

RESORT VILLAGE OF

September 2010

Manitou Beach Matters

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Don't miss out! Sign up to receive your newsletter by email. Just send an email to manbe@sasktel.net with "newsletter" in the subject line.

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 9-12 & 1-5 CLOSED WEDNESDAYS Open Saturdays for September 4, 11, 18 & 25 from 9-1

It's hard to believe summer has flown by so quickly! Despite the wet weather and cooler temperatures it's been a great season. News about what's been going on will follow but first the boring reminder stuff you get tired of reading and I get tired of writing but necessary information nonetheless.

Council Meetings are held the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm in the council chambers at the Village Office. If you have something to say or submit, please inform the office 5 days prior to the meeting. All requests must be in writing.

Pet owners are once again reminded that Bylaw #13/2001 prohibits animals running at large. This means your pet must be on a leash, tied up, in a fenced yard, in your house or in a kennel. And please remember to pick up your doggie doo.

The Nuisance Abatement Bylaw # 04/2006 is being actively enforced. The purpose of this bylaw is to provide for the abatement of nuisances, including property condition, activities or things that adversely affect: a) the safety, health or welfare of people in the neighborhood; b) people's use and enjoyment of their property; or c) the amenity of a neighborhood. This means if your yard has over grown grass/vegetation, old lumber, stuff strewn untidily around, you will be asked to clean it up. Please call the office if you need assistance finding someone to maintain your property.

Garbage reminder. REACT picks up the garbage on Mondays (unless it's a holiday, then the Tuesday.) REACT requires that the tag is fully visible from the street and the maximum weight per tag is 44 lbs (a standard 77 litre bag or garbage can). It is front street pick up only so be sure to have it out by 10:00 am so it is not missed. Grass clipping, leaves, garden debris etc. can be bagged and tagged along with your garbage for REACT to pick up. The Village will pick up large tree cuttings and brush (that cannot be bagged) the last week of May and again the last week of September. Any other time during the season it must be hauled to the transfer station. Please plan your trimming accordingly.

Reminder for summer water residents. The Resort Village of Manitou Beach suggests not leaving your seasonal water on after the September 30. Saskatchewan's weather can turn cold quickly and if your water meter/water lines freeze it can cause expensive repairs. *The proper procedure to avoid having your ball valve freeze and break is to have the curbstop turned off FIRST then have the meter taken out then open the ball valve to let the water drain out of the line.* Call the office a minimum 2 days prior to the date you want your water off at 946-2831 to make these arrangements.

New resident water/sewer utilities. A connection permit is required to connect to the municipal water and sewer system. The connection and meter must be installed by a journeyman plumber and inspected by the Regional Health Authority before water will be turned on at the curbstop. A ¾ inch dual check valve and pressure reducer are required with the meter assembly. Please call the office at 946-2831 when you are ready for a water meter and to pay the required utility deposits.

Now for the interesting stuff!

Pay in Advance: Receive a 5% discount on your water and sewer utility bills if you prepay for the year by January 31. For the seasonal users the same offer is available if you choose to prepay 2 minimum billings, a connect fee and a disconnect fee when you turn on for the season.

Communities in Bloom: A big THANK YOU to our CiB group! They have been busy once again making Manitou Beach a blooming, beautiful place to live and visit. Volunteers are always needed and donations are being accepted for the Walking Trail Plaques and Memorial Benches. Five Memorial Benches have been sponsored to date and are slated to be installed in the spring. One has been placed in Wellington Park already. Call the Village Office for more information.

Thursday Night Bingo: Sponsored by CiB Held every Thursday night at the Community Hall runs until October 7, 2010. Call Pat Weichel for more information 946-2687.

Manitou Beach Amazing Challenge: On August 14 six teams of 2 battled it out to be the last team standing! Gene Angers, Brian Marciszyn and the Rec Board hosted the first ever Manitou Beach Amazing Challenge. What an incredible job they did! The teams took part in such events as running challenges (in and out of the water), canoeing, historical questions, perception games, horseshoes and balancing challenges. A full day of fun was had by both the participants and the spectators. Make sure you pick your partner for next year and enter this fun event!

Lagoon: As of Tuesday, August 17 @ 4:00 pm the first cell has been connected to the sewer infrastructure.

Beach: Our maintenance crew worked hard hauling sand to the main beach to fix it up. This restoration project has expanded the beach inland and created a marvelous beach area for all to enjoy. New beaches have been created by the tennis court, by the Nu Inn and two mini beaches at the east end of the lake. More beaches equals more summer fun.

Canada Post Mail Boxes: The completion date for this project is slated for October. Canada Post will be sending letters to all residents each step of the way to keep you informed.

Provincial Disaster Assistance Program (PDAP): The Village has applied for financial assistance through this program due to the massive water levels. residential PDAP applications are available at the office.

New sewer line: Three blocks of new sewer line has been replaced on Elizabeth Avenue. A reminder, that you are required to divert sump pump drainage to the ditches rather than your sewer system.

Community Hall: Much needed roof repairs were completed on the Community Hall this spring. For hall rental inquiries call the Village Office @ 946-2831.

Council: Council held a public, long term planning information session on July 3. It's never too late to forward your ideas for what you would like to see happen. Drop us a line via email or snail mail with your thoughts.

Taxes: One of the toughest and most important jobs of council and administration is to find a balance between fair taxation and spending on essential services. The goal is to have a balanced budget to cover such services as: fire protection; police protection; roads; street lights; snow removal and recreational facilities. The Village is accountable to The Municipal Board for responsible taxation should the village apply for future borrowing to fund major projects such as the lagoon, or water treatment plant.. Annually the budget is passed by council to approve all expenditures and a number of "tax tools" are used to generate enough revenue to meet these expenditures.

Tax tools (methods of calculation) are legislated by the Provincial Government. A mill rate is set that is used with the assessment value of the property to achieve a certain amount of revenue. Minimum taxation is another tool that is available to use. In 2009 the Village implemented a minimum tax on the land portion of property based on a charge per square foot of land owned. The rate is passed annually with the mill rate. The assessment value of property is set by The Saskatchewan Assessment Management Agency, also known as SAMA. This agency revalues property every 4 years or whenever a change to the property has occurred such as adding an addition or removing a structure.

Websites: Informational websites are: www.manitoubeach.ca . We post all kinds of valuable information for you like bylaws, council notes and approved regular meeting minutes. If you haven't already, send in your email address so you can get our newsletter straight to your inbox.

Other Websites: Also check out these websites for the local businesses and a calendar of events for the area. www.watrousonline.com and www.watrousmanitou.com .

Manitou Beach Matters is brought to you by,

Your Council: Mayor, Eric Upshall
Councillor, Ernie Kochylema
Councillor, Matthew Knezacek
Councillor, Larry Zemlak
Councillor, Fraser Murray

Your Staff: Administrator, Bobbi Crittenden
Assistant Administrator, Beverley Laird
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