



COUNTY OF WETASKIWIN No.10
 Strong Proactive Leadership • Safe Progressive Communities

Phone 780-352-3321 Toll Free 1 (800) 661-4125
www.county.wetaskiwin.ab.ca

It's time!
 The recycling roundup is on!

Annual Household Toxic & E-Waste Round Up
Saturday, June 22, 2019

QUESTIONS? Contact the County at 780-352-3321

Your unwanted computers, TVs and old paint aren't doing any good hanging around, but they will if you recycle them. Bring your old computers, TVs and paint to:

Lakedell School Parking Lot 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

Millet Heavy Truck Parking Lot east of 50th Street 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

(jointly sponsored by the County & the Town of Millet)



Visit www.albertarecycling.ca or call 1.888.999.8762 for more information on electronics and paint recycling in your area.

MOUNTAIN PINE BEETLE UPDATE

Pheromone Pouches For Sale

Introduction: Last summer (2018) the Alder Flats, Winfield, Buck Lake, Pigeon Lake and one location one mile west of Wetaskiwin experienced and inflight of mountain pine beetles (MPB) *Dendroctonus ponderosae*. This insect is the most destructive insect pest of the lodgepole pine forest. It is expected that emergence will take place within the next couple of months and a new brood will continue its flights eastward.

What Can You Do?: Alberta Agriculture and Forestry recommends the removal of all pine trees with over 40 pitch tubes. When the MPB population approaches the maximum that the tree can support, the beetles in the tree release a pheromone called verbenone to repel newly arriving beetles. Verbenone can be synthetically produced and acts as an anti-aggregation pheromone, which sends the message "No Vacancy". They should be attached to the north side of the tree between June 15th and July 1st.

Effectiveness: Verbenone has shown to be effective at low to moderate beetle population pressure and is not very effective when the pressure is high. Whether you value your pines as landscape trees or for shelterbelt protection you may want to make the investment to attempt to protect your trees this summer.

Sales: Effective May 23rd the County of Wetaskiwin Administration Office will be selling these pouches to County residents at our cost of \$10.00/pouch.

Please contact:

Heather Dickau 780.352.3321 ext 2270 or

Steve Majek 780.361.6226 to arrange your purchase.



COUNCIL APPROVES FINAL BUDGET

The operating and capital budget and tax rate bylaw for 2019 were approved by Council May 17th. The 2019 budget value is \$19.5 million compared to the 2018 value of \$19 million.

What impact does the budget have on taxes?

The average residential ratepayer will see their total tax bill increase by approximately 1.5%. Residential ratepayers who have experienced a decrease in the market value of their property will see less than the 1.5% increase, and in some cases, may see an overall decrease in taxes. Residential ratepayers who have experienced an increase in the market value of their property will see more than the 1.5% increase.

The average non-residential commercial ratepayer will see their total tax bill remain constant.

"The budget reflects the relationship between the desires of the community and municipal resources. The taxes collected will generate sufficient funds to provide those services, stated Reeve Terry Van de Kraats. Council always strives to provide a consistent level of services to the community that enhances the quality of life for all our citizens."

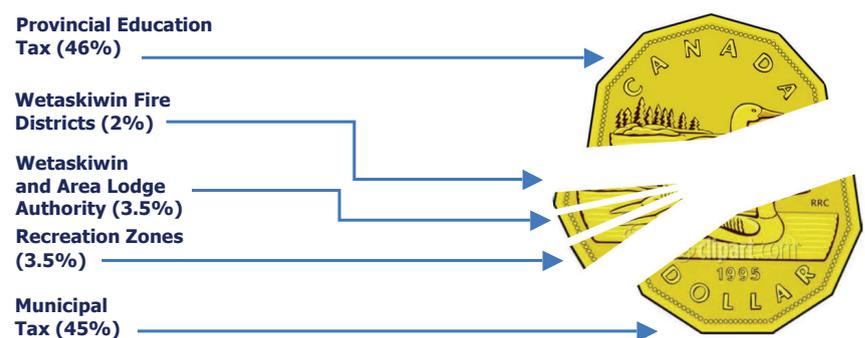
Commencing in 2019, Council has authorized a \$300,000 County wide Fire Fighting Operating Tax, which has been rolled into the municipal mill rate. What this means to you as a ratepayer is should you have a fire on your property, you will not receive an invoice, unless it is deemed negligent burning took place or you are in contravention of the Fire Bylaw of the County.

Provincial government legislation requires all municipalities to collect education property taxes on behalf of the Province of Alberta. The County also collects on behalf of the Wetaskiwin and Area Lodge Authority for seniors housing facilities. For 2019, approximately 46% of residential taxes are transferred to the province for education purposes and 3.5% for Lodge Authority purposes.

Budget highlights include:

- Continued work completed under the 5-year Road Construction Plan.
- Gravel, construction, and paved roads now budgeted County-wide vs. Divisional.
- Firefighting costs included in property taxes.
- Brushing program reduced by half (\$150,000).
- One time doubling of Federal Gas Tax grant (additional \$615,000).

The following chart is a breakdown of the revenues for the 2019 budget:



Pursuant to Section 311 of the *Municipal Government Act*, Chapter M-26.1, and by this release, be advised that the Assessment Notices for the municipality were sent on May 31, 2019. All assessed persons are deemed to have received their Assessment Notices as a result of this publication.

Please notify the County of Wetaskiwin No. 10 if you have not received your notice within a reasonable time frame.

For further information, please contact Eric Hofbauer, Director of Finance, at (780) 361-6228 or via email at ehofbauer@county10.ca or Rod Hawken, Chief Administrative Officer, at (780) 361-6225 or via email at rhawken@county10.ca.

Any County ratepayer that would like to have their assessment explained by an assessor may do so by contacting the Assessment Department at (780) 361-6237 or toll free at 1-800-661-4125.