



REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY
OF **WOOD BUFFALO**

WARD 3 NEWS

SAPRAE CREEK & DRAPER ROAD



AUGUST 2011



Anzac~Conklin~Fort Chipewyan~Fort Fitzgerald~Fort MacKay~Gregoire Lake Estates~Janvier~Mariana Lake~Saprae Creek Estates

9909 Franklin Avenue, Fort McMurray, Alberta, Canada ph: 780-743-7000 fax: 780-743-7999

www.woodbuffalo.ab.ca



REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY
OF **WOOD BUFFALO**

WARD 3 NEWS

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SEPTEMBER 2011 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:

August 25, 2011

Get your newsletter online at

www.sapraecreek.com

Check us out on FACEBOOK
Saprae Creek Residents Society

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Note from the Editor
- AOS Update
- Summer Kick off Party Gallery
- RMWB Summer Programs
- Synthetic Ice Open House
- Place Making Open House
- Community Develop. Open House
- Astronomical Vistas 2011
- Yoga Registration
- Bear Awareness Information
- Vista Lounge
- Calendar of Events

SAPRAE CREEK RESIDENTS SOCIETY

Tracy Unger, <i>Chair</i>	780-743-3360
Trent Obrigewitsch, <i>Vice-Chair</i>	780-880-1744
Pam Garbin, <i>Secretary</i>	780-715-2787
Marilyn Rustad, <i>Treasurer</i>	780-715-4960
Daryl Schneider, <i>Infrastructure</i>	780-791-9870
Michelle Archibald, <i>Recreation Director</i>	780-715-6727
June Leclair, <i>Director</i>	780-791-4339
Dennis Gable, <i>Industry Contact</i>	780-792-4408
Janene Whenham, <i>Industry Contact</i>	780-799-1847

Saprae Creek Residents
Society (SCRS)

215 Freestone Way

Fort McMurray, AB

T9H 5B4



DRAPER ROAD RESIDENTS SOCIETY

Daphne van't Wout, <i>Chair</i>	780-743-8459
Jim Kosituk, <i>Vice-Chair</i>	780-791-0870
Christine Sadzak, <i>Treasurer</i>	780-799-7371
Jodi Thorne, <i>Secretary</i>	780-791-9979

Draper Road Residents Society (DRRS)

draperroad@gmail.com



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Around the Creek

Note from the Editor

By Pam Garbin



For this month I wanted to address the ongoing ATV issues that are occurring in Sapræe Creek. Many individuals have posted their concerns on FACEBOOK in regards to individuals riding on and ruining homeowner properties (lawns), riding too fast and generally speaking, just being irresponsible on their ATV's in Sapræe Creek. The general feeling is that "a few kids are going to ruin it for the rest", and unfortunately that has already happened. As a result of the many complaints a request for "higher presence" in our area by Peace Officers has occurred.

Please let me summarize a pamphlet that is attached to the paper copy of the AUGUST newsletter. ATV operators on the roads of Sapræe MUST have a valid Alberta Driver's Licence or have a Learner's Permit and their ATV must be registered . ATV operators may ONLY quad between the hours of 8am to 10 pm and at a speed of 30 km/hr. Under age residents have been stopped already this summer and have been told they must use a trailer to tow their ATV's /Bikes/Golf Carts or walk them to the end of their streets (regardless of how near or far they live from the trail). This will affect all individuals especially the underage residents that use their ATV's within Sapræe to get to work at Vista, their friends houses etc. Currently bylaw officers are giving warnings but will soon be ticketing those who are in violation of any of the above rules and regulations.

I encourage you to write a letter to the Editor on any issues that may be of concern in Sapræe Creek, the more information we share with our children the better.

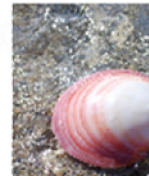
If you wish to comment on the above issue or any other issue, please email your letter, comments or suggestions to Pam at pamgarbin@shaw.ca



Healing Touch Massage

Member of NHPC/R.M.T

- Deep Tissue, Relaxation & Craniosacral Therapy Massage
- Lava Shell & Chair Massage
- Infared Sauna
- Paraffin Wax Treatments



