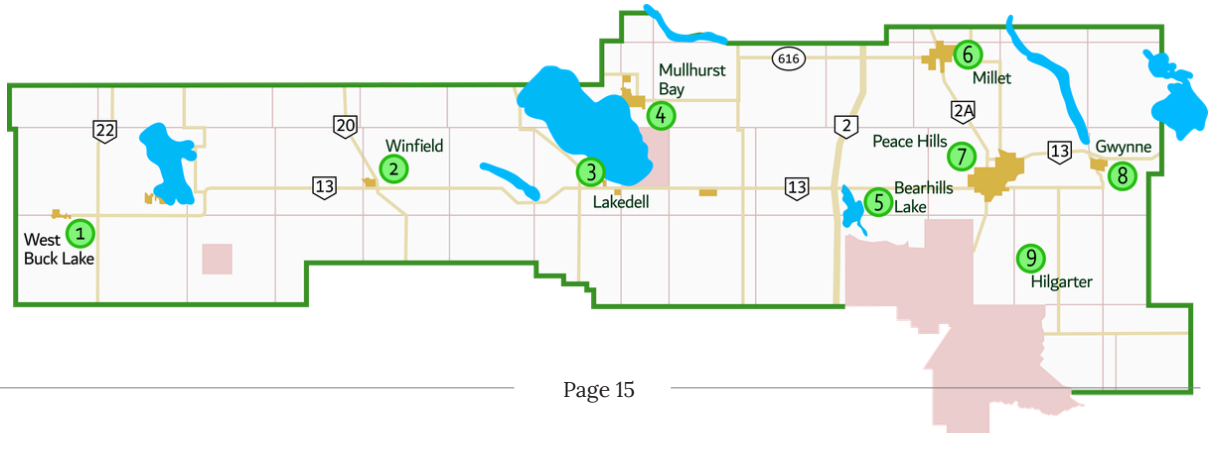
To view a list of accepted products, visit: www.productcare.org/products/hhw/alberta.





Transfer Station Hours & Map

Station	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Bearhills	Closed	9:00am - 5:00pm	Closed	Closed	Closed	9:00am - 5:00pm	Closed
Buck Lake	Closed	9:00am - 5:00pm	Closed	Closed	Closed	9:00am - 5:00pm	Closed
Hilgartner	Closed	10:00am - 4:00pm	Closed	Closed	Closed	10:00am - 4:00pm	Closed
Gwynne	Closed	9:00am - 5:00pm	Closed	Closed	Closed	9:00am - 5:00pm	Closed
Lakedell	9:00am - 5:00pm	Closed	9:00am - 5:00pm	Closed	Closed	9:00am - 5:00pm	Closed
Millet	Closed	9:00am - 5:00pm	Closed	12:00pm - 8:00pm	Closed	9:00am - 5:00pm	Closed
Mulhurst Bay	Closed	9:00am - 5:00pm	Closed	May 1 to Oct 31 - 12:00pm - 8:00pm Nov 1 to Apri 30 - Closed	Closed	9:00am - 5:00pm	Closed
Peace Hills	Closed	Closed	April 1 to Sept 30 - 12:00pm - 8:00pm Oct 1 to Mar 31 - 9:00am - 5:00pm	Closed	Closed	9:00am - 5:00pm	Closed
Winfield	Closed	9:00am - 5:00pm	Closed	Closed	Closed	9:00am - 5:00pm	Closed



Agricultural Services

Environmental Farm Plan

A free, confidential way to understand environmental strengths, manage risks and support your farm's future.

The Alberta Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) has more than two decades of history, experience and commitment behind it as it helps support Alberta's agri-food industry. In 2025, Alberta farmers and ranchers completed a record number of EFPs, marking the fifth consecutive year of participation growth.

Why complete an EFP?

The EFP is a voluntary, free process that considers your farming operation as a whole. It helps you recognize areas of strength and identify potential environmental risks.

Benefits include:

- **Risk assessment:** Identify and address potential environmental risks on your farm.
- **Confidentiality:** Information remains confidential between you and your EFP technician.
- **Free and voluntary participation:** Complete your EFP at no cost and on your own terms.
- **Ongoing support:** Your regional EFP technician is available before, during and after the process.
- **Connections to other programs:** A completed EFP is an eligibility requirement for some grant and market-access programs.

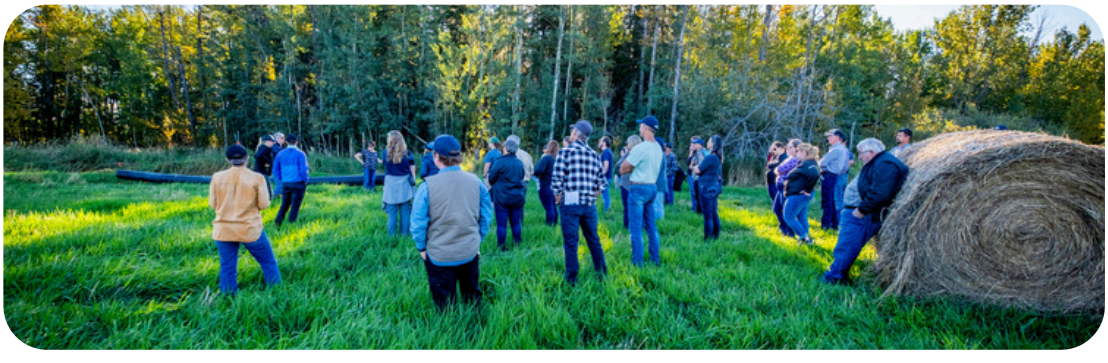
You know your farm best. An EFP is a self-assessment, so your firsthand knowledge is its most valuable input. Consultants can help with many specialized tasks, but completing the EFP yourself—with guidance from your free, trained EFP technician—helps ensure the plan reflects your operation, priorities and goals.



Local support is available

Producers in Wetaskiwin and Leduc counties can receive free support from the Sustainable Agriculture Coordinator, Kim Barkwell, who is a trained EFP technician. For help completing your EFP, call 780.387.6182 or email kbarkwell@county10.ca.

Learn more: Visit www.albertaefp.com for more information about the Alberta EFP.





Horticulture Corner: Managing Black Knot in Backyard Landscapes

As winter approaches, dormant-season pruning is a good opportunity to inspect trees and shrubs for black knot. Black knot (Apiosporina morbosa) is a fungal disease commonly found in cherry trees (Prunus spp.) including Shubert chokecherry and Mayday trees.

Black knot is identified by rough black galls that can encircle entire branches. Infections occur during spring when spores are released and spread by splashing water, wind, birds, and insects. However, symptoms can be difficult to spot until the next season. Black knot deforms branches and reduces growth. Severe infections can stunt a tree's overall growth and may eventually cause the tree to die.

Take proper measures to minimize the spread of black knot. If black knot is detected, use the following guidelines:

1. Prune black knot between late fall and early spring when plants are dormant.
2. Remove infected branches at least 25 cm (10 inches) below the knot. If infections are on the trunk or main branches that cannot be removed, cut away the diseased material down to healthy tissue and at least 1 cm (½ inch) beyond the edge of the knot.
3. It is best to prune back to a suitable location, such as a healthy branch collar, rather than leaving a stub.
4. Sterilize your cutting tools between each cut using a disinfectant to prevent further spread of the disease.
5. Destroy infected branches immediately by burning or burying them, as they can continue to produce spores for months after removal.

For more information on black knot, visit www.county.wetaskiwin.ab.ca/blackknot.

References

County of Wetaskiwin No.10. (2026). Black knot. Wetaskiwin.ab.ca.

The Canadian Forest Service. (2024). Black knot. Nrcan.gc.ca; Government of Canada.


