



Summer Village of Poplar Bay

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Summer 2021 Newsletter

COUNCIL MESSAGE

We hope everyone is enjoying this very warm summer at the lake and have been able to enjoy their property to its fullest potential. The hot weather and low precipitation has put extra stress on the lake causing things like the white fish kill and occasionally more algae, but overall we hope the summer has been good to everyone.

Our community has seen a burst of activity this summer in new owners and new buildings popping up throughout the village. With this burst of activity has come some challenges with increased traffic and construction but overall it is a welcome boost to our village. With the new development and new residents comes a increased energy for the entire community. Your council would ask everyone to reach out to your new neighbours and let them know all the good things this community has to offer as well as help introduce them to our community's spirit.

To our new residents, welcome to the Summer Village of Poplar Bay and we encourage you to check out our website to fully understand everything that the village has to offer.

Finally, as was announced on our website, we recently held our nomination day for counsellors and as a result of this nomination day, your existing three counsellors were all re-elected by acclamation. We all look forward to another four years of serving the residents of Poplar Bay and continuing to ensure our community is sustainable in the long run.

Please feel free to reach out to any of the three of us if you have any concerns or questions regarding the Summer Village. We look forward to talking to you all in the future.

PLEASE RESPECT THE NO WAKE ZONE

Residents are asked to respect the "no wake zone" in the lake adjacent to the shoreline. For practical purposes the NO WAKE ZONE IS THE AREA FROM THE Village Buoys to the shoreline. A "no-wake zone" is an area where vessels are expected to travel at slow (idle) speeds to minimize the wake. This zone minimizes the erosion to the shoreline and keeps residents and other watercraft users safe.

WASTEWATER UPDATE

The Summer Village completed the wastewater system in late 2019. At that time the local improvement levy/service connection cost was \$6,521.74. Since then the cost of the materials and labour associated with pump installations has increased and the new service connection cost is \$7,500. For those of you who installed the pumps before November 2020, Council has extended the lower connection fee until September 30, 2021.

Please note –All service connections completed after September 30, 2021 will be charged the new connection fee rate of \$7,500 regardless of the date of the pump installation.

Our system operator THS Septic and Civil Solutions is ready to answer any questions or respond to any concerns you may have. Please contact them as follows:

During Business hours 403-844-2559
After Hours Emergency 403-844-9233
E-mail thskayela@gmail.com

An emergency is a spill or release of wastewater outside the system and must be reported immediately. Other concerns such as high-level alarms can be reported to THS at any time.

Please remember your grinder pump will provide years of service if you follow some simple rules. The only materials permitted to be discharged into the wastewater system are: human waste and toilet paper; greywater from showers, sinks, tubs and dishwashers; conventional food wastes as processed through an in-sink garbage disposal unit and laundry machine washing discharge.

Many items are not allowed to enter toilets or drains. Prohibited items include:

“flushable” baby wipes	dental floss	gravel	socks, rags or cloth
feminine products	pantyhose	bones	paint or paint thinner
diapers	plastics / latex	glass	metal
condoms	grease or cooking oil	sand	cat litter
egg shells	seafood shells	grout	cleaning wipes

Sump pump discharge, rainwater and other surface water are not permitted to enter the wastewater system. In addition, Schedule D-1 and D-2 in the Municipal Wastewater Utility Bylaw #253 set out chemical, oil, flammable materials and other restrictions.

NOTE: The cost of repair to the grinder pump caused by prohibited materials in the tank will be the responsibility of the property owner.

POPLAR BAY BYLAW #244 – MUNICIPAL PROPERTY BYLAW

This Bylaw restricts the uses on Reserve properties in the Summer Village. An excerpt of the Bylaw is as follows:

No person shall construct, install, erect or maintain any Development on Reserve without the express written approval of Council. Without restricting the generality of the foregoing, no Development in the nature of playgrounds, recreational facilities for volleyball, basketball, horseshoes or other recreational pursuits, structures, buildings, pathways, stairways, barbeques or other outdoor cooking facilities, shall be allowed without the express written approval of Council.

For more information on Poplar Bay Bylaw #244, please go to the Poplar Bay website, www.poplarbay.ca.

