



Spring 2015, Issue 29

## Emergency Preparedness Week

### May 3 to 9, 2015

Emergency Preparedness Week (May 3-9, 2015) is an annual event that encourages Canadians to be prepared to cope on their own for at least the first 72 hours of an emergency while rescue workers help those in urgent need.

Natural disasters may be beyond our control, but there are ways to reduce the risk and the impact of whatever emergency we might face - whether natural or human-induced.

## 72 Hours... Is Your Family Prepared?

If an emergency happens in your community, it may take emergency workers some time to reach you. You should be prepared to take care of yourself and your family for a minimum of 72 hours.

### HOW TO PREPARE

By taking three simple steps, you can become better prepared to face a range of emergencies – anytime, anywhere. It is important to:

#### 1. Know the risks

Although the consequences of disasters can be similar, knowing the risks specific to our community and our region can help you better prepare.

In Alberta, a tornado can strike quickly with significant damage. Wildfires can threaten communities and restrict movement. Heavy rains can cause flash flooding.

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### M.D. of Foothills No. 31

Box 5605, 309 Macleod Trail  
High River, Alberta T1V 1M7

Tel: 403.652.2341 or  
403.931.1905  
Fax: 403.652.7880  
mdfoothills.com



## EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND MANAGEMENT

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### Is Your Family Prepared?

In addition to natural disasters there are other types of risks. There are power outages, industrial and major transportation incidents. The following hazards could happen in the MD of Foothills:

- Avalanches
- Earthquakes
- Floods
- Pandemic influenza
- Landslides
- Power outages
- Severe storms
- Tornadoes
- Wildfires

### 2. Make a plan

Emergencies happen when we don't expect them, and often when families are not together. Suddenly, you need to think about your kids at school or elderly parents across town. If phones don't work, or some neighbourhoods aren't accessible, what will you do?

### 3. Get an emergency kit

During an emergency, we will all need some basic supplies. We may need to get by without power or tap water. Be prepared to be self-sufficient for at least 72 hours in an emergency.

#### Putting Together a Basic Emergency Kit

You may have many of these basic emergency kit items, such as a flashlight, battery-operated radio, food, water and blankets. Make sure they are organized, easy to find and easy to carry (in a suitcase with wheels or a backpack) in case you need to evacuate your home. Don't wait for a disaster to happen.

Visit [www.GetPrepared.ca](http://www.GetPrepared.ca) or [www.mdfoothills.com](http://www.mdfoothills.com) for the Basic Emergency Kit list, a Family Emergency Plan template, plus more resources to help you and your family prepare for all types of emergencies.

## MD of Foothills Emergency Management

The MD of Foothills continues to improve emergency management and response to all types of hazards that may happen within our boundaries. Priorities cover more than just flooding, including winter storms, hail, wind, fires, power outages, oil/gas leaks and spills.

In order to respond more effectively, the MD has two Emergency Coordination Centre locations set up and equipped to run any emergency. Emergency response plans have been re-written and reviewed with our risk assessment in the MD. Ongoing training for staff and fire departments in emergency management (including swift water rescue and ice rescue) continues.

Recently the MD participated in the Provincial mock emergency exercise - EMX 15. We tested our new Coordination Centre and equipment and had the opportunity to open a new Reception Centre during the two day event. This gave MD staff more valuable experience in working in an Emergency Coordination Centre filling different roles. It also provided our Regional Emergency Social Services staff experience and practice setting up a Regional Reception Centre at a new facility.

The MD's Emergency Management department has been asked to participate in a new program the Province is rolling out this spring. The Director of Emergency Management has been offered the opportunity to represent our region in this program and evaluation of it. The Public Information Officer has also been offered the opportunity by the Province to take the lead in setting up the Provincial training course for Public Information Officers.

## PUBLIC WORKS FREC Projects



### Millarville Project Area

*Every effort is taken to control how much turbidity (the amount of silt that becomes water borne) may be created during construction. We have turbidity monitors on site taking samples and monitoring throughout construction.*



### Millarville Threepoint Creek Project (During Construction)



### Millarville Project Post-Construction

## PUBLIC WORKS

# Flood Recovery Erosion Control Program (FREC)

Flood Recovery Erosion Control or FREC for short is a provincial government program that provides funding to address erosion repairs and includes long-term community mitigation projects. In the MD of Foothills, these are projects that reinforce river banks where infrastructure is threatened by further erosion.

