

# #yourflagstaff



The official newsletter of Flagstaff County

Fall 2023



These are just some of the dozens of business owners whose businesses have been featured over the past six years.

## Biz Program Expanding

Are you keeping up with our monthly Flagstaff Region Featured Business program? Since the program's inception in 2017, Flagstaff County has been collaborating with *The Community Press* to highlight a different business each month, both in print and online.

Participating businesses in this program are not only given exposure but also benefit from a

professionally produced promotional video by JCE Films, a well-crafted write-up about their establishment, and exclusive advertising rates in *The Community Press*.

We're excited to announce that in November 2023, we'll be opening applications for the 2024 Featured Business program.

*(Story Continued on Page 8)*

# Winter Roadway Maintenance

Roadways are cleared of snow as necessary. During normal winter conditions, collector and local roads should be cleared of snow within four days and arterial roads should be cleared of snow within one to two days of a snow event, unless there is heavy snow and persistent winds.

Upon request, a field access road may be plowed, one time only, to permit access to: grain bins, re-locate livestock, and/or oil/gas lease sites.

In each maintenance area, three routes are established. When snow plowing is required, the starting point is rotated between routes to ensure that an equitable level of service is provided.

If reduced visibility becomes a safety concern, snow plowing operations will be suspended until conditions improve.

Please keep in mind that our crews will be out working on our roadways and to use extreme caution while



travelling on these roads while they are being maintained in any way. Thank you.

Snow removal from municipal roadways is not permitted without first obtaining permission from Public Works.

To keep our roadways safe this winter, please refrain from depositing snow and ice from residential laneways onto roadways, right-of-ways and municipal ditches.

Depositing snow and ice onto property other than your own can have the following adverse results:

- Slowing down Flagstaff County's snow removal process;
- Damage to roads and road maintenance equipment;
- Blocking or damaging culverts, which can lead to flooding issues in the spring;
- Damage to utility lines and roadside vegetation;
- Increasing safety hazards for motorists;
- Damage to snow plow blades.

## Private Laneway Maintenance Available

Flagstaff County offers laneway snowplowing and grading to rural residents.

The landowner is required to sign a Private Laneway Service Agreement. County staff is required to conduct an Occupational Health and Safety Inspection/Hazard

Assessment prior to any work being completed, and this process must be completed on an annual basis.

Please note that the inspection/assessment must be conducted prior to a heavy snow accumulation that prevents it from taking place.

The inspection/assessment fee is \$149.

Service to the residents will be conducted only after all scheduled road maintenance is completed on gravel, oil and paved roads. A fee of \$87 per half hour or \$174 per hour will be charged.

# Winter Maintenance in Hamlets

During normal winter conditions, streets will be cleared of snow within one to two days of a snow event, unless there is heavy snow and persistent wind. Snow clearing priorities are:

- Main streets in and out of the hamlets;
- Long-term care centre (Galahad) access;

- Fire hall access;
- Residential streets.

Snow clearing of lanes and alleys is low priority and will be completed after all streets have been cleared of snow.



# Winter Maintenance at Regional Airport



During normal winter conditions, the tarmac will be cleared of snow within one to two days of a snow event, unless there is heavy snow and persistent winds. Clearing of snow will be prioritized as follows:

- Access to the airport;
- Runway and apron;
- Taxiways to the fuel pumps and terminal building;
- Taxiways to the hangars.

# Mulching Conducted throughout Winter

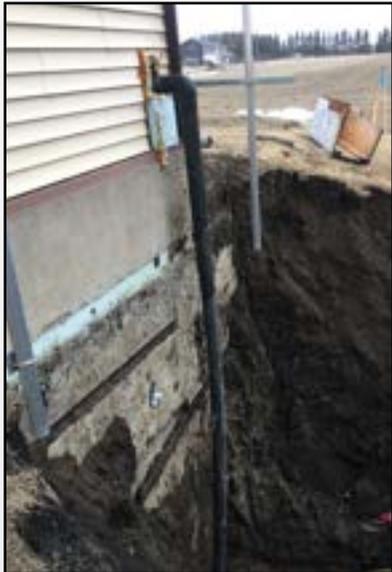
Every year, locations are identified throughout the County where trees and brush are overgrown and affecting sightlines adjacent to road allowances. These issues are effectively dealt with by mulching.

