Welcome to the Summer Village of Sunset Beach
Resident Information Kit
www.sunsetbeach.ca

Welcome to the Neighborhood

Welcome to our corner of the world, the Summer Village of Sunset Beach. Our community is a nice mixture of retired people, active working men and women, and young families. The community is also a blend of new neighbors, and those who are here with a history of family. We are all proud to be residents of Sunset Beach. Most of us love the simplicity of village life, and enjoy the peace and harmony with nature that the village offers us.

We hope the Information Kit will help you find your way around the Summer Village of Sunset Beach, provide you with important contacts, and provide resources to answer questions to enhance community life in our village, Baptiste Lake, and the Town and County of Athabasca.

We love it here and hope you will be as happy here as we have been.

Values

Since we are a minimally managed community we believe in two key values that our Summer Village survives on:

1. Respect your neighbors right to enjoy; and
2. Environmental Stewardship.

1. “It is easy to believe we are each waves and forget we are also the ocean.” — Jon J. Muth
   Respect your neighbors right to enjoy. The “right to enjoy” works both ways; your neighbors’ right to enjoy as well as your right to enjoy. The goal is to balance both. Each of us has the right to enjoy privacy, freedom, quiet, fishing, watersports, fires, and other privileges of lakeside ownership. Please try to be considerate of your neighbors needs, and if there is a problem, please try to settle it between the two of you.

2. “Our task must be to free ourselves... by widening our circle of compassion to embrace all living creatures and the whole of nature and it's beauty.” — Albert Einstein  Environmental Stewardship Each member of the community shares the responsibility of actions that impact the quality of the environment. This includes but is not limited to the protection and restoration of the fish and wildlife, and the land, lake and lakeshore we enjoy and share. Please, consult before you act. Your actions could take years to restore.
Natural Environment & Stewardship

Aquatic Vegetation Removal and Shoreline Modifications

Most waterfront properties have an environmental reserve that parallels the shoreline. This strip of shoreline is owned by the Province of Alberta. Lakeshore property owners should know that it is unlawful to modify environmental reserve lands without permission from the municipal authority, and that it is equally unlawful to alter the shore or lake bed below the bank without permission from provincial public lands and water management agencies.

Aquatic plants are an important feature of natural aquatic ecosystems. They provide habitat for fish to spawn, feed and hide from predators and are essential to healthy fish populations. Aquatic plants also help maintain water quality by stabilizing sediments and using nutrients that, in their absence, become available for nutrient uptake by less desirable organisms such as blue green algae, and can lead to algae “blooms” which are a common concern to recreational lake users.

- Under the Water Act (Alberta), an approval is required for all aquatic vegetation removal or other activities resulting in the alteration of the waterbody.
- In addition to provincial legislation requirements, approval under the federal Fisheries Act may be required for aquatic vegetation removal.

Residents cannot remove or alter reed beds and other aquatic vegetation through mechanical, chemical or any other means without an approval.

  o Government agencies are increasingly enforcing existing regulations to protect aquatic vegetation such as reed beds and other natural features of waterbodies.
  o As more and more people buy lakefront property, and more of these fragile lake ecosystems are damaged, there is a real need to look at why regulations protecting aquatic vegetation exist, and to enforce these regulations.
  o Further, public viewpoints are changing. It is becoming socially unacceptable to damage the aquatic environment.

- Under the Public Lands Act (Alberta), it is prohibited to disturb the bed and shore of a water body without prior authorisation. The Public Lands Act states that the beds and shores of all naturally occurring lakes, rivers, and streams, belong to the Government of Canada or (usually) to the Province, unless your land title (rarely) specifically states that your property does include the bed and shore.

Residents cannot modify the shoreline without specific authorization to do so. Depositing sand, gravel, rocks, concrete slabs or any other material is prohibited without specific approval from the Government of Alberta. Lakeshore users cannot mechanically alter or disturb the shoreline without being expressly authorized to do so.

  o Anyone planning work that might affect the bed or shore of a lake, or the environmental reserve immediately above the bank should first inquire as to how Alberta’s public lands laws and the municipality’s environmental reserve bylaws could affect their plans.

Significant penalties and restoration costs may result where cottage owners have carried out unauthorised work on the bed, shore or the environmental reserve of lakes in Alberta, or where aquatic vegetation has been removed from Alberta lakes without the necessary approval. Be diligent in your observance of these laws.

Cottage owners may feel that because a neighbour did it, they can do it too. Not so! Keep in mind that public lands are public. Work on the bank, bed or shore of a lake, or aquatic vegetation removal may require permits before the project begins. Make sure you inquire first.

