



## Village of Spring Lake

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Spring Lake, AB T7Z 2S9

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### Office Hours:

Monday - Friday  
8:30 am to 4:30 pm  
After-hour appointments can be arranged.

**Mayor** John Roznicki

**Deputy Mayor** Rainbow Williams

**Councillors** Bonnie Flesher  
Bonnie Hall  
Jason Shewchuk

**Administrator** Emily House

**Administrative Assistant** Janet Zaplotinsky

**Public Works** Randy Denby  
Don Shtybel  
Ken Megill

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Environmental Advisory Committee Newsletter

Art Advisory Committee



# Winter Newsletter



## Village of Spring Lake

Winter 2015 – Issue 15

[www.springlakealberta.com](http://www.springlakealberta.com)

Spring Lake now on Facebook

## Merry Christmas Spring Lake!

Somehow time creeps ahead and we again find ourselves nearing the festive holiday season. Of the many seemingly overwhelming changes of this past year in governments, the economy and general attitude, many of our residents have conveyed to me both their concern and their resilience. I appreciate learning their various views and concerns and I encourage everyone to become familiar with the issues and not hesitate to contact the various members of government to share them, both positive and negative. In my experience, I can say that feedback is vital to all levels of government.

On a local level we on Council and staff have finished gathering information from our community meetings and surveys, the results of which will help us shape an updated Community Sustainability Plan. Public Works has also finished the north portion of the

trail system and the Village is preparing for removal of the old Public Works Building and re-aligning the Bauer Avenue and Lakeside Drive intersection in the coming year. Other potential upcoming projects, funded by various grants, that were a result of information gathered at the community meeting and the survey will be an expansion of the main office providing much needed space for community gatherings and meetings and updating the recreational areas adjacent to the Village Office including a multi-purpose arena and playground. As always, Council and staff are working to ensure our services, amenities and future projects make the most of the funds available.

On behalf of Council and staff I would like to extend our sincere wish to all residents for a Safe and Joyful Christmas and All the Best in 2016!

John Roznicki, Mayor

## Santa Clause is Coming to Town ...

*along with Mrs. Claus and all their elves.*

Santa and Mrs. Claus have let the Village Office know that they have time to stop by again this year. They will be touring the Village, starting at 4:00 p.m. in Beachview Crescent on Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup>; however if it is too cold for Santa and his elves the alternate date will be Sunday, December 20<sup>th</sup>. Watch for the elves to come by your house to announce their arrival so you can gather the family to come out, meet Santa and get a Christmas treat.

They will also be accepting donations for the food bank. If you will not be home, please leave your donation on your doorstep or at the bottom of your driveway.



*Christmas Office Hours*

The Village Office will be closed on December 24<sup>th</sup> and will reopen on January 4<sup>th</sup>. We will be checking phone messages and emails during this time.



*Garbage & Recycling Winter Schedule*

Monday's garbage and recycling pick-up has now gone to a bi-weekly schedule. Garbage and recycling will be picked up the same day with December pick up dates being the following:

- Monday, December 14<sup>st</sup>
- Monday, December 28<sup>th</sup>
- Monday, January 11<sup>th</sup>

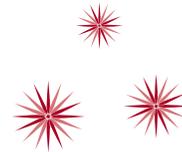
**PLEASE NOTE:**

All residents must make sure that their **GARBAGE TOTES ARE REMOVED FROM THE ROADWAY MONDAY EVENINGS** to ensure proper snow clearing can be achieved. If your tote should be damaged due to non-removal of the tote, you will be responsible for the repair or replacement cost of the tote.

*Christmas Light Decorating Contest*

The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Decorating Contest will be judged between December 7<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. Please make sure that you have your Christmas display lit up between these dates from 6pm to 8pm.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Prize - \$100.00
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize - \$50.00
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize - \$25.00



Please watch the bulletin boards for the notice announcing the winners.

*2016 Dog Tags*

We would like to remind all residents that currently own dogs, to please purchase your 2016 Dog Tags. The dog tags are available at the Village Office at a cost of \$15 each. If your dog does not have a current tag, you may face a fine under the Animal Control Bylaw.

The largest enforcement cost to Spring Lake are issues related to dogs. We realize that pets are an important part of everyone's family and we thank those pet owners who respect their neighbors and community, clean up after their pets, purchase annual dog tags and abide by the Village's Dog Bylaw.

Animal Control is provided by Parkland Enforcement Services and they may be reached at (780) 968-8400. Residents can also drop off any stray dog at the Parkland County Animal Control Centre. Parkland Animal Control Services are available Monday through Thursday from 8:30am to 7:30pm, Fridays from 8:30am to 5:00pm and Saturday from 10:00am to 6:30pm. Emergency situations (i.e. vicious or injured dog) will be evaluated and may be handled after hours.

*2016 Property Assessments*

Property Assessment Notices will be mailed out separately from Property Tax Notices for 2016. Assessment Notices will be mailed out in March of 2016 with Property Tax Notices being mailed out in May 2016.

Please note that once you have received your Property Tax Notice it is too late to have your property assessment changed as assessments cannot be adjusted after the appeal deadline which is 60 days after the Assessment Notices are mailed. We highly recommend each resident to closely examine their Property Assessment Notice and speak with the assessor regarding it.

If you should have any questions regarding this, please feel free to contact the Village Office.

*Community Survey*

*Thank you for your input.*

This Fall, the Village released a Community Survey as a followup to the Community Meeting that was held in the Fall of 2014.

Our intention was to engage residents in providing suggestions and projects that they would like to see in Spring Lake. We will be using this information to renew our Sustainability Plan. Please watch the Village bulletin boards and website for updates on the progress of this project.

*Skating Rink*

The Village Skating Rink will re-open this winter season. As we do not have enough volunteers for the rink it will be unsupervised "use at your own risk" skating.

Fortis has donated and installed lights so that night skating will be provided. Please watch for notices on our website and bulletin boards announcing when the rink will be ready for skating and the hours in which it will be open.



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## *Village Snow Removal*

We want to thank all of those residents that have expressed appreciation and have been respectful towards staff during the winter season when clearing snow from our roads. We take pride in being able to provide prompt and thorough snow clearing within our Village and would like to remind residents of a few things that they can do to help further enhance this service. Last year Council approved an updated policy regarding winter road maintenance services within the Village. The Roadway Snow and Ice Control Policy (Policy #2014-02) includes enhancements that were requested by residents including criteria and guidelines for managing excessive windrows. This policy is available on the Village's website or at the Village Office.

The snow removal priorities continues to be the same and are as follows:

- (1) All major thoroughfares, with special consideration given to steep hills and important intersections
- (2) Side streets
- (3) Alleys
- (4) Canada Post Mailbox Sites

### ***How can you help?***

To eliminate delays and damage to equipment, we are requesting all residents to help the Village by:

- **Not plowing snow from your property or driveway onto or across the road.**
- **Place snow from approaches as a result from private driveway clearing on the the right hand side of the driveway as they are exiting their property.**
- **Removing vehicles, equipment and other objects from the road allowance**
- **Remove garbage totes from the road allowance by 6am Tuesday mornings.**

The municipality reserves the right to tow or remove these items so that snow plowing operations can continue without delay. Recovery, repair or replacement costs to these items will be the responsibility of the property owner. In addition, removal of snow from your property onto or across the road can result in a fine under Traffic ByLaw #328. We thank everyone for their patience during snow and ice control operations.

## *Blue Bag Curbside Recycling Program*

The blue bag system is designed to accept household paper, cardboard, clear glass, tin and plastic containers. Please fold down and collapse all cardboard you intend for recycling. Uncollapsed cardboard will not be collected.

Keep blue bags at least 3 feet away from regular garbage. Blue bags must be out in the open and clearly visible. Blue bags in garbage enclosures or containers will not be collected.

### ***What should not go in the Blue Bag?***

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| × Plastic toys                                      | × Diapers   |
| × Bubble wrap/Plastic film                          | × Ceramics  |
| × Styrofoam   | × Scrap metal or wood   |
| × Un-rinsed food containers                         | × Food or yard waste  |
| × Toxic items (batteries, paint cans, aerosol cans) | × Coloured glass  |
| × Electroics or small appliances                    | × NO sharp objects, needles, blades or broken glass                               |
| × Soiled containers                                 | × Soiled paper (used tissue or paper towel pizza boxes smeared with cheese, etc.) |

### ***What can I recycle?***

#### ***Mixed Papers & Boxboard Bag***

Newsprint/Heavy paper - newspaper, magazines, phone books, catalogues, flyers

Mixed Paper - office paper, junk mail, shredded paper, etc.