Black Knot

Planning Ahead for Strychnine Use in 2027

Producers planning their 2027 ground squirrel control program should be aware that challenges importing raw strychnine from India have affected Canadian supplies throughout 2026. It is hoped that these supply issues will be resolved for 2027. If product is available, the County of Wetaskiwin expects to begin selling it to residents on February 1, 2027.

Use only as a last resort: Strychnine may be used only after other control methods—including trapping, shooting and other toxicants—have been tried without success.

Who Is Eligible?

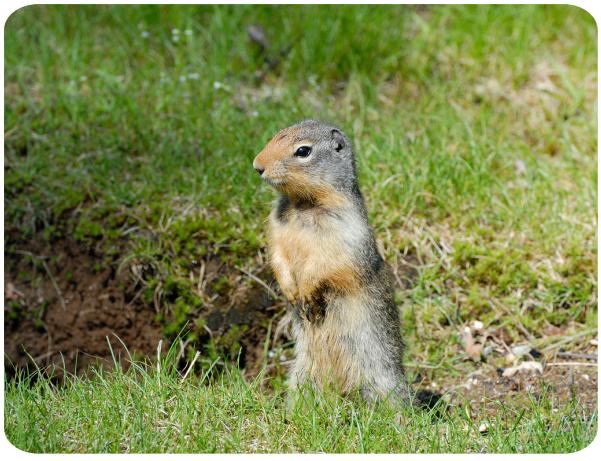
Strychnine may be purchased only by an eligible purchaser: a landowner, corporate director, colony manager, or renter who has written permission from the landowner.

The product may be applied by the purchaser or by a hired employee who holds a Certified Pesticide Applicator Certificate with the Special: Exterior Rodent Control designation.

The person applying the product must also complete the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM) strychnine stewardship training course. To find the course, visit the SARM website or scan the QR code.



SARM Website



What to Have Ready Before You Buy

- Documents confirming that you are an eligible purchaser.
- Proof that you completed the online training course. The course takes approximately two to three hours and is valid only for the calendar year in which it is completed.
- A record of all control methods used during the previous 24 months.
- A treatment plan covering pre-application and post-application monitoring, along with scouting for species at risk—particularly badgers in the County of Wetaskiwin.
- A completed evaluation form before purchasing additional product. The monitoring period takes four weeks, and purchases are limited to a maximum of two cases per transaction.

Questions?

For more information, contact Stephen Majek, Director of Agricultural Services, at 780.361.6226.

Watch the County website and Facebook page for details on upcoming information sessions and program updates.

ALUS

For ten years, farmers and ranchers in the County of Wetaskiwin and Leduc County have been at the heart of ALUS, sharing local knowledge, developing practical solutions, and embracing new ideas.

Have a project idea? Contact the ALUS Wetaskiwin-Leduc Coordinator to help shape the next decade of practical solutions.



Orange and Meadow Hawkweed

Recent changes to Alberta's Weed Control Act Regulation removed orange hawkweed and meadow hawkweed from the provincial prohibited noxious weed list. However, the County of Wetaskiwin Agricultural Service Board (ASB) continues to identify these invasive plants as a significant threat to local agriculture and natural areas. Based on the ASB's recommendation, County Council adopted Bylaw 2026/32 on July 14, 2026, declaring both species prohibited noxious weeds within the County of Wetaskiwin.

Orange and meadow hawkweed are aggressive perennial plants that spread rapidly through seeds and underground runners, forming dense patches that crowd out desirable vegetation and reduce forage production. Residents are encouraged to regularly inspect their property and control any infestations before they spread.


Meadow Hawkweed


Orange Hawkweed

Municipal Financial Statements 101

Municipal financial statements might not be everyone's favorite bedtime reading, but they're packed with useful information about a municipality's financial health and decision-making. Although there are five main financial statements, our focus will be the Consolidated Statement of Financial Position and the Consolidated Statement of Operations.

Each year, all municipalities in Alberta prepare financial statements in accordance with Canadian Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB) standards. The statements must be audited by a third-party accounting firm who provide their opinion whether the statements are presented fairly and are free from misstatement. Once approved by Council, the statements are submitted to Alberta Municipal Affairs by May 1st of the following year and typically include:

- Comparative figures from the previous year, so you can see how things have changed.
- A comparison of actual results to the approved budget, helping you understand how closely plans matched reality.
- Notes to the Financial Statements that contain important information and explanations.

1 Consolidated Statement of Financial Position (Balance Sheet)

A review of the Consolidated Statement of Financial Position typically is in the context of a long-term view of the municipality's financial health. Think of this as the municipality's financial snapshot at a specific point in time. It shows:

- **Assets:** What the municipality owns or controls.
- **Liabilities:** What the municipality owes.
- **Net Financial Assets (or Net Debt):** The difference between financial assets and liabilities.
- **Accumulated Surplus or Deficit:** What's left after liabilities have been accounted for. These resources help support services and infrastructure in future years.

In a municipal context, financial assets include things like cash and investments, taxes owed by its residents and grants that will be received from other levels of government. Liabilities include accounts payable, loans and debentures, and environmental or employee benefit obligations.

Net financial assets measure whether a municipality's readily available financial resources are enough to cover its liabilities. If the result is positive, the municipality has net financial assets. If the result is negative, it has net debt.

The accumulated surplus (deficit) is the primary indicator of the resources (financial and physical) the municipality has available to provide future services. It is comprised of all the municipality's past operating surpluses and deficits.

2 Consolidated Statement of Operations (Income Statement)

The Consolidated Statement of Operations reports on revenues, expenses and the results for a fiscal year or reporting period. It provides detailed information on what transactions have impacted the accumulated surplus or deficit during the year. It summarizes:

- **Revenues:** Money coming in.
- **Expenses:** Money going out to provide services.
- **Annual Results:** Whether the municipality ended the year with a surplus or deficit.

Together, these statements provide a complete picture of a municipality's financial health, helping readers understand not only where the municipality stands today, but also how its decisions may affect future years. They help council members, staff, taxpayers, and other stakeholders understand how public resources are being managed and whether the municipality is positioned for long-term financial sustainability.

Financial Snapshot

2025 was a strong fiscal year for the County of Wetaskiwin.

- Net Financial Assets increased by $3.5 million, meaning that the County's financial assets grew faster than its financial liabilities, improving its ability to maintain services and respond to future needs.
- Liabilities decreased by $4.2 million, reducing future financial obligations.
- Provincial grants helped fund projects, helping offset costs and reduce the need for additional borrowing.
- The County finished the year with an accumulated surplus, providing resources to support future services and infrastructure.
- Overall, the County's financial position improved in 2025, strengthening its ability to deliver services today and plan for tomorrow.

The County maintains affordable property taxes while delivering high-quality services in a cost-effective manner, supporting safe and desirable communities. Council and administration continue to focus on minimizing tax increases and maximizing grant funding opportunities.

