

# SAPRAE CREEK NEWS



**APRIL 2024**



REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY  
OF **WOOD BUFFALO**

## Saprae Creek Estates

### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



Vista Ridge  
1 Spruce Valley Drive



**Date**  
Thursday April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024



**Time**  
7:00PM



**Details**  
Update on RMWB projects  
in Saprae Creek; RES,  
FireSmart, RWSS, open  
discussion by residents.



# Construction Communication 2023



## How did construction communication measure up in 2023?

The What We Heard Report is now online. This report outlines what was done for the engagement, common themes that came from your feedback, and a summary of survey responses.

Learn more about the participation we saw from rural communities, what participants had to say about the rural newsletter, and more.

Thank you to everyone who shared feedback.

Find the report at [rmwb.ca/participation](https://rmwb.ca/participation).

## For any questions, please contact Pulse!

**PULSE**

780-743-7000 • 1-800-973-9663  
[rmwb.ca/pulse](https://rmwb.ca/pulse)

Call. Submit online.  
 Real answers every time, all the time.

Residents in rural communities can contact the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo 24/7 by contacting Pulse via the following:

- 780-743-7000
- 1-800-973-9663 (toll-free)

[www.rmwb.ca/pulse](https://www.rmwb.ca/pulse)



# WOOD BUFFALO

## RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

### What is it?

- A voluntary program that offers a safe, respectful way to promote healing after harm has occurred.
- Allows offenders to take responsibility for their actions and allows the community to see its role in contributing to reconciliation.
- Provides an opportunity for everyone involved to have a voice and determine actions and outcomes to ensure accountability.

### Learn more:

Restorative Justice Contact Information:

- Phone: 780-788-4253
- Toll Free: 1-888-788-4250
- Email: [restorative.justice@rmwb.ca](mailto:restorative.justice@rmwb.ca)

### Get involved.

*We need committed volunteers to help! Please contact us.*

Let's say goodbye to trash and hello to a cleaner, greener neighbourhood!

**Starting April 24**, registration for the annual Community Cleanup and Adopt-A-Trail opens online, through Pulse and at your local municipal office.

Register as a group or individual to lead a cleanup event or adopt a trail in your community.

Stay tuned for more information at [rmwb.ca/cleanup](http://rmwb.ca/cleanup).



## Community Policing - presentations available

The Wood Buffalo Community Policing Unit has a great list of presentations they can bring to communities when requested.

### Available presentations

- A Career in the RCMP - Gr 7-Adult
- ATV Safety - Gr 10-Adult
- Being a Good Citizen - ECDP-Gr 6
- Being a Mountie - ECDP-Gr 6
- Bicycle Safety - ECDP-Gr 6
- Bullying (includes Cyberbullying) - ECDP-Gr 9
- Consent - Gr 7-Adult
- Crime Scene Investigations - ECDP-Adult
- Drug Awareness
  - For Teens (cannabis, alcohol, vaping and opioid awareness) - Gr 7-12
  - For Adults (includes clandestine drug labs, methamphetamines, opioids)
- Fraud & Identity Theft - Adult
- Halloween Safety - ECDP-Gr 6
- History of the Force - Gr 4-Adult
- Online Safety (includes Cyberbullying) - ECDP-Gr 6
- Online Safety (include Cyberbullying, Social Media & the Law) - Gr 7-Adult
- Personal Safety - ECDP-Adult
- Police & Canadian Law (for New Canadians) - Gr 10-Adult
- Property Crime Prevention - Adult
- Restorative Justice - Gr 9-Adult
- Senior Safety - Adult
- Sexting - Gr 7-Adult
- Traffic
  - Impaired Driving (Alcohol & Drugs) - Gr 9-Adult
  - Distracted Driving - Gr 9-Adult
  - Winter Driving - Gr 9-Adult
- Unhealthy Relationships/Dating Violence - Gr 7-Adult
- Youth Criminal Justice Act - Gr 7-Adult



### Want a presentation?

Contact us if you'd like a presentation for your group, class or community at [communitypolicing@rmwb.ca](mailto:communitypolicing@rmwb.ca) or call 780-788-4040 and ask for the Community Policing Coordinator.

# SAPRAE CREEK ESTATES SEWER PROGRAM

Spring is just around the corner! Time to think about the 2024 construction season.

Rural water and sewer servicing is available in Saprae Creek Estates! Applications are being **accepted!**

Many of you have already connected and we want to thank those who did!

We understand this is a big decision. To make it easier, we've refreshed our website, [rmwb.ca/rwss](https://rmwb.ca/rwss) and the [Homeowner Connection Guide](#).

