

#yourflagstaff



The official newsletter of Flagstaff County

Summer 2023

Weed fight takes flight

We've tried everything from goats to flea beetles over the past several years — with varying results.



Now we're looking skyward in our attempt to purge the Hardisty area of the scourge known as leafy spurge.



Propelled by a neighbouring municipality's success with aerial spraying, we are following suit with a similar program highlighted by the following:

- A 50/50 cost-share between the County and landowner;
- Treatment by contracted helicopter services to areas over 10 acres and inaccessible areas.

Call for more information

If any landowners are interested in this program or would like to report leafy spurge infestations, please call Ag Fieldman Nick Dunn at 780-384-4100.



Hazards in the County right-of-way

Please exercise caution when operating machinery adjacent to the County right-of-way.

Certain infrastructure, such as culverts, may extrude into the right-of-way and if machinery is operated too closely to the boundary, there



may be damage to the culverts, necessitating replacement.

If a landowner comes into contact with a culvert, please

notify the Public Works department by calling 780-384-4100.

Pest control options available

Flagstaff County offers the following options to assist residents in the control of Richardson's ground squirrels and other pests. Please call Agricultural Fieldman Nick Dunn at 780-390-0342 for more information on any of these options. Note: GST may be applicable.

RoCon

RoCon is a poison-free rodenticide registered by Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency for the control of Richardson's ground squirrels and Norway rats.



- Kit (includes pump, nozzle, 24 cones and four jugs of mustard seed foam) – \$867
- Pump – \$404
- Nozzle – \$63
- 24 cones – \$164
- Mustard seed foam – \$59 per jug



Traps for Purchase

Richardson's Ground Squirrel Traps – \$30 per trap



Pocket Gopher Traps – \$13.50 per trap.



Traps for Rent

Traps are available at the Flagstaff County office at 12435 Twp Rd 442 in Sedgewick. Each trap is available for one month. Residents who keep the trap for longer than one month will be charged the \$75 deposit.



Magpie trap



Raccoon trap

Weevil-Cide (aluminum phosphide tablets)

To purchase Weevil-Cide, you must have:

- A Farmer's Pesticide Certificate with Pest Control in Stored Grain or Exterior Rodent Control endorsements;
- Or hold an Applicator's Certificate with Rodenticide endorsement.

Cost-recovery pricing is \$90/canister. Each canister contains 500 tablets. An agreement form must be completed before purchasing and picking up.



Area playgrounds spruced up



Fish Lake

The crawl tube and climbing chain have been replaced while a new swing set was installed at the Fish Lake playground. All new equipment has been installed in the Galahad playground.



Galahad



Strome

Maintenance was recently conducted at the Strome playground.

Pollinator Program back this year

The Pollinator Habitat Establishment Program, new in 2022, involves seeding a small plot of land, typically three to five acres, with a pollinator seed blend. The plot of land must be adjacent to wetlands. The costs of seed and labour are fully covered by Flagstaff County.

This program is important, as promoting pollinators and pollinator habitat will combat the current widespread decline of these areas. Pollinators are vital to agriculture, as well as our food system and ecosystems. They help thousands of flowering plants reproduce, from crops to flowers to fruits. Pollinator habitat can also provide benefits on farms, such as preventing soil erosion and improving biodiversity.

We are currently accepting applications for the Pollinator Habitat Establishment Program; please contact Nick Dunn for further information at 780-384-4100.



County signs refurbished

The Flagstaff County entrance signs bordering the county on primary and secondary highways have been refurbished.



2023 Road Recovery Program

- ENE 4-44-12 Rge Rd 123 – South for 4.75 miles (subgrade prep)
- NNW 10-45-16 Twp Rd 452 – East for 6.0 miles (subgrade prep)
- ESE 13-45-17 Rge Rd 170 – South for 6.5 miles (shoulder pulling)
- ENE 07-44-16 Rge Rd 165 – South for 8.0 miles (shoulder pulling)

The 2023 Road Recovery Program started in the spring and crews are working on two shoulder pulling projects and two subgrade prep projects this year. Locations are:

Please use extreme caution while travelling on these roads. We thank you in advance for your cooperation during this season.