Mulching is a method of removing trees and chipping the brush into small pieces. It is both environmentally friendly and visually appealing. Once



the grass begins to grow, it camouflages the mulch on the ground. Mulching is done in the winter when the trees are frozen, as it allows the mulcher to work more efficiently.

This service is provided to landowners upon request, as crews and equipment are available. Please slow down and drive with extra caution when approaching any Public Works equipment.



## Galahad Raw Water Line Upgrade

This past spring, approximately 1,800 meters of the raw waterline to the Hamlet of Galahad was upgraded.

The waterline runs between the wells, which are located approximately 3 km to the north of the water treatment plant in Galahad, and transports all the water from the wells to the water treatment facility.

The original two-inch waterline was installed in the early 1960s and in the 1980s a portion of

the line, approximately 1,200 meters, was upgraded to a four-inch line to increase the volume of water supplied to the hamlet.

### Water supply

Upgrading the remainder of this waterline supports water supply for fire services, residential services, commercial services, and other water requirements, which include the Care Centre, regional fire department and local agricultural water demands.

## Infrastructure Responsibility in Hamlets

All water and wastewater infrastructure located on the resident's side of the property line is the responsibility of the resident to maintain and replace if necessary.

Please ensure water and wastewater infrastructure, such as water meters, are properly insulated and protected



from environmental factors. Residents will be responsible for the cost of any repair or replacement of infrastructure on the resident's side of the property line.

### Frozen water meter

If your water meter becomes frozen, please contact a plumber.



Get the latest PW updates at: [flagstaff.ab.ca/news/public-works-updates](http://flagstaff.ab.ca/news/public-works-updates).

# Tree Care Webinar

With ISA Certified Arborist Toso Bozic



**Oct. 19, 2023**  
**6 p.m. to 8 p.m.**

**FREE**

To register, please call 780-384-4100.



## Apply for 2024 Shelterbelt Program

As part of the annual Shelterbelt Establishment Program, Flagstaff County provides trees to rural landowners to help promote, establish, and maintain healthy shelterbelts.

Shelterbelts conserve soil, protect crops and yard sites, trap snow, provide wildlife habitat, and beautify the landscape, among other benefits.

The program is delivered through an



application process and at a 50/50 cost share between Flagstaff County and the landowner for the price of the trees.

Plastic mulch is also available at cost.

Applications can be found at the Flagstaff County Office or on the website at: [www.flagstaff.ab.ca](http://www.flagstaff.ab.ca).

The deadline to apply — January 31, 2024 — is fast approaching. For inquiries, please call 780-384-4100.



**Roadside spraying**

# Roadside Vegetation Management

Flagstaff County's Ag Services Department controls weed and brush on municipally owned roadsides with herbicide. Roadsides will be sprayed up to 500 feet from a farm site and continue 500 feet past the farm site.

Landowners/tenants that are not in favour of having municipally owned roadsides adjacent to their property treated with herbicide are encouraged to apply for a No Herbicide Agreement prior to June 1.

The No Spray Agreement is good for five years. Please keep in mind that by signing the agreement, you are responsible for maintaining the weed and brush along those areas to municipal standards.

An online application form or a printable PDF of the No Herbicide Application Agreement can be found on our website at [flagstaff.ab.ca](http://flagstaff.ab.ca).

## Provincial Highway Spraying

In 2023, Flagstaff County entered into a Municipal Access and Work Agreement with Alberta Transportation to perform roadside spraying along all provincial highways within Flagstaff County where noxious weeds are present.

## Roadside Haying

Flagstaff County uses a permit system for all landowners within the county wanting to hay municipal right-of-ways. All roads are intended to be mowed twice a year commencing June 1. The purpose of the permit system is to minimize conflict between the municipality and landowners who want to cut and bale hay along roadsides. The deadline to apply for Roadside Haying Permits is May 15. All permits are only valid for one year. Annual renewal is required.