By Apt. Only Michelle Archibald, R.M.T

Bus/Home-780-791-0366 Cell/Text-780-715-6727 150WeissDr Ft, McMurray, Ab

website: www.healingtouchmassagefortmcmurray.com

email: healingtouchmassagefortmcmurray@hotmail.com



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AOS UPDATE

The Sapræ Creek Residents Society has been reviewing its efforts and actions thus far with the Alberta Oil Sands (AOS) - Clearwater Project. We remain of the position that we have concerns and issues with the proposed SAGD project, and until they have been answered to our satisfaction we will continue to object to and oppose this Project. However, we do need to continue to engage in meaningful, productive and respectful dialogue with the Applicant – Alberta Oil Sands Inc. We need to understand EVERY nuance of this project – and the potential impacts it has to us, our families and our community. We also need to understand what solutions AOS is presenting and to scrutinize these proposals to ascertain their merit. To this end, and after considerable review and discussion regarding the time commitment and ongoing efforts necessary for this matter, it was decided to “outsource” the representation for us relating to the Alberta Oil Sands Clearwater Project. The Sapræ Creek Residents Society is pleased to announce that William C.(Bill) Fisher – of Aries Management Consultants Inc. - has been retained as a Consultant to our organizations Industry Liaison Group. Mr. Fisher is a resident of Fort McMurray (since 2001) and has just recently concluded his activities as group representative - for the Fort McMurray Airport Tenants Working Group - and assisted them in their matters before the Fort McMurray Airport Authority (land lease rates, etc.).

Mr. Fisher will assist the Industry Liaison Representatives in their activities and will be acting on their behalf as needed, to both represent and promote the interests of the Sapræ Creek Residents Society.

To date, the following has been undertaken since your last update:

- We have submitted correspondence and a meeting request to Alberta Oil Sands Inc. to further seek additional answers to our concerns thus far. Additionally, we have requested a Project Update – by way of the AOS submission to ERCB in June (we have asked for a copy of the submission – both from ERCB and AOS). As of today, we have not received a reply from AOS – other than Mr. Galpin was on holidays until July 19, 2011 and would get back to me after that.
- We have submitted correspondence – asking questions of the RMWB – relating to the land use bylaw amendments proposed (A- Airport District Land Use Bylaw 99/059). Also, we are seeking to understand the RMWB process for approval of the water supply (memorandum of understanding with AOS to supply potable water). We have concerns with how such business arrangements (water supply) and a significant Land Use Bylaw Amendment would appear to conflict with the Council adopted report “Future Forward – 2030, presented by Cabinet & Associates in July 2007. In that report, GOAL 5 states:



Goal 5. Set clear rules and limitations on future industrial development

Suggested Sub Goals

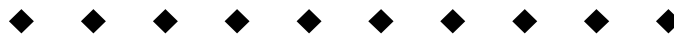
Create a map boundary 15km from the city limit around Fort McMurray where air polluting industrial development would be prohibited (no powerhouse, extraction plant, chemical process plant, sawmill, papermill, agricultural feed lots..) Attend any new industrial development or expansion hearings to force these rules into the development permit.

Create a map boundary from the city limit around Fort McMurray where any chemical tailings storage or agricultural lagoons would be prohibited. Attend any new industrial development or expansion hearing to enforce these rules into the development permit.



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- We have asked RMWB representatives to kindly provide feedback to our concerns and if possible, provide rationalization as to their business practices thus far (specific to this project and that report). Our regional Ward 3 councillor, Mr. Vinni, has been provided a copy of this letter, detailing our concerns. It is our position that the approval of the Land Use Bylaw (thereby allowing SAGD at the Airport) and the possible water supply agreement (memorandum of understanding at this stage) are NOT IN SUPPORT of the goals of the Future Forward Report (2007). Mayor Blake and other notable community stakeholders provided laudable efforts in the development and the process of the Future Forward report and it would be appalling if it appeared that some of the recommendations were ignored or discounted at this juncture.
- Conference Calls with ERCB Community Relations Representatives. They assisted in helping answer questions about the ERCB process and procedures and have been very helpful thus far. SCRS will be seeking “Intervener Status – With Standing” – should this matter present before the ERCB.
- We have also met with other Stakeholder groups (Fort McMurray Airport Tenants Working Group) in order to ascertain what, if any, concerns they may possess regarding this project. To that end, we are also reviewing their correspondence and communications – thus far - with Transport Canada, NavCanada and the Fort McMurray Airport Authority executive management team. It is our hope to coordinate and present our issues alongside other Stakeholder Groups – who may have



BOOT CAMP IN SAPRAE CREEK

WHEN: Saturdays

TIME: 12:30-1:30

WHERE: Winnie Sommer Park

Beginner/Intermediate Level

COST: Drop in fee \$5

Child care will be provided by the
Regional Municipality
Summer Programs Department





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SUMMER KICK OFF PARTY PHOTO GALLERY



A BIG THANK YOU to Tara Abraham and her Summer Parks Patrol Group for organizing such a FANTASTIC Summer Kick Off Party at our skate board park.

Also, thank you to all the residents who came out before the thunderstorm hit. The kids enjoyed a bicycle obstacle course put on by bylaw, many of the kids and adults were fitted with BRAND NEW helmets for FREE, the tie-dyed T-shirts were a hit as well as great food, face painting, and water balloon games.



