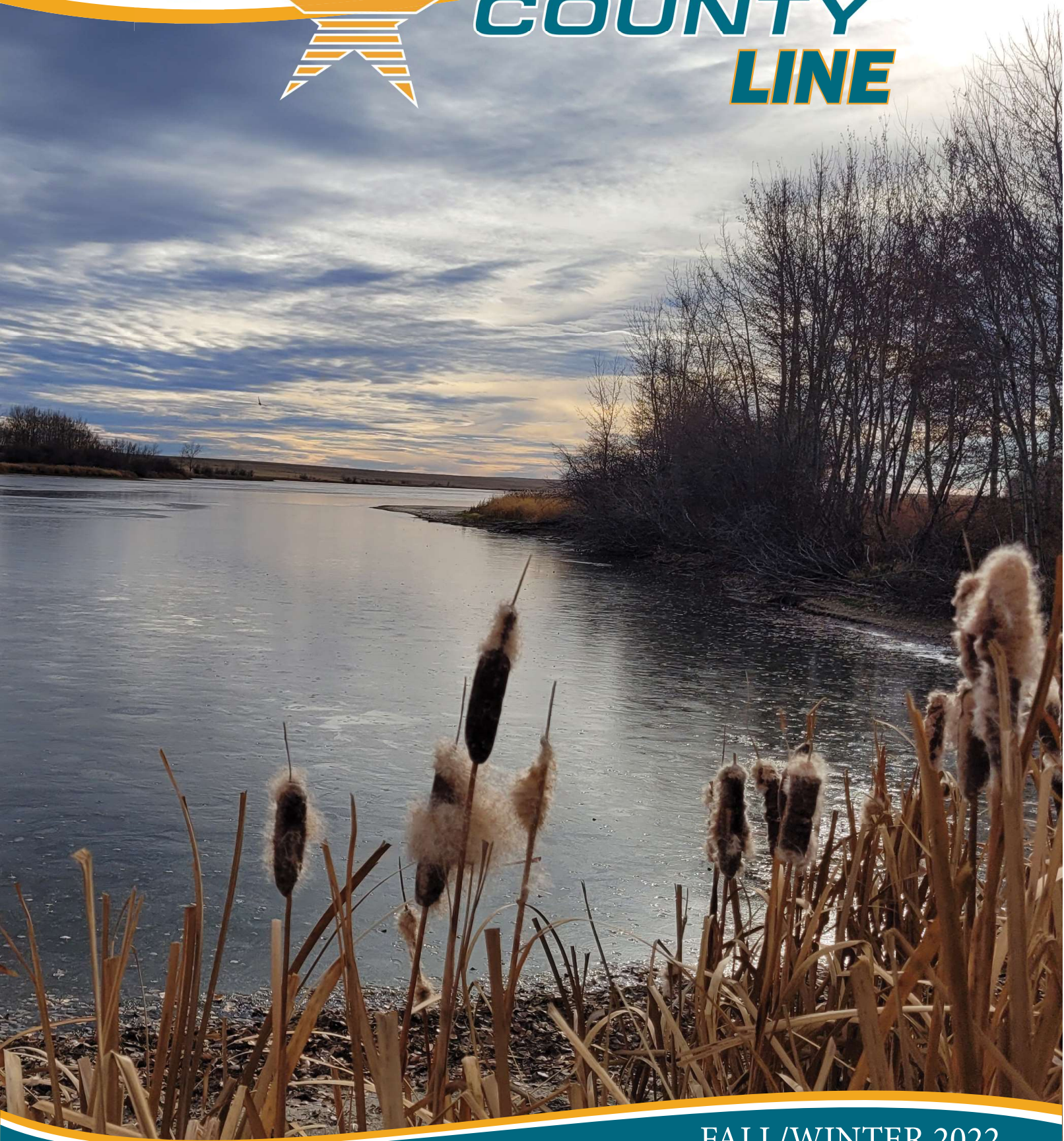


STARLAND COUNTY LINE



FALL/WINTER 2022

CONTACTS & CONTENTS

Starland County Office

217 Railway Ave North
 PO Box 249 Morrin, AB
 Canada T0J 2B0
 PH: (403) 772-3793
 info@starlandcounty.com

Division 1

Mark Landry
 Division 1 Councillor
 C: (403) 821-0168
 mlandry@starlandcounty.com

Division 2

Steve Wannstrom –Reeve
 Division 2 Councillor
 PH: (403) 823-7361
 swannstrom@starlandcounty.com

Division 3

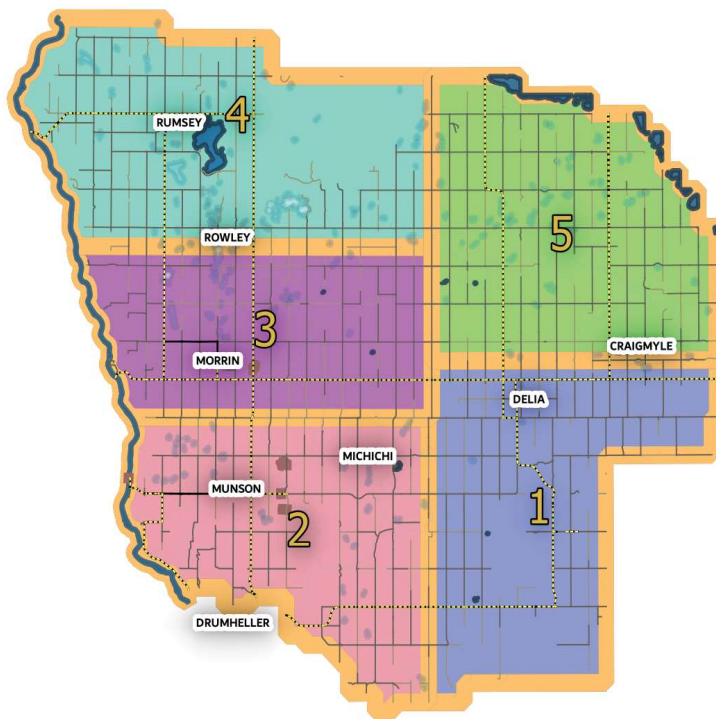
Bob Sargent - Deputy Reeve
 Division 3 Councillor
 C: (403) 820-1509
 bsargent@starlandcounty.com

Division 4

Jackie Watts
 Division 4 Councillor
 C: (403) 820-5451
 jwatts@starlandcounty.com