We do ask everyone to please respect these areas and to help us keep the reserves clean and safe for our neighbors. We can do this by picking up any garbage or refuse we see on village property, by not encroaching on or dumping branches and yard waste on the reserves.

We encourage residents to remove deadfall from the reserves and take it to their residences to use as firewood. If residents see any hazardous or standing dead tree's they should notify JUDY at Summer Village office to have it dealt with.

Cutting or removal of any live trees or vegetation is strictly prohibited and can result in a fine or charges, so we encourage you to call office with any concerns.

This Bylaw is currently under review by Council and will likely see increased fines for Bylaw infractions.

WATER WELL INFORMATION

For your information, here is a link to an Alberta government publication called "Water Wells...that Last. A guide for Private Well Owners in Alberta.

<https://open.alberta.ca/dataset/b86f55b7-0040-4c36-a326-f2df7df930d9/resource/b75188b6-c1de-4935-b1da-18c8e3345f30/download/af-aep-water-wells-that-last-2019.pdf>

PIGEON LAKE WATER MONITORING BUOY

Interesting lake data can be found on the Pigeon Lake Water Monitoring Buoy. The link is on the Poplar Bay website under the "Environmental" tab. <https://www.wqdatalive.com/public/1495>

ROADS & DRAINAGE

Roads:

The Summer Village 2021 Capital Budget included amounts for road repairs and resurfacing. We are looking at all options to provide road improvements which will allow us to repair and resurface the most affected areas with the most cost effective, long term alternative, funded from Provincial Municipal Sustainability Initiative (MSI) Capital Grants.

Drainage and Culverts:

Currently we are evaluating drainage and culverts with the assistance of our Engineering Consultants, with the plan to repair and/or replace some culverts within the Summer Village. Again, this project will be funded from our MSI Capital Grants. If a resident has information on this topic in their local area and wanted to provide specific locations and concerns, please email to the Administration Office at information@svofficepl.com.

MUNICIPAL RESERVES – STORAGE

This is a reminder that storage of any material on reserves is not allowed unless items are clearly identified by lot number and then only in designated areas. Further, all such items must be removed by **June 30 each year**. Unidentified items may be removed and/or destroyed, so if you have unidentified items stored on reserves, either remove or identify them at your earliest convenience.

REMINDER

As an important reminder, residents **MUST NOT** allow their property to drain onto another resident's property. Please ensure that your lot drainage is properly addressed so as not to negatively affect another property.

FISH KILL

Please refer to the Poplar Bay website at <https://poplarbay.ca/> for updates on what to do with dead fish.

YARD WASTE

Please do not dump yard waste such as grass clippings, leaves or branches in the ditches or on reserves. This negatively affects the water drainage and contributes to blockages in culverts and flooding.

INSURANCE FOR FIRE, FLOOD AND STORM DAMAGE

Residents are reminded that the annual fee the Summer Village pays for fire protection supports the maintenance of the fire department. Check your insurance for fire, flood and storm damage because the Summer Village is not responsible for any charges from the Fire department to respond to or to provide any services associated with their response.

ASSISTANCE REQUIRED TO ELIMINATE NOXIOUS WEEDS – COMMON TANSY

This noxious weed can easily be recognized as a shrub with yellow, bud-like flowers. It is rapidly taking over the shoreline in many places and displacing native vegetation. We are asking all residents to help remove this plant. Small plants can be hand pulled. Larger plants may require a pry bar. Another variety of tansy, called Tansy Ragwort, is classified as a prohibited noxious weed. This means it must be removed. This plant has small yellow flowers with petals. Information on how to identify and eliminate these weeds can be found on the Poplar Bay website, www.poplarbay.ca. Let's make our Summer Village free of these and other noxious weeds.

MOUNTAIN PINE BEETLE

The Mountain Pine Beetle has been identified in south Pigeon Lake Summer Villages and the County of Wetaskiwin. The Mountain Pine Beetle is a small, black beetle about the size of a grain of rice. Mountain pine beetles attack and kill all pine trees, usually mature ones aged 80 to 120 years old. All species of pine are vulnerable and they do not attack aspen, spruce or fir trees. For more information on the Mountain Pine Beetle, go to the website at www.poplarbay.ca.

