



The Municipal District of Willow Creek No. 26

Upcoming Events

**South Saskatchewan
Regional Plan Municipal/
Stakeholder Information and
Input Sessions 4 to 7 p.m. for
people who live, work or have
an interest in the South
Saskatchewan Region.**

Tuesday December 1

Strathmore - Strathmore Travel Lodge -
Heritage Ballroom 350 Ridge Road,
Strathmore

Claresholm - Claresholm Community Centre
59 Av & 8 St W

Wednesday December 2

Cochrane Ranch House 101 Ranch House
Road

Okotoks Holy Cross Lutheran Church 20
Banister Gate

Thursday December 3

Airdrie Alliance Church 1604 Summerfield
Blvd SE

Canmore Quality Resort Chateau 1720 Bow
Valley Trail

Monday December 7

Lethbridge Eagles Hall 631 13 St N
Brooks Heritage Inn 1217 2 Street West

Tuesday December 8

Fort MacLeod United Church Hall 220 20 St
Medicine Hat Coast Hotel - Cabernet room
3216 13th AVE SE

Wednesday December 9

Pincher Creek Ramada Inn 1132 Table
Mountain St

Taber Legion Hall 5205 48 Ave

Thursday December 10

Cardston Remington Carriage Museum 623
Main St

Milk River Heritage Hall 213 Main St N
FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
DAVE BARTESKO

(780) 422-4871 or dave.bartesko@gov.ab.ca

SHELTERBELT TREES

Tree Program Forms are available at the MD of Willow Creek office
for anyone interested in shelterbelt seedlings for 2010

or on-line as listed below:

PFRA Prairie Shelterbelt Program Trees

www.agr.gc.ca/pfra/shelterbelt_e.htm

Alberta Shelterbelt Program

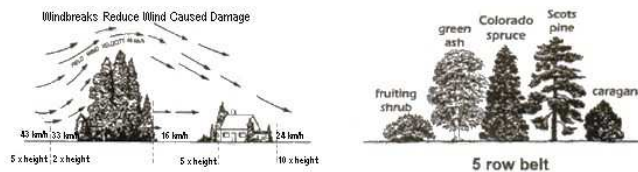
Alberta Farmstead / Acreage Tree Application Forms for 2010

www.marketland.net

Ornamental Tree Order Forms

www.marketland.net

**All Applications will be accepted until
March 15, 2010**



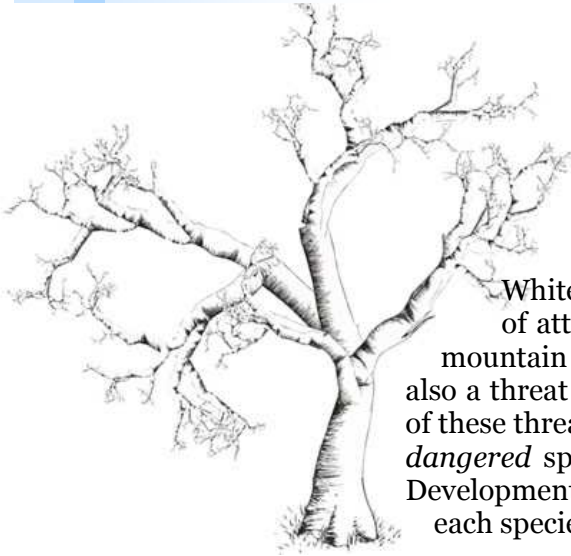
PATTERSON BRIDGE



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The original Patterson (pony truss) bridge was built in 1926. Recently, the bridge was replaced with a three span concrete bridge (pictured) which was completed in the spring of 2009.



Whitebark and Limber Pine Recovery in Alberta

Whitebark and limber pine are declining across their ranges as a result of attack by white pine blister rust (introduced non-native species), and mountain pine beetle. Fire suppression (and subsequent loss of habitat) is also a threat in parts of their range, but its role in Alberta is less clear. Because of these threats, both whitebark and limber pine have recently been listed as *Endangered* species under Alberta's *Wildlife Act*. Alberta Sustainable Resource Development is leading a team which is currently writing a recovery plan for each species.