Division 5

John Rew
 Division 5 Councillor
 C: (403) 820-0320
 jrew@starlandcounty.com



2022 Starland County Council
 Bob Sargent, John Rew, Jackie Watts, Mark Landry, and
 Steve Wannstrom –Reeve

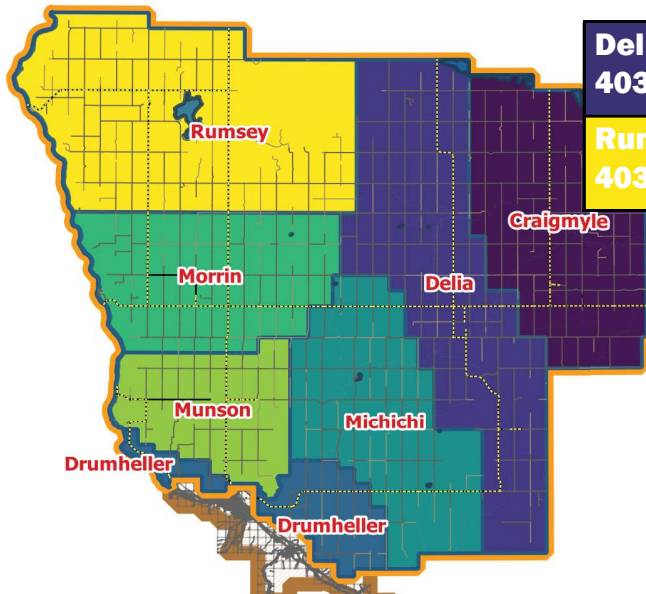
What's Inside

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Front cover photo credit: Danielle Tremblay
 Back cover photo credit: Paul Alan Wheeler

COUNTY SERVICES

FIRE SERVICE REGION MAP



Delia 403-820-4074	Morrin 403-820-0204	Munson 403-820-2355
Rumsey 403-334-4640	Craigmyle 403-854-6508	Michichi 403-820-4174

Fire permits can be obtained free of charge by applying online (<https://starlandcounty.ca/permit/burn/request>) or if you do not have internet access, you can come to the County Office and they can submit a request on your behalf. Failure to obtain one can result in charges, or being charged with the cost of a fire truck visiting the scene of a fire where no permit was issued.

Emergency Contacts

In the case of a major emergency or disaster event this page will contain important contact information. For Starland County's 24/7 Emergency line please call 1-403-772-3793. If calling outside business hours please wait for the answering service.

HOT BUTTERED RUM TO WARM YOU UP

Welcome to our Fall Newsletter. I hope this day sees the sun shine upon you. Inside you will find news regarding new policies, new inspiration, and helpful hints for surviving the winter. Of course no winter guide is complete without a little something to warm you up.



BUTTERED RUM BATTER
4 tbsp. butter, softened
3 tbsp. packed brown sugar
1/2 c. vanilla ice cream, softened
1/2 tsp. ground cinnamon

RUM DRINK
2 c. apple cider
1 c. rum

Directions:
Make the Buttered Rum Batter: In a mixing bowl, beat butter and brown sugar until light and fluffy. Beat in ice cream and cinnamon, then spoon into a mason jar or resealable container. Store in freezer until mostly hardened, about 2 hours or until ready to serve.

Make the Drinks: In a medium saucepan, heat cider until boiling, stirring occasionally. Remove from heat and pour into a pitcher or easy-to-serve container.

Place about 2 tablespoons of buttered rum batter into each mug. Fill about 1/3 of the way up with rum, then top with hot apple cider. Stir before serving.

Greetings from Starland County's CAO!

I am pleased to be bringing greetings to all the residents of Starland County. We have had a very productive year here at the County, despite many factors still working against us. One of the most important issues that we have been able to get a handle on, is the large amount of **outstanding taxes** owing from the oil and gas companies. Although we will never collect the monies owed to us by a very large taxpayer that went bankrupt a few years ago, this industry has made a turn around and the markets are now in an exceptionally favourable position for them. This in turn has enabled us to collect the arrears outstanding from three of the larger companies that remained on our files, and we are working with our lawyers to collect from the fourth one. These arrears were well over \$2 million, which is over 15% of our total revenues for each year.

One of our main focuses from our Strategic Plan is **service excellence** for our ratepayers. We are introducing ways to provide the same or better service at lower costs.

This past year we opened our own gravel pit and had a gravel crush completed this spring. We use our own gravel trucks to complete the annual gravel program and to stockpile gravel more centrally for other uses.

Administratively, we are initiating programs to streamline payables by **Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT)** and Council recently approved a **TIPPS Bylaw**, which will allow for a Tax Installment Payment Program, encouraging residents to make monthly payments on their taxes throughout the year. We are also in the

process of establishing a new Reserve Policy, that will assist us in long-term planning, setting aside needed funds for larger projects over a few years.

Economic Growth is another priority focus area identified in our Strategic Plan. The County supported the Starland Seed Cleaning Plant in their initiative to build a new facility. We obtained a loan through the GOA at a low interest rate to assist them in getting this project started. This development has the potential to encourage other new agri-business opportunities as well. The County is now a member of CAEP (Central Alberta Economic Partnership) and a community profile is underway. We will be working with this group on exploring potential economic development projects that can be established within the County.

There are a few **renewable energy projects** underway, one being the Handhills Wind Project. Eighteen wind turbines will be erected in Starland County, together with eleven more in Special Areas. In addition, a solar project north of Drumheller is underway, with another to commence either this fall or early spring. These new developments will bring new jobs as well as new tax revenues to the County and its residents.

Tourism offers us expanded opportunities as well. Council has put a renewed focus on improvements to our campgrounds as well as exploring other potential prospects on the tourism side of things. This is a way to garner revenues from sources outside the County and also improve on what we already have. We have several seasonal camping sites at

Greetings from Starland County's CAO!

Michichi Dam now, as well as a new dock in both Michichi and McLaren reservoirs. Discussions are favourable to see power installed at the Starland Recreation Area together with a new Roger's communication tower. All these things will entice more people to travel out to Starland to enjoy the beauty of this County!

We have been working diligently on improving **communication** with our ratepayers. This newsletter is just one way we have been able to show improvement. Our new on-line fire permitting system is another. A new website is in the works for next year and we have two facebook pages (one for general info and one for Ag related info) and a twitter account. We also continue to subscribe to the Drumheller Mail for all our ratepayers. Most recently, we have purchased a subscription to **Voyent Alert**, which we strongly encourage you to download the app for. Through this alert system, you can subscribe to the information that you would like updates on, and you will receive alerts on various things such as road closures, water outages, important messages and dates, etc. We are just in the installation stage, however, we urge you to get this app and be in 'the know'!

Fostering **Community Pride** was another focus area. After 30 years, we finally put up new "Welcome to Starland County" signs at all the major entrances, which from all reports look great! We also established a new "Leaders of Tomorrow Scholarship Program" with three award categories: Academic, Agriculture and

Trades. Please see the corresponding section of this newsletter for the well-deserving recipients! Another new program was our "Community Appreciation Initiative". Each divisional councillor has the opportunity to award a donation to a community group event in their division. Please see the Appreciation Initiatives awarded to date in the Community Pride section.

Several other projects were completed this year and you will note them as you read through this newsletter.

All in all, I am very proud of how resilient Starland County has been especially through these past few years and of the initiatives and goals that have been set to move forward, making this County one you can all be very proud of. We are working hard to remain not only viable, but to become a leader in sustainability and new opportunities.

