

SUMMER VILLAGE OF ARGENTIA BEACH *Spring Newsletter 2021*



SUMMER VILLAGE OPERATIONS

The 2021 operating budget was approved by Council on March 22, 2021. This budget included a 0 % Municipal Property Tax increase, which is the sixth (6) year of 0 % increases.

The 2021 Property Assessment saw a slight increase of 4.3% over the 2020 assessment. As you are aware, your annual property tax notice also includes provincial educational requisitions which are a mandatory school tax by the Government of Alberta. The Municipality must tax and collect these requisition amounts and remit quarterly to the Provincial Government. In summary, you may see a minimal property tax increase compared to last year, depending on your property assessment value.

2021 ARGENTIA BEACH MUNICIPAL ELECTION

2021 is an election year for Alberta municipalities. Argentia Beach Nomination Day will be held on Saturday, June 19, 2021 from 10 am to 2 pm at the Summer Villages Office at 605-2nd Avenue, Ma-Me-O Beach, AB.

All three of your current council members have announced their intentions to seek another term on council and will put their names forward on nomination day. We do encourage anyone who is interested in running for council to put their nomination papers in and join in helping to ensure the sustainability of our Summer Village. Prospective candidates need to complete two forms, they are both on the Argentia Beach website at <https://argentiabeach.ca/>

Election Day, if required, will be held on Saturday, July 17, 2021.

2021 ANNUAL INFORMATION MEETING

We are working on trying to organize an in-person AIM meeting if/when Covid restrictions allow, and a Zoom meeting will be held if the in-person meeting is not an option. Further details will follow.

BYLAW #251, DOG BYLAW

Argentia Beach Council passed Bylaw #251, Dog Bylaw on March 9, 2020. This Bylaw details offences including dogs running at large and not being restrained on the owner's property. This bylaw can be found on the Argentia Beach website.

Please pick up after your pets!!

BYLAW #228 – PROHIBITING FERTILIZERS and HERBICIDES

1. The use of fertilizers other than natural compost on lawns is prohibited within the Summer Village of Argentia Beach.
2. All chemical herbicides are prohibited within the Summer Village of Argentia Beach except for the control of noxious and prohibited noxious weeds as defined in the Weed Control Act.

BOAT MOORING (DISTURBANCE STANDARDS)

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 will come 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 Summer Village municipal standard, our municipal responsibility in this is to work with residents 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 to familiarize themselves with the new standards, as it is up to each resident 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 the Summer Village will grant this consent and will provide written notice on request of residents. If there is a situation where numerous applicants request consent for the 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.

PIGEON LAKE WATER MONITORING BUOY

A new Monitoring Buoy will be placed in the lake to monitor key factors such as weather, water temperature, oxygen levels and algae blooms. Please check out the news release and FAQ sheet on the Argentia Beach website, <https://argentiabeach.ca/>

911 CALLS/ CHECK HOMEOWNER INSURANCE POLICY FOR FIRE COVERAGE

Residents are reminded that the annual fee the Village pays for fire protection only supports the maintenance of the fire department. If the volunteer fire department is called out to fight your fire or respond to an emergency / 911 call / false alarm, you will be billed for their services.

Also, if there is a delay of 15 minutes or more for an ambulance, the fire department is automatically dispatched. Calls such as strokes or cardiac arrest also initiate a fire department response.

DORIS McALLISTER – BYLAW OFFICER

Doris McAllister is on board to assist Argentia Beach residents with bylaw questions and concerns, including parking, noise, animal control, etc. Doris can be reached at 1-780-719-6447.

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 the 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

MOUNTAIN PINE BEETLE

The mountain pine beetle has been identified in the southern Pigeon Lake Summer Villages and in 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.argentiabeach.ca

PLEASE TRIM TREES

Please trim trees back to 2 meters from the edge of the roadway pavement.

DEVELOPMENT PERMITS

If you are building, renovating, demolishing, or moving buildings, a development permit is required. Development Permits are approving the development only, ensuring that the development complies with the Land Use Bylaws. You may apply for a development permit at the Summer Villages Office or on our web site. Additionally, permits are required for building, demolition, electrical, plumbing and gas. These permits must be obtained from Superior Safety Codes Inc. @ 1-888-358-5545 or @ 403-358-5545 once your Development Permit has been approved. For inquiries information please contact the Development Officer at 780-586-2494. Please ensure all your development including fencing and landscaping is within your lot boundary. For further information and to view the Land Use Bylaw please go to our web site at www.svofficepl.com.

Please Note: Placards are issued with the development Permit and must be in full view at the work site at all times while the work is in progress. Failure to follow the process of having the required Permits could result in a Stop Order being issued by the Development Officer.

SECURITY DEPOSIT AGREEMENT

A Security Deposit Agreement Form is required from the ratepayer when a new building is being constructed or a renovation is being done. The Agreement form and Security Deposit must be submitted to the Summer Villages Office when the Application for the Development Permit has been approved. The Development Permit will not be issued until the deposit and form have been received. Forms are available on the website www.svofficepl.com.

ROAD ALLOWANCES

Please do not store vehicles, equipment, etc within the road allowance along Argentia Beach Drive.

GRAVES WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

Grass clippings and yard waste have again been found dumped in the Sanctuary. Please dispose of your yard clippings elsewhere and please remove waste disposed of in the Sanctuary.

REPAIR/ REPLACEMENT OF GARBAGE BINS

Residents are to call in to the Summer Villages Office (780- 586-2494) if you are having issues with bins. The Office will contact GFL on your behalf to get the bin replaced. GFL responds quite quickly and will bring out a replacement bin on the next collection day. Please note, however that replacing bins damaged through misuse by the resident will be a cost to the resident of \$100 for a new bin.

SPILLWAY/ CULVERT PROJECT

The Spillway Project Tender has been reviewed and awarded. The project will start approximately after the September long weekend. The current culverts near Cabin #44 will be removed and replaced with Concrete culverts and channels to help better direct the water runoff. The project will take 2-3 weeks to complete.

Alternative access will be arranged with the Summer Village of Golden days when the road (Argentia Beach Drive) is not accessible during the construction project.

ARGENTIA BEACH SUMMER CAMPS

Hello Camp families! We will try again this year to run our summer camps according to the government regulations in place in July. Last year our Kids Kamp and Sailing Camp were a huge success while keeping our camp kids and families safe. At this time we will not be proceeding with swimming lessons.

Kids Camp

Week 1: July 5-9, 2021

Week 2: July 12-16, 2021

From 3-5pm

\$50/week or \$85 or both weeks

Campers will partake in a socially distance craft and game, with a break for snack. This is a great opportunity for kids to make friends and meet other kids at the lake.

Sailing Camp

Week 1: July 19-23, 2021

Week 2: July 26-30, 2021

From 9am-4pm (with a 1 hour break for lunch).

\$200 per week

\$250 per week with boat rental

Lots of skills are taught on land and in boat, so much fun!!!

Private sailing lessons:

Instructors can teach small group or individual sailing lessons, please email argentiacamps@gmail.com for more information.

Please go to argentiabeach.ca for more information.

Registration opens June 1, 2021 as we waited for government restrictions announcement.

We would like to wish everyone a safe and enjoyable summer!

Don, Lisa and Randy

Don Oborowsky, Mayor 780-994-4849	Lisa Turchansky, Deputy Mayor 780-434-8674 or Lake 780-903-2033 e-mail: turchy@shaw.ca	Randy Stebner, Councilor 780-437-0229 arstebner@shaw.ca
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