2025 Audited Financial Statements

COUNTY OF WETASKIWIN NO.10
Consolidated Statement of Financial Position
December 31, 2025

	2025	2024
FINANCIAL ASSETS		
Cash and equivalents *(Note 2)*	**$ 24,965,689**	$ 24,357,832
Property taxes receivable *(Note 3)*	**2,160,494**	2,407,192
Trade and other accounts receivable *(Note 4)*	**4,914,381**	6,771,040
Investments *(Note 5)*	**20,139,569**	18,947,493
Patronage reserves	**13,904**	13,846
Debt charges recoverable *(Note 7)*	**8,560,732**	9,027,428
Membership fee *(Note 8)*	**400,000**	400,000
	61,154,769	61,924,831
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities *(Note 10)*	**3,202,582**	2,911,583
Deposit liabilities	**158,168**	171,557
Deferred revenue *(Note 11)*	**7,466,676**	11,810,183
Employee benefit obligations *(Note 12)*	**406,558**	404,085
Long term debt *(Note 13)*	**8,560,732**	9,027,428
Contaminated sites *(Note 14)*	**861,000**	822,000
Asset retirement obligation *(Note 15)*	**4,793,271**	4,567,535
	25,448,987	29,714,371
NET FINANCIAL ASSETS	**35,705,782**	32,210,460
NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS		
Tangible capital assets*(Schedule II)*	**112,091,424**	103,938,417
Inventory for consumption *(Note 16)*	**7,562,314**	8,136,194
Prepaid expenses	**711,740**	463,649
	120,365,478	112,538,260
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS	**$156,071,260**	$144,748,720
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS CONSISTS OF:		
Accumulated operating surplus(Schedule I)	**$155,914,637**	$144,904,057
Accumulated remeasurement gains (losses)	**156,623**	(155,337)
	$156,071,260	$144,748,720

COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES *(Note 21)*

Approved on behalf of Council

Original Signed _____ *Reeve*

Original Signed _____ *Deputy Reeve*

COUNTY OF WETASKIWIN NO.10

Consolidated Statement of Operations and Accumulated Surplus

Year Ended December 31, 2025

	Budget 2025 Note 24	**Total 2025**	Total 2024
REVENUE			
Net municipal property taxes(Schedule III)	$ 26,178,257	**$ 27,410,935**	$ 24,434,135
User fees and service charges	3,257,238	**4,699,583**	3,645,203
Investment income	1,199,490	**1,651,494**	736,797
Sales to other governments	1,024,618	**1,083,599**	537,546
Government transfers for operating(Schedule IV)	1,285,211	**948,565**	2,167,072
Other	310,310	**607,406**	524,928
Permits, licenses, and fines	274,000	**438,141**	363,831
Rental	327,000	**318,154**	329,010
	33,856,124	**37,157,877**	32,738,522
EXPENSES			
Public works	11,761,506	**16,023,520**	15,654,536
General Government	6,081,675	**6,794,985**	6,699,740
Utilities	2,287,819	**3,330,541**	3,510,081
Protective services	2,836,221	**3,438,442**	3,609,315
Recreation and cultural services	1,915,558	**2,003,287**	1,948,335
Planning and development	1,183,146	**1,228,795**	1,289,914
Agriculture Service Board	1,012,014	**923,321**	912,335
Family and Community Support Services	483,156	**456,624**	466,651
Cemetery	33,654	**16,515**	33,795
	27,594,749	**34,216,030**	34,124,702
	6,261,375	**2,941,847**	(1,386,180)
OTHER ITEMS			
Government transfers for capital(Schedule IV)	9,039,549	**7,595,084**	5,614,194
Gain on sale of tangible capital assets	281,000	**204,408**	114,125
	9,320,549	**7,799,492**	5,728,319
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	15,581,924	**10,741,339**	4,342,139
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS - BEGINNING OF YEAR	144,904,057	**144,904,057**	140,561,918
OTHER - Subsidiary operation (JEDI) *(Note 22)*	-	**269,241**	-
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS - END OF YEAR	$160,485,981	**$155,914,637**	$144,904,057

Planning & Development

Growth with Purpose

Growth is a natural part of every community, but it doesn't happen by chance. In the County of Wetaskiwin, Planning & Development plays an important role in helping ensure growth occurs in a thoughtful and responsible way that reflects Council's long-term vision for the County.

Council has identified economic opportunity and responsible growth as important priorities for the County. We want our County to be a place where people choose to build, invest, raise their families and put down roots. Creating a strong and sustainable future means making room for new opportunities while continuing to protect the rural character and communities that make the County a great place to call home.

That's where good planning comes in.

Planning is more than reviewing development permit applications. It also means looking ahead and considering how our communities may evolve over the coming years.





The Municipal Development Plan (MDP), Land Use Bylaw (LUB), Area Structure Plans and other planning documents provide the framework that helps guide where and how future growth should occur.

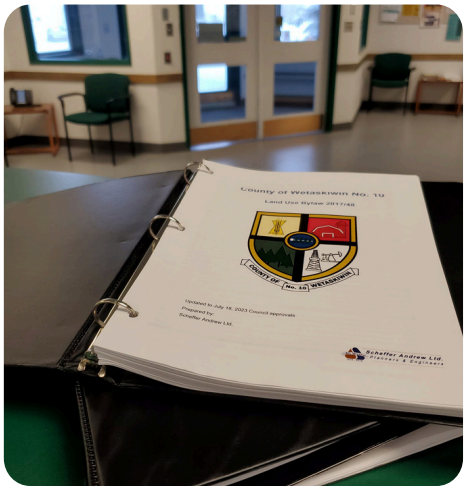
One of Planning & Development's most important responsibilities is finding the balance between welcoming growth and protecting what residents value. The County is home to productive agricultural lands, vibrant lake communities, hamlets, businesses and rural residential areas, each with its own unique character and planning considerations. What works in one area may not be appropriate in another.

That's why we look at how a proposal fits with its surroundings, neighbouring properties, roads and servicing, environmental considerations and the long-term plans for the area.

Being open for business doesn't mean saying "yes" to every proposal, nor does responsible planning mean saying "no" to change. It means creating a clear and practical path for good ideas to move forward. Each proposal is considered on its own merits and against the policies and regulations established by Council, providing a fair and consistent process while considering the broader interests of the community.

And every development has to start somewhere, usually with a pen, a piece of paper and an idea. A new home, subdivision, local business or larger development all begin with someone asking, "Could this work here?" You don't need to have all the answers before talking to us. Our Planning & Development team is here to help you understand what may be possible, what rules apply and what steps may be needed to move your idea forward.

As the County continues to grow and change, the decisions we make today help shape the community we leave for the next generation. By planning ahead, removing unnecessary barriers and working with residents, landowners and applicants, we can welcome responsible growth while protecting our agricultural lands, rural landscapes, lake communities and the character that makes the County of Wetaskiwin unique.



Did You Know?

Did You Know? You Can Talk to Us Before You Apply

You don't need to have a completed application, or even a fully developed plan before contacting Planning & Development. Whether you're buying land, considering a new project or simply wondering what might be possible on your property, give us a call or email. Our team can help explain zoning, setbacks, permits and the planning process before you invest significant time or money into your plans.

Did You Know? Our MDP Was Recently Updated!

On September 15, 2026, Council approved amendments to the County's Municipal Development Plan. The changes reflect the County's experience using the MDP since it was adopted in 2023 and make the Plan clearer, more practical and easier to apply. Several of the amendments also remove unnecessary barriers and provide greater flexibility for subdivision and development, all while maintaining the County's commitment to responsible, well-planned growth.

Did You Know? Your Project May Need a Permit

Many homeowners are surprised to learn that projects like garages, sheds, decks, home additions, sea cans, and even some changes to the use of a property may require a development permit. Before starting your next project, give Planning & Development a call, we're happy to answer your questions and help you determine what's required. A quick conversation at the beginning can save time and avoid surprises later.

Contact Planning & Development

780.352.3321

wpermits@county10.ca

JEDI

Joint Economic Development Initiative

Your Dream is Our Job!

Discover the guidance you need for your business journey with JEDI!

JEDI is a dynamic non-profit organization focused on supporting economic growth in the County of Wetaskiwin. We help local businesses and agriculture producers by providing useful tools and resources to succeed. Visit our website or contact us by phone or email to learn about upcoming workshops, events, funding programs, and other helpful business information.