### Completed FREC Projects 2014

- Millarville at Three Point Creek Phase 1
- Millarville at Three Point Creek Phase 2
- 128 Street Phase 1 – SE Bank channel breach and spillway construction is complete.
- Predator Bay Water Ski
- Priddis
- Black Diamond and Turner Valley.
- Womens Coulee
- Racetrack
- Upstream Millarville Beaucheman Park Site
- Upstream Country Lane RV

### Planned FREC projects for 2015 Construction

The MD will be working on additional projects in 2015 and is in the process of obtaining the necessary regulatory permits and contractors to complete the work.

- Hwy 22 to Millarville Racetrack
- 338 Ave Three Point Creek
- 128 Street Phase 2
- Highwood Crossing Ranch
- Longview Site
- Taylor Site
- Bow River Bottom Site
- 96 Street Site

The Public Works department of the MD of Foothills wishes to thank residents for their patience and cooperation while we have worked on roads, Flood Recovery Erosion Control projects and bridges.

For more information, please contact: Tracy Warrington, Flood Recovery & Erosion Coordinator at 403-603-6210 or email: [tracy.warrington@mdfoothills.com](mailto:tracy.warrington@mdfoothills.com)

## FREC Projects



### Black Diamond Project

This project consisted of three different sites. Pictured here is downstream of the Black Diamond Bridge.



Some banks were so damaged that they had to be pulled back so that the equipment could work safely.



### Priddis Meota Pre-Construction

The bank was greatly eroded, resulting in threat to the pipeline and the road.



### Priddis Meota Post Construction

Rock was placed in the river at the toe of the bank and was built up along the bank. A row of willows were installed to assist in stabilizing behind the structure. Fill was brought up to the top of the bank and seeded to complete the structure.



### 128 St. Project Pre-Construction



### 128 St. Post Construction



Seeding top of bank to prevent erosion.

**PUBLIC WORKS**

**Summary Of 2014 FREC Construction Activities And Moving Forward**

To date we have completed 12 projects, 27 sites and two Provincial buy outs through the Flood Recovery and Erosion Control Program. In each case a cost benefit analysis was completed.

The flood of 2013 was devastating on the Municipality of Foothills. The MD has been working very hard to move forward with our recovery efforts. We greatly appreciate the patience and understanding of our residents as we move forward in our recovery.

**The FREC Program**

This program was developed with consideration to the four essential elements of recovery, as described in the Provincial Recovery Framework:

**People-** to ensure the right resources are available to support the overall physical, mental and social well-being of communities, municipalities, First Nations, families and individual Albertans affected by the floods.

**Economy** – to nurture an environment that supports the rehabilitation of and reinvestment in disrupted economies and businesses.

**Reconstruction** – to enable the safe and orderly restoration of flood damaged infrastructure within the affected areas.

**Environment** – to protect and re-establish the environment to a healthy state and mitigate long-term environmental effects and risks.

**FREC Projects**



**Willow Installation**

*Willow cuttings are placed on top of the rock in a top soil mixture. These will grow and assist in holding the back side of the structure together with their root systems. Willows help jump-start the natural vegetation process.*



**Racetrack Project Post Construction**

*Erosion control blanket provides a place for grass seed to take root and reduces the amount of soil that could get washed into the river.*



**Post Willow instillation**

*Willows and vegetation create strong root systems, holding the underlying soils together, enhancing the strength of the structure. This vegetation along with various other habitat structures, J hooks, root wads, vanes, woody debris and boulder clusters were used to enhance the strength of the structure plus provide shelter for fish.*



**Racetrack Project Post Construction**



**Racetrack Project Post Construction**

## PLANNING



The MD of Foothills will be holding ongoing public hearings in 2015 to rezone lands throughout the Municipality to align land uses with the new Land Use Bylaw.

December 17, 2014, a new Land Use Bylaw was adopted under Bylaw 60/2014 thus rescinding the previous Land Use Bylaw 1/99. The following existing land use districts were rescinded with the adoption of the new Land Use Bylaw:

- Commercial Park District;
- Industrial Park District;
- Commercial Rural District;
- Industrial Rural District.

Lands in the municipality with these zonings need to be rezoned to the most appropriate new land use district

## ALIGNMENT WITH THE NEW LAND USE BYLAW

based on the types of uses that have been approved for the properties.

No new uses are being proposed on the lands through these redesignations. This process is strictly administrative, assigning land use designations similar to those eliminated through the passing of our new Land Use Bylaw. The redesignation of these lands does not impact the existing development approvals on the subject lands – the existing development approvals remain in the same status as before the redesignation. However, new applications and/or amendments to existing approvals will need to be dealt with under new land use districts.