In closing, this message is bittersweet in some ways. I will be retiring at the end of this year after nearly forty years of being a part of the 'County family'. It has been 40 great years for sure and I have seen many highs and lows throughout those years. But the one thing that remained constant was the great community and rural life that Starland County is well known for. I am very grateful for being a part of this and would like to thank you all for your part in making Starland County what it is today.

Sincerely,

Shirley Bremer
CAO, Starland County

SHIRLEY BREMER

SAYING FAREWELL TO SHIRLEY

I have just recently started at Starland County so I haven't had much time to get to know her but in the short time here I have benefited from working under one of the nicest, most even-tempered people I've ever known. These are such critical but so often lacking qualities in a supervisor.

We will be sad to see her go but also so happy for Shirley to start her well-earned retirement. And with that I'll let the woman of the hour tell us about her career in Starland County.

-Paul Wheeler

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

"I started with the County in 1978 as the Payroll and Accounts Payable & Receivable Assistant. I then was promoted to the Tax & Assessment Assistant. Somewhere in there I had two children, still working part-time and when I returned full-time in 1988, I was the Tax & Assessment Assistant once again. In 1991, I was promoted to the Assistant CAO position which I held until 2017, and then was hired for the CAO position on May 1, 2017.

I have truly enjoyed working with the staff and Councils here at the County through the years. We have had many long term staff whom I have had the pleasure of working with and whom I truly respect. It is a great feeling of accomplishment when projects are completed and issues are handled for the betterment of the County. My heart will always be with the County and I look forward to seeing future improvements and progress for the residents.

Accomplishments during my CAO term include surviving the fire of 2018 and recovering from this devastating loss along with making many



CAO Shirley Bremer - 2022

improvements going forward; the build of our new Administration Office & Shop; sustaining the downturn and loss of huge revenues with the collapse of various oil & gas companies and coming out on top with our reserves replenished and moving forward; and always having a great staff complement to work for the County. I have always taken great pride in the strides the County has made over the years. It has been a great place to work and I will always treasure my County family.

I have chosen to retire after nearly 40 years with the County, as it is time to move onto the other goals and dreams that I have. I plan to enjoy more time with my grandchildren and family and hopefully do some more traveling."

Shirley Bremer
CAO, Starland County



SHIRLEY BREMER

HAPPY RETIREMENT SHIRLEY!

Shirley,

YOU ARE RETIRING, CONGRATULATIONS!

You have been an awesome Employee, Supervisor & CAO to Starland County for 39 plus years. That's a lot of knowledge & history walking out that front door, that we use daily, by the way.

The staff appreciates you and your wisdom every day.

We wish you all the best in your retirement.

You will be missed!

-Signed with affection, Starland County staff

JASON CARLSON DEPARTS STARLAND



Jason Carlson

Jason Carlson departed his role as Legislative Services Director at the end of September this year. Jason was with the County for four years and has certainly helped shape the direction of the County in the electronic era. He left the county to resume a career as a programmer. Jason will be sorely missed and likely called upon many times in the near future to remind us of how things work.

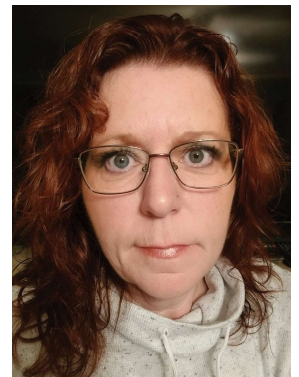
INTRODUCING CHRISTINE WOLF

Christine grew up Northeast of Carbon on the family grain and cattle farm. She attended Carbon School and went to post-secondary at Medicine Hat College, Brooks Campus taking her Office Technology & Professional Secretary Certificates.

Christine has spent the past 20 years in the banking, and esthetics industries. She loves to read, quilt, bake, camp, and spend time with her husband and three children.

Christine has been very involved in the past years with Morrin Community groups such as the Fireballs Baseball Team, 4-H Multi-club, Parent Council, and the Library Board.

Christine is happy to be a part of the Starland County Team and is looking forward to what the future has in store for her.



Christine Wolf



COUNTY SERVICES

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE		
	Description	Fee
Aerial Photos		
	Landowners	No Fee
	Others: 11" x 17" (per property)	\$1.00 each
	Others: 22" x 34" on the plotter (per property)	\$10.00 each
Assessment Appeal Fees		
	Assessment Appeal Fee for Farmland and Residential (Refundable if Successful or Withdrawn Prior to Hearing)	\$50.00 per tax roll *GST Exempt
	Assessment Appeal Fee for Non-Residential (Refundable if Successful or Withdrawn Prior to Hearing)	\$650.00 per tax roll *GST Exempt
Assessment Roll Report		
	Assessment Roll Report of Individual's Assessment	Free to Landowner
	Complete Assessment Roll Report	\$100.00
Assessment Sheets		
	Assessment Summary or Detail Sheets	Free to Landowner
	Assessment Summary or Detail Sheets for Others i.e. ADC, Farm Credit, Banks, Mortgage Companies, Real Estate Firms	\$15.00 per parcel
Caveat & Caveat Discharge Fees		

OPERATIONS		
Residential		
	Description	Fee
Approaches		
	Residential / Farm	No Fee
Dust Suppression / Control		
	As per Policy 320-15 (Updated Annually)	
Private Snow Removal		
	Private Laneways (With Signed Agreement from Landowner)	*\$75.00 each time *2021 / 2022 Rate
	Snow Removal Other Than Laneways (With Signed Agreement from Landowner)	*\$150.00/hour (minimum 1 hr. charged) *2022 / 2023 Rate



CEMETERIES	
Description	Fee
Purchase of Cemetery Plots in All County Cemeteries:	
Purchase of Cemetery Plots	\$100.00 + GST per plot
Purchase of Columbarium Niche (where available)	
Purchase of Niche & Plaque	\$1300.00 + GST
Purchase of Memorial Wall Plaque (Placed on Columbarium Side Wall)	
Purchase of Plaque for Memorial Wall	\$300.00 + GST
Grave Site Preparation:	
Full Service – During regular weekday working hours -Grave site preparation and backfilling Winter Grave Preparation (Frozen Ground Conditions)	\$650.00 + GST Additional \$200.00+GST
Full Service on Weekend, Holidays or After Regular Hours - Grave site preparation and back-filling on any portion of a weekend or holiday day Winter Grave Preparation (Frozen Ground Conditions)	\$900.00 + GST Additional \$200.00+GST
Cremation Services – During regular weekday working hours - Preparation for a cremation burial Winter Burial Preparation (Frozen Ground Conditions)	\$100.00 + GST Additional \$75.00 + GST
Cremation Services Weekend, Holidays or After Regular Hours – Cremation burial site preparation on any portion of a weekend or holiday day Winter Burial Preparation (Frozen Ground Conditions)	\$150.00 + GST Additional \$75.00 + GST
Additional Charges – Eg. Tree removal, cement cover removal, snow removal to facilitate burial	There may be additional charges added to the regular fees

Community Aggregate Payment Changes

A new Community Aggregate Payment Levy Bylaw and Policy July 2022 Council meeting. This bylaw changed the rate to \$0.40/tonne from \$0.25/tonne and outlined a form to be used by anyone operating a gravel pit in the County and the need for them to report gravel sold. The policy outlines how it will work, with our own staff reporting all gravel pits, and PW administration sending out notices to these pit owners to forewarn of this levy and the reporting requirements. The new policy will go into effect on January 1st, 2023. Bylaw 1183 may be read in full on our website at <https://bit.ly/3TbX3eH>



TIPPS IS COMING TO STARLAND COUNTY!