**Roadside mowing**

# List of Licensed Trappers in Area

## 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](mailto:jhebert@axiomoilandgas.ca)
- **Shane Freeson** (Lloydminster) — 780-573-8337 or [trappershane@outlook.com](mailto:trappershane@outlook.com)
- **Doug Wood** (Red Deer) — 403-318-4245 or [dwoodbsc@gmail.com](mailto: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 landowners 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.**



**Magpie trap**

## Traps Available to Rent

There are traps available at the Flagstaff County office located 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 \$75.00 deposit.



**Raccoon/skunk trap**



## Make Service Requests Online

Attention all rural Flagstaff County and hamlet landowners: Do you have a service request, such as any of the following?

- Change of Address
- Unsightly Property
- Water/Sewer Issues
- Road Issues
- Hazard or Debris in Road Allowance
- Bridges
- Culverts
- Signs
- Weeds

You can report it online through our website by clicking: [If.flagstaff.ab.ca/Forms/Public-Report-Form](https://www.flagstaff.ab.ca/Forms/Public-Report-Form).

## Tax payments due October 16

2023 Tax and Assessment Notices were mailed to Flagstaff County, Strome and Galahad property owners May 31, 2023.

Payment is due October 16, 2023. A penalty of 12% will be levied on all unpaid taxes after October 16, 2023. To avoid penalties, payments made by mail must be postmarked no later than October 16, and payments made by Internet Banking or TelPay must be received no later than October 16.

For more information, visit: [flagstaff.ab.ca/county-services/taxations](https://www.flagstaff.ab.ca/county-services/taxations).



## Featured Business Program Expanding

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This is your chance to put your business in the spotlight and gain valuable promotion. If there's a specific business you admire and would like to see featured, encourage them to apply when the application period begins.

However, our commitment to community development doesn't stop at featuring businesses. We are expanding the program to

include community development groups. By doing so, we aim to highlight the incredible work and initiatives these groups undertake to enhance our local communities.

If you know of a community development group that deserves recognition and support, please encourage them to register when applications open. Together, we can celebrate and promote the businesses and organizations that make our region thrive.

# Small Business Resource Page

Flagstaff County's Economic Development Team is excited to announce the launch of the NEW small business resources page at: [flagstaffcrafted.ca](http://flagstaffcrafted.ca). We know that as a business owner it is so important to find the right

information when you need it. We've helped make the process easier by sourcing tools, articles, videos, and books to answer the most common questions rural-based businesses have at each stage of business.