DORIS MCALLISTER - BYLAW OFFICER

Doris McAllister is on board to assist Poplar Bay residents with bylaw questions and concerns, including parking, noise, animal control, use of fertilizer and herbicides, etc. Doris can be reached at 1-780-719-6447.

MOORING DISTURBANCE STANDARD

Alberta Environment and Parks created a new Mooring Disturbance Standard for temporary seasonal docks and other mooring structures. The engagement has now completed, and a new disturbance standard came into effect on April 19, 2021. You can learn more by visiting <https://www.alberta.ca/mooring-standards-engagement.aspx>

Please remember this is an Alberta Government standard and not a Village municipal standard, our municipal responsibility in this is the work with residence to help ensure compliance. The Summer Village will not be "policing" or auditing compliance to standard at this time that will be a Provincial responsibility.

Council encourages all residents who have a dock, lift or platform in the lake to go online and ensure familiarize themselves with the new standard, and then it is each residence responsibility to comply with the standard as it applies to their situation.

For residents whose property does not border the lake (backlot owners), who have typically placed docks off municipal reserves, approval and a permit from AEP will still be required. This permit (TFA) can be received by applying to AEP, part of the requirement is that the applicant must have the written consent of the frontage landowner (Summer Village).

Council has decided that we will grant this consent and will provide written notice on request of residents. If there is a situation where numerous applicants request consent for same access preference will be given to historic user of access however it is hoped neighbors can find a way to share access and meet the standard as laid out in the standard.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Fraser Hubbard.

Shoreline Ice Damage and Restoration

The past winter was one that can be characterized as having lower than normal snow cover in conjunction with larger than normal temperature fluctuations and high-water levels at freeze up (2020 water level was approx. 8" higher than average since 1955 and 17" higher than 2019 levels). As a result of these conditions ice ridges had a significant impact on much of the shoreline around the entire lake.

Residents who have experienced shoreline damage as a result of the ice heaves are advised to be cautious about restoration plans. Most work done on shoreline including restoration work requires approval from Alberta Environment and Parks (AEP) as well as a development permit from the Summer Village.

AEP has provided guidance documents for obtaining necessary permits etc. on their website.

The follow steps are recommended:

1. Assess: it is important to assess the situation and determine what restoration is required, wait till all ice has melted and pushed up soil has settled as ice melt may create unsafe voids in soil.
2. Evaluate options for restoration recontouring with existing materials "soft landscaping" is preferred option which may include vegetation like willows and natural scrubs. Generally, repairs that can be done "by hand", minor recontouring and planting of vegetation will not require AEP approval, but it is a good idea to contact AEP field rep to confirm.
3. If your restoration plans are a bit more extensive but are still deemed as recontouring and minor a Temporary Field Authorization (TFA) from AEP may be required as determined by AEP field officer. A TFA can be processed quite quickly and the field officer can help guide you through it.
If work is more extensive or significant and deemed major by the Field Officer an AEP License of Occupation (DLO) maybe required, the process to obtain a DLO is quite extensive and requires a much longer process.

For more information and advice regarding your restoration plans and AEP permit requirements, Contact cody.nahirniak@gov.ab.ca

TFA application form:

<https://www.alberta.ca/alberta-environment-and-parks-land-forms.aspx>

Summer Village Development Permit:

Judy.mccardia@svofficepl.com

POPLAR BAY COUNCIL:

Mayor Fraser Hubbard
403-612-5272

Deputy Mayor Brian Meaney
780-242-8172

Councilor Gary Carew
780-910-7310



Summer Village of Poplar Bay 2021 Summarized Budget

Revenue			
Property Taxes	\$	292,581	Municipal Property Taxes
Provincial Requisitions	\$	231,801	Provincial Requisitions - School, Designated Industrial Properties
General Revenue	\$	13,600	Tax penalties, interest, development fees
User Fees	\$	82,731	Wastewater utility fee
Operating Grants	\$	8,876	MSI Operating Grant
	\$	629,589	