For more information and a map of our 2023 Programs and Services, please visit our website at: flagstaff.ab.ca.

Bridge and culvert work underway

The following bridge and culvert work is scheduled for 2023:

NW 10-42-13 W4 (Twp Rd 422) south of Killam – Culvert Repair: Large-diameter Culvert Replacement

SE 01-43-16 W4 (Twp Rd 430) north of Heisler – Culvert Repair: Large-diameter Culvert Replacement

SW 27-44-13 W4 (Rge Rd 133) north of Killam – Culvert Repair: Large-diameter Culvert Replacement

SE 23-44-12 W4 (Rge Rd 122) north of Sedgewick – Bridge Repair: Structural repairs to bridge



Remaining 2023 gravel sales dates

Gravel is available to Flagstaff County ratepayers for sale to a maximum of 150 tonnes per year per residential/farm/acreage site within the County. Any residents of rural Flagstaff County or the hamlets wishing to purchase gravel must contact the Public Works department to make arrangements and obtain a "Permission for Purchase of Gravel" form prior to receiving any gravel sales. Gravel will not be loaded out of a pit without this form.

For the remainder of 2023, the following dates have been designated for gravel sales:

- September 7 & 21
- October 5 & 19

Gravel will be available at one of the following gravel pits (depending on the location of the loaders):

- Mazure Pit (NE 16-43-09 W4);
- Skori Pit #2 (N 1/2 09-46-11 W4);
- Barber Stockpile (NE 17-44-09 W4); and
- Daysland Stockpile (SE 13-45-17 W4).

To arrange for the purchase of gravel, please call the Flagstaff County Administration Office at 780-384-4100. Information regarding a list of available aggregate products and pricing can also be obtained from the Public Works department. Flagstaff County does not haul gravel for ratepayers; hauling arrangements must be made by the ratepayer.



Signs vandalized

Several road signs were recently found dumped near Forestburg. These signs had been removed and piled up for no apparent reason.

Residents are asked to be on the lookout. If you spot any more damaged signs or see anything suspicious, please call our Peace Officers at 780-384-4100.



Get the latest updates at: flagstaff.ab.ca/news/public-works-updates.

Program helps small businesses

Flagstaff Crafted is a program run by the Economic Development team at Flagstaff County that enhances the exposure of local makers, artisans, producers, and retailers of local products.

Launched in 2019, Flagstaff Crafted helps entrepreneurs tell their stories, grow their customer base, and connect them with business resources. Supporting these entrepreneurs contributes to diversifying and continuously improving our local economy. Small business accounts for 98% of our region's business community and Flagstaff County is proud to support their efforts as they create jobs, support local community events, create products for us all to enjoy, and put Flagstaff on the map globally.

The program supports entrepreneurs in the Flagstaff Region and 40 km outside of the region border by enhancing their exposure to consumers worldwide. It makes it easy for Flagstaff County residents and those outside our borders to find distinctly made Flagstaff Crafted products.

We share our makers' stories through blog posts and social media. In today's web-engaged world, consumers are more likely to support a business they feel a connection to and Flagstaff County believes in enhancing this connection through storytelling.

Support your local businesses or become a Flagstaff Crafted member at: flagstaffcrafted.ca!

The infographic features a yellow background with blue and white circular accents. At the top, the text 'Flagstaff crafted' is displayed in a mix of blue and yellow fonts, with a blue leaf-like graphic to the left. Below this, three circular photos of women are arranged. Each photo is accompanied by a blue text box containing a statistic. The first photo shows a woman in a white denim jacket holding a white mug, with a text box stating '70% of Members are Active Participants in the Program'. The second photo shows a woman in a black top holding a bouquet of white flowers, with a text box stating '42% of Members are Flagstaff County Residents'. The third photo shows a woman in a striped shirt holding a bundle of colorful pens, with a text box stating '87% of Members Have Ties to Rural Community'. At the bottom right, the 'Flagstaff region' logo is shown, featuring a stylized blue and yellow wave graphic above the text 'Flagstaff region'.