Starland County will be implementing a STIPP (Tax Installment Payment Plan) program starting in 2023. Eligible taxpayers will now be able to pay their current year taxes over twelve equal pre-authorized monthly installments, penalty free, from January to December of each current tax year. A taxpayer will not be eligible to enter this plan if there is any outstanding amount owing on the tax roll.

The monthly installment amount shall be one-twelfth of the previous year's tax levy until such time the current year's tax levy is calculated. An adjustment shall be made to this monthly installment amount to ensure that the current year's taxes will be paid in full by the end of the year. Pre-authorized automatic withdrawals/debit from the taxpayer's bank account shall be made on

the last business day of each month. Once a taxpayer is enrolled in the plan, the plan will automatically renew each year.

A taxpayer can opt out of the plan at any time with fifteen days written notice to the Administration of Starland County. If a taxpayer fails to make one payment, the taxpayer shall be notified that a second payment attempt will be made in fifteen days. If the second attempt fails, the plan shall be automatically canceled, and penalties shall accrue.

For more information on this plan or to access the Tax Installment Payment Plan Bylaw 1188 and Pre-authorized Debit Application form, please visit the Starland County website www.starlandcounty.com or phone the County Administration office at 403-772-3793.

STARLAND COUNTY'S ATB

Starland County would like to remind its residents and ratepayers that we operate an Alberta Treasury Branch agency in the County Administration Office located at 217 Railway Avenue North in Morrin. We offer a wide range of transactional services including:

- Account transfers
- Deposits
- Cash withdrawals
- Bill payments
- Issuing and replacing debit cards

The logo for Alberta Treasury Branch (ATB) is displayed in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters within a white rectangular border on a blue background.

Hours of operation are 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Monday to Friday. The agency is closed on weekends, statutory holidays, and from noon to 1:00 p.m. during the week.

COUNTY WASTE DISPOSAL

The following is a summary of operating hours for Starland County Transfer Station Sites. These sites are located around Starland County and act as storage and weigh points before waste can be shipped to the Drumheller and District Regional Landfill. All sites will be opened on all scheduled days, unless the scheduled day falls on a statutory holiday.

CRAIGMYLE TRANSFER STATION

(Located at S.E. ¼ 20-31-16 W.4 M.)

Thursdays - Year Round: 1:00 p.m. -

7:00 p.m.

3rd Saturday of the Month: 10:00 a.m. -

2:00 p.m.



MICHICHI TRANSFER STATION

(Located at N.W. ¼ 19-30-18 W.4 M.)

Tuesday - Year Round: 1:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

1st Saturday of the Month: 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

MUNSON TRANSFER STATION

(Located at S.W. ¼ 10-30-20 W.4 M.)

Wednesdays April 1st – September 30th:

5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Wednesdays October 1st – March 31st: 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Saturday – Year Round: 10:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.

RUMSEY TRANSFER STATION

(Located at S.W. ¼ 24-33-21 W.4 M.)

Wednesday - Year Round: 1:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

2nd Saturday of the Month: 10:00 a.m. - 2 p.m.

DRUMHELLER SANITARY LANDFILL SITE

Monday to Friday: 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Saturdays: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Open Statutory Holidays: Victoria Day, Civic Holiday (August), Labour Day, Thanksgiving - 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Closed Statutory Holidays: Canada Day, Remembrance Day, Christmas Day, New Year's Day, Family Day, Good Friday

Fees apply see website: <https://www.drumhellerlandfill.com/general-info/hoursfees>

CHEMICAL CONTAINER DISPOSAL

Ratepayers can dispose of Chemical containers at two locations in Starland County . Registered Pesticide Disposal centers are located at the Michichi Transfer Station site, and the Rumsey Transfer Station site. Plastic or metal chemical containers can be disposed of at these two locations.

The canisters must have a label, and must be empty (preferably triple rinsed). The boxes must be emptied into the regular transfer bins, along with any dividers or other non-container items.

Each Transfer Station site where a Chemical Container site is located is equipped with groundwater monitoring wells. Alberta Environment and Starland County will regularly monitor these wells to ensure that no groundwater contamination occurs at these sites.

DISPOSAL OF HEAVY APPLIANCES

Heavy appliances like fridges, stoves, freezers and air conditioning units will not be accepted at the Transfer Station Sites, and must be hauled to the Drumheller Sanitary Landfill for disposal. Drumheller charges for the disposal of these items, but individuals don't have to have the freon removed prior to disposal.

DISPOSAL OF TIRES

Tires cannot be stored or disposed of at the Transfer Station sites. Stockpiles of tires represent a potential burning hazard, and must therefore be hauled to the Drumheller Sanitary Landfill for disposal.

STARLAND PLAYS HOST

In October Starland County hosted the Central Rural Municipalities of Alberta (CRMA) Meeting and an RCMP Rural Town Hall.

On October 7th we hosted the CRMA meeting at the Rumsey Community Hall. The main speakers of the day were Doug Morgan, Executive Director/Project Principal Alberta Provincial Police Service Transition Secretariat, and Kelly Ness, the Executive Director, Alberta Land Use Secretariat.

Doug Morgan spoke about the Alberta Provincial Police Service Study and Kelly Ness spoke regarding Alberta's Land Use Framework & Regional Planning.

On October 27th at the Rumsey Community Hall Corporal Alexander MacDonald of the Drumheller RCMP Detachment led a Town Hall on policing and crime prevention in rural Alberta.



Amber Link - RMA Zone 2 Director



Paul McLaughlin - RMA President



Royal Canadian
Mounted Police

Gendarmerie royale
du Canada



LEADERS OF TOMORROW SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Congratulations to the winners of our Leaders of Tomorrow Scholarship Program

- LOT Academic Scholarship: **Victoria James**
- LOT Agricultural Scholarship: **Delaney McDougald**

Additional funding was made available due to two generous donations and two more awards were presented as follows,

- The Academic Scholarship donated by Craigmyle Oilfield Service: Belle Stanger
- Agricultural Scholarship donated by Sarge's Oilfield Service: Amanda Holowath

(No applications were received for the Trades Scholarship)

DOG BYLAW UPDATE



Bylaw 1189 repeals and replaces Bylaws 985, and 1030; to provide for the licensing, regulating and confinement of dogs within Starland

County.

The updated Bylaw may be accessed here:

https://www.starlandcounty.com/documents/715/Bylaw_1189_Dog_Control.pdf

NEW DOCKS FINISHED

Two new docks have been installed at the Michichi, and McLaren Recreation Areas.