## Podcast Spotlights Small Business

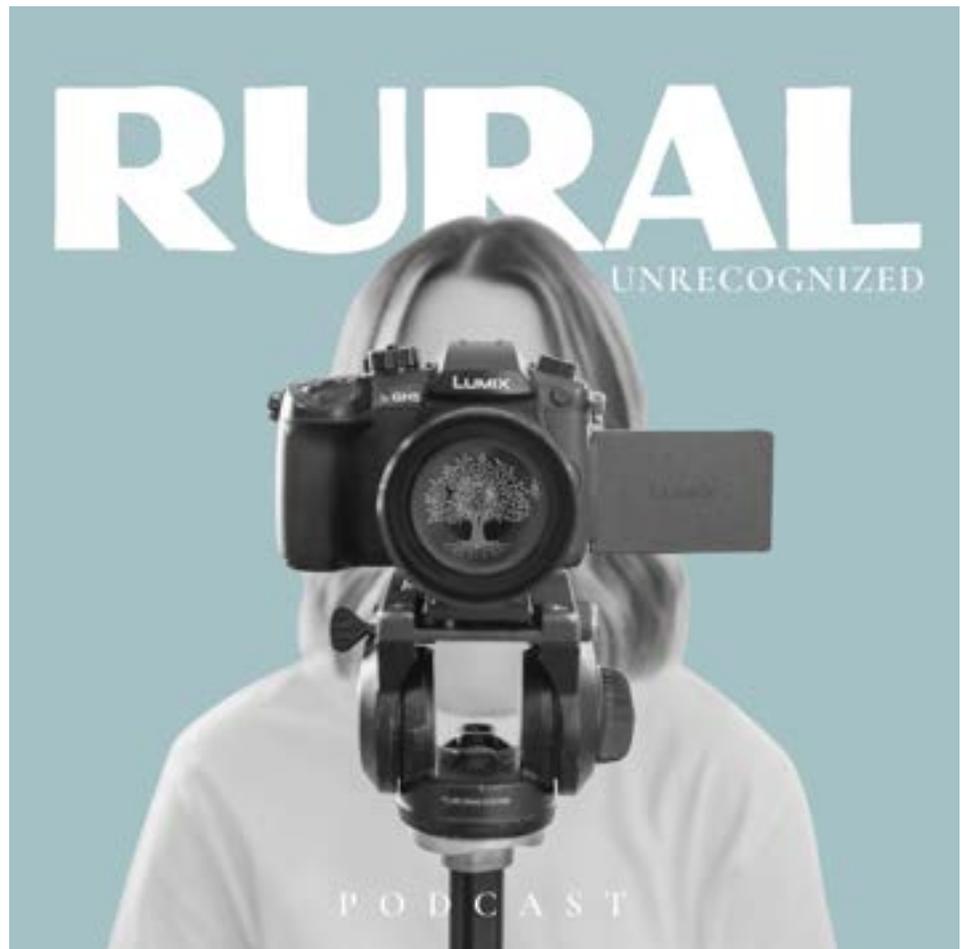
Rural Unrecognized showcases the inspiring stories of small business owners from the Flagstaff Region and beyond.

Join us as we dive deep into the journeys of these entrepreneurs who have turned their dreams into a reality. Hear about the struggles, successes, and lessons learned along the way. In each episode, we will feature a different small business owner and discuss their unique experiences in starting and running their business.

### Insights and advice

From brick-and-mortar shops to online stores, we'll cover a variety of industries and share valuable insights and advice for anyone looking to start or grow their own business.

Whether you're an aspiring entrepreneur or just interested in learning more about the



small business community, "Rural Unrecognized" is the podcast for you.

### Get inspired

Tune in and get inspired by the amazing stories of these

passionate and dedicated individuals who are making a difference in their communities and beyond.

Listen at: [www.flagstaff.ab.ca/county-services/economic-development](http://www.flagstaff.ab.ca/county-services/economic-development).

# Travel & Activity Guide Available

Embark on a journey like never before this fall with our NEW Travel and Activity Guide – a must-have resource for your next adventure in the Flagstaff Region.

Our guide is your key to efficient trip planning and maximizing exploration.

Join a community of fellow adventurers, share your stories, and let us help you transform your journey into an enriching exploration of the region's unique offerings.

Happy travels!

Access the guide at:  
[www.flagstaff.ab.ca/county-services/economic-development](http://www.flagstaff.ab.ca/county-services/economic-development).



## Upcoming Economic Development Events

### October 15 to 21, 2023 – Small Business Week

We are thrilled to announce the launch of our new business support initiatives during Small Business Week, running from October 15 to 21. These programs are crafted with the aim of providing needs-based supports to our local businesses and empowering entrepreneurs like never before. Small Business Week is the perfect time to invest in the growth and sustainability of your enterprise, so stay tuned to our social media platforms for more details on how to enroll and take advantage of these exciting opportunities!

### October 26, 2023 – Payroll Course

If you are starting up a small business or working as an office administrator where you have payroll responsibilities, this course is for you. In this course, we will discuss the main topics of Alberta Payroll Regulations, Labour Standards, Payroll Processing and Accounting entries as well as, cover some of your responsibilities in regards to the Workers' Compensation Board for Alberta. This includes everything from hiring to terminating employees and is full of information you need to know to abide by Alberta Labour Standards in the workplace.

Cost is \$40.00 (valued at \$200-\$350).  
 To register, call 587-844-2111.