These pine trees are found along the Rocky Mountains in Alberta; both limber and whitebark pine can be found in the MD of Pincher Creek. With five needles per cluster, whitebark and limber pine can easily be distinguished from the more common lodgepole pine, which has only two needles. However, you need to get a look at their cones to tell whitebark and limber pine apart. Whitebark cones are oval, dark brown or purple and need to be opened by animals. Limber pine cones are cylindrical, yellow-brown and open on their own to drop their seeds.

Whitebark and limber pine are long lived and can grow at elevations and in conditions that many other trees can not. Whitebark pine can be found from 1500 meters up to tree line on steep rocky cliffs with shallow soil or on windy sites. Limber pine, which grows below 1700 meters, can grow in similar sites as well as in the Front Ranges and foothills of southern Alberta. Both trees play an environmentally important role in stabilising soil on these marginal sites, reducing soil erosion, and maintaining snow drifts that melt slowly in the spring.

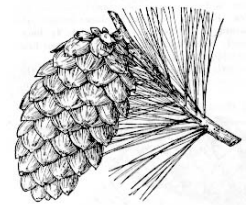
The Clark's nutcracker is a bird that relies heavily on the seeds of the whitebark pine as a food source; it is the only method of seed spread for the whitebark pine and disperses most limber pine seeds as well. Without the Clark's nutcracker, very little regeneration would occur. Seeds of both species are also an important food source for red squirrels and bears.

What can I do?

Learn to identify these species to avoid unintentional cutting or damaging of whitebark and limber pine. These trees can not be cut for such uses as firewood, tent poles, or Christmas trees.

Report the location of whitebark and limber pine trees to the Alberta Natural Heritage Information Centre at anhic.data@gov.ab.ca using the form at: <http://www.tpr.alberta.ca/parks/heritageinfocentre/plants/vascularbryophytes>.

For more information contact Erica.Lee@gov.ab.ca or Robin.Gutsell@gov.ab.ca



Learn about Alberta's species at risk process or read the whitebark and limber pine status reports at: <http://www.srd.alberta.ca/BioDiversityStewardship/SpeciesAtRisk>.

The M.D. of Willow Creek is taking offers over \$500.00 for each of the following pieces of equipment:



- 1 – 1989 GMC 1/2 ton Serial #2GTDC14K2K1529175 UNIT#21
- 1 – 1989 GMC 1/2 ton Serial #2GTDC14K5K1528697 UNIT#22
- 1 – 1989 Dodge 1/2 ton Serial #1B7HF1673KS1025576 UNIT#222
- 1 – 1987 Dodge 1/2 ton Serial #1B7HD14TXHS454077 UNIT#41
- 1 – 1964 Fargo 2 ton Fire Truck Serial #CTE678V147003 UNIT#FT6

This equipment can be viewed at the Claresholm Shop from **7 am – 4 pm Monday – Friday.**

Written offers will be accepted until December 15th 2009.

For more information, call Wayne Burnham
This equipment will be sold as is, with no warranty

Thank You

to the following, for their amazing support of the

“19th Annual Legacy of our Land Banquet”

- MD OF WILLOW CREEK AGRICULTURE SERVICE BOARD
- ALL THE MD RATE PAYERS WHO ATTENDED
- THE FORT MACLEOD LIONS CLUB
- MARILYN NEVILLE, PATRICK RAMSEY AND JEFF PORTER
- SHANE CHISHOLM
- THE STAFF MEMBERS OF THE MD
- AECOM CANADA LTD.
- AGRIUM
- AMBERTEC ROAD TECHNOLOGY LTD
- ATB FINANCIAL – CLARESHOLM
- BRIDGE CITY CHRYSLER – FORT MACLEOD
- BROWN LLP, BARRISTERS & SOLICITORS
- CHINOOK FENCING LTD. – FORT MACLEOD
- CONOCO PHILIPS CANADA (BRC) LTD. – CALGARY
- ENMAX ENVISION INC. – CALGARY
- EVCON FARM EQUIPMENT LTD. – LETHBRIDGE
- FRONTIER WESTERN SHOP – CLARESHOLM
- GARDEN SOUL GARDEN CENTRE
- GEMINI POSITIONING SYSTEMS LTD.-CALGARY
- MACLEOD SAVINGS & CREDIT UNION LTD. - FORT MACLEOD
- MAXIM CHEMICAL INT. LTD.– REGINA
- NLSS N.L. SMITH & SONS CONST. LTD – NANTON
- NEXEN MARKETING – CALGARY
- RANCLAND EMBROIDERY – CLARESHOLM
- THE TOWN OF GRANUM
- THE TOWN OF NANTON
- THE TOWN OF STAVELY
- UFA CLARESHOLM FARM SUPPLY – CLARESHOLM