Expanding the Region's Online Presence

The Discover Wetaskiwin County West website was initially launched with funding that supported the west portion of the County only. Now that the grant has wrapped up, JEDI is pursuing options to grow the site to highlight the entire County. Stay tuned for exciting updates ahead! In the meantime, visit www.discoverwetaskiwinwest.ca to plan your adventure.

Joint Regional Tourism Strategy

JEDI, in partnership with the City of Wetaskiwin, received funding through the Northern and Regional Economic Development Program for the development of a Joint Regional Tourism Strategy. The strategy establishes a shared regional vision focused on increasing overnight stays, moving visitors throughout the region, strengthening tourism operators, and improving coordination through marketing, destination development, and operator support, providing a clear roadmap for tourism growth and regional economic resilience. Stay tuned as the strategy is rolled out in phases and more initiatives begin to take shape.





The Chamber's Small Business Support Programming

JEDI is pleased to partner in the Chamber's small business support program. This program goes beyond the startup phase to provide necessary resources for small business. Whether you are an entrepreneur with an idea, a newcomer to the area, a home-based business, or looking to grow and thrive, this program meets you wherever you are.

The Yes-Up Program provides entrepreneur support and guidance for students ages 13-18. This program offers free resources to teachers and students with the goal of inspiring youth to pursue entrepreneurial dreams and giving them support to succeed.

For more information on the Chamber's Small Business Support Program visit www.yourchamber.ca/smallbusinesssupportprogram or contact Amber Cook, Small Business Specialist at acook@yourchamber.ca or 780.566.5454.

County of Wetaskiwin Business Group

The group typically meets periodically from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Village Creek Country Inn. These gatherings are relaxed, informal, and conversational, typically featuring a short presentation followed by a round-table discussion. They provide a great opportunity to connect, share ideas, and get to know other local business owners.

You can read more about these meetings in our Tourism and Business Talk Newsletter, available on our website. If you own or operate a business in the County of Wetaskiwin and would like to get involved, please connect with us.

Connect with Us

Visit www.jedialberta.com, email info@jedialberta.com, or call **780.361.6232**. Follow @JEDIAlberta on social media for updates.









Photo Credit: Pigeon Lake Chamber of Commerce

More Than Visitors: Tourism Benefits Us All

Tourism is big business in Alberta, and its benefits reach well beyond hotels and major attractions in big cities. According to Travel Alberta, visitors spent an estimated $15.2 billion across the province in 2025, supporting more than 250,000 jobs and employing about one in every 10 Albertans. Albertans themselves spent more than $7.2 billion travelling within their home province, showing that visitors are often our own neighbours exploring a nearby community.

Residents may understandably ask, “Why do we want more tourism, and what might more visitors mean for our community?” Increased visitation can create concerns about traffic, congestion, pressure on local services, environmental impacts and changes to community character. These are important considerations. Thoughtful tourism planning is not simply about attracting more people, it is about attracting the right visitors, encouraging responsible travel and balancing economic opportunities with residents’ quality of life.

When visitors spend money at local campgrounds, hotels, restaurants, shops, attractions and events, that money reaches well beyond the business where it was first spent. Much like agriculture supports equipment dealers, auction markets, suppliers and local services, tourism supports a wide range of businesses and residents throughout the region.

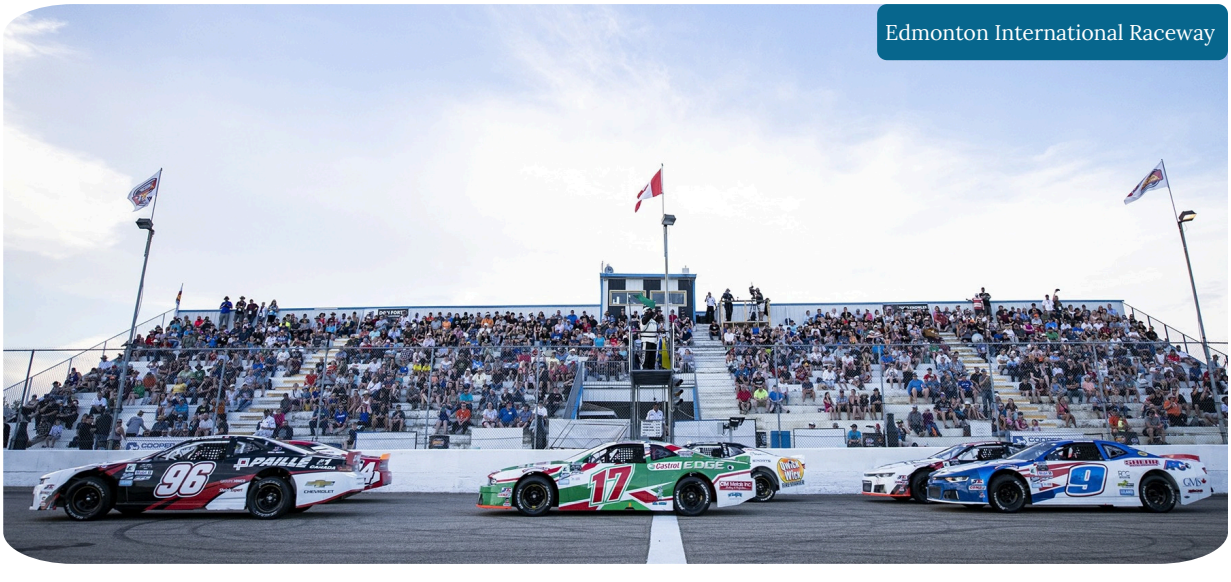
The most visible benefit is the money visitors spend on accommodations, meals, fuel, admission fees and locally made products. Those businesses then purchase goods and services from local farmers, food suppliers, tradespeople, contractors and other businesses. Employees and business owners also spend their earnings locally on groceries, services and other everyday needs.



the place - Alder Flats

In this way, one visitor's spending can travel through the community, helping support local jobs, keep businesses thriving and contribute to the services and infrastructure residents rely on. The benefit is greatest when visitors stay longer, explore different parts of the region and choose to buy local. With thoughtful planning, tourism can complement agriculture and other industries while helping build a stronger, more diverse local economy.

Many of the businesses and places enjoyed by visitors are also important gathering places for residents. Local restaurants, cafés, farmers' markets, campgrounds, golf courses, shops, museums, community halls and recreation areas often serve as community hubs where neighbours meet, families gather and local events take place. When visitor spending helps these businesses navigate seasonal and economic fluctuations and continue to grow, residents also benefit from more local services, activities and places to connect close to home.



Edmonton International Raceway



Winfield Arena

When the weather turns crisp and the days grow shorter, the Winfield Arena is ready to welcome our community back to the ice. It's more than a rink. It's a place where neighbours gather, families make memories and local players build skills, friendships and a love of the game. We're proud to have this valued community space right here in Winfield.

From hockey tournaments to team practices and group bookings, the arena offers an affordable place to bring folks together.

Whether you're lacing up or cheering from the stands, there's something for everyone.

Arena Schedule

Scan the QR code to find Stick & Puck and Public Skate times!