Flagstaff
crafted

70% of Members
are Active
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42% of Members are
Flagstaff County
Residents

87% of Members Have Ties
to Rural Community

Flagstaff
region

Camp a resounding success!

We successfully hosted a one-day entrepreneurial camp at the Hardisty Lake United Church Camp facility in July. The Trailblazers Youth Leadership Camp was designed to inspire and empower Flagstaff's youth with comprehensive knowledge of business fundamentals and helping to create an entrepreneurial mindset.

Our primary goal was to help the young camp-goers entertain the world of entrepreneurship and intrapreneurship as a collaborative team member.

Emphasizing collaboration, our initiative envisions a future where Flagstaff thrives as an innovative hub of economic growth, driven by young individuals seizing and creating business opportunities for sustainable development.

By utilizing the camp facilities, we provided an environment for young minds in the region to come together, share experiences, and build long lasting relationships.

In addition to engaging in entrepreneurial



activities, the participants enjoyed exciting outdoor activities, including canoeing and archery, making the most of the camp's enriching space for personal growth and teamwork.

We are delighted that our initiative not only instilled entrepreneurial skills but also created memorable experiences and connections that will last beyond the camp day.

We extend our gratitude to all participants, parents, camp staff, internal team members, and everyone who helped make our day camp a success!



Upcoming Events

FOR BUSINESSES



Flagstaff
region

September
06

Thought Exchange

Join a community conversation facilitated by industry experts in exploring topics around the challenges and opportunities for rural economies

September
07

Excel Level 1

Introductory workshop for Microsoft Excel. Learn to create workbooks, add simple formulas, format proof and print your projects

September
14

Basic Bookkeeping

Starting a business? Working as an office administrator? Accounting can be overwhelming. This course covers you! Learn basic accounting terminology, manual bookkeeping essentials, the basics of financial statements and more!

September
26

HR Workshop

Join us for a workshop on recruiting, hiring, and retaining staff for small businesses! Explore modern day hiring challenges, spending time on the right decisions, and improving your processes.

September
28

Excel Level 2

Advance your knowledge of worksheets, learn to analyze data with a variety of features and format common business reports.

October
12

Quickbooks Online

If you have decided to put your books into the cloud using QuickBooks Online then this course is for you! Topic areas cover everything you need to complete a basic bookkeeping cycle

For detailed information: www.flagstaff.ab.ca



SAVE THE DATE

FLAGSTAFF
REGION

*Celebrates
Success*

IN SMALL BUSINESS

OCTOBER 12, 2023

An evening to celebrate our local small business community.



Area Trappers

For assistance with pest control on private land

The following licensed trappers are willing to assist land owners throughout the Flagstaff Region:

- **Joey Hebert** (Sedgewick) — 780-385-5352 or jhebert@axiomoilandgas.ca
- **Shane Freeson** (Lloydminster) — 780-573-8337 or trappershane@outlook.com
- **Doug Wood** (Red Deer) — 403-318-4245 or dwoodbsc@gmail.com
- **Animal Damage Control** (Fort Saskatchewan/Sherwood Park) — 1-877-446-0204

Please note that Flagstaff County is compiling a list of trappers to help promote licensed trapping services in the region. There is a charge for trappers' services for pest control, and land owners are responsible for covering these fees.

If you are a trapper who would like to be added to this list, please contact Agricultural Fieldman Nick Dunn at 780-390-0342.

Tax payments due on October 16

2023 Tax and Assessment Notices were mailed to Flagstaff County, Strome and Galahad property owners at the end of May.

If you have not yet received your notice, please contact our office at 780-384-4100.

Payment is due October 16, 2023.

For more information, visit: flagstaff.ab.ca/county-services/taxations.





**Please slow down around
our workers and equipment.**