

Town Hall News

January 2010



 Do your part. Reduce. Reuse. Recycle.

Environment • Economy • Community • Culture • Governance

Christmas Tree Free Disposal

The Town of Olds and Mountain View Waste Management hope that everyone had a good Christmas and a Happy New Year!

You may dispose of your live (NOT artificial) Christmas Tree for FREE at any of the following locations until Saturday 23 January (REMOVE ALL DECORATIONS first):

- Olds EcoSite
- Sundre EcoSite
- Water Valley EcoSite
- Didsbury Landfill



PLEASE do not be irresponsible or lazy by dumping your tree at the recycling centres or in your green compost bin (or in any other unauthorized place) - the Mountain View Regional Waste Management Commission is generously allowing residents to dispose of trees for FREE at local EcoSites. If you purchase and enjoy a live Christmas Tree, be a good citizen and dispose of it responsibly. Questions? Call 403.556.8120.

Utilities Equalized Billing - Avoid Surprises

If you are on our Equalized Payment automatic debit plan for Utilities, the annual adjustment to your account will be made on your December statement, which is included with this newsletter.

Every month, your statement shows the exact amount of the payments you have made to date, and also shows either a

Credit (meaning you have **overpaid**), or a **Debit** (meaning you have **underpaid**). If you have a Debit, this amount will be debited from your bank account on the statement Due Date. Remember that your Utility Statement is always for the previous month's usage.

Check your last utility statement - if the actual amount is much higher or much lower than the amount you have paid to date, call our Utilities Administrator at 403.556.6981 to make adjustments to your Equalized Payment monthly amount, to avoid large differences at the end of each year.

Snow on Sidewalks

Town of Olds Community Peace Officers continue to vigorously enforce the requirement of the Town's Unsightly Premises & Snow Removal Bylaw for property owners and occupants to **clear snow and ice from adjacent town sidewalks within 24 hours of deposit**. Instances of non-compliance will be dealt with (once only per specific property) through the issuance of a Notice to Remedy. If the deadline in the Notice is not complied with, the Town will hire someone to clean the sidewalk, and all expenses, including a Town Administrative charge, will be passed on to the property owner. Absentee property owners are urged to address this issue with their renters. In addition, for serious or repeated infractions, a charge under the Bylaw may be laid carrying a fine of between \$250 and \$500. Questions? Call 403.507.4836 or 403.507.4837 (please leave messages if no answer).

Town Info...

Office Closure

Town Office will be closed Monday 15 February for Alberta Family Day. Payments or correspondence may be left in the Drop Box outside the front entrance.

Upcoming Council Meetings

Council meetings are held in Council Chambers the second Monday of each month at 1.00 pm, and the fourth Monday of each month at 7.00 pm, unless indicated otherwise.

- Monday 11 January - 1.00 pm
- Monday 18 January - Policies & Priorities meeting - 3.00 pm
- Monday 25 January - 7.00 pm
- Monday 8 February - 1.00 pm

Changing Addresses?

When you move to a different address within Olds, your Town of Olds Utility Account number does NOT move with you. You will get a new account number at your new address. If you use telebanking or internet banking to pay your Utility bill, you must notify your bank of the new account number. If you continue to make payments using the old number (or a wrong number), you could be paying someone else's account! Make sure you are paying the right account by checking that the Utility account number you have set up for your internet or telephone banking is correct. Questions? Call the Utility Administrator at 403.556.6981.

2010 Budget

At a Budget Meeting 21 December, Town Council approved the 2010 Operating and Capital budgets for the Town of Olds. The meeting Minutes and Budget Summary are available on the Budget page in the Council section at www.olds.ca.

Employer Workshops

For more information on the following workshops and to register, contact Barb at the Olds Chamber, 403.556.7070 or email oldscham@telusplanet.net. Pre-registration is required as seating is limited. The deadline to register is two working days prior to each event. These workshops are sponsored by Alberta Employment & Immigration and the Olds & District Chamber of Commerce. All are free of charge.

Finders Keepers - Employee Recruitment Strategies

Tuesday 19 January 2010, 9 am to noon
Town of Olds Council Chambers

Employers will learn new strategies to successfully find the talent they need while raising their profile as an "employer of choice." Learn about recruitment strategies used by Alberta employers; explore how to customize your approach to engage frequently overlooked talent sources; review the recruitment planning process.