Expenditure			
Provincial Requisition	\$	231,801	Provincial Requisitions - School, Designated Industrial Properties
Council Costs	\$	23,225	Council honorarium, public meetings, election
Administration	\$	26,191	Muni memberships, assessments, audit, insurance, legal
Joint Services	\$	88,336	Joint services shared expense
Emergency Services	\$	35,683	Fire, RCMP, Disaster Services, Water Rescue
Streets & Roads	\$	74,561	Road maint. & reserves, street lighting, grass cutting, snow removal
Waste Management	\$	92,075	Regional and Local wastewater, garbage, reserves
Planning & Dev	\$	30,000	Planning, Permits, Development Appeal Board
Recreation & Culture	\$	27,717	Parks, buoys, tree mgmt., Beach Cleanup, Pigeon Lake Watershed
	\$	629,589	

2021 Budget Notes:

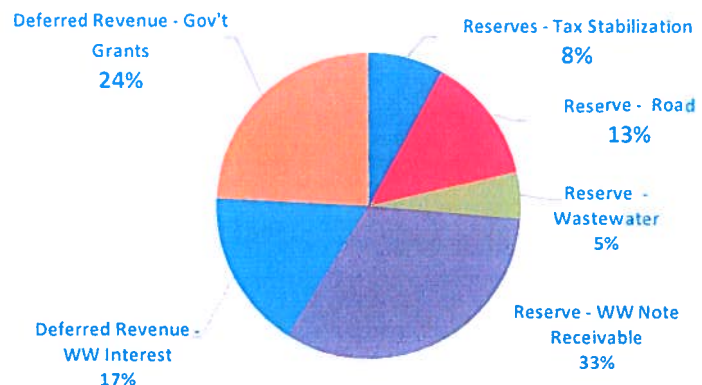
The overall property assessment in Poplar Bay increase by 0.5% in 2021 compared to 2020.
 The 2021 Municipal Property Taxes increased by 2% (\$5,732) to \$292,581 compared to \$286,849 in 2020.
 The 2021 Provincial Requisitions increased by 0.96% (\$2,234) to \$231,801 compared to \$229,567 in 2020
 The Municipal minimum Property Tax remained at \$600 for 2021.
 The Annual Wastewater Utility fee for 2021 remained at \$240 for all properties.
 The Annual Wastewater fees are used to fund the regional wastewater expenses, local wastewater expense and build reserves used to help fund future Capital Project.

<u>2021 Capital Projects</u>	<u>Costs</u>	<u>Funding</u>
Roads and Drainage	\$ 455,000	Provincial and Federal Grants
Wastewater pumps	\$ 20,000	User Fees and Reserves