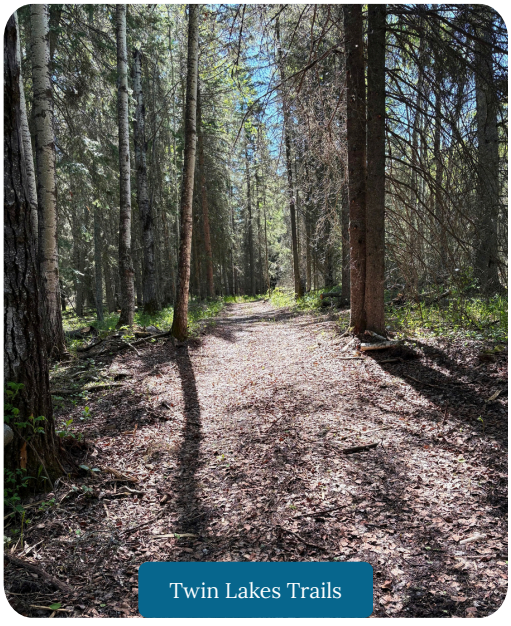


Twin Lakes

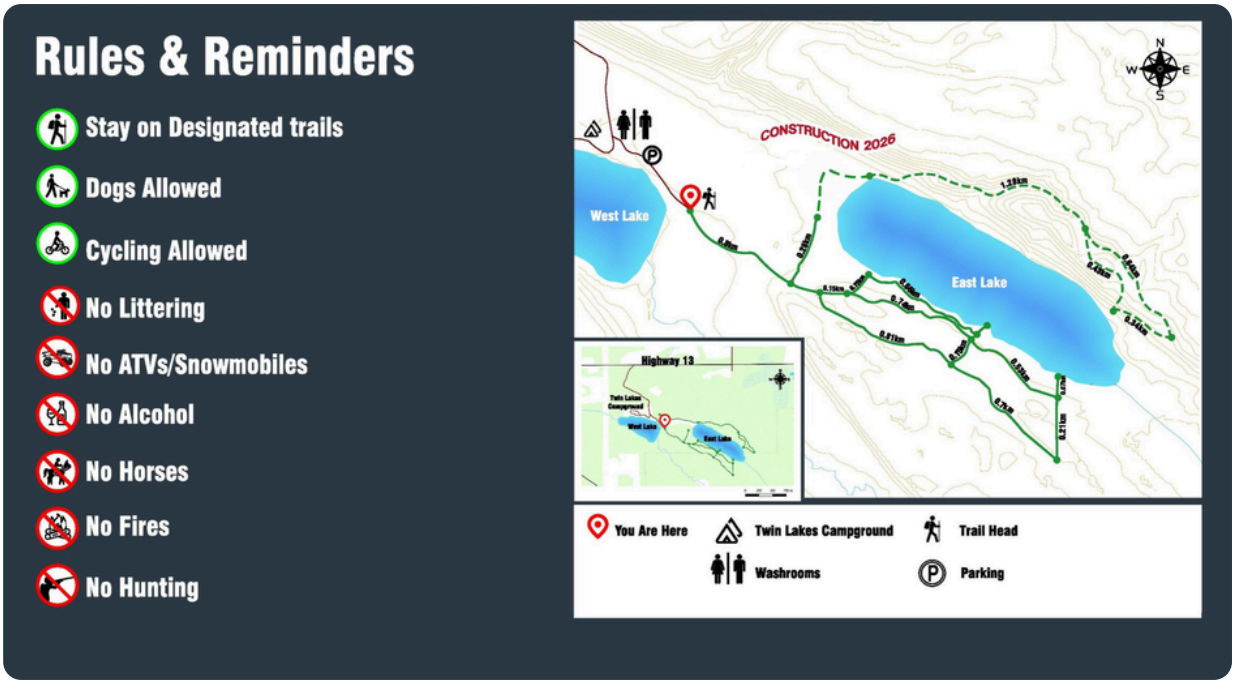
Twin Lakes continues to grow as a recreation destination in the County, with approximately 6 kilometres of trail development completed to date. Work on the second phase of the trail network is expected to be finalized this fall, further expanding recreational opportunities for residents and visitors.

While the campground will be closed for the season, the access road will continue to be maintained throughout the winter, providing convenient access for activities such as snowshoeing. Please note that trails will not be cleared during the winter months. The County is also planning for the addition of an outdoor skating loop as part of the winter access initiative.

More details will be shared as plans are finalized. Residents are encouraged to follow the County's website and social media channels for updates on winter recreation opportunities at Twin Lakes.



Twin Lakes Trails



Family & Community Support Services (FCSS)

FCSS offers a variety of programs and services throughout the year to support the well-being, safety, and connection of individuals and families in our community. We are excited to share a preview of some of our upcoming programs and events. More details and registration information will be shared on our Facebook page and website as dates approach.

Upcoming Programs & Events

Event	Date & Location
Digital Confidence: Adult Computer Classes	October 13, November 10, December 8, April 13, May 11 at Mulhurst Community Hall
Planning for what matters *Online Lunch and Learn: Planning for Post-Secondary*	October 29, 2026 - Online
Supporting Care Partners *Understanding Dementia & Alzheimers*	October 30, 2026 at Mulhurst Hall & Online
Confidence Through Planning *Wills & Enduring Powers of Attorney*	November 4, 2026 at Winfield Hall
Psychological First Aid	November 5-6, 2026 at Wetaskiwin Ag Society
Stay Safe Training *Canadian Red Cross course for ages 9+*	Nov 9, 2026 at Wetaskiwin Ag Society Nov 10, 2026 at Winfield Hall Dec 4, 2026 at Buck Lake Senior Centre
Family Bonding Kits	Registration opens November 9, 2026
Planning for what matters *Online Lunch and Learn: Food & Finance*	November 19, 2026 - Online
Canadian Volunteer Income Tax Program	March 1, 2027
Beauty & the Beast Community Bus Trip *Recreation Program*	November 20, 2026
Low Impact Exercise Classes *Recreation Program*	Tuesday's (Sept 22 - April 27, 2026) at Buck Lake Senior Centre Thursday's (Sept 24 - April 29, 2026) at Winfield Hall

Become a CVITP Volunteer

We're looking for volunteers to help with the Community Volunteer Income Tax Program (CVITP). By volunteering, you can help local residents access important benefits and credits through free tax clinics.

Interested? Contact FCSS to learn more about getting involved at fcssadmin@county10.ca.

Community Events Calendar

Never miss a community event by visiting the website!

FCSS Programs & Resources

Mental Health and Counselling Subsidy Program

Taking care of your mental health is just as important as taking care of your physical health. Whether you're dealing with stress, anxiety, grief, relationship challenges, or other life circumstances, professional counselling can provide valuable support and guidance.

To help make counselling services more accessible, County of Wetaskiwin FCSS offers a Mental Health Counselling Subsidy Program for eligible residents. The program helps reduce the cost of counselling by providing financial assistance to individuals and families who may not otherwise be able to afford these services.

Residents may qualify for the subsidy if they:

- Live in the County of Wetaskiwin;
- Have a gross family income of less than $75,000 annually; and
- Do not have access to employee insurance benefits. Residents who have fully exhausted their Employee Assistance Program (EAP) benefits may still be eligible for subsidized counselling sessions.

If you or a family member could benefit from counselling support, FCSS encourages you to learn more about the program and determine whether you may be eligible.

For details on eligibility requirements and how to apply, visit www.county.wetaskiwin.ab.ca/mentalhealth.



Home Support Services

Need help keeping up with the cleaning? FCSS offers Home Support Services for eligible County residents who need assistance with light housekeeping.

Services include vacuuming, dusting, floor washing, and seasonal cleaning. The program can support seniors, new parents, residents recovering from illness or surgery, and others who may need a helping hand at home.

Fees are based on income. Contact the FCSS Community Program Coordinator to learn more or see if you qualify.

Contact Us

780.352.3321
fcssadmin@county10.ca
Box 6960, Wetaskiwin, AB, T9A 2G5
243019A Highway 13

fcss
County of Wetaskiwin
Family and Community
Support Services

Did You Know? County Grant Opportunities

The County of Wetaskiwin offers grant funding to help local organizations strengthen communities, enhance quality of life, and create opportunities for residents of all ages.

Through the FCSS Community Grant Program, eligible organizations can access funding for preventative, community-based initiatives that support families, youth, seniors, volunteerism, community connections, and local social well-being.