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Around the Creek

RMWB Summer Programming in Sapræe Creek



Tumbling Toddlers

Sapræe Creek Park

(by Fire Hall)
Mondays

2:30-4:30

Parent and Child CRAFTGROUP

Spruce Valley Room at Vista Ridge
Wednesdays from 10:30am to noon

Check out this month's schedule

August 3rd: Beach Towels

August 10th: Summer Picture Frames

August 17th: Flower Pens

August 24th: Blow painting, Button Making, and Bookmarks

August 31st: End of Summer Party





REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY
OF **WOOD BUFFALO**

Around the Creek



THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF
WOOD BUFFALO (RMWB)
INVITES YOU TO ATTEND



AN

OPEN HOUSE

Synthetic Ice. What do you think?

RMWB is considering putting a synthetic ice surface in one of its rural hamlets. Input from the public is being sought regarding this decision.

You are invited to attend an open house in SAPRAE CREEK

When: Thursday August 4th 7:00pm to 9 pm

Where: Vista Ridge Lounge

What will I learn?

- You will learn what synthetic ice is and how it is different from real ice.
- You will be able to examine a piece of synthetic ice.

What input will I give to the RMWB?

- Please join us and share your opinion on whether you feel Saprae Creek would or would not be a good location for synthetic ice
- Members of the project team will be available to answer questions



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AROUND THE CREEK



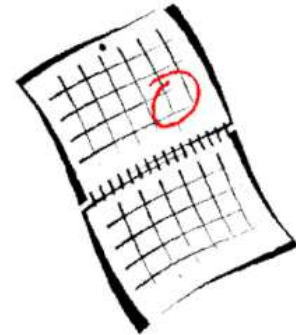
URBAN SYSTEMS
AND
THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WOOD BUFFALO
INVITES YOU TO ATTEND

PLACEMAKING: SESSION 2

WHEN: Tuesday August 23rd

WHERE: Vista Ridge Lounge

TIME: 6-9 pm



Urban Systems is ready to present us with a design on the future look of Sapræe Creek.

Please come and check out their ideas and be prepared to share your opinion.

Implementations are to take place this fall.



REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY
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**The Regional Municipality
of Wood Buffalo will be
presenting our Draft
Municipal Development
Plan and we'd love to see
you there!**

Date: August 25, 2011
Time: 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
Where: Vista Ridge
**What: Find out more about what's
coming up in your community**

**Learn what this means for our
region and this community.
Tell us what you think - we want
to hear your Big Idea!**

**Visit
www.bigideawoodbuffalo.ca
to find out more.**

**** Refreshments will
be served and everyone
is welcome to attend! ****



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what's the
BIG IDEA
Wood Buffalo



live work move play grow live work live work move play grow live work move

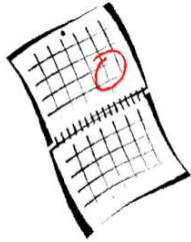


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Astronomical Vistas 2011

Come out and see the stars under a dark, moonless sky! Join astrophysicist and Keyano College instructor Jean-Pierre De Villiers, and scan the skies with astronomical binoculars and Keyano College's new 10-inch Meade telescope.



Location: Vista Ridge All Seasons Park

Date: Sunday September 25, 2011 from 7:30 pm to 11:00 pm

Weather alternate: Sunday October 2, 2011 from 7:30 pm to 11:00 pm

This special astronomical event for the residents of Sapræe Creek and the staff and students of Keyano College is made possible with the generous support of Vista Ridge All Seasons Park.

The event is free, but we would like to know how many people to expect. If interested in attending, please email astronomy@keyano.ca before September 25 and let us know how many will be in your party.

Weather Information: In the event of cloud cover or inclement weather on September 25, the event will run on October 2, weather permitting. Not sure whether or not to come out? Have questions?

Email astronomy@keyano.ca to receive a status update via email

Call 780-791-4940 for information on the status of the event



AGENDA

7:30 pm to dusk:

Watch the stars emerge, test your ability to find stars against a bright sky
Learn how to set up and align telescopes and binoculars

Dusk to 11:00 pm:

Visual tour of the night sky: fall constellations and the Milky Way
Planets: Jupiter and, possibly, Uranus and Neptune
Star clusters: visually stunning groupings of stars in our own galaxy
Nebulae: glowing gas clouds in our own galaxy
Globular clusters: 12-billion year old clusters above the plane of our galaxy
Deep sky: distant galaxies, millions of light years away



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AROUND THE CREEK



YOGA IN THE CREEK

Marianne Baron will be back in Sapræe Creek this Fall for yoga classes.

Set of FOUR classes will take place September 8, 15, 22, 29th

Cost is \$35

Classes are at Vista Ridge in the Spruce Valley Room.

Drop-in cost \$10

Please email Michelle to register at michelleandgord@hotmail.com

Space is limited so register today!