Skills by Design - Employee Development Strategies

Tuesday 9 February 2010, 9 am to noon
Town of Olds Council Chambers

Through this interactive workshop, employers will learn to increase their knowledge of effective employee development practices and resources that can assist their businesses. Discover the benefits of establishing comprehensive training and development programs to build employee skills; learn about the broad range of learning opportunities for your employees; analyse your needs to develop objectives and strategies for creating a more skilled workforce.

Beyond Pay & Benefits - Employee Retention Strategies

Thursday 18 March 2010, 9 am to noon
Town of Olds Council Chambers

Through this interactive workshop, employers will learn how to create an organization where people want to work. Develop an understanding of the best practices and tools to help your business retain workers; discover creative strategies to attract and keep employees; review your

current plans, wage strategies and retention actions and update them.

Volunteer Opportunity with Olds Institute

Physician Recruitment & Retention is part of the Community Lifestyle Committee of the Olds Institute for Community & Regional Development. This sub-committee is looking for new volunteers to assist with this ongoing project. Physician Recruitment & Retention works with Alberta Health Services, the Town of Olds, and local medical clinics to recruit and retain medical professionals. This sub-committee meets monthly except July and August. More information on the Physician Recruitment & Retention project is available in the "Community Lifestyle" section at www.oldsinstitute.ca. If you are interested in being involved with this rewarding volunteer opportunity, please contact Mel Giles 403.556.8498, mvgiles@shaw.ca, or Bonnie Giles 403.556.8498, bcgiles@shaw.ca.

Warm Winter Swim Programs

The Olds Aquatic Centre Winter Schedule is available at the Olds Aquatic Centre and at www.olds.ca! Swimming is an easy and enjoyable physical activity - make 2010 the year you decide to join us at the OAC for our great programs!

Register now for Red Cross Swim lessons!

This winter we are offering:

- **Saturday** lessons - 16 Jan to 27 March

- **Monday/Wednesday** lessons - choose from session 1 from 18 Jan to 3 Feb; session 2 from 8 Feb to 1 March; or session 3 from 8 March to 24 March

- **Tuesday/Thursday** lessons - choose from session 1 from 19 Jan to 4 Feb; session 2 from 9 Feb to 2 March; or session 3 from 9 March to 25 March

Join us for Adult Swim Lessons every Tuesday and Thursday from 9.00 am to 10.00 am, followed by Lane Swim from noon to 1.00 pm.

Remember to register early for swim lessons as spots fill quickly!

For more info about our current programs or schedules visit www.olds.ca/aquatics.html, or call 403.556.POOL (7665).

Events 'n' Stuff

Get your tickets now to see **The Polyjesters**, coming to Olds on 12 February! This concert is part of the Olds Kiwanis Performing Arts Society Concert Series at the TransCanada Theatre in the Fine Arts Centre, and tickets are available for \$30 each at Stevens Jewelers or by calling 403.507.9738. The next concert in the series features "Doug Fox & Friends - Big Band Sound," on 17 April. Tickets \$30 each at Stevens Jewelers. For more info, visit www.oldskiwanis.org/concert.htm.

Enjoy **FREE Public Skating** at the Olds Sportsplex several times a week, or drop in for Shiny Hockey. Skating is offered free of charge thanks to a generous donation from the Royal Canadian Legion Olds Branch.

Public Skating

Sundays noon to 1.15 pm

Tuesdays 7.00 pm to 8.00 pm

Fridays 1.30 pm to 3.45 pm

Family Skating

Wednesdays 10 am to 11 am

Shiny Hockey - \$3 per person

Mon, Wed, Fri noon to 1.00 pm

Coming Events at the **Olds Municipal Library:**

Brown Bag Lunch Series

Third Tuesday of every month, starting 19 January, 12.15 pm to 12.45 pm
Get connected with people in your community. Learn more about organizations and ways of life! Bring your lunch, your thoughts and opinions as you discover Olds on a whole new level.

Talented Tweens

Every Tuesday for 6 weeks, starting 19 January, 3.30 pm to 5.00 pm
Ages 9-12

This 6-week arts and crafts session for youth aged 9-12 years will introduce you to ways to be creative, have fun, and learn new things. Pre-registration is required. Call 403.556.6460.

Family Literacy Day is 27 January - come to the Lunch & Munsch Family Event from noon to 2.00 pm! Lunch noon to 1 pm, Story Teller 1 pm to 1.30 pm, Activities & Crafts 1.30 pm to 2 pm.

Remember the Library's new temporary location is on main street (50 Avenue).

For more info on any programs, call 403.556.6460 or visit <http://oml.prl.ab.ca>.