Michichi Dock



"The ASB gang" on McLaren's new dock

PROJECTS REPORT

PROJECTS COMPLETED IN 2022

- Clean-up and completion of the Walker Road
- 4.5 miles of road rehabilitation north and west of Morrin (Range Road 20-3 North Access Road into Morrin and from Morrin Cemetery west to SH839 on Twp. Rd. 31-4)
- Bridge File #74375 – Replacement of an existing bridge sized culvert (On Township Road 33-2 west of Range Road 18-3)
- Bridge File #13105 – Replacement of an existing bridge sized culvert (On Range Road 18-1 south of Township Road 30-2)
- Bridge File #9013 – Bridge removal and reclamation
- 100,000 yd³ of gravel crushed at County-owned Morton Pit (NE ¼ 32-29-17-W4M)
- New dock at Michichi Dam Recreational Area
- New dock at McLaren Dam Recreational Area

- Back road improvements on Range Road 19-3
- Private water installations
- Trees planted at Starland County Administration Office
- Roadside spraying
- Roadside mowing
- Regular maintenance of cemeteries, campgrounds and hamlets
- Gravel reclamation project
- New County entrance signage installed

PROJECTS STILL UNDERWAY:

- Columbarium installation at Rumsey Cemetery
- Former Public Works Office re-purposed to new Rumsey Library
- Expansion Improvements at Morrin Cemetery

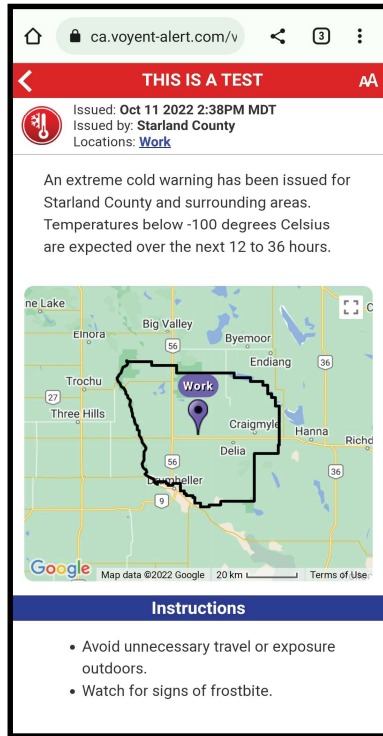
NEW COLUMBARIUM

Work is well under way on the new columbarium at the Rumsey Cemetery. Each space will have room for up to two urns. There will be a memory wall on the side where plaques purchased through the County will be placed.

- Columbarium Niche (2 urns can be placed in this niche, with two names allowed on the plaque which is part of the purchase price): \$1,300.00/niche +GST
- Memory Wall Plaque: \$300.00/plaque +GST

Please note, there is another columbarium planned for the Morrin Cemetery in 2023.

COUNTY NEWS



We are pleased to announce the launch of the new Voyent Alert! Notification service for the Starland County.

Voyent Alert is a multipurpose notification service that will be used to communicate important information to our residents.

Notifications will be sent for critical events like fire, flooding, gas leaks etc. as well as day-to-day communications such as road advisories, utility outages, public safety notices, community events etc.

We encourage you to register to receive these important alerts. Alerts can be received on the Voyent Alert! app, or by email, text message or phone call. Please help promote Voyent Alert! to family and friends. Your participation is greatly appreciated.

Get the Voyent Alert app at the App store or Google Play. For email, sms or phone registration get started here:

<https://ca.voyent-alert.com/vras/client.html#!/registration>

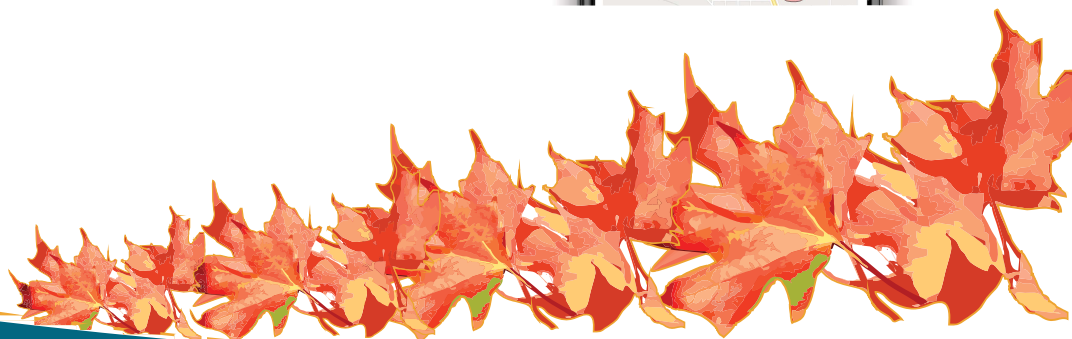
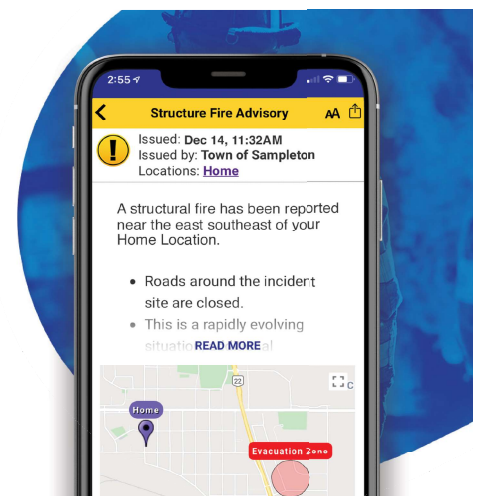
For more information please visit:

<https://voyent-alert.com/ca/community>

Regards,
Starland County Administration & Council



NOTIFICATION
SERVICE FOR



NEW COUNTY ROAD SIGNS

We recently installed eight new signs in the County, replacing the 30 year old signs that were in place. There are larger signs at our four major highway intersections leading into the County (Hwy 56 at our north boundary; Hwy 9 on the east side and Hwy 9 on our south boundary; and Hwy 27 on our west boundary) and 4 slightly smaller signs at the major



Sign on the Highway 56 hill North of Drumheller.

secondary highway entrances (SH585 at Tolman Bridge; SH 576 where it intersects with the Town of Drumheller boundary; SH838 at the Bleriot Ferry and also SH838 on Dinosaur Trail west of the golf course).

Lacombe Signmasters of Lacombe was awarded the tender and installed the signs.

DELIA SCHOOL GRAND OPENING

Council and staff recently attended the Delia School Grand Openings. Starland County contributed \$200,000.00 towards the enrichment of the school construction plans.

Our contribution was directed mainly towards the enlargement of the library.



Plaque outside the school library



Delia School Library Ribbon Cutting

Library Manager Leah Hunter, Architect Elke Goebel, Alberta Infrastructure Rhahim Khataw, Friends of Delia Library Rep. Megan Fraser, Board Chair Janice Hoover, DSES Rep, Kim Thompson, Village of Delia Melody Christofferson, Starland Councillor for Delia Mark Landry, Marigold COO Laura Taylor, Marigold Consultant Kim Visser.