The County also provides Recreation Grant funding to support non-profit community associations, facilities, recreation, sport, culture, leisure, and community-based projects. Recreation funding is administered through the County's five recreation zones and helps provide meaningful recreation opportunities for residents.

County staff are available to help organizations understand eligibility requirements and explore available funding opportunities. Contact the County to learn more about future grant intakes and application processes.

Read on to discover the local organizations, programs, and projects supported through FCSS, Recreation Grants, and other County funding streams in 2026.

Grant List

LGFF	
Alder Flats Community Agricultural Society - *Facility Upgrades*	$50,000.00
TOTAL	**$50,000.00**

FCSS	
Aging Well in Community Programs Totaling	**$2,000.00**
Alder Flats Buck Lake Public Library - *2026 Programs*	$2,000.00
Employment Programs Totaling	**$750.00**
Wetaskiwin Ski Club - *First Aid Training*	$750.00
Family & Sexual Violence Programs Totaling	**$2,000.00**
Town of Millet Library - *Summer Wellness Program*	$2,000.00
Homelessness and Housing Insecurity Programs Totaling	**$0.00**
Mental Health and Addictions Programs Totaling	**$9,500.00**
Town of Millet Library - *Parent Bonding Story Time*	$4,000.00
Breton FCSS - *Breton Women Wellness Day*	$1,000.00
Millet & District Historical Society - *Children's Programs*	$1,500.00
Hillside Community Club - *Living in Balance*	$3,000.00
TOTAL	**$14,250.00**

Library

Alder Flats Library	$17,549.54
Lakedell Library	$19,959.44
Winfield Library	$22,369.35
Millet Library	$28,918.88
Wetaskiwin Library	$48,198.14
TOTAL	**$136,995.35**

Budgeted Intermunicipal Recreation Funding

City of Wetaskiwin	$695,000.00
Millet Recreation Centre	$177,071.00
TOTAL	**$872,071.00**

Grants to Organizations

Royal Canadian Legion Remembrance Day Wreaths	$750.00
Canteen Events	$150.00
Wetaskiwin and District Victims Services	$7,000.00
Farm Safety Centre Safety Smarts Program	$3,000.00
STARS	$16,818.00
Wetaskiwin and County Sports Hall of Fame	$200.00
Alberta Conservation Association	$1,000.00
TOTAL	**$28,918.00**

Chamber of Commerce Grants

Pigeon Lake Regional Chamber of Commerce	$10,000.00
Leduc, Nisku and Wetaskiwin Regional Chamber of Commerce	$7,750.00
TOTAL	**$17,750.00**

Cemetery Operating & Maintenance Assistance Grants

Alder Flats Cemetery	$1,500.00
Bonnie Glen Cemetery	$1,470.00
Bunker Hill Cemetery Club	$1,500.00
Calvary Baptist Church Cemetery	$1,500.00
Crooked Lake Cemetery	$1,500.00
Dalby Cemetery	$1,500.00
Emmaus Lutheran Cemetery	$1,500.00
Immanuel Lutheran Church Cemetery	$550.00
Lakedell Community Cemetery	$1,500.00
Lone Ridge Community Cemetery	$1,500.00
Malmo Mission Covenant Church Cemetery	$1,500.00
Maywood Cemetery	$1,000.00
Millet Community Cemetery	$1,000.00
Mount Clare Cemetery	$1,500.00
Nashville Cemetery	$1,500.00
New Sweden Mission Church Cemetery	$1,500.00
Peace Hills Zion Lutheran Cemetary	$1,500.00
Poplar Valley Cemetery	$1,500.00
Roseland Cemetery	$1,500.00
St. John's Lutheran Cemetery	$1,500.00
St. Norberts Community Cemetery	$900.00
St. Peters Lutheran Cemetery	$1,500.00
Twin Creek Cemetery	$1,125.00
Vang Cemetery	$1,500.00
TOTAL	**$33,045.00**

Zone 1

Alberta Central Railway *Museum Society – 2026 Operations*	$4,000.00
Angus Ridge Community Hall *Society – 2026 Operations*	$9,625.00
Wetaskiwin Soccer Club – *Spirit Cup*	$2,000.00
Alberta Central Railway Museum Society – *2026 Programs*	$875.00
Hills of Peace Singers Society – *Spring Term Session and Concert*	$1590.00
Wetaskiwin Allied Art & Crafts Centre – 70th *Anniversary Celebration*	$2,000.00
TOTAL	$20,090.00

Zone 5

Hillside Community Hall – *2026 Operations*	$2900.00
Millet Minor Ball - *Ball Diamond Upgrade*	$4,958.10
Millet Soccer Association - *Generators*	$732.99
Millet Soccer Association - *Sport Equipment*	$879.90
Millet Soccer Association - *Event Equipment*	$619.94
Millet and District Recreational and Agricultural Society - *2026 Millet Harvest Fest*	$5000.00
TOTAL	$15,090.93

Zone 3

Winfield & District Agricultural Society – *Winfield Gym Facility*	$2,000.00
Yeoford Community Centre – *Operations*	$4,428.50
Winfield & District Agricultural Society - *2026 Operations*	$14,970.50
Winfield & District Agricultural Society – *Centennial Celebrations*	$2,000.00
Winfield Rec Hockey – *Supplies*	$2,000.00
Yeoford Community Centre – *Membership Drive Event*	$2,000.00
TOTAL	$27,399.00

Zone 4

Alder Flats Buck Lake Public Library - *Books and Computer*	$1,500.00
Alder Flats Buck Lake Public Library - *2026 Facility Operations*	$2,000.00
Alder Flats Community Agricultural Society - *Sound System for New Arena*	$1,000.00
Alder Flats Community Agricultural Society - *New Stove*	$1,500.00
Alder Flats Community Agricultural Society - *2026 Facility Operations*	$9,500.00
Alder Flats Community Agricultural Society - *2026 Family Day and Easter Fun Day*	$1,000.00
Alder Flats Hoof & Woof - *2026 Canine Project*	$600.00
Alder Flats Fish and Game Association - *2026 Operational*	$2,612.00
Buck Lake Ag Society - *2026 Utilities*	$9,500.00
Buck Lake Stampede Society - *2026 Operational*	$2,500.00
Buck Lake Senior Citizen Drop-in Centre - *2026 Facility Operations*	$8,800.00
Buck Lake Senior Citizen Drop-in Centre - *2026 Footcare Program*	$1,200.00
Buck Lake Senior Citizen Drop-in Centre - *2026 Groceries for Breakfast Program and Bonspiels*	$1,500.00
Buck Lake Senior Citizen Drop-in Centre - *2026 Programs (Craft, Crib Tournaments, Floor Curling, Exercise Class, Garage Sale)*	$1,200.00
Peacemakers Quilt Club - Charity Quilt Making	$1,000.00
Western Pioneers Senior Citizens Association - *2026 Facility Operations*	$3,600.00
TOTAL	$49,812.00