The new Land Use Bylaw can now be viewed on our Municipal website at [mdfoothills.com](http://mdfoothills.com) and Part 5 and Part 6 outline all the Land Use Districts and provisions thereof.

We will be sending out letters, making phone calls, and meeting with individuals who own property with land uses that have been rescinded under the new Land Use Bylaw to discuss the appropriate new land use to suit their property.

The first of these public hearing was held March 11, 2015 in the Council Chambers. We will continue public hearings on an ongoing basis to ensure that all properties are aligned with the new Land Use Bylaw.

Stay tuned for future public hearings for more redesignations to align with the new Land Use Bylaw.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter, please contact Coreena Carr at (403) 603-6245 or by email at [coreena.carr@mdfoothills.com](mailto:coreena.carr@mdfoothills.com).

## ASSESSMENT

### 2014 PROPERTY ASSESSMENTS FOR 2015 TAXES

The market value assessment used to calculate your 2015 taxes will be based on a valuation date of July 01, 2014. The chart shows the sale price trends between July 01 valuation dates. The sales indicate an average of 3.7% increase from July 01, 2013 to July 01, 2014 for properties in the municipality, however, some areas may experience something different. Your Assessment and Tax Notice is proposed to be mailed in May, 2015.



After receiving your Assessment and Tax Notice, please contact the Assessment Department with any questions or a request for information.

An assessed person is entitled to see or receive sufficient information about the person's property in accordance with section 299 of the Municipal Government Act or a summary of an assessment in accordance with section 300 of the Act, or both.

Phone: 403-652-2341 Fax: 403-652-7880 Email: [MD-Assessment@mdfoothills.com](mailto:MD-Assessment@mdfoothills.com)

## TAXES

Property taxes are due annually on or before September 30. Payments are accepted at any time. If the payment is made after the due date (Sept. 30), your tax account will be subject to penalties.

## HUMAN RESOURCES

### New Personnel:

(permanent employees only)

Clint Malinowski -  
Public Works

Brady Durbano -  
Protective Services

### Goodbye to:

Semra Kalkan - Planning

Judy Stevenson - retired  
Taxes & Utilities

Troy Stirling - Public Works

**PUBLIC WORKS**



498<sup>th</sup> Ave during the floods of 2013

**Raising of 498<sup>th</sup> Ave**

The Highwood River flooded its banks north of 498<sup>th</sup> Avenue, flooding the Town of High River and 498<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Through funding from the Province of Alberta, this project was designed, tendered and constructed in a few short months. 498<sup>th</sup> Avenue was largely completed by the end of May 2014.

**Update of Bridges**

The following bridges were damaged by the floods of 2013. All repairs and reconstruction have been completed.

- \* 2311 Dr W  
2338 Dr W West Of 288 St W  
786 Ave West Of HWY 22  
1240Dr W South Of Plummers
- \* 232 St E
- \* 168 St E
- \* Old 2A 104 St E  
Unnamed Creek 338 Ave
- + Pekisko Creek  
Threepoint Creek  
Fish Creek  
Fisher Creek  
unnamed Creek  
Pekisko Creek  
Baker Creek  
Pekisko Creek  
Threepoint Creek  
Little Bow River  
Fish Creek  
Threepoint Creek  
Priddis Creek  
Lineham Creek

- \* *Bridges were destroyed and rebuilt.*
- + *Pekisko Creek Bridge was removed and an alternative access has been built.*

**Southwest Calgary Ring Road**

For information about the status of the Southwest Calgary Ring Road, please refer to [www.mdfoothills.com](http://www.mdfoothills.com).

**FOOTHILLS FIRE**

**FireSmart Around Your Home**

Create a landscape that will make your home less vulnerable to wildfire, the primary goal is fuel reduction. Think of the area around your home in zones. Zone 1 is closest to the structure, Zone 4 is the farthest away.

**ZONE 1** This well-irrigated area encircles the structure for at least 30 feet on all sides, providing space for fire suppression equipment in the event of an emergency. Plants should be limited to carefully paced fire resistant tree and shrub species.

**ZONE 2** Fire resistant plant materials

should be used here. Plants should be low-growing, and the irrigation system should extend into this section.

**ZONE 3** Place low-growing plants and wellspaced trees in this area, remembering to keep the volume of vegetation (fuel) low.

**ZONE 4** This furthest zone from the structure is a natural area. Thin selectively here and remove highly flammable vegetation.

For detailed information on how to FireSmart your property, visit: [www.mdfoothills.com](http://www.mdfoothills.com).