WATCH THE SEPTEMBER EDITION OF THE NEWSLETTER
FOR THE RETURN OF



Family

Movie



Night

**FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT
SCRAPBOOKING CROP
COMMUNITY CLEAN UP BBQ**

AND MUCH MORE
COMING THIS FALL

Bear Awareness

With a number of bear sightings in Sapræ Creek and Draper Road this Spring/Summer here is some information that you may find interesting!

Though each bear will have had varying experiences with humans, bears use body language and vocalizations to show their intentions. Learning about bear behavior and ecology can help us to understand what they may be trying to tell us.

BEAR MYTHS

A bear standing on its hind legs is about to charge.

The bear is probably just trying to identify what has caught its attention. It's easier to see, hear and smell from a standing position, than down on all fours.

Bears can't run down hill.

Bears can run more than 60 kilometers an hour, on all sorts of terrain! To put that in perspective, that's 15 m/sec - more than twice as fast as we can run.

Bears have poor eyesight.

Bears see in colour and have similar vision to humans.

Bears are carnivores.

Although classified in the order of Carnivora, grizzly and black bears are omnivores, meaning that they eat both plants and animals.

People traveling in bear country are often attacked.

Bear attacks are extremely rare. Most bears (especially black bears) will actually retreat before you are even aware of their presence. It is still important, however, to stay alert and know bear safety.

Shooting or relocating a 'nuisance' bear will solve the problem.

Removing the bear and not the attractant is only a temporary solution. If we don't remove the attractant, it is only a matter of time before another bear moves in, creating a vicious cycle of conflict and killing.

If a bear charges you, play dead or climb a tree.

Black bears are excellent climbers. Their agility and sharp claws allow them to quickly climb trees to escape danger. As for playing dead...stay tuned!

Problem Bears

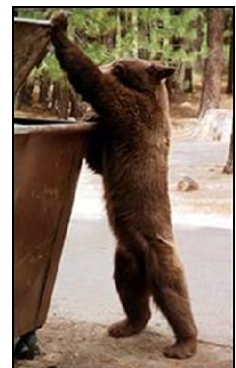
Are not afraid of humans

Defies humans to get food

May enter tents or buildings

Causes property damage

Food conditioned bears that have been relocated can return to capture site over 200km away to find food again



Bear Awareness



BEAR BIOLOGY

Motives: Survive to Procreate!

To survive, bears are eating machines during their active period

Consume calorie equivalent of 25 Big Macs and 25 triple thick shakes EVERY DAY!

Opportunistic Omnivores

Will eat anything that's available, but rarely hunt actively

Human food is an easy source of high calorie food, and will be taken advantage of if the opportunity exists!

Bears don't truly hibernate...their body temperature decreases only slightly, their heart rate, breathing and metabolism slow greatly
Emerge from 'hibernation' in spring

Feed on green leafy vegetation to replenish depleted body fat

Breed in June/July, gestation lasts ~220 days, including delayed implantation

Sexual maturity at 2-5 years

Females reproduce every other year on average, typically 1-2 cubs but it's not impossible to have 5 cubs

After breeding, the rush is on to fatten up and prepare for the winter

Peak times for 'problem bears' is Early spring, and late summer

Natural food supply varies with seasons, and between years. When natural food supplies are scarce, food conditioning is more likely to occur

The cubs stay with their mother for the first summer, den with her for the first winter

Yearlings are often biggest problem bears

Bears are unpredictable!!!!

Be careful and DO NOT approach THEM.



Please contact the Conservation Officer at 780-743-7475 if you see a bear in your area.



REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY
OF WOOD BUFFALO

AROUND THE CREEK

NOW OPEN



The Clearwater Lounge at
Vista Ridge is now open
Friday and Saturday nights
from 5:30pm.

CLEARWATER LOUNGE

Private Bookings also available

Contact Nate: 780 714 8826

The Clearwater Lounge
at Vista Ridge

Vista Ridge

1 Spruce Valley Drive
Saprae Creek
Fort McMurray

Phone: 780 743 8651

Fax: 780 743 6280

www.vistaridge.ab.ca



Community Calendar AUGUST 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Schedule of Programs and Events

- RMWB Tumbling Toddlers - Mondays 2:30-4:30 at the park
- RMWB Parent & Child Craft Group - Wednesdays 10:30 to noon
- Synthetic Ice Open House - Thurs. August 4th, 7-9pm Vista Ridge
- Placemaking: Session 2 Open House - August 23rd, 6-9pm Vista Ridge
- RMWB Municipal Development Plan Open House - August 25th, 7-9pm Vista Ridge
- Saprae Creek Volunteer Fire Department Practice Nights August 8, 15, 22, 29 (Mondays)
- Vista Lounge Open Friday and Saturday Nights 5:30 til closing