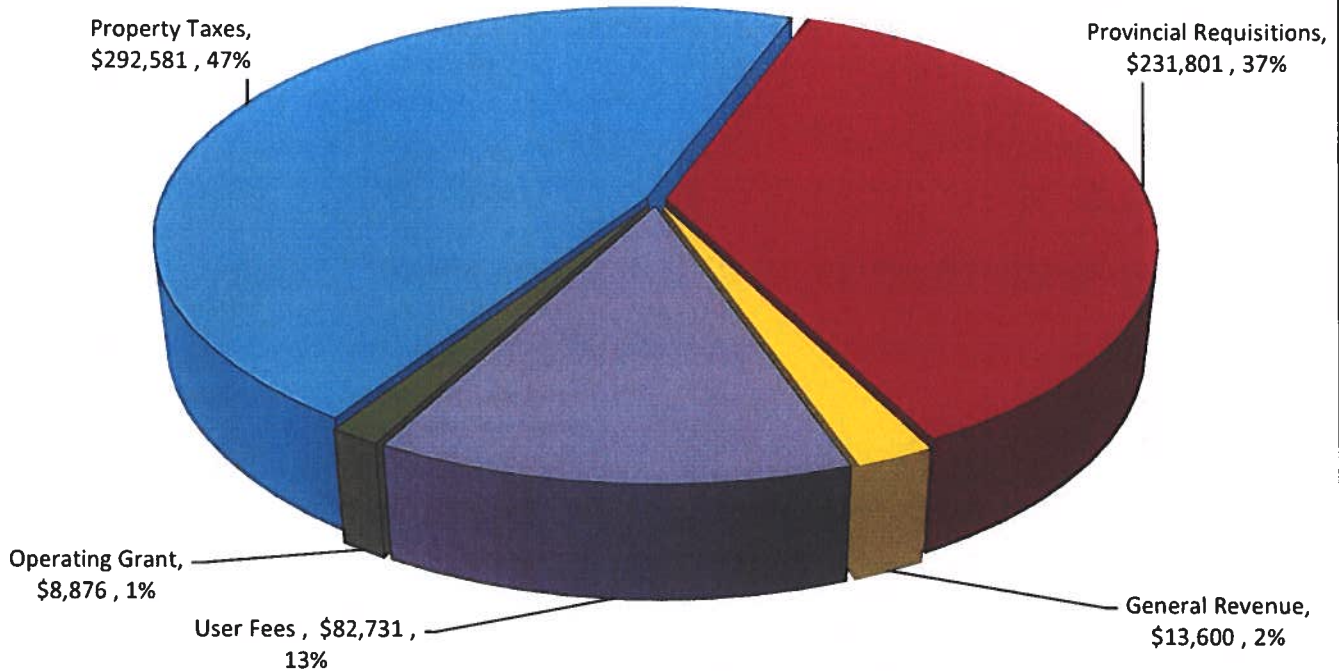
Deferred Revenue and Reserves

Reserves - Tax Stabilization	\$	127,587
Reserve - Road	\$	217,944
Reserve - Wastewater	\$	80,000
Reserve - WW Note Receivable	\$	527,637
Deferred Revenue - WW Interest	\$	271,354
Deferred Revenue - Gov't Grants	\$	392,138
at Dec 31, 2020	\$	1,616,660

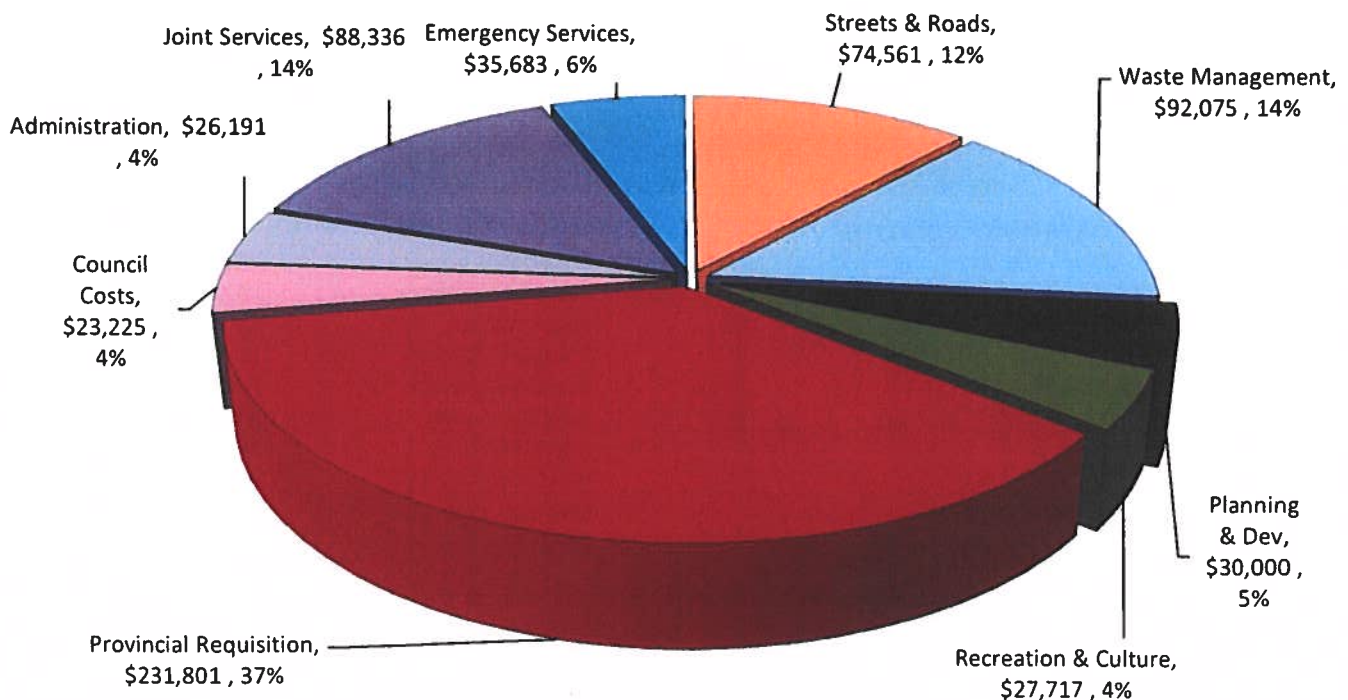
DEFERRED REVENUE / RESERVES AT DECEMBER 31, 2020