Zone 2			
Falun Community League - 2026 *Operations*			$13,907.48
Lakedell Agricultural Society - 2026 *Operations*			$12,758.30
Lone Ridge Community Hall Association - 2026 *Operations*			$3,354.00
Usona Agricultural Society - 2026 *Operations*			$10,436.47
Pipestone Community Society - 2026 *Operations*			$9,990.87
Porto Bello Community Society - 2026 *Operations*			$5,933.55
Mulhurst Bay Community League - 2026 *Operations*			$9,451.46
Mulhurst Bay Quilt Club - 2026 *Comfort Compassion Quilts*			$750.00
Mulhurst Bay and District Fire Protection Society - *Ice Golf 2027*			$2,000.00
Portobello Community Society - 2026 *Events*			$600.00
St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Home - *Quilting Group*			$392.00
Pigeon Lake Soccer Club - 2026 *Outdoor Season*			$2,000.00
Lakedell Agricultural Society			
2026 Bus Tour	$1,750.00	2027 Ladies Bonspiel	$1,050.00
2026 Lakedell Fair	$2,000.00	2027 Lakedell Open/Mixed Bonspiel	$1,150.00
2026 Pickleball	$1,150.00	2027 Lakedell Spring BBQ	$2,000.00
2026/2027 Gymkhana Club	$1,925.00	Functional Fitness Supplies	$450.00
2026/2027 Junior Curling Club	$1,043.00	Ice for Lakedell 2026/2027 Curling Season	$1,550.00
2026/2027 Sturling Bonspiel Series	$1,450.00	Lakedell 2026 Halloween	$1,000.00
2027 Junior Bonspiel	$1,150.00		
Lone Ridge Community Association			
2026 Children's Programs	$300.00	Lone Ridge Crafty	$1,050.00
2026 Fall Supper	$500.00		
Mulhurst Bay Community League			
Sports and Recreation	$950.00	Volunteer Appreciation	$500.00
Pipestone Community Society			
Fall Harvest Dinner and Dance	$2,000.00	Spring Dinner and Dance	$2,000.00
Wizard Lake Watershed and Lake Stewardship Association			
2026 Buoy Installation and Removal	$165.00	2026 Winter Lake Ice and Summer Water Cleanup, Signage Installation and Removal	$125.00
2026 Canada Day and Park Day	$550.00	2027 Try It Event	$2,000.00
TOTAL			**$98,782.13**

Conversations with Council

This summer, residents from Alder Flats, Winfield, Village at Pigeon Lake, and Mulhurst Bay joined Council and Administration for a series of Conversations with Council events. These sessions were designed to create an open and informal space for residents to learn about County services and projects, ask questions, and share ideas about the future of their communities.

Participants discussed topics ranging from roads, drainage, and municipal services to recreation, trails, community amenities, business development, tourism, and long-term growth. Residents who were unable to attend in person also had the opportunity to provide feedback through an online and paper survey, ensuring more voices could be part of the conversation.



What We Heard Across the Hamlets

Waste and Recycling Services

Residents across all four hamlets expressed a desire for waste and recycling services that are convenient, consistent, and responsive to local needs. Common suggestions included expanded recycling opportunities, improved transfer station services, additional disposal options, and solutions that better accommodate both permanent and seasonal residents.

Consistency of Municipal Services and Communication

Reliable municipal services and clear communication were recurring priorities throughout the conversations. Residents emphasized the importance of predictable service levels, timely maintenance, transparent communication, and ensuring residents understand available services, responsibilities, and decision-making processes.

Recreation and Community Well-Being

Recreation was identified as an important contributor to quality of life, community connection, and overall well-being. Residents highlighted the value of parks, trails, community facilities, gathering spaces, and recreation programming that supports people of all ages while helping create healthy, vibrant communities. Residents also emphasized the importance of connections within and between communities. Priorities included sidewalks and trails that improve accessibility, connect key destinations, and support recreation and year-round community use.

Together, these priorities reflect a desire for communities that are well-connected and welcoming, with opportunities for residents to gather, stay active, and access the places and services that matter most.

Looking Ahead

The feedback gathered through these conversations provides valuable insight into the priorities, challenges, and opportunities facing County hamlets today. It will help inform future planning, service delivery, and decision-making, while also guiding future discussions with residents.

Engagement will continue in 2027 with the County's remaining hamlets, including Buck Lake, Falun, Gwynne, and Westerose, ensuring residents throughout the County have the opportunity to share their perspectives. Keep an eye on our website and Facebook page for future details.

What We Heard Report

Thank you to everyone who attended a session, completed a survey, or shared their feedback. Your input helps shape future planning and ensures local voices are heard.

The full What We Heard Report will be posted on the County website soon. We encourage residents to check back regularly to explore the findings and stay informed about future engagement opportunities in County hamlets throughout 2027.

Help us improve future engagement opportunities

If you attended a Conversations with Council event or completed the hamlet survey, please take a few minutes to share your thoughts. Your feedback will help us better connect with residents and strengthen future community conversations.

Complete this quick evaluation (2-3 minutes) by scanning the QR code.

Provide Feedback





Fire Services

Fall and winter fire safety on farms and acreages requires clearing dry vegetation, safely maintaining heating and electrical systems, and following winter burning guidelines.

Fall Property Maintenance

- Cut grass and weeds short around all buildings to slow any late-season fire spread.
- Clear dead wood, leaves, and brush away from your yard and outbuildings.
- Keep woodpiles and other combustibles at least 30 feet (10 meters) away from your home and barns.

Heating and Electrical Safety

- Keep portable heaters far away from animal bedding, hay, and straw.
- Avoid using heat lamps or heated pet bowls in outdoor animal shelters.
- Enclose electrical wires in metal or PVC pipes to protect them from weather and animals.
- Consider having a licensed electrician inspect your farm buildings once a year.

Fuel and Hay Storage

- Store fuel and compressed gases outdoors in secure, well-ventilated areas away from living quarters.
- Ensure hay is fully dry before storing it inside to prevent spontaneous combustion.
- Enforce a strict no-smoking policy inside all barns and agricultural buildings.
- Keep ABC-rated fire extinguishers fully charged and easy to reach in every major building.

Safe Winter Burning

A surprising number of wildfires start in the winter. A lack of snow cover can leave brown, dry grass exposed and ready to ignite. Sparks from controlled fires like campfires, burn barrels or agricultural burning can inadvertently cause winter wildfires.

Winter burning can also cause dangerous driving conditions when smoke lingers in the air, since smoke can stay close to the ground and travel great distances on cold days. The ideal conditions for burning are typically days with average temperatures and minimal wind.

When burning during winter:

- listen to the weather forecast for snow conditions and wind predictions before you set your fire
- refrain from burning when an inversion is in place or is forecasted
- actively manage burn projects to reduce total burning time and smoke impacts
- burn debris in stages so that you can adapt to changing weather conditions and reduce smoke
- ensure good snow cover in the burn area (more than 15 cm)



Do You Have Proper Firefighting Insurance?

Most standard homeowners, tenants, and farm insurance policies in Alberta include coverage for fire damage to property, but they may not adequately cover the actual costs of firefighting services (trucks, personnel, equipment) charged by municipalities. These fees can reach thousands of dollars, particularly in rural areas.

Residents are encouraged to have a minimum of $25,000.00 for Residential Properties and $50,000.00 for Farm Properties (Fire Services Bylaw, Part 14 – Fire Protection Charges).

Residents are strongly encouraged to review their insurance policies to confirm that firefighting costs are covered, as fire protection charges will be levied for all responses.





Homeowner's Property Fire Insurance Rates

The County of Wetaskiwin is pleased to announce Superior Tanker Shuttle Service (STSS) accreditation for three locations serving County residents: City of Wetaskiwin Fire Services Stations #1 and #2 and the Millet Fire Station.

Homeowners within five kilometres by road of an accredited fire station may be eligible to have the accreditation applied to their insurance policy. STSS accreditation is recognized by many insurance companies and may help eligible property owners qualify for reduced fire insurance premiums.

Accreditation is awarded by the Fire Underwriters Survey after fire departments demonstrate their ability to provide a continuous and reliable water supply to areas without municipal hydrants. This includes successfully using fire apparatus to shuttle water to a fire location and maintain the required water flow.

Property owners within the recognized areas are encouraged to contact their insurance provider to determine if STSS accreditation can be applied to their policy.

Visit the County website to download the Letter of Accreditation to the Community and Letter of Recognition to Insurers to share with your insurance provider.