UPDATE

STAVELY JOINT FACILITY

The Town of Stavelly/M.D. of Willow Creek Municipal Building is nearing the 60% completion point. The combined facility, housing the Town of Stavelly Storage Facility, the M.D. Patrol Facility and Fire Hall will be jointly owned and managed by the two municipalities.



The Oldman River Regional Service Commission and the M.D. are currently undertaking a Land Use Bylaw Review.

The Olympic Torch is scheduled to pass through the Towns of Fort Macleod, Granum, Claresholm, Stavelly and Nanton on January 18, 2010

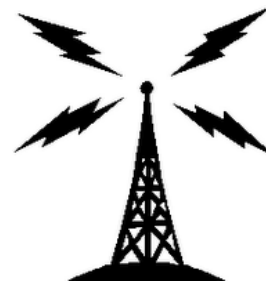




26 Highway 520 West
 Box 550
 Claresholm, Alberta
 ToL oTo
 Phone: 403-625-3351 or
 Toll free: 888-337-3351
 Fax: 403-625-3886
 E-Mail Subscriptions:
newsletter@mdwillowcreek.com

COMMUNICATION TOWERS

All development permits have been obtained for the placement of the wireless internet towers. The project's next step will be the development of the Terms of Reference that will be reviewed with the land-owners who are affected by this development. Once the Terms of Reference are complete and agreed upon, then a call for tenders will be initiated.



NANTON FIRE HALL RENOVATIONS

The renovations to the Nanton Fire Hall are currently underway which will result in upgraded bathrooms and enlargement of the Fire Chief and Deputy Fire Chief's administration area. A new energy efficient furnace and air conditioning is also being installed. 50% of this project is being funded through the Municipal Sponsorship Program with the remainder being funded by the M.D. and the Town.



The M.D. of Willow Creek's educational DVD currently being developed by White Iron of Calgary is approximately 60% complete. This DVD will be available in the summer of 2010.

Find the Holidays at Your Public Library

- * Festive Recipes
- * Songs and carols
- * Holiday crafts
- * Classic stories
- * Festive movies
- * Decorating ideas
- * Tips for a 'green' holiday

* www.chinookarch.ca *

Meeting Dates

COUNCIL

- December 9th & 16th, 2009
- January 13th & 20th, 2010
- February 10th & 17th, 2010
- March 10th & 17th, 2010
- April 14th & 21st, 2010
- May 12th & 19th, 2010

PLANNING COMMISSION

- December 16th, 2009
- January 20th, 2010
- February 17th, 2010
- March 17th, 2010
- April 21st, 2010
- May 19th, 2010

AG. SERVICE BOARD

- December 9th, 2009
- January 13th, 2010
- February 10th, 2010
- March 10th, 2010
- April 14th, 2010
- May 12th, 2010

GRANUM WILLOW CREEK SOCIETY

GENERAL MEETING

Thursday December 3rd
 Granum Drop In Center @ 7 p.m.
 Discussing the following:

- ◆ Fundraising for Blunden Hall Kitchen
- ◆ Community Program Donation Grant
- ◆ Ideas for other viable projects

For Further information Please Contact

LORRAINE NEUFELD
 At 403-687-2370



DISCLAIMER

All materials published in this newsletter, including the information contained on our web site, undergoes review to ensure fair balance, objectivity, independence and relevance. The editors of the material herein have sources believed to be reliable in their efforts to provide information that is complete and in accordance with the standards at the time of publication. In view of the possibility of human error by the authors, editors or publishers of the material contained herein, neither the Municipal District nor any other party involved in the preparation of this material warrants that the information contained herein is in every respect accurate or complete, and that they are not responsible or liable for any errors or omissions or for the results obtained from the use of such. Readers are encouraged to confirm the information contained with other sources. The views expressed in this newsletter and on the Municipal District's web site are those of their authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion or policy of the Municipal District unless specifically stated.