**FOOTHILLS REGIONAL WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITY**

**Foothills Regional Landfill**

Hwy 783, 5.6 km South of Hwy 7 & Okotoks, Tel: 403-938-5224  
Open Mon-Sat, 8:30 am-4:30 pm.  
Closed Sunday and statutory holidays.

**Extended Hours May 4 - July 2, 2015  
Mon-Thurs: 8:30 am - 6:30 pm**

*Extended hours are for smaller residential loads, leaf and yard waste and recycling.* Large loads will not be accepted after 4:30.

**2015 Tipping Fees:**

- \$10 minimum charge for loads up to 100 kg.
- \$85/metric tonne over 100 kg.
- \$127.50/metric tonne for hard to handle garbage.
- \$20 Freon removal per appliance plus tonnage fees
- \$10 surcharge for load not tarped.

**HELP KEEP OUR DITCHES CLEAN,  
SECURE OR TARP ALL LOADS!**



**Landscaping Materials**

Need landscaping material for your yard? Check out what the landfill has.

**SANDSTONE: \$30/TONNE**  
Sizes from 150 mm to over 4 cu. metres.

**COMPOST: \$25/TONNE**  
Excellent for mulch and erosion control.

**WOOD CHIPS: \$20/TONNE**  
New and previously used wood - may contain pressure treated or painted material, passed over a powerful magnet to remove most nails and screws.

**GREEN CHIPS: \$40/TONNE**  
Ground trees and branches.

**PALLET CHIPS: \$40/TONNE**  
Unpainted or non-treated lumber/used pallets passed over a powerful magnet to remove most nails and screws.

**GYPSUM: \$25/TONNE**  
Ground new dry-wall cutoffs. This material is pH neutral which assists in correcting both acidic and basic soils. It improves swelling clays, increases water retention in soil, improves water efficiency, fruit quality and prevents some plant diseases.

## AGRICULTURAL SERVICES BOARD

### Pest Control

#### 2% Strychnine Availability Delay Update:

Due to delays in the registration and production of 2% Liquid Strychnine Concentrate we do not know when the product will be available.

Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency the agency responsible for pesticide regulation in Canada and for registering the product along with the manufacturer has experienced a delay in the registration and production of 2% strychnine for the spring of 2015.

Agricultural Services will be facilitating the 2% Liquid Strychnine Concentrate program once available for the control of Richardson's Ground Squirrels. This product will only be sold to bona fide farmers and ranchers. Keep checking the MD of Foothills web page and advertisements in the Western Wheel for the commencement of the program. Please contact the Agricultural Services Department at 403-652-2423 for any additional information

### Equipment Rentals

Agrident RFID Tag Reader, Cattle Moving Signs, Cattle Scale, Grain/Silage Bag Roller, Hay Probe, Trailer Sprayers, Skunk Traps, Solar Pump Livestock Watering System. Call ASB Shop at 403-652-2423.

### Bank of Montreal Farm Family Awards Program

Congratulations to Harold Hansen and Family on the receipt of the Bank of Montreal Farm Family Award for 2015.

### Weed Control

Agricultural Services will be proceeding with weed control on the municipal right of ways May through to October.

#### Vegetation Control on Roadside Policy

Policy Statement: *The Municipality reserves the right to maintain its right of ways from property line to property line in regards to vegetation management and to comply with the enforcement of the Weed Control Act of Alberta. For example, but not limited to vegetation includes grass, weeds, brush, etc.*

Under the Weed Control Act of Alberta, it is the responsibility of the MD to control and eliminate the growth of noxious weeds on their right of ways. If these weeds are left unchecked they would create a myriad of problems for the MD ratepayers and the motoring public.

### Agricultural Service Board Scholarship



The Agricultural Service Board is offering \$5000 worth of scholarships to residents of the MD of Foothills who are planning to attend a post-secondary institution in Agriculture or related field of study. **Application deadline is June 30, 2015.**

## 2015 PARADES



*Come out and celebrate summer with us at a parade near you.*

#### Little Britches Parade, High River

Saturday, May 16, 2015, 10:00 a.m.

#### Black Diamond Parade,

Saturday, June 6, 2015, 10:00 a.m.

#### Okotoks Parade,

Saturday, June 20, 2015, 11:00 a.m.

#### Blackie Parade,

Wednesday, July 1, 2015, 10:00 a.m.

#### Longview (Little New York Daze) Parade,

Saturday, July 18, 2015, 10:00 a.m.

## Cemeteries Operated by the MD of Foothills

The MD of Foothills maintains and operates the Blackie, Cayley and Foothills Cemeteries. The Foothills Cemetery expansion continues.