**Summer Village of Poplar Bay
2021 Budget - Revenue \$629,589**



**Summer Village of Poplar Bay
2021 Budget - Expenses \$629,589**





2020 Financial Results

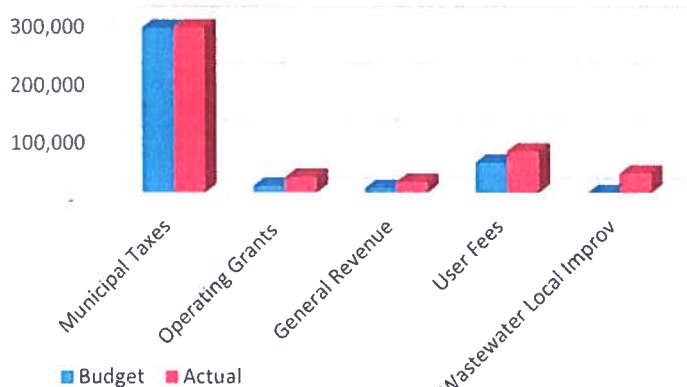
2020 Budgeted Surplus was \$36,200

Actual operating results in additional Surplus of \$117,700 for a total Surplus of \$153,900

2020 Additional Revenues:

Provincial Operating Grants	15.2 K
General Revenue	10.8 K
User Fees	19.7 K
Wastewater Local Improvement	33.6 K

2020 Operating Revenues



Operating Revenues	Budget	Actual
Municipal Taxes	286,849	286,903
Operating Grants	11,431	26,698
General Revenue	7,600	18,383
User Fees	51,940	71,649
Wastewater Local Improv	-	33,692
Total Revenue	357,820	437,326

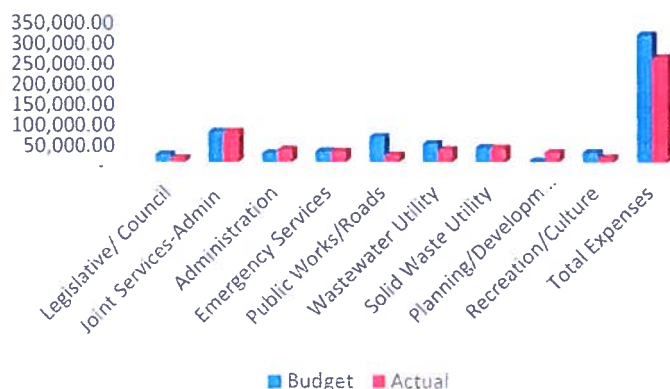
2020 Expenses - Cost Savings

Council / Legislative	\$ 8.7 K
Administration - Legal Fees	\$ 2.0 K
Public Works - Roads	\$ 8.3 K
Wastewater Utility	\$ 12.9 K
Planning & Development	\$ 13.8 K

2020 Expenditures - Over Budget

Emergency Services	\$ 1.7 K
Solid Waste	\$ 1.8 K
Recreation & Culture	\$ 3.9 K

2020 Operating Expenses



Operating Expenses	Budget	Actual
Legislative/ Council	18,725	9,971
Joint Services-Admin	81,099	81,099
Administration	24,881	22,972
Emergency Services	26,955	28,622
Public Works/Roads	26,900	18,575
Wastewater Utility	51,100	38,197
Solid Waste Utility	36,325	38,127
Planning/Development	31,917	18,118
Recreation/Culture	23,772	27,684
Total Expenses	321,674	283,365