Here's the steps to apply:

## Step 1: Choose your contractor.

- Choose a certified contractor from Alberta Municipal Affairs.
- You can find a list of **local** certified contractors at [rmwb.ca/rwss](https://rmwb.ca/rwss).
- Your contractor will then provide a quote to connect your home.

## Step 2: Complete your application form.

- Download the application package from [rmwb.ca/rwss](https://rmwb.ca/rwss) and submit to [rwss.applications@rmwb.ca](mailto:rwss.applications@rmwb.ca).

## Step 3: Submit your application fee.

- Submit your \$200 application fee at [pay.rmwb.ca](https://pay.rmwb.ca) or by mailing your cheque to the RMWB.

## Step 4: Connect with us!

- Have questions? Need help with your application? Connect with us through Pulse, and a connection specialist will follow up to answer your questions.



**Can my contractor take care of the entire process – from application to construction?** We understand this might be overwhelming. You may write a letter/ email to your contractor, and state that you allow them to act on your behalf if you would prefer they take the lead.



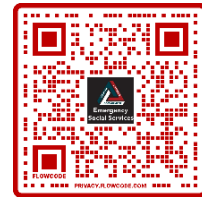
**Connect with us:** To talk to a connection specialist, contact us through Pulse at 780-743-7000 or toll-free at 1-800-973-9663.

## Emergency Social Services (ESS)

ESS provides individuals or families with supports when they are displaced due to an emergency. Registration centres or other evacuation sites are set up to register evacuees and provide immediate basic needs. This support is available to provide a safe place for evacuees to plan their next steps as they transition to recovery.

Registration centres may provide the following services:

- Food/water
- Shelter
- Clothing
- First Aid/emotional support
- Family reunification
- Animal care and rescue assistance



To learn more about ESS, or to join the ESS Team, scan the QR code below:

## VPR

Emergencies happen. If you are a vulnerable person living in the region, you may be at greater risk during an emergency.



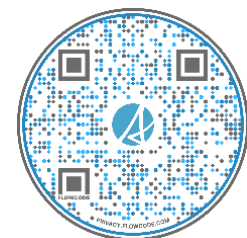
**Vulnerable  
Persons  
Registry**

The Vulnerable Persons Registry (VPR) is a service that improves the safety of vulnerable residents living at home.

This is done by communicating directly with registrants during emergencies and by sharing key information to first responders about individuals on the VPR. Click [here](#) to find out more about the VPR.

## MAERS

The MyAlberta Emergency Registration System is available to all residents of Alberta as a tool to assist during an evacuation or emergency. Albertans can register themselves and their family members in advance of an emergency using their MyAlberta Digital ID. Click [here](#) or scan below to pre-register today.



## Spring into public service with a Council-appointed board or committee

Rural community members looking to have a say in local governance and give back to the community are invited to apply to serve on a Council-appointed board or committee.



### Applications from rural residents strongly encouraged

Most board and committee meetings can be attended remotely by videocall, making it easier for rural residents to participate. Rural board and committee members can also claim mileage expenses for driving to attend meetings in person.

### Boards and committees seeking applicants

The following boards and committees currently have vacancies:

- Advisory Committee on Aging (“Senior at Large Rural” member wanted)
- Combative Sports Commission
- Fort McMurray Airport Authority
- Public Art Committee
- Subdivision and Development Appeal Board
- Wood Buffalo Waterfront Advisory Committee
- Wood Buffalo Development Advisory Committee
- Wood Buffalo Pro-Business Advisory Committee

Applicants are welcome to apply for multiple vacancies. Those not appointed by Council at this time may be added to a pool of applicants for future vacancies.

Access the Boards and Committees portal at [rmwb.ca/boards](https://rmwb.ca/boards) to learn more.

For questions or to get help applying for a vacancy, contact Pulse at 780-743-7000 or toll-free at 1-800-973-9663.



# Take your creative project from idea to reality

*Arts, Culture and Heritage Grant applications are now open for 2024*



The Arts, Culture and Heritage Grant provides **up to \$5,000** for projects that create, inspire and preserve within the cultural landscape of the region.

## Apply early!

Individuals and groups may apply for a maximum of \$5,000. The deadline for grant applications is Dec. 31, 2024 at 4:30 p.m. MST or until the total \$50,000 funding is exhausted, whichever comes first.

Apply early through the Community Investment Program (CIP) Grant Portal as funding is awarded in order of completed applications received.

## What projects are eligible?

Projects must align with the priorities of the **Wood Buffalo Culture Plan**. The eligibility list varies and ranges from performing arts to heritage restoration to landscape design. Most creative projects are eligible for the Arts, Culture and Heritage Grant.

