

# #yourflagstaff



The official newsletter of Flagstaff County

Fall/Winter 2024



Bring a donation for the Flagstaff Food Bank!

Free Photos!

## Santa Day in Flagstaff!

**Y**ou're invited as Flagstaff County ushers in the Christmas season on **Wednesday, December 4**, with a special visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus between 3:00 and 6:00 p.m.!

It's Santa Day 2024 at Flagstaff County, so bring the whole family and enjoy an afternoon of festive cheer!

Be sure to capture the magic of the season by

snapping a photo with the jolly ol' elf in the red suit. After your visit with Santa, treat yourself to some festive goodies!

### Festive Mini Market

Then, explore a delightful mini market filled with unique holiday treasures. Find the perfect gift or add some charm to your holiday décor while supporting local vendors. See the back page of this newsletter for more information.

**Christmas Closure Schedule** The Flagstaff County office and shop are closed from Tuesday, December 24, 2024 to Wednesday, January 1, 2025. Please see our website at [www.flagstaff.ca](http://www.flagstaff.ca) for on-call numbers in the event of an emergency related to Municipal Services.

# Shop local with our Gift Guide!

It's here! The 2025 Flagstaff Crafted Gift Guide has officially arrived — and it's bursting with unique treasures and heartfelt finds from our incredible Flagstaff Crafted community!

This holiday season, skip the ordinary and gift something truly special. From handcrafted wonders to locally made delights, this guide is your key to unforgettable gifting that supports small businesses and strengthens our community.

Browse the digital copy now:

[flagstaffcrafted.ca/2025-gift-guide](https://flagstaffcrafted.ca/2025-gift-guide).

Prefer a hard copy? Find yours at the Flagstaff County Administration Building, town offices in the region, or at participating retailers.

Don't wait — discover the perfect gift and share the magic of local this holiday season!



## SMALL BUSINESS SUPPORT PROGRAMS

Available on a first come first serve basis / APPLY NOW!

### ✔ Business Support Program

The Business Support Program is a specialized initiative designed to strengthen and grow businesses in the Flagstaff Region through targeted support.

### ✔ Social Enterprise Support Program

The Social Enterprise Support Program (SESP) is designed to empower Flagstaff County's social enterprise sector as a driving force for economic transition, job creation, and social impact.

### ✔ Entrepreneur Empowerment Program

The Entrepreneur Empowerment Program (EEP) is a transformative initiative dedicated to nurturing the vision, resilience, and potential of local entrepreneurs.

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT [WWW.FLAGSTAFF.CA/COUNTY-SERVICES/ECONOMIC-DEVELOPMENT](http://WWW.FLAGSTAFF.CA/COUNTY-SERVICES/ECONOMIC-DEVELOPMENT)  
OR REACH OUT TO [ECDEV@FLAGSTAFF.AB.CA](mailto:ECDEV@FLAGSTAFF.AB.CA)

# FEATURED BUSINESS

# 2025

*Make it Your Year*

## *Be a Featured Business in 2025*

Are you a local business or community development group seeking to enhance your visibility and strengthen connections within the community? Apply now to join the 2025 Flagstaff Region Featured Business Program!

This exciting initiative uses engaging video storytelling and promotional features to spotlight your unique story, inspire local support, and attract new patrons. Don't miss this chance to showcase your business or group across multiple platforms and expand your impact.

### **How to Apply:**

Visit [flagstaff.ca](http://flagstaff.ca) to submit your application.

**Deadline:** December 13, 2024

For more information, email [klefsrud@flagstaff.ab.ca](mailto:klefsrud@flagstaff.ab.ca).



### *Boosting Visibility*

The program highlights local businesses and groups through engaging video storytelling and newspaper features, fostering community support and boosting economic growth.



### *Storytelling Focus*

The program focuses on compelling storytelling to showcase the unique values, challenges, and dedication of each business or group, creating meaningful connections within the community.



### *Expanding Reach*

Content is shared via articles, social media, and targeted ads, fostering local pride while attracting new patrons beyond the region.

*Let's shine a spotlight on your business and inspire our community together!*



# 2025 Shelterbelt Establishment Program

**Apply by  
January 31!**

Flagstaff County offers the Shelterbelt Establishment Program to help establish and maintain healthy shelterbelts. Shelterbelts conserve soil, protect crops and yard sites, trap snow, provide wildlife habitat, and beautify the landscape.

For more information, please visit: <https://bit.ly/shelterbelt>.

## Alberta EFP comes with many benefits

An Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) is a voluntary free self-assessment tool for producers who are committed to environmental stewardship. The program began in 2003 with a goal to help producers identify their environmental risks and implement mitigation strategies.

### One in four farmers

To date, one in four Western Canadian farmers have completed an EFP. Producers who have an EFP benefit economically, environmentally and socially.

Among the environmental benefits are helping to protect



water, soil, air, and biodiversity. This all goes for being a steward of the land, which comes with intangible social benefits like recognition from neighbours and other agriculture operations.