Find Out More



Fire Prevention Week Rewind

As we look back on Fire Prevention Week, this year's theme, "*Charge Into Fire Safety™. Safe Charging Is a Superpower*," reminded us that simple charging habits can help prevent fires and keep our homes, workplaces, and communities safe.

With lithium-ion batteries powering many of the devices we use every day, it is important to use approved chargers, avoid charging damaged devices, charge on hard, flat surfaces, and follow manufacturer guidelines.

While the week has passed, these fire prevention tips remain valuable year-round because when it comes to safety, small actions can make a big difference.

Use Your Charging Superpowers

Cheap charger? Don't chance it.

Use the cord and charger that came with your device or one approved by the manufacturer.

Soft surface? Hard pass.

Charge on a hard, flat surface like a table, desk, or bare floor.

Fully charged? Time to unplug.

Unplug your device when it is fully charged.

For tools and rides, charge outside.

Charge large items like e-bikes, scooters, and power tools outside when possible. Do not block exits when charging.

Feels hot? Stop using it.

Stop using your device if it feels very hot, starts to swell, smells strange, leaks, smokes, or makes popping or hissing sounds.

On a flight? Keep it in sight.

When on a plane, keep devices where you can see them while charging. Do not charge e-cigarettes or vapes on the plane. Tell a flight attendant if you notice a problem with your device.

Emergency Preparedness

Preparing your farm or acreage for fall and winter emergencies helps protect your family, livestock, and property from severe weather and power failures.

Essential Emergency Planning

Map your property: Draw a site map showing buildings, fuel and chemical storage, water sources, and electrical shutoffs.

Keep inventory lists: Record your livestock numbers, equipment, and hazardous materials for emergency responders.

Stock supplies: Maintain a 14-day supply kit for livestock and at least 72 hours of food and water for household members.

Prepare a vehicle kit: Keep a winter survival kit with a shovel, booster cables, tow rope, blankets, and flashlights in farm vehicles.



Livestock and Animal Care

Plan for shelter-in-place: Keep animals in safe pastures or sturdy structures protected from downed power lines and blowing debris.

Ensure independent water access: Have non-electric ways to water livestock if power outages shut down automatic systems.

Mark animal identification: Keep up-to-date tags, tattoos, and registration records handy in case animals scatter or require evacuation

Winterizing Infrastructure and Equipment

Service backup power: Test your gas-powered generator and keep extra fuel stored safely for pumps and heating.

Secure loose items: Tie down or store outdoor equipment and loose objects that high winter winds can pick up.

Clear fire hazards: Move combustible materials away from heating units, and check fire extinguishers in barns and vehicles.

Insulate water lines: Wrap exposed pipes and service stock tanks to prevent freezing during deep freezes.

Bylaw & Protective Services

Sea Cans in Wetaskiwin County

Shipping Containers, more commonly known as Sea-Cans are a popular storage option for rural property owners, but before having one delivered, it is important to understand the land-use requirements for placing one on your property in the County of Wetaskiwin.

Under Land Use Bylaw 2024/66, Sea-Cans are considered a “Development”, specifically being an Accessory Building, and are typically subject to requiring a Development Permit. The Planning & Development Department can assist in confirming whether your Sea-Can or other Accessory Buildings you wish to place on your property need a Development Permit and other regulations regarding it such as the location they are allowed.

Before arranging delivery, property owners should confirm their land-use district, required setbacks, whether a development permit is needed, and whether the proposed use is permitted, which can help avoid costly moves or compliance issues. The Planning & Development Department can be reached at 780.352.3321 or via email at wpermits@county10.ca.

Bottom line: Sea-Cans can be a convenient storage solution, but check the rules before placing one on your property.

Fall & Winter Driving Safety

As we move into the fall and winter months, changing road and weather conditions can create additional hazards for motorists throughout the County of Wetaskiwin. Rain, frost, snow, ice, reduced daylight and wildlife activity can all affect visibility, traction and stopping distances.

Returning to School

With students returning to school, drivers can expect increased pedestrian, bicycle and vehicle traffic in and around school areas and residential communities. Please remain alert for children crossing roads, approaching intersections and waiting for or exiting school buses. Reduce your speed, follow posted school-zone restrictions and be prepared for children who may enter the roadway unexpectedly. Taking a few extra moments to slow down and pay attention can help ensure everyone gets to school and home safely.



Road Conditions



Drivers should adjust their speed and following distance to the conditions rather than relying on the posted speed limit. Road conditions can change quickly, particularly on bridges, shaded areas and rural roads. Allowing additional time to reach your destination can help reduce temptation to drive too fast for the road conditions.

Preparing your vehicle before winter arrives is also important. Ensure your tires have adequate tread and are properly inflated. Drivers who regularly travel rural roads should also consider carrying an appropriate emergency supply kit.

Wildlife



Wildlife activity can increase during the fall, particularly around dawn and dusk. Drivers should remain alert in areas where wildlife is common and be prepared for animals to enter the roadway unexpectedly. If wildlife is present near the roadway, reduce your speed and be prepared for additional animals to follow.

Slow Moving Vehicles

Agricultural equipment and other large slow-moving vehicles will also continue to use County roads. Drivers should maintain a safe following distance, allow additional room for equipment to turn and only pass when it is safe and permitted.

Poor Weather

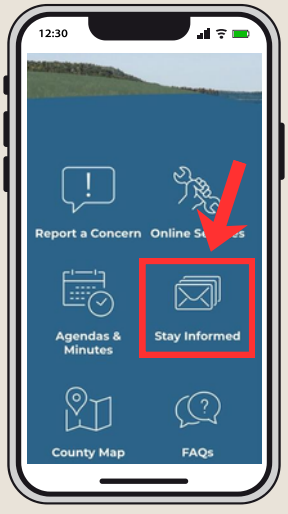
Before travelling during periods of significant snowfall or poor weather, check current road and weather conditions and consider whether the trip is necessary. If travel is required, allow additional time and be prepared for changing conditions.

Protective Services reminds motorists that safe winter driving starts with preparation and requires drivers to adjust their behavior to the conditions. Slow down, remain alert and give yourself enough time and space to adjust to changing road conditions.

Notify Me

Stay Connected with Notify Me

Stay informed about Council meetings, public hearings, community events, construction projects, and more. Through the Notify Me service, residents can sign up to receive updates directly via email or text message.



Getting Started is Easy:

1. Visit the County website and click **Stay Informed** on the homepage, or scan the QR code.
2. Sign in or create an account.
3. Enter your email address and/or phone number on the Notify Me page.
4. Select the updates you'd like to receive.

Notify Me



Build Your Career with the County

Did You Know?

Notify Me isn't just for community news and updates. You can also **subscribe to Job Posting Alerts** and receive an email or text whenever a new employment opportunity is posted.

What We Offer

The County of Wetaskiwin is proud to offer rewarding career opportunities with competitive compensation, comprehensive benefits, professional development opportunities, and a strong organizational culture that promotes well-being, professionalism, collaboration, and teamwork.

If you're passionate about serving your community and building a meaningful career close to home, we'd love to hear from you. Inquire with us today!

Inquire with us

county.wetaskiwin.ab.ca/jobs

HR@county10.ca

View Current Opportunities

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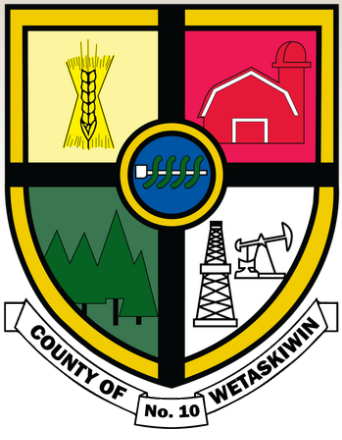
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