Projects that have received grant support in previous years include:

- The Hidden Gems of YMM mural
- Fort MacBeth, a mockumentary film
- “Eighteen the Day I Died”, a solo performance

## One-on-one support available

We understand that the application process can be daunting, and we're here to help! Contact Pulse to connect with the CIP team for one-on-one support.

Get started today by visiting [rmwb.ca/CIP](https://rmwb.ca/CIP).

## Showcase your talent with Public Art Wood Buffalo

Looking to flex your creative skills? Learn more – and apply – for the following artist opportunities at [rmwb.ca/PublicArt](http://rmwb.ca/PublicArt).

### Wood Buffalo Mural Festival

This summer, we'll play host to the Wood Buffalo Mural Festival! Featuring live mural painting, workshops and community engagement activities, the festival aims to celebrate art, culture and community through vibrant and captivating murals.

Mural artists from across Canada are invited to submit a proposal; up to five artists will be selected. Compensation will be based on the size and scope of the mural, and most supplies and equipment will be provided.

Not interested in picking up a paintbrush but able to provide a canvas? Building owners, we are in need of venues for festival murals!

Submit an artist proposal or apply as a mural venue by April 15.

### 2024 Street Banner Program explores the Spirit of Water

Every year, residents of all ages and skill levels are encouraged to showcase their talents through the Street Banner Program. Selected designs will receive a \$600 design fee, a screened banner and the opportunity to be displayed throughout the region!

This year's theme, the Spirit of Water, invites you to dive in and explore the incredible power and beauty of water.

Submit artwork by May 3 at 4 p.m.

### Art for Social Change

Could your art be a tool to create positive change for those facing barriers due to a lack of accessibility and inclusion?

The Art for Social Change project invites artists living within Western Canada to submit proposals for site-specific public art installations that creatively explore and interpret the theme of Accessibility.

The call is open to any artistic discipline. Up to six projects will be selected, each with a budget of up to \$10,000.

Submit a project proposal by May 6.

### Subscribe to the artist roster

Join the artist roster to receive emails about upcoming artist calls, programs, events and information sessions at [rmwb.ca/PublicArt](http://rmwb.ca/PublicArt).

## Call for nominees for Indigenous Sports Gallery starts April 8

The RMWB is looking for nominations of local Indigenous athletes, community builders and local legends to be part of the Indigenous Sports Gallery. The gallery is intended to inspire, and celebrate the story of Indigenous athletes and their ongoing contributions to sport in the region.

The Wood Buffalo 2023 Arctic Winter Games created a travelling Indigenous Sports Gallery to honor Call to Action 87. Demonstrating ongoing commitment to Truth and Reconciliation, the RMWB is carrying this legacy forward and hosting the inaugural RMWB Indigenous Sports Gallery exhibition this summer.

Selected nominees will be celebrated at an induction ceremony, with the gallery later travelling around the region for public display. Nominations are open from April 8 to May 3.

### Nomination qualifications

Must be a member of a local First Nation or Métis community and have lived within the RMWB for at least 12 consecutive months as of April 1, 2023.

### Youth Athlete Nomination

- Are between 8 – 18 years old, as of April 1, 2023
- Are devoted to sport and make a positive contribution to their community
- Demonstrates active participation and have admirable skills in their chosen sport
- Participates in sport within their community, in regional, provincial or national competitions, on competitive post-secondary teams or elite stream competitions
- Willing to contribute a quote about how sport has supported personal well-being

### Community Builder Nomination

- Makes a positive contribution as a leader of sport within their community
- Demonstrates commitment and support for sport and well-being in their community
- Demonstrates admirable values and/or personal characteristics

### Local Legend Nomination

- An individual who has passed on to the spirit world and left a lasting impact in their community and contributed to the development of sport

**How to nominate:** Nominations can be submitted online at [rmwb.ca/sportsgallery](https://rmwb.ca/sportsgallery)

For questions or to get help nominating someone for the Indigenous Sports Gallery, contact Pulse at 780-743-7000 or toll-free at 1-800-973-9663.

## Explore the Spirit of Water in this year's Street Banner Program



Every year, residents of all ages and skill levels are encouraged to showcase their talents through the Street Banner Program.

Selected designs will receive a \$600 design fee, a screened banner and the opportunity to be displayed throughout the region!

This year's theme, the Spirit of Water, invites you to dive in and explore the incredible power and beauty of water.