An EFP acts as a prerequisite for federal (60%), provincial and territorial (40%) grant funding

formerly known as the Canadian Agricultural Partnership in Alberta (CAP). This funding can be fully reimbursed to be cost-shared with the producer and contains maximums depending on the program.

### Get started today

If you have any questions or are thinking about starting or renewing your online EFP, please contact Flagstaff County Agricultural Fieldman Nick Dunn at 780-390-0342.

To start the application process or to find more information, you can also visit the Alberta EFP website at [www.albertaefp.com](http://www.albertaefp.com).

# Pollinator Program back next year

The Pollinator Habitat Establishment Program returns for 2025. New in 2022, the program 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 780-384-4138.



## Member needed for County ASB

Interested in joining Flagstaff County's Agricultural Service Board as a Member at Large?

The Agricultural Service Board (ASB) is an advisory board of Flagstaff County that makes recommendations on agricultural policies and other agricultural matters of the County.

The ASB usually meets six times a year and is seeking one member from Flagstaff County for a three-year term. Per diem remuneration for Agricultural Service Board members is \$400 for a full day.

For more information, please visit our website at: [flagstaff.ca](http://flagstaff.ca).



# 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 the Transportation Department.

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;

- Residential streets.

Snow clearing of lanes and alleys is low

priority and will be completed after all streets have been cleared.



# 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 equipment.



Twp Rd 460 between Rge Rd 151 and Rge Rd 153  
(northeast of Daysland and north of Wavy Lake)

## Bridge maintenance complete for '24

In 2024, maintenance work was completed on seven bridges throughout the County. Work wrapped up in October with a culvert replacement and associated maintenance on Bridge File #1019 located on Twp Rd 460 between Rge Rd 151 and Rge Rd 153 (northeast of Daysland and north of Wavy Lake).

This project was contracted to Avid Energy Services Inc.

The following five bridges are currently scheduled for maintenance work in 2025:

- BF #7692 – SW 2-45-13 W4 (Twp Rd 450)  
– Bridge Repair
- BF #83194 – NW 21-43-16 W4 (Twp Rd 434)

– Culvert Replacement

- BF #79104 – SW 04-44-16 W4 (Rge Rd 104)  
– Culvert Replacement
- BF #02408 – SW 21-44-12 W4 (Rge Rd 124)  
– Bridge Repair
- BF #1459 – NW 18-42-11 W4 (Rge Rd 120)  
southwest of Hardisty  
– Bridge Replacement

Bridge maintenance preserves the capital asset and contributes to safe crossings. The bridges within the County are inspected and analyzed on a five-year cycle for major deficiencies. A five-year bridge plan is established for major repairs and replacement.



# Public Notice



## Notice of Public Hearing and Petition Period for Proposed Electoral Boundaries Bylaw 08/24

In accordance with the *Municipal Government Act*, please take notice of the following proposed bylaw:

### **Electoral Boundaries Bylaw 08/24**

A bylaw of Flagstaff County for the purpose of establishing electoral boundaries and the number of Councillors to serve on Flagstaff County Council, which divides the municipality into five Divisions with five Councillors.

The first reading of the Electoral Boundaries Bylaw 08/24 was approved at the October 7, 2024 Special Council Meeting.

**TAKE NOTICE** that a **Public Hearing** to consider the proposed bylaw will be held in the Flagstaff County Council Chambers at 12435 Twp Rd 442, Sedgewick, AB at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, December 18, 2024.

**AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE THAT** anyone wishing to make a verbal or written representation may do so at the hearing, or by providing the representation to the County's Chief Administrative Officer before 12:00 p.m. on **Monday, December 16, 2024.**

*Individuals can provide advance notice to Flagstaff County at [sarmstrong@flagstaff.ab.ca](mailto:sarmstrong@flagstaff.ab.ca) or Box 358, Sedgewick, AB T0B 4C0 of their intention to make a presentation at the hearing.*

**AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE THAT**, Section 231 of the *Municipal Government Act* allows the public to submit petitions for a vote on whether Electoral Boundaries Bylaw 08/24 should be passed. A Petition against Electoral Boundaries Bylaw 08/24 must fulfill the requirements of the *Municipal Government Act* and be filed with the Chief Administrative Officer no later than 4:00 p.m. on Monday, December 16, 2024 in order to be valid.

**AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE THAT**, a copy of the proposed Bylaw will be posted at [www.flagstaff.ab.ca](http://www.flagstaff.ab.ca) for review and may be inspected at the Flagstaff County administration office during normal business hours.

Dated this 7<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2024

Shelly Armstrong  
Chief Administrative Officer  
Flagstaff County



# Flagstaff **FESTIVE** **MINI MARKET**

AT FLAGSTAFF COUNTY OFFICE

Wednesday, December 4  
Open from 3:00pm - 6:00pm



*luna.*

FIELDWORK CO  
ALL THINGS MADE WELL  
- EST 2014 -

*salted.*

**KRISTIN KUEBER**

*Artist*

**NRG**  
COFFEE ROASTERS