Delia School Grand Opening



ASB UPCOMING



December 7, 2022
Prairie Cereals Summit 2022
Fairmont Banff Springs
405 Spray Ave, Banff, AB
<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/prairie-cereals-summit-2022-tickets-337493300547>


December 13 - 15, 2022
Western Canada Conference on Soil Health & Grazing Registration: <https://www.absoilgrazing.com/registration>


January 24 - 25, 2023
CrossRoads Crop Conference
Edmonton Convention Centre
9797 Jasper Ave, Edmonton, AB
<https://www.albertafarmexpress.ca/events/crossroads-albertas-crop-conference/>

February 1 - 18, 2023
Agricultural & Sightseeing Tour - New Zealand Itinerary:
<https://www.foothillsforage.com/events>

WESTERN CANADA CONFERENCE ON SOIL HEALTH & GRAZING
Presented by 10 Alberta Forage & Research Associations

SOIL & GRAZING: BIOLOGY NOT GEOLOGY

 **DECEMBER 13, 14 & 15, 2022**

 **DOUBLE TREE BY HILTON WEST EDMONTON**
16615 109 Ave NW
Edmonton, AB
T5P 4K8

 **REGISTRATION & DETAILS VISIT:**
<https://www.absoilgrazing.com/registration>



AGRICULTURAL EVENTS

Sponsored by Foothills Forage and Grazing Association

February 2 - 4, 2023
Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies
Annual Convention and Tradeshow
River Cree Resort and Casino
300 East Lapotac Boulevard, Enoch, AB
<https://10times.com/e1r5-8z10-fxff>

February 16 - 18, 2023
Farming Smarter Conference & Trade Show
Where: Exhibition Park Lethbridge
Info and registration:
<https://www.eventalways.com/farming-smarter-conference-trade-show>

February 21 - 23, 2023
Alberta Soil Science Workshop
Avis Car Rental
Executive Royal Inn, 2828 23 St NE, Calgary
<https://soilworkshop.ab.ca/>



Agriculture & Sightseeing Tour

Leader Tours Inc.

FOOTHILLS FORAGE AND GRAZING ASSOCIATION

IT'S TIME TO Travel

New Zealand
February 1st- 18th, 2023

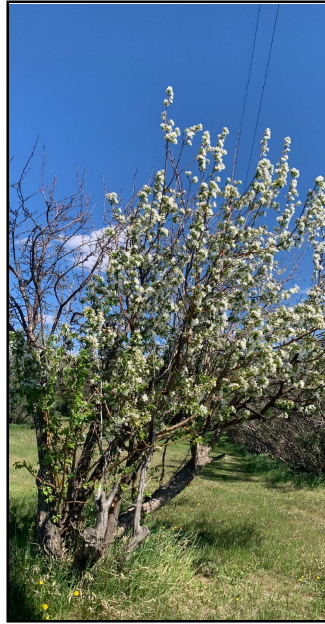
The poster features a scenic view of a New Zealand landscape with green mountains, a blue lake, and a white cow. The text is overlaid on the image, with 'Travel' in a cursive font and 'New Zealand' in a large, bold, white font.



FALL TREE CARE

As trees are preparing for winter; deep watering may help their well-being during the cold winter months as well as at beginning of next spring. The majority of Alberta is dry, with very little moisture during September and October, with many trees that are experiencing water deficiency during these months. The main reason for watering in fall, prior to winter, is that water acts as an insulator to the soil and most importantly to the roots of trees. Cold air around the root system will greatly damage/kill roots causing branch die back or eventually kill the tree.

Having frozen water in the soil makes soils warmer than surrounding cold air. Roots without water around them will be



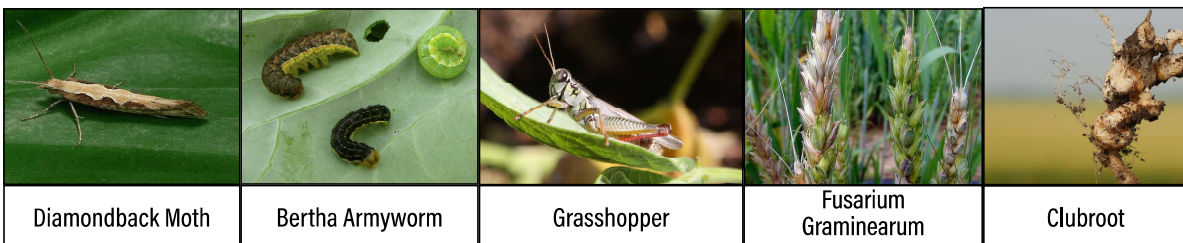
This tree showed evidence of winter kill due to drought conditions in early 2022. Late season watering can alleviate the stress caused by dry and cold conditions

more susceptible to cold, dry air damages. Cold air in the soil will "draw" water from roots and create icicles in the live root cells. Icicles in root cells damage or kill fine roots causing significant stress to trees. Newly planted trees are more prone to winter kill injuries than mature trees. Be aware that during the winter months, the coniferous trees may lose water through their needles faster than their roots can absorb it which will turn needles into brown colour in spring. This process is called winter browning in coniferous trees.

To avoid dead branches, or entire trees being killed, providing sufficient water supply in the fall is crucial for tree survival during harsh winter months.

STARLAND COUNTY FIELD SURVEYS

Starland County Agricultural Service Board staff have been out in the field this summer completing surveys for several pests. The diseases and insects surveyed for include:



The information collected from these surveys is used to forecast potential pest outbreaks in Starland County. If you have any questions on how surveys are conducted, please notify us and we will be happy to discuss it.

Contact Ryan Hallett: (403) 772-3888

TOOLS TO EVALUATE THE HEALTH OF YOUR RANGELAND

What is rangeland health?

The term refers to the ability of rangeland to perform key ecological functions. The functions of a healthy range include:

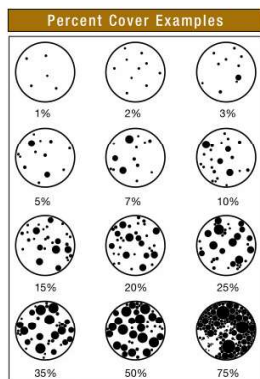
- Maintenance of soil/site stability
- Net primary production
- Capture and beneficial release of water
- Nutrient and energy cycling
- Functional diversity of plant species
- Range Plant Community guides

Assessing rangeland health requires knowledge of the kind and type of rangeland being assessed. Before using the tools below, you will require assistance from range plant community guides. To find a listing of the guides, see:

<https://www.alberta.ca/range-classification-and-survey-tools.aspx>

And there is a Range Health Assessment Field Worksheet for Grasslands available at:

<https://bit.ly/3SAe7Lr>



Density Distribution			
Class	Description of abundance in polygon	Distribution	Weeds Score
0	None		5
1	Rare		3
2	A few sporadically occurring individual plants		
3	A single patch		
4	A single patch plus a few sporadically occurring plants		1
5	Several sporadically occurring plants		
6	A single patch plus several sporadically occurring plants		
7	A few patches		0
8	A few patches plus several sporadically occurring plants		
9	Several well spaced patches		
10	Continuous uniform occurrences of well spaced plants		0
11	Continuous occurrence of plants with a few gaps in the distribution		
12	Continuous dense occurrence of plants		
13	Continuous occurrence of plants with a distinct linear edge in the polygon		

Range Health Assessment

Field Worksheet for Grasslands

What is rangeland health?