### Submission guidelines

Submissions are to be on 130lb art paper. If you have art paper, please submit with the following dimensions – 19 cm x 59.7 cm (7.5" x 23.5"). Art paper is available in a cold press (best for paint) or hot press (best for pencil, pastels, crayon).

You can pick up art paper during business hours at your local municipal contact office or the main floor counter at Jubilee Centre (9909 Franklin Ave.).

Participants are limited to a maximum of two entries and must be a resident of and reside in the RMWB.

To review the full guidelines and download the application forms, visit [rmwb.ca/banner](https://rmwb.ca/banner).

### Find inspiration

Need ideas? Here are some to inspire your creative flow!

- Ecosystems, global biodiversity and ecological balance.
- Sustainability, long-term viability, water quality and equitable distribution.
- Master of disguise with shapeshifting ability that can move from solid to liquid to gas and back.
- Explore the molecular secret of water's structure and symbols.
- Societal significance – water has been a symbol of purification, renewal and life, which is evident in many different cultural and spiritual practices.
- Recreation and transportation.
- Fluid and rhythmic wave patterns create a harmonious relationship between water, music and dance.

**Submit your artwork by May 3 at 4 p.m.**



## Wood Buffalo Senior Social

Join us for a free lunch and BINGO! There will be music, a photo booth and door prizes!

**Transportation is Available**

Where: Janvier Municipal Centre

When: April 30, 2024

Time: 12:00pm-3:30pm

To Register Call :

Janvier: Melissa (780)-559-2230

Conklin: Wendy (780) 599-2235

Anzac/GLE/FM468FN: Viola (780) 334-2298

Fort McMurray/Fort McKay: Olivia (780) 792-1892

RSVP Deadline: April 18, 2024

# Walking Safety Tips



**Walk Facing Traffic:** If there is no sidewalk and you must walk on the side of the road, choose the side where you are facing oncoming traffic. This gives you the best chance to see traffic approaching closest to you and take evasive action if necessary.

**Cross Safely:** Look both ways before crossing any street. Make eye contact with any drivers who may be turning. Give them a wave. Make sure they see you.

**Walk Single File:** Unless you are on a sidewalk separate from the road, you should walk single file. This is especially important on a road with lots of curves. While it can be enjoyable to walk down the road two or three abreast chatting merrily, drivers don't expect it.

**Stay aware of bikes and runners:** Share the road and path with bikes and runners. Bike riders should alert you when approaching from behind with a bike bell or a "passing on the left/right." Listen for them.

**Be Visible:** Wear bright colors when walking in daytime. When walking at night wear light-colored clothing and reflective clothing or reflective vest to be visible.

**Hang Up and Eyes Up:** Chatting or texting while walking is as dangerous as doing that while driving. You are distracted and not as aware of your environment. You are less likely to recognize traffic danger, passing joggers and bikers or tripping hazards. Potential criminals can also see you as a distracted easy target.

**When walking your pet:** keep your pet on the side away from traffic so that they don't accidentally dart into the roadway.



## BE BEAR AWARE

It's springtime, which means bears are now crawling out of hibernation dens in search of food. Many areas within the RMWB are in bear territory, so we need to be aware. Below are a few key safety points to keep in mind:

- Never feed wildlife.
- Dispose of waste in proper waste receptacles.
- Make noise so bears can hear you coming – talk, sing or give a shout out when approaching a blind corner.
- Don't wear headphones or anything that will interfere with your ability to detect nearby wildlife.
- Be aware of your surroundings (situational awareness).
- Watch for signs of bear activity such as tracks or scat.
- Consider carrying air horn or bear bells.
- Do not take pictures.
- Refrain from picking garbage in areas that have had recent bear sightings.
- Be extra aware during early morning and evening hours.
- Leash your dogs.

If you encounter a bear,

- Back away slowly and cautiously, but do not turn your back
- Stay calm
- Do not run
- Give the bear space
- Use an air horn, whistle or other bear deterrents
- Stay close to those you are with
- Talk calmly
- Wave arms slowly
- Avoid eye contact
- Leave the area

***Situational awareness is not a skill; it's a mindset of being aware of your surroundings.***

**Bear  
aware** 



Wood Buffalo Victim Services provides victims of crime and trauma with support, information and referrals based on their needs. The intent is to ease the crisis and help them return to stability.

### **Why should victims of crime and trauma contact us?**

Our support workers are empathetic listeners. They will give you information to help you make decisions that are best for you and your circumstances. Part of our role is to make sure you are treated fairly. You have rights under the *Alberta Victims of Crime Act*.

Please call or email to speak to a support worker. We can arrange to meet in your community.