Cemetery Specialist Candace Rogers can be contacted for more information at 403-852-0500.

## 2014 Municipal Maps Available

Municipal Maps are available in a folded or wall map format for \$15 each + GST. For custom mapping of your property, email [ahmed.awad@mdfoothills.com](mailto:ahmed.awad@mdfoothills.com) or call 403-603-6241

## Keeping You Informed -a digital information newsletter.

Subscribe to our email list to be kept informed about MD initiatives. Sign up at [www.mdfoothills.com](http://www.mdfoothills.com).

**Subscribe to our FREE emergency alert system.**

**If we can't reach you,  
we can't alert you.  
[www.mdfoothills.com](http://www.mdfoothills.com)**



**COMMUNITY**

**Scott Seaman Sports Rink at Heritage Heights**

**Melt Water Recycling System** to be installed in early April with an expectant completion date of mid to late May. This will cut down on the overall water consumption of the facility and assist with the associated costs to haul the melt water away 3-4 times weekly.

**Top Shelf Kitchen**

Top Shelf Kitchen opened on January 10 and has been an amazing addition to the facility. We operate the kitchen in-house. The kitchen is now closed until mid – to late September 2015.

**ICE**

We will continue to have ice until late June. Call 403-995-7397 for availability.

Okotoks Oilers Hockey Development Program  
Scott Seaman Sports Rink has agreed to host the 1<sup>st</sup> ever Okotoks Oilers Hockey Development program. This program will run mid-April to mid-June. Check the Oilers website for more details.

**Public and Family skate** has concluded for the season. Thank you to the community for your support. We will be offering these sessions again September 2015, check the MD website for details in late August.

**Bantam “AAA” Alberta**

The facility hosted the Bantam “AAA” Alberta finals which was well attended. The deciding game on March 24 was won by our home team “Rocky Mountain raiders” 5-2 before a crowd of 500 plus. They will be competing in the Western Championships in Winnipeg.

**SSSR Schedule**

**Ice Arena Public Skate:** Concluded March 31 2015 for the season.

**Family Skate:** Concluded March 29, 2015 for the season.

**Walking Track** 7:00 am - 9:00 pm, Monday - Friday.

**Multipurpose rooms** are available to book. Inquiries: 403-995-7397

For booking and general inquiries, call: 403-995-7397 or check Parks & Recreation at [www.mdfoothills.com](http://www.mdfoothills.com).



**Hogg Park Closed**

Hogg Park will remain closed until provincial approvals permit the flood repair and Phase I redevelopment to be completed. Please check [www.mdfoothills.com](http://www.mdfoothills.com) for updates on reopening.

**Northwest Foothills Recreation Board**



Construction of the baseball diamonds continues in the Outdoor Phase 1 of the new Seaman Sports Park.

A survey is being conducted from March 28 to May 31 in Divisions 3, 4, 5 regarding an Active Living Centre in the Seaman Sports Park. For more information visit [www.nwfoothillsrec.com](http://www.nwfoothillsrec.com).

If you do not have access to the internet and would like to participate in the survey, or require further information, please contact: Councillor Suzanne Oel 403-931-2711 or NWFRB member Steve Fisher 403-931-1611



**Drop-in Activities**

Come and check out the drop-in activities for all ages! Activities include flag football, men’s and ladies basketball, zumba, soccer, lacrosse, H.I.I.T. boot camp and co-ed volleyball just to name a few. We also have a very popular parent and tot drop in every weekday morning except Friday. Soon to be added is drop in bubble soccer!

For the latest drop-in schedule please visit our website at [www.legacyregionalfieldhouse.com](http://www.legacyregionalfieldhouse.com).

**Legacy Regional Field House**

*Have you visited the Legacy Regional Field House yet?*

**Spring and Summer Day Camps**

Spring and Summer day camps for kids aged 6-14 are going to be exciting at the Field House! A few of the specialty sport camps offered will include extreme frisbee, floor hockey, softball, flag football, pickle ball and more! Before and after camp care will be available. Register online today at [legacyregionalfieldhouse.com](http://legacyregionalfieldhouse.com) or call Guest Services at 587-757-0338 for more information.

**Corporate Events Package**

The Legacy Regional Field house also offers an excellent corporate events package for your next team building event. Come out and try bubble soccer with your colleagues and enjoy refreshments after the game in one of our large meeting rooms. Don’t forget, we also have a beautiful elevated walking/running track that is free for everyone! The Field House is open from 9am to 11pm, 7 days a week.



**Visit us on-line!**

Find us on Facebook, or follow us on Twitter @MDofFoothills