Range health refers to the ability of rangelands to perform key ecological (i.e., natural) functions like:

- produce plant biomass including forage for livestock and wildlife,
- maintain site potential by protecting soil from erosion and degradation,
- capture and beneficially release water,
- cycle nutrients and energy, and
- maintain biological diversity.

Healthy rangelands optimally perform key functions and provide a broad range of values and benefits for society (e.g., carbon storage, clean water, wildlife habitat, recreation), whereas unhealthy rangelands cannot. Healthy rangelands provide stable grazing opportunities along with watershed and soil protection.

Why should I consider range health?

Health assessments provide an indication of sustainability and resiliency. They are a snapshot in time of management impacts on a particular site. Monitoring range health can highlight the impacts of disturbance, indicate management issues, guide management changes and evaluate outcomes. Assessments provide a means of tracking and communicating successes or arising issues.

What can this tool assess? How do I assess my grassland?

This is an abridged version of the grassland rangeland health assessment from the Rangeland Health Assessment for Grassland, Forest and Tame Pasture (Adams et al., 2016). The assessment focuses on evaluating the level of impact that disturbances are having on range health. Although the wording of the tool has an emphasis on grazing disturbances, any disturbance such as wildlife use and human activities (e.g., off road vehicle use, camping, etc.) could be evaluated.

The grassland range health assessment can be used for native (natural) grasslands throughout the province. If the land has been cultivated, the Tame Pasture Health Assessment should be used.

A health assessment involves comparing indicators of key ecological functions and processes on the assessment site to a standard (i.e., Reference Plant Community) representing the potential plant community type for that ecological site or rangeland site type. The Reference Plant Community (RPC) is an expression of plant composition on similar growing conditions with little or no disturbances (e.g., ungrazed or lightly grazed). The Alberta Rangeland section

has developed range plant community guides that provide further information about RPCs and the sites you may be evaluating (available on the Government of Alberta website).

An assessment is completed within, and represents one, ecological site. A pasture unit may contain a variety of sites with different plant communities as a result of successional stages or site potential. If required, map the pasture unit subdividing areas of differing site potential or successional stages and assess each separately.

Health categories

The range health score is a cumulative measure of 5 indicators of key characteristics and ecosystem functions and is classified in one of the following health categories.

Healthy:

- A score of 75% or greater
- All of the key functions are being performed
- Grazing (disturbance) is balanced with site capabilities

Healthy with Problems:

- A score of 50 to 74%
- Performance of one or two of the key functions may be impaired
- This score is an early warning that adjustments to management are needed
- Recovery to a healthy category can normally occur within a few years

Unhealthy:

- A score of less than 50%
- Few of the functions of healthy range are being performed
- Significant management changes are required to address unsustainable grazing pressure or other types of disturbance
- Recovery to a healthy category may take many years

For more detailed information:

For more discussion on this tool, range health concepts and evaluation techniques, please refer to Adams et al., 2016 "Rangeland Health Assessment for Grassland, Forest and Tame Pasture" available at a Government of Alberta Rangelands office or website.



Rangeland Health Assessment Litter Thresholds (lb/ac)

Natural Subregion (Soil Zone)	Range Sites	Healthy				Healthy with Problems				Unhealthy			
		Average	>65%	65% - 35%	<35%	Average	>65%	65% - 35%	<35%	Average	>65%	65% - 35%	<35%
Aspen Parkland (Black)	Loamy	1500	(>975)	975 - 525	<525								
	Sandy	1100	(>715)	715 - 385	<385								
	Sands	800	(>520)	520 - 280	<280								
	Choppy sandhills	400	(>260)	260 - 140	<140								
Foothills Fescue, Foothills Parkland and Montane (Black)	Thick Black Loamy	1400	(>910)	910 - 490	<490								
	Orthic Black Loamy	1200	(>780)	780 - 420	<420								
	Shallow to Gravel and Limy Thin Breaks	1000	(>650)	650 - 350	<350								
Mixed Grass (Dark Brown)	Loamy (>1100m*)	900	(>585)	585 - 315	<315								
	Loamy (<1100m) + Limited	600	(>390)	390 - 210	<210								
	Thin Breaks, Limy and Shallow to Gravel	300	(>195)	195 - 105	<105								
Dry Mixed Grass (Brown)	Loamy	400	(>260)	260 - 140	<140								
	Blowout	250	(>160)	160 - 85	<85								
	Thin Breaks	150	(>95)	95 - 50	<50								

* Elevation



CLEANFARMS ALBERTA PARTNERSHIP

Starland County has now partnered with Cleanfarms Alberta to operate baler twine and grain bag collection sites! Starland County transfer sites now collect both types of plastic, as long as they are free of debris and properly bagged or wrapped. This plastic will then be transported to a recycling facility, keeping it out of our landfills.

Herbicide jugs will be accepted at Starland County transfer sites until December, 2023. After this time, local retailers will be responsible for the collection of herbicide jugs at selected sites.

If you have any questions regarding agricultural plastic recycling, please contact Starland County Agricultural Services and we would be happy to assist.

Grain Bag Recycling

3 steps to ensure your used grain bags can be accepted and recycled:

Grain bags that are returned loosely rolled require more space, are time consuming and difficult to manage with equipment, and they weigh very little, which is inefficient for transportation to a recycling facility.



1 Remove Debris

- Grain bags need to be free of as much foreign material (spoilage, dirt, rocks, etc.) as possible.
- Using a proper grain bag roller will do the job.



2 Roll

- Grain bags must be rolled tightly with a standalone mechanical grain bag roller* or old hay baler, and then secured tightly with twine.



3 Return

- Bring grain bags that are rolled and tied securely to your local pilot collection site
- Visit AlbertaAgPlastics.ca to find your nearest collection site.

*Most grain bag extractors roll the bags too loosely. Collection sites cannot accept unrolled, extractor rolled, or hand-rolled grain bags. Any improperly rolled bags may be rejected, subject to a landfill tipping fee or to additional charges at drop off.

For more information: 403-942-6012 cleanfarms.ca



Twine Recycling

3 steps to ensure your used twine can be accepted and recycled:

Pick up, free, twine collection bags from collection sites and select County/MD offices.



1 Shake

- Remove as much debris, snow or ice as possible.
- Run the twine through a gloved hand to help remove debris.



2 Bag

- Place loose twine in a collection bag & secure tightly closed with twine or zip tie.

Plastic twine only. Bags of twine mixed with netting, sisal twine, or other materials will be rejected.



3 Return

- Return to your local collection site.
- Visit AlbertaAgPlastics.ca to find your nearest collection site.