### **Wood Buffalo Victim Services**

**Phone: 780-788-4250**

**Toll Free: 1-888-788-4250**

**Email: [victim.services@rmwb.ca](mailto:victim.services@rmwb.ca)**





# ***5th Annual Victims and Survivors of Crime Walk***

**FRIDAY, MAY 24, 2024**

**11:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

**SNYE PARK**

**SHOW YOUR SUPPORT FOR THOSE IMPACTED BY ACTS OF VIOLENCE IN OUR REGION. THE EVENT STARTS AT THE MEMORIAL PARK BENCH WITH OPENING REMARKS, FOLLOWED BY THE COMMUNITY WALK AND LUNCH.**

For more information or to rsvp contact

[communitypolicing@rmwb.ca](mailto:communitypolicing@rmwb.ca)



REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY  
OF WOOD BUFFALO



## IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

<b>PULSE</b> (MUNICIPAL SWITCH BOARD)	1-800-973-9663 780-743-7000	PULSE@RMWB.CA	RMWB.CA/PULSE
<b>COMMUNITY CONTACTS:</b>		<b>SOCIAL MEDIA:</b>	
<b>RCMP</b>	780-788-4000	 @WOODBUFFALORURALCOMMUNITYCONNECTION   @RMWOODBUFFALO   @RMWOODBUFFALO	
<b>FISH &amp; WILDLIFE</b>	780-743-7200		
<b>HEALTH LINK</b>	811		
<b>ALL EMERGENCIES</b>	911		

To submit information to the newsletter please email:  
[ruralnewsletters@rmwb.ca](mailto:ruralnewsletters@rmwb.ca)

Deadline for May Newsletter submissions:  
 APRIL 25, 2024

# COMMUNITY EVENTS CALENDER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<b>1</b>  <b>Easter Monday</b> <b>RMWB Closed</b>  	<b>2</b>  Borealis Park Cleanup Day 4:00pm-6:00pm	<b>3</b>  Good Beginnings Wood Buffalo Regional Library 11:00am-12:00pm	<b>4</b>  Fort McMurray Tourism Town Hall 2024 MacDonald Island Park 9:00am-3:00pm	<b>5</b>  Kids Night Out (6-8yrs) Wood Buffalo Regional Library 6:00pm-7:30pm  JSYF Cooking Club 10500 Morrison Street 5:00pm 	<b>6</b>  Autism Society Family Fun Day Macdonald Island Park 10:00am-6:00pm
<b>7</b>  <b>World Health Day</b>  Cinderella... If The Shoe Fits King Street Theatre 2:00pm & 5:00pm	<b>8</b>  JSYF CLUE Game Night 10500 Morrison Street 5:00pm-7:00pm	<b>9</b>  Ageless and Unstoppable Line Dancing MacDonald Island Park 1:00pm-1:50pm	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>  JSYF Cooking Club 10500 Morrison Street 5:00pm	<b>12</b>  L2D Learner's License Prep Wood Buffalo Regional Library 10:00am  	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b>  Newcomers Meet & Greet (+18) Wood Buffalo Regional Library 1:00pm-3:00pm	<b>15</b>  Spring Break Crafting (6-12yrs) Wood Buffalo Regional Library 1:00pm-2:00pm	<b>16</b>  Baby Moss Bag Making Classes New Family Support Building 5:00pm-7:00pm	<b>17</b>  Baby Moss Bag Making Classes New Family Support Building 5:00pm-7:00pm	<b>18</b>  JSYF Cooking Club 10500 Morrison Street 5:00pm	<b>19</b>  Urban Nistawayaw Night Market Stonebridge Hotek 3:00pm-8:00pm  	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b>  Free Rugby Try Day Macdonald Island Park 1:00pm  JSYF BINGO Night 10500 Morrison Street 3:00pm-5:00pm	<b>22</b>  Free Rugby Try Day Macdonald Island Park 5:00pm  	<b>23</b>  Go Girls! Mentoring Program Big Brothers Big Sisters 6:00pm-7:15pm	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>  JSYF Cooking Club 10500 Morrison Street 5:00pm	<b>26</b>  Spring 2024 Trade Show & Artisan MacDonald Island Park 1:00pm-9:00pm  	<b>27</b>  Spring 2024 Trade Show & Artisan MacDonald Island Park 1:00pm-9:00pm  10 <sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Food Drive 9:00am-7:00pm
<b>28</b>  10 <sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Food Drive 9:00am-7:00pm  Spring 2024 Trade Show & Artisan MacDonald Island Park 1:00-9:00pm	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>  Go Girls! Mentoring Program Big Brothers Big Sisters 6:00pm-7:15pm				