Boxboard - cereal boxes, pasta boxes, etc.

#### ***CLEAN Mixed Containers Bag***

Containers - milk jugs & cartons, food cans, clear glass jars, beverage containers, plastic containers #1-7

Corrugated cardboard - flattened and folded beneath the blue bag

## Fire Fighting Services & Permits

Firefighting services are provided by the County of Parkland and the Town of Stony Plain. Both Fire Departments list the Village as being **6 miles (9.65 KM) from the nearest fire hall.**

Fire Permits are available at the Village Office at no charge. **A Fire Permit must be obtained for all fires not in a contained pit.** Please refer to the Open Burning ByLaw for specifications regarding fire pits and types of material that are permitted to be burned.

**All fires are to be within the property lines of the person the fire permit was issued to.**

**Fines** can be imposed if the Fire Department feels adequate caution was not taken while burning or if they respond to a fire on your property resulting from a deliberate fire set without obtaining a permit.

## Street Lights

If you notice a street light in the Village that has burnt out, please contact **Fortis at 780-310-4300** and provide them with the number on the pole (if available) and the municipal address closest to the pole.

## Parking

The Village Land Use Bylaw states that each property must have an area within the property boundaries to park two vehicles. Roadside parking is not permitted from 8am to 4:30pm, Monday - Friday or during heavy snowfall events. Outside of those times, if roadside parking is needed, please do not impede traffic flow or block access to any other lot. Any unlicensed vehicles parked on roadways may be towed by the Village at owner's expense.

## Traffic Speed Limits

The speed limit in the Village is **30 km/hr.** The only exception is that part of **Range Road 20** that is posted **50 km/hr.**

Our children, our pets and we, ourselves, are too important to be targets of careless drivers speeding through the Village!

## Council Meetings

The Village Council meets the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm unless otherwise posted. If you have an item you'd like added to the Agenda, please submit it to the Village Office by noon the Friday before the meeting. All residents are encouraged to attend.

## Address Change

Please remember that it is **YOUR** responsibility to ensure that the Village Office has your correct mailing address.

## Crime Watch

Some of the benefits of belonging to the Stony Plain & District Crime Prevention Association are interaction between residents to get to know your neighbors and receipt of fan-out messages of interest to the community. If you would like more information, please contact Constable Barb Roy at 780-968-7210.

## Developing and Building

A **Development Permit** must be applied for before obtaining any Safety Code Permits necessary for new construction, additions, decks, demolition, and excavation (HOLDING TANKS & CISTERNS). This permit is to ensure that your project or home occupation conforms to the Village's Land Use ByLaw, including proper setbacks from property lines, etc.

Our Development Officer, Tony Sonnleitner, can be reached at 780-718-5479. A Real Property Report, showing the location of existing buildings and the proposed development must be submitted when applying. Application fees must accompany all Development Applications.

**Safety Code Permits** including electrical, plumbing, building, etc. must be obtained from **Superior Safety Codes** before beginning your project. You must apply for these permits to ensure that your project is safe and conforms to safety code regulations and must be obtained before commencing work. Permit forms and information can be found on [www.superiorsafetycode.com](http://www.superiorsafetycode.com) or they are available at the Village Office.

## Alberta First Call

**Call before you dig -  
1-800-242-3447**

You must give at least two or three working days notice and have your legal land description available when you call.

## Art Club

The Art Club meets Monday evenings at 7:00pm in the Council Chambers. Visitors and new members are welcome. For more information, please contact Lorne Pendleton at (780) 968-2173.

# Spring Lake Environmental Advisory Committee

## Newsletter Winter 2015

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### *OUR Year in Review*

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In September of this year, the Environmental Advisory Committee had a guest speaker from the Alberta Conservation Association attend our meeting and discuss a variety of topics that affect not just Spring Lake, but all of the lakes within our area, such as Wabamun and Hasse Lake. We also have two members who attend the Lakes of Parkland County meetings, so we are all trying to stay on top of the issues and concerns that arise, along with what strategies are working well to keep these small lakes healthy and viable for all to enjoy.

One of the new members of the EAC is a carpenter who has taken it upon himself to build a variety of birdhouses to be put up throughout the Village. To date there have been seven built and mounted. A winter project for the EAC this year will be to build more houses to put up along the walking trails; we are also hoping to get some kits done for the kids to put together as their own projects. Watch for further information later in the spring in regards to the bird house kits being available.

As most of you have probably noticed, there were not very many baby loons around this year; there were only four born as compared to eight last year. We noticed some strange and unusual behavior from the adults – abandoning nests, rebuilding in a different area, late nesting behavior. Upon discussion with Birds Canada out of Ottawa, even they were unsure of why we were observing unusual behavior. One suggestion was that the loons this year could have been young adults where this was their first year nesting and they were not too sure what to do – just like any first time parents. This information is logged and we will keep watch in 2016 and hope that this year was an anomaly for this behavior.

Work continues to take place in updating and upgrading the EAC web link on the Village of Spring Lake's website. Please be patient and keep checking back as it will be completed soon, if not already by time this newsletter is out.

Unfortunately, we are still having problems with the **prohibited noxious weed, the Himalayan Balsam** throughout the Village. Many residents have been diligent in pulling and disposing of them, but there are still many residents who are not. Please, let's all work together to get rid of this plant, as if it gets to the shore, it will choke out all other plants living along the shoreline and do great damage to the health of our lake. If you are not sure what it looks like, there is a noxious weed book for reference at the Village Office. Please inspect your property in the spring and if you see this plant growing, pull it and dispose of it in the garbage and **not** in your compost.

Again this year as in past years, we ask all who enjoy fishing in the winter, to please clean up after yourselves; if you see garbage, wood and such left behind by others, please pick up after them as well. We are very fortunate to have a healthy and scenic lake to live by, and it is everyone's duty to ensure it stays healthy. When debris is left behind to melt into the water, it takes a very long time for it to decompose if at all. There are garbage bins in a few areas along the public access areas, so please ensure they are used.

In keeping with the above theme that seems to have developed, in spring please do not use any fertilizer in your yards, unless it is biodegradable. It is nice to have a lush, dark green lawn with no weeds, but sooner or later this fertilizer does make its way to the water, thus fertilizing not just the bulrushes around the water's edge, but also the weeds within the lake. Then, not only are we over run by weeds, but it also encourages the growth of blue algae, again of which we have been extremely lucky not to have any problems with due to having such a healthy lake and responsible citizens who live here.

The photo display board which the Environmental Advisory Committee sponsors on the east side of the lake by Heritage Park, has the photos rotated approximately every two months. The next few rotations will be featuring one particular artist each rotation. Make sure you take a trip past and have a look at the different perspectives our community members have of our community; some of the photos are quite breath taking. If you have any photos you would like to have displayed, please email them along with your name and contact information to [bonnieh@springlakealberta.com](mailto:bonnieh@springlakealberta.com).

From the Environmental Advisory Committee to you....  
**HAVE A SAFE AND WONDERFUL WINTER**

# Spring Lake Art Advisory Committee

## Newsletter Winter 2015

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### *WE ARE NEW!*

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In January of this year, a presentation was given to Council in regards to forming and supporting an Art Advisory Committee. The idea was supported by all members of Council, thus a new volunteer committee was formed, with their first meeting occurring in March. Currently there are three community volunteers and one council representative, that being Councilor Hall.

The intent of this committee is to help develop community awareness, education and activities in and around all types of art whether it be sculpting, photography, painting, music or performing arts. These members have been meeting on average every two months and have planned an **ART IN THE VILLAGE** event.

We will be holding an art project for 6 – 12 year olds on February 20 from 10-12 a.m., then an art project for adults on March 10 from 7 – 9 p.m. Keep an eye on the community bulletin boards closer to the date for further information.

If you are interested in joining this new community initiative, then please contact the Village office for member contact information, or email to **[vslartadvisory@gmail.com](mailto:vslartadvisory@gmail.com)**. We look forward to working with you in 2016.