2020 Capital Projects

Project Costs

Source of Funding

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>		
Roads:			Provincial Capital Grants	\$ 200,000
Poplar Bay Drive Patching, Road repair, Drainage	\$ 200,000	\$0	Total Road Project Funding	\$ 0
Note: Delayed until 2021				
Wastewater Project:				
Local Project Costs	\$ 776,492	465,577	Local Improvement Levy	\$ 366,702
Regional Project Costs	\$ 6,000	0	Municipal Reserves	\$ 98,875
	\$782,492	\$ 465,577	Total Wastewater Project Funding	\$ 465,577

IMPLEMENTING THE PIGEON LAKE WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN

Caring for the Lake Together

PLWA Meetings and Events (www.plwa.ca/events)

- July 24, 9:30-11:00 AM, PLWA AGM
- Aug 16 - Oct 11, Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup
- Nov 4, 6:30-8:30 PM, Watershed 101 Workshop for Council Members



Pigeon Lake Receives Environmental Award

Caring for the Lake Together – Pigeon Lake Watershed Management Plan named the 2021 Alberta Emerald Award recipient for Water Initiatives.

Clean Runoff Stewardship Initiatives

- Alberta Clean Runoff Action Guide 2020 available online
- Shoreline and Trail Restoration at BAR-V-NOK Camp
- Mulhurst Bay Clean Runoff Demonstration Site
- Watershed Regulations - Land Use Bylaw Implementation Guide

Clean Runoff Property Assessments

PLWA is working with Landscape Architects from McElhanney to provide clean runoff landscape concept plans for nine residents in the watershed through the property assessment program. Spots still available, contact: plwaprograms@gmail.com

Resources for Residential Construction

New on the PLWA website is tips for best practices when building or renovating. The Development Officers will also receive a Residential Construction Checklist to highlight environmental provisions.

Advocacy to Reinstate Watercraft Inspection Stations

Alberta faces a significant threat from aquatic invasive species. Since 2018, Alberta has decreased the number of watercraft inspection stations from 13 to 3 while the number of mussel-fouled boats detected has doubled. Without inspection stations, boats moving between Alberta and BC also risk transporting Eurasian Watermilfoil undetected. PLWA is working with partner organizations and municipalities to request the Government a) reinstates inspection stations, and b) collaborates with partner groups to implement multiple measures for protecting the lake. ***To prevent the spread of invasive species, Clean, Drain, Dry watercrafts when transporting in between lakes.***

Welcome to the Lake

Do you have new neighbors? Request a *Welcome to the Lake* package, contact: info@plwa.ca

Thanks goes out to the Alberta Real Estate Foundation for funding this program.

Support PLWA

Volunteer and donate to PLWA. Your contribution will help run programs dedicated to implementing the Pigeon Lake Watershed Management Plan. plwa.ca/donate



Building or Renovating in the Watershed

1

Identify environmentally sensitive areas

- Creek or stream Ditches Treed areas
 Wetlands Reserve land Shore and bank vegetation



Document with photos

Share with the development officer and contractor

2

Learn about best practices for construction in a watershed

- Contact PLWA for a Clean Runoff Property Assessment
- Review the Alberta Clean Runoff Action Guide 2020
- Determine permit requirements e.g. municipal & provincial

3

Select a lake-aware contractor

Ask prospective contractors to:

- Propose clean runoff solutions
- Identify applicable watershed regulations e.g. *tree removal bylaws*
- Specify construction practices in a watershed e.g. *erosion control*



Alberta Clean Runoff
Action Guide 2020 - Construction

4

Implement control measures

During Construction:

Protect habitat, apply erosion controls, install protective barriers around vegetation, limit soil compaction



Alberta Clean Runoff Action
Guide 2020 - Landscaping

5

Prevent soil erosion

Post Construction:

Introduce lake-friendly landscaping



HAZARDOUS WASTE MUST BE DISPOSED OF PROPERLY


This includes all batteries and items that contain batteries

Did you know when batteries touch metal they can spark, smoke and cause fires? Keep our facilities safe and dispose of your hazardous material properly.



STOP. THINK. SORT.



BE
CART 
SMART