



**M.D. of BIG LAKES - TRANSFER STATIONS
Hours of Operation**



**Winter Hours—effective October 1 to March 31 *Summer Hours—effective April 1 to September 30*

BANANA BELT (Pt. SW 11-73-17-W5) Wednesday & Sunday	Winter Hours 11:00 am—6:00 pm Closed—Christmas Day	Summer Hours 11:00am—7:00 pm
ENILDA (SE 01—74-16-W5)	Open 24 Hours—Bagged Household Waste Only	
FAUST (SE 07-73-10-W5) Wednesday Sunday	Winter Hours 11:00 am—7:00 pm 11:00 am—7:00 pm Closed—Christmas Day	Summer Hours 11:00 am—8:00 pm 11:00 am—9:00 pm
GROUARD (Pt. NE 32-75-14-W5) Wednesday Sunday	Winter Hours 11:00 am—7:00 pm 11:00 am—7:00 pm Closed—Christmas Day	Summer Hours 12:00 noon—8:00 pm 11:00 am—9:00 pm
HEART RIVER (NE 31-76-17-W5) Wednesday Sunday	Winter Hours 1:00 pm—7:00 pm 10:00 am—5:00 pm Closed—Christmas Day	Summer Hours 1:00 pm—9:00 pm 10:00 am—5:00 pm
HP WEST/GILWOOD (NW 24-74-18-W5)	Open 24 Hours—Bagged Household Waste Only	
JOUSSARD (NW 33-73-13-W5) Wednesday Sunday	Winter Hours 11:00 am—7:00 pm 11:00 am—7:00 pm Closed—Christmas Day	Summer Hours 12:00 noon—8:00 pm 11:00 am—9:00 pm
REGIONAL LANDFILL (NW 09-73-15-W5) Monday/Thursday/Saturday Closed: Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Years Day and Easter Sunday	12kms South on East Prairie Road 10:00 am—5:00 pm	PH: 523-5760

MD of Big Lakes NEWSLETTER

Ph: (780)523-5955 Toll Free: 1-866-523-5955 Fax: (780)523-4227 Email: biglakes@mdbiglakes.ca

Box 239, High Prairie AB T0G 1E0



With the days getting shorter, and the nights a little cooler it is a sure sign that fall is approaching. The autumn season for us at the MD of Big Lakes generally brings with it a push to complete current projects before winter sets in and we also begin to review our plans for next year. Fall 2007 is particularly exciting with the many challenges we face and the varied initiatives we are involved with:

- new Municipal Services Facilities are being constructed in Faust, Enilda, and Grouard. These facilities will provide improved settings for the FCSS and Fire Services that are provided for those communities.
- development continues at a steady pace within our boundaries, from seasonal lakeside developments to rural acreages. Throughout the process the MD carefully juggles the fostering of growth with maintaining some of the desirable rural and historical characteristics of our area.
- the MD is a proud participant in the High Prairie 2nd Ice Surface project. Our gratitude and congratulations to the Sports Complex Society and the many volunteers and contributors to this remarkable endeavour.
- in an effort to improve upon or streamline the work we currently undertake, and to add service where feasible, the MD has a number of partnerships in the works with other local governments. New collaborations include enhanced policing and regional economic development. In fact, working with other jurisdictions is becoming a major focus for all of Alberta. The Province has made a major 10 year funding commitment to towns, cities, and municipalities with much of the money targeted toward working regionally. So we may reduce some government redundancies yet!

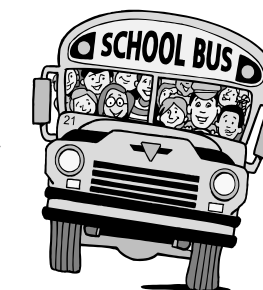
As new CAO for the MD, this is indeed an interesting fall to grow into my new role. With the seeds sown from previous administration and council, and the quality field work of dedicated staff, our Fall harvest at the MD should yield some rewarding results.

Attention Drivers



Students have returned to classes on September 4th

“Don’t pass school buses stopped with flashing lights.”



M.D. of Big Lakes
On-Call (24 hrs)
523-5955
Toll Free:
1-866-523-5955

Fall Back
Daylight Saving Time—Nov. 4th
(at 2:00 am—turn your clocks back 1 hr)

NOTICE
The FCSS Hamlet Offices
will be re-opening
the week of
September 4th, returning to
regular office hours.

MD of BIG LAKES
ELECT VOTE FOR!
Nomination Day -Sept. 17, 2007
Election Day - Oct. 15, 2007
(for more info see page 3)

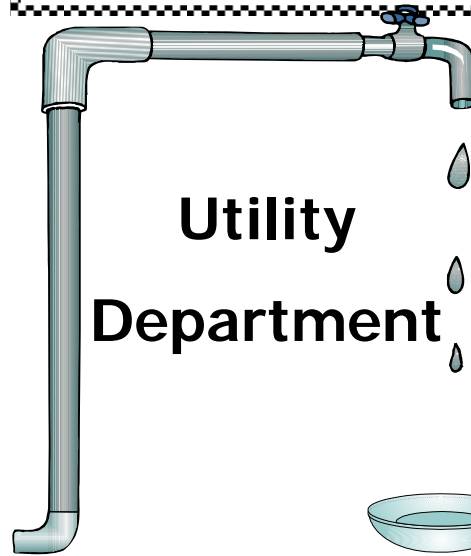


School Zones are in effect from:
8:00am to 9:30 am
11:30am to 1:30pm
and 3:00pm to 4:30pm.

Public Works Department

Construction Ahead!! Please be patient on your commute as MD and Contractor Crews are still in the midst of construction.

Major projects include Gilwood Road Re-grading (in preparation for base and paving by 2010.) and the MD's portion of Seal Lake (Peavine North Road) alignment. Upcoming projects include street lighting at the intersection of Willow Street (RCMP Street) and Highway 2 at Faust (Fall 2007) and Bakers Crossing (East Prairie) Bridge which should have work starting this winter.



Utility Department

NEW WATER RATES

MD residents with Municipal Potable water service will notice that water rates have been increased recently. It should be noted that this has been our first increase in rates since 2002, even though costs had been climbing steadily since that time. Also of note, the minimum bill has been reduced to 10 cubic meters in recognition of low volume users and those who conserve water.

Overall, the newly implemented rates remain below costs.

P RIVATE DRIVEWAY

S NOWPLOWING

Snowplowing of private driveways may be provided by the

Municipal District to residents on a cost recovery basis.

The cost of each snowplowing will be a minimum of \$35.00 + GST.

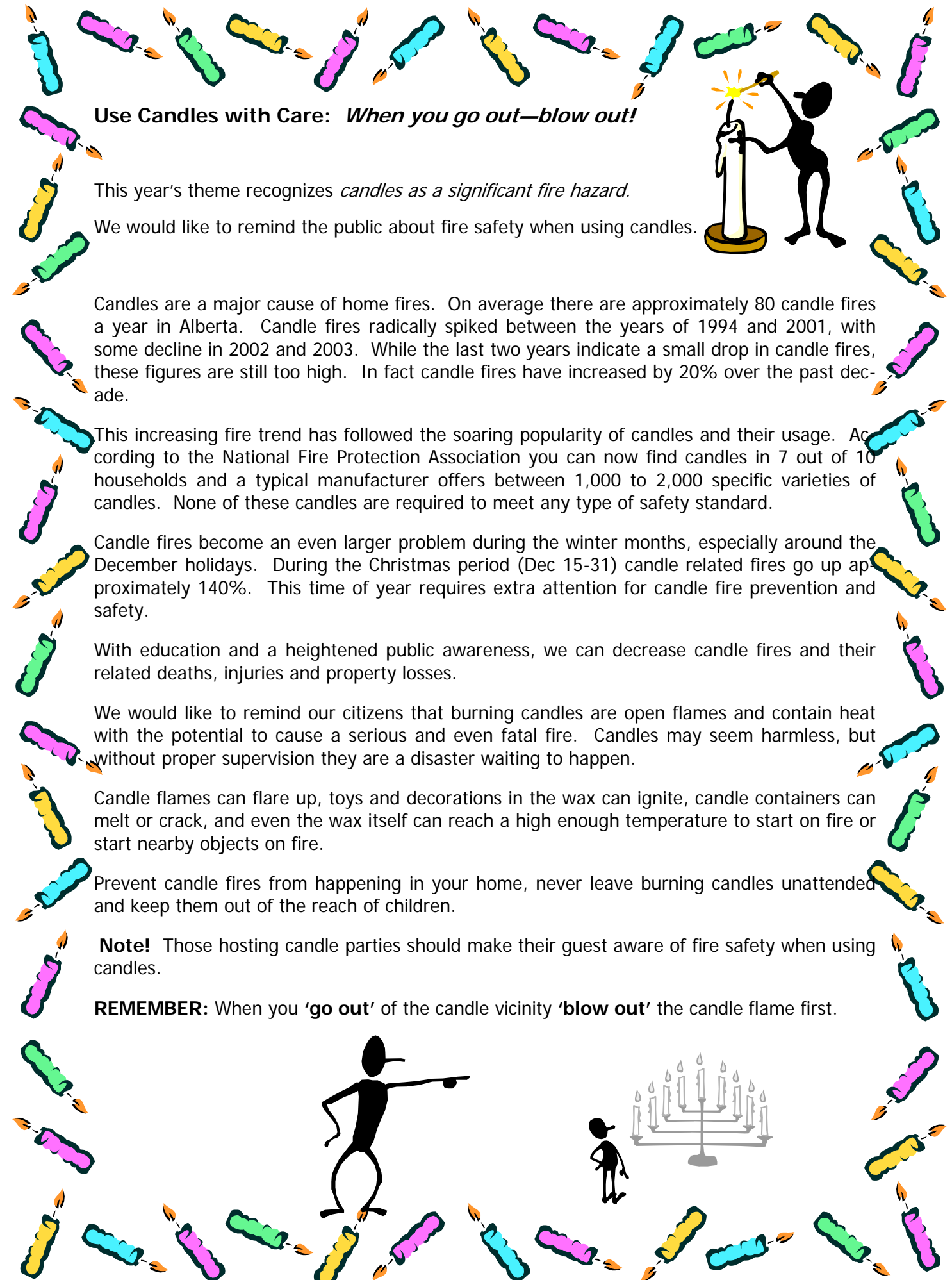
Agreements are available at the M.D. Administration office in High Prairie

as well as the Grouard, Enilda, Kinuso, Jousard and Faust FCS offices.

(Please be advised that FCS offices have restricted hours of operation...please call before you go.)

Driveways will **NOT** be plowed unless a Snowplow Agreement is signed in advance.

Note: Private driveways are generally plowed **once** road maintenance is complete.



Use Candles with Care: *When you go out—blow out!*

This year's theme recognizes *candles as a significant fire hazard.*

We would like to remind the public about fire safety when using candles.



Candles are a major cause of home fires. On average there are approximately 80 candle fires a year in Alberta. Candle fires radically spiked between the years of 1994 and 2001, with some decline in 2002 and 2003. While the last two years indicate a small drop in candle fires, these figures are still too high. In fact candle fires have increased by 20% over the past decade.

This increasing fire trend has followed the soaring popularity of candles and their usage. According to the National Fire Protection Association you can now find candles in 7 out of 10 households and a typical manufacturer offers between 1,000 to 2,000 specific varieties of candles. None of these candles are required to meet any type of safety standard.

Candle fires become an even larger problem during the winter months, especially around the December holidays. During the Christmas period (Dec 15-31) candle related fires go up approximately 140%. This time of year requires extra attention for candle fire prevention and safety.

With education and a heightened public awareness, we can decrease candle fires and their related deaths, injuries and property losses.

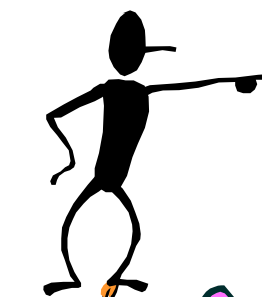
We would like to remind our citizens that burning candles are open flames and contain heat with the potential to cause a serious and even fatal fire. Candles may seem harmless, but without proper supervision they are a disaster waiting to happen.

Candle flames can flare up, toys and decorations in the wax can ignite, candle containers can melt or crack, and even the wax itself can reach a high enough temperature to start on fire or start nearby objects on fire.

Prevent candle fires from happening in your home, never leave burning candles unattended and keep them out of the reach of children.

Note! Those hosting candle parties should make their guest aware of fire safety when using candles.

REMEMBER: When you 'go out' of the candle vicinity 'blow out' the candle flame first.



HIGH PRAIRIE & DISTRICT RECREATION BOARD

Program	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
PUBLIC SWIMMING	12:00-2:00 pm	11:00-1:00 pm 6:15-8:00 pm	12:00-2:00 pm	11:00-1:00 pm 6:15-8:00 pm	12:00-2:00 pm 6:15-8:00 pm	3:30-5:30pm	3:30-5:30 pm
FAMILY	6:15-8:00 pm		6:15-8:00 pm			1:15-3:15 pm	1:15-3:15 pm
ADULT	8:15-9:15 pm	8:15-9:15 pm	8:15-9:15 pm	8:15-9:15 pm	8:00-9:00 pm		
SENIOR	3:00-4:00 pm	3:00-4:00 pm	3:00-4:00 pm	3:00-4:00 pm	3:00-4:00 pm		
LANE	6:30-8:30 am 12:00-2:00 pm	11:00-1:00 pm 8:15-9:15 pm	6:30-8:30 am 12:00-2:00 pm	11:00-1:00 pm 8:15-9:15 pm	6:30-8:30 am 12:00-2:00 pm	12:00-1:00 pm	12:00-1:00 pm
TOONIE	5:00-6:15 pm 4:00-5:00 pm Party room open after school until 4pm		5:00-6:15 pm 4:00-5:00 pm Party room open after school until 4pm		5:00-6:15 pm 4:00-5:00 pm Party room open after school until 4pm		
TEEN					9:00-10:00 pm		
SHALLOW WATERART	8:15-9:00pm		8:15-9:00 pm				
DEEP WATERART		8:30-9:15 am 5:15-6:00 pm		8:30-9:15 am 5:15-6:00 pm			

Other Programs: *Junior Lifeguard Club *Junior Fitness *Synchronized Swimming *Red Cross Lessons *Scuba *Kayaking
*Twinges N Hinges *Mom n' Me Fitness *Lifeguard training *Private Lessons *Adult Learn to Swim

For more information please contact the Aquatic Centre @ 523-4224

SKATING SCHEDULE	DAY	TIME	ARENA
Adult Shiny	Monday/Wednesday/Friday	12:00 noon—1:00 pm	Sports Palace
(Drop-In)	Tuesday & Thursday	10:00 pm—12:00 midnight	Gordon Buchanan Center
	Saturday	12:00 noon—2:00 pm	Gordon Buchanan Center
Youth Shiny * (8-16 yrs) Supervised	Monday & Wednesday	3:30 pm—4:50 pm	Gordon Buchanan Center
Teen Shiny * (16-18 yrs) Supervised	Friday	3:30 pm—5:20 pm	Gordon Buchanan Center
Public Skating	Tuesday & Thursday	12:00 noon—1:00 pm	Sports Palace
	Tuesday & Thursday	3:30 pm—5:00 pm	Gordon Buchanan Center
	Sunday	4:00 pm—6:00 pm	Sports Palace
Family Skating	Saturday	5:00 pm—7:30 pm	Gordon Buchanan Center

For more information contact Sport Palace @ 523-4044

OTHER PROGRAMS & EVENTS—To register your event or organization contact Gaylene @523-3988

Steve Nash Basketball Camp—September 10— October 25th (for children 5-13 years)

Terry Fox Run September 16, 2007

Committee Members needed: Everybody Gets to Play, Choosewell, Skate Board Park, Summer Hockey Camp, Recreation for Life Walk/Run

SCHEDULES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

PLEASE CHECKOUT UPCOMING EVENTS AND PROGRAMS @ WWW.HIGHPRAIRIERECREATION.COM

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT THE FACILITY OR THE RECREATION OFFICE 523-3988

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN SHAPING THE FUTURE OF THE MD OF BIG LAKES?

If you are, then you are encouraged to consider running for **Municipal Council**. This October residents of the **Municipal District of Big Lakes** will elect new **Municipal Council**. If you want to make a difference in your community then you are encouraged to pick-up a candidate nomination package at the **Municipal Administration Centre**.

Completed nomination forms **MUST** be submitted to the **Returning Officer** on **September 17th** between the hours of **10am and 12 noon**.

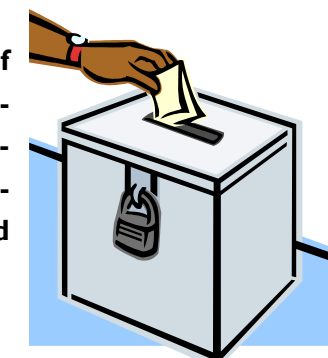


ELECTIONS IN OCTOBER

On **October 15th, 2007** residents of the **Municipal District of Big Lakes** will go to the polls to elect a new **Municipal Council**. During **September and October** candidates will be campaigning to earn your votes. Listen carefully to what candidates are saying, consider their plans for the future and choose wisely.

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD...

ON OCTOBER 15TH, CAST YOUR VOTE!



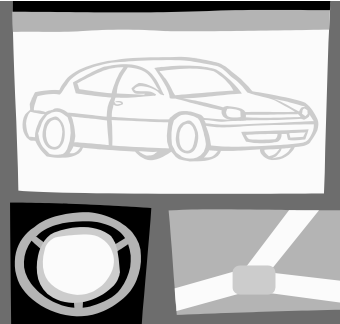
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The **Municipal District** seeks volunteers to manage polling stations for the **Municipal Elections on October 15th**. If you are available to assist us with the municipal elections, please call **Jeff Renaud** at **(780) 523-5955**.



Job Opportunities!
(full time, part time, casual)
•Lifeguard/Instructor
•Arena Attendants





SEAT BELTS AND AIR BAGS - FAST FACTS

Regardless of where or how safely you drive, sudden stops and collisions do happen. By Alberta law, drivers must wear their seat belts and are responsible for ensuring that their passengers under 16 years of age are buckled up or secured in a child safety seat.

Here are some points to remember:

- Seat belts must be in proper working condition.
- A seat belt won't protect you if it is not worn properly. Take a few seconds to position the lap portion of your seat belt snug to your body and low on the hips. Never wear the shoulder strap under the arm where it could damage your ribs.
- A seat belt keeps the driver behind the wheel and in control in a collision. It helps keep your head and body from hitting the inside of the vehicle.
- A seat belt keeps you inside the vehicle during a collision, preventing you from being thrown through a windshield or door onto the roadway.
- Even if your vehicle is equipped with air bags, always wear your seat belt. If you don't, you may not be in the right position to benefit from the protection air bags provide. Remember, air bags do not protect you in a roll-over or side impact collision.

ATTENTION

ALL TOURISM ATTRACTION OPERATORS!!

Alberta Tourism, Parks, Recreation & Culture is providing a one-time incentive and rebate program to assist operators with the cost of obtaining new highway signage. The Provincial Highways have revised their tourism oriented directional signs (TODS) to the new "Blue" signs that meet standards common throughout North America. Tourism attraction operators (ex; campsites, museums, golf courses) are required to obtain permits for New Highway Signage. This one-time incentive is the operator funding assistance that the MD of Big Lakes Council has lobbied for.

Applications must be made by October 31, 2007 to:

Guide Sign Industries (1-866-560-7446) or visit www.signupalberta.com/contact.html



Agricultural Service Board Report – Fall 2007

It was a good productive year in terms of cleaning up the weeds in the MD. Canadian Railways (CN) contracted the MD for spraying the railways. ATU performed well-timed mowing, in addition to a spray application along the edges of the asphalt, and contracted the MD to perform some weed spot spraying.

The MD was also contracted for weed spraying by numerous cooperative landowners in the Jossard area to significantly reduce the Tall Buttercup problem. The MD would like to express gratitude to the summer staff that diligently performed roadside mowing and weed control this season (Quinn, Ken, Brian, Kelly, Ron, Melissa D., Megan, Melissa J. and Jordan).

This year the MD put a much stronger emphasis on better managing the roadside vegetation. This was accomplished by employing a third roadside mower unit in late August. This was in addition to the existing 2 mowers and regular scheduled brush hydro-axing.

To further reduce the amount of Canada thistle along the edge of crops and haylands MD landowners are encouraged to take advantage of our complementary fenceline spraying program. Canada Thistle can be effectively controlled through spraying until the first heavy frost late into the fall. The Fenceline Spraying Program provides for the spraying of weeds at no charge which border fenceline edges of properties and MD road allowances. This serves to control those weeds that are typically missed by both the landowner and the MD. With the crops removed the MD sprayers can more easily travel on the edge of field perimeters with negligible risk of causing crop damage. Requests for this work are on a first come, first serve basis, with preference to those providing written requests and maps of areas in need of spraying. Requests are subject to suitable spraying weather and will be accepted until September 14.

For landowners seeking to plant shelterbelt trees along the perimeter of their land, which is adjacent to MD road allowances, they are now required to plant them at least 18 meters (60 feet) from the centerline of the road. Based on a typical 20 meter (66 feet) road allowance it would mean planting trees require a minimum of a 8 meters (27 feet) setback from the property/road allowance boundary. In doing this it will serve to: reduce snow drifting on to roads; provide better driving site-line visibility and safety (reducing wildlife impacts); eliminate herbicide tree damage potential from their lateral roots extending into the road allowance; and preserve these trees where and when additional road allowance area is required.

Gary Braithwaite – Agricultural Fieldman