Please contact your local 'Alberta Ag-Plastic. Recycle It!' pilot collection site to confirm that it collects twine, its hours of operation and if unloading assistance is required.

For more information: 403-942-6012 cleanfarms.ca



AGRICULTURAL NEWS

Starland County maintains an assortment of equipment that our ratepayers are encouraged to use. Some of our most popular items include seeding equipment, portable corrals, and a water transfer pump. If you have any questions, please reach out to the Agricultural Services department.

STARLAND COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD 2022 EQUIPMENT RENTAL & SERVICE RATES

EQUIPMENT	RATES	NOTES
2011 Brillion Grass Seeder – 10 foot	\$10.00 / acre	Minimum charge \$150.00
12 foot 1206NT Land Pride No-till Drill	\$15.00 / acre	\$250.00 minimum charge
Livestock Water Transfer System	\$395.00 / dugout	\$250.00 If set up by landowner
Kirchner Grain Bag Roller	\$50.00 / day	Optional - \$250.00 Charge for ASB Staff Assistance
Rawhide Portable Corral System	\$200.00 / day	\$100.00 Deposit Required
Portable Loading Chute	\$50.00/day	\$100.00 Deposit Required
Maggie Traps	No Charge	\$100.00 Deposit Required
Back Pack Sprayer	No Charge	\$100.00 Deposit Required
Measuring Wheel	No Charge	\$100.00 Deposit Required
Skunk Traps	No Charge	\$100.00 Deposit Required
Transit	No Charge	\$100.00 Deposit Required
Forage Probe	No Charge	\$100.00 Deposit Required
Grasshopper Bait Spreader	No Charge	\$100.00 Deposit Required
Dannville No-Drift Chemical Applicator	No Charge	\$100.00 Deposit Required
Grass Seed Belly Grinder	No Charge	\$100.00 Deposit Required
Solar-Powered Water Pumping System	No Charge	\$250.00 Deposit Required

SERVICES	RATES	NOTES
Shelter Belt Spraying Program (Insecticide)	\$125.00 / hour + chemicals	150 gallon tank, \$125.00 Minimum Charge
Weed Spraying Program	\$50.00 / hour + chemicals	150 gallon tank, less 60% on Toadflax and Scentsless Chamomile Incentive Program
ATV Sprayer – Spot Spraying Program	\$50.00 / hour + chemicals	Less 60% on Toadflax and Scentsless Chamomile Incentive Program
RTV Spot Spray Program	\$100.00 / hour + chemicals	Less 60% on Toadflax and Scentsless Chamomile Incentive Program
Shelterbelt Fabric Roller	\$20.00 / hour + fabric costs	\$50.00 minimum charge

SUBSIDIZED SERVICES	INCENTIVE	NOTES
Water Well Decommissioning	\$200/Well	Must be performed by approved technician, contact for details
Backsloping Program (Fence line Topsoil work)	40% Off Construction Rates	Contact for program requirements and rates
Tree Planter	No Charge	Contact for program requirements



Great plains land pride drill

THE ASB AND PUBLIC WORKS CREWS AT WORK



33RD ANNUAL RUMSEY RIDE FOR STARS



Organizer Rob Richmond
and Division 4 Councillor Jackie Watts

STARS Air Ambulance is a truly vital service for our rural communities. Much of their funding comes from donations and for the past 33 years the community of Rumsey has stepped up to the plate to help.

Rumsey held the 33rd Annual Ride for STARS on August 14, 2022. The group brought in \$36,028.50.

The ride this year took place on the East Central Heritage Society's Linear Park, which is the old CN Rail line from Rumsey south towards Rowley and Morrin.

Starland County sponsored the breakfast this year which was prepared by the Rumsey Fire Department and all the proceeds went to STARS. Events included a raffle, a silent auction, as well as a poker rally to benefit STARS.

The Annual Rumsey Ride For Stars has been a long tradition for the Rumsey community with several organizers, sponsors and donors over the years. The grand total for the past 33 years is \$975,611.19, and next year the community hopes to reach the **Million Dollar Milestone!**

VERDANT VALLEY AG SOCIETY DONATION



Elson McDougald &
Starland Reeve,
Steve Wannstrom

Reeve Wannstrom presented the Verdant Valley Ag Society with a \$500 Community Appreciation Initiative for their Chore Horse Competition. This is the 2022 donation for Division 2.

DIVISION THREE DONATION GOES TO THE MORRIN SOD HOUSE AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

On November 2 Deputy Reeve (and Division 3 Councillor), Bob Sargent presented Bill Montgomery with a donation of \$500 for the Morrin Sod House and Historical Society.



Bob Sargent & Bill Montgomery

CRAIGMYLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Division 5 Councillor John Rew will be donating the Division 5 \$500 to the Craigmyle Historical Society at their annual Turkey Supper in November.

The Craigmyle Historic Society (CHS) is a volunteer-based organization dedicated to the collection, preservation and management of Craigmyle history with an emphasis on building a stronger community by recognizing the past, present and future needs of Craigmyle and area.

The Craigmyle Historic Society was formed and incorporated in 2008 for the primary purpose of acquiring ownership of the Craigmyle United Church. The church was built on site as a Methodist church in 1915, making it the second oldest building still standing in the hamlet. The church was gifted to the Society by the United Church of Canada in the incorporation year and has since been awarded Municipal Historic Status. In the ensuing years, the CHS has made extensive repairs to the old church



Janice Hoover, Chairperson and John Rew, Councillor for Division 5

through aggressive fundraising and Alberta Lottery grants. The Historic Church sanctuary is available for weddings, baptisms, services and has maintained its original historic flavour, while the basement has taken on the role of a community resource center. Civic meetings, fundraising breakfasts and suppers, showers, reunions and weekly drop-in coffee time are just a few of the events held in the church basement. The archive committee of the CHS collects and organizes Craigmyle and district papers and pictures of local significance.

Although the CHS membership is small, community support is large. Any interested persons are invited to become part of this organization. Contact Janice Hoover 403-436-1767 or Bev Bergman 403-665-2492.

Keep in touch with CHS happenings and history at <http://www.craigmylehistoricsociety.ca> or follow us on Facebook. To arrange a tour or for more information email: craigmylehistoricsociety@gmail.com

A graphic for a Turkey Supper event. It features a decorative border of autumn leaves in various colors (yellow, orange, red, green) and pumpkins. In the center, the text reads: "TURKEY SUPPER Sunday, November 20th 4:00-6:30 pm Craigmyle Historic Church Basement". To the right of the text is an illustration of a roasted turkey on a platter. Below the text, it says "Sponsored by the Craigmyle Historic Society" and provides the website "http://www.craigmylehistoricsociety.ca" and the instruction "Follow the Craigmyle Historic Society on Facebook!".

TURKEY SUPPER
Sunday, November 20th
4:00-6:30 pm
Craigmyle Historic Church Basement

Sponsored by the Craigmyle Historic Society
<http://www.craigmylehistoricsociety.ca>
Follow the Craigmyle Historic Society on Facebook!

Thanks again!