To obtain more information, contact:

Information Centre
Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development
Main Floor, Great West Life Building
9920 108 Street
Edmonton Alberta Canada T5K 2M4

Call Toll Free Alberta: 310-ESRD (3773)
Toll Free: 1 877 944-0313
Fax: 780 427-4407
Email: ESRD.Info-Centre@gov.ab.ca

Hours of Operation: 8:15 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday – Friday, Closed: Weekends & Statutory Holidays
Blue Green Algae (Cyanobacterial) Blooms

Alberta’s nutrient rich lakes, ponds and reservoirs can support blooms of blue-green algae, scientifically known as cyanobacteria, some of which can produce toxins hazardous to people, pets, livestock and wildlife. Some highly concentrated blooms can turn water green, blue-green, yellowish-brown, red or even purple. Blooms are most common on Alberta lakes from early July to mid-September.

If you suspect bloom conditions in a lake or pond, what action should you take?
- Do not drink from any bloom-infested waters.
- Do not wade or swim in waters that have concentrated blue-green algae.
- Do not let children swim in or drink the water.
- Do not allow pets or domestic animals drink bloom-infested water.
- Provide an alternative source of water for pets and domestic animals.

For information on beach closures, contact your local health region’s public health division. For a list of health regions, visit www.health.alberta.ca/resources/links.html#Regions

What if you suspect a health problem?
Contact your physician immediately if you experience fever, headache, dizziness, stomach cramps, vomiting or sore throat that you suspect may come from contact with an algal bloom. If your pet or domestic animals show any of these symptoms, contact a veterinarian as soon as possible.

Permits

All developments require a development permit issued by the Summer Village. Development, as defined by the Land Use Bylaw, includes such activities as: excavation; construction, replacement, enlargement or structural alteration of a building, the change of use of land or a building; placement of refuse or waste material, and erections of signs. The Summer Village issues development permits under the auspices of the Land Use Bylaw, which is available for viewing and download on the Summer Village website – www.sunsetbeach.ca under Planning & Development. This bylaw contains the rules and regulations for the development of land in the Summer Village. All municipalities are required to enact a Land Use Bylaw that provides for Land Use Zoning. This sets out and classifies the type of development allowed on a parcel of land and contains rules for setback distances, maximum building heights, total percentage of lot covered by building and other matters relative to development. Please consult the Land Use Bylaw for details. Development permit application forms are available for download on the website under the Planning & Development heading.

Before you put it up, take it down, or take it out, check the Land Use Bylaw on the Summer Village website.

Permit Application forms for building, plumbing, electrical, gas and sewage are available for download on the Summer Village website under Planning & Development - http://www.inspectionsgroup.com/association.aspx?p=permit_applications

Permits for these projects are available from the Inspection Group in Edmonton who conduct inspections on behalf of the Summer Village which is accredited under the Alberta Safety Codes Act.

For more information or questions regarding permits, contact Ed Tomaszyk:

Administrator
Summer Village of Sunset Beach
724 Baptiste Drive
West Baptiste, AB
T9S 1R8
Email Tomaszyk@mcsnet.ca
Other Village Information

Fire Bans
This is a Fire Smart community. The Summer Village follows the County guidelines for fire bans, and when in effect, a notice is posted at the Village entrance. We urge Village residents to refrain from having open fires when a fire ban is in effect as your actions can have serious consequences to the rest of the community.

Plowing of Snow in Winter
The Village contracts snow removal of Willow Drive, Birch Drive, and Loxam Drive. The contractors will make every effort to not block your driveway if marked with a large red square posted above the snow line. Residents are responsible for making and posting their own markers. If you have difficulties, please call the Administrative Officer.

Distance to Firehall and Where it is Located
All properties inside the present boundaries of the Summer Village of Sunset Beach lie within 13 km (measured by serviced road accessible four seasons) of the West Baptiste Firehall located at the Summer Village of West Baptiste. Residents are responsible for checking with their insurance provider for policy coverage.

Whispering Hills Recycle and Transfer Site
The local site is located and can be accessed off of Highway 2 north at the turn off for Whispering Hills (from intersection of TWP Rd 670 and Hwy 2- 1 km South and 1 km West. Hours of operation are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Summer Hours (March to October)</th>
<th>Winter Hours (Nov to February)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>12 am to 6 pm</td>
<td>12 pm to 4 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>10 am to 6 pm</td>
<td>Closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>10 am to 6 pm</td>
<td>10 am to 4 pm</td>
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Website: www.athabascaregionalwaste.com  Contact: 780 675 1117 or email arwmsc@mcsnet.ca

Summer Village Notice Board
The Summer Village notice board is located just to the left of the entrance to the Summer Village and adjacent to the mailboxes. All official Village notices will be posted on this board and there is also space provided for residents to post public notices (e.g. sale items, garage sales, events and services). The board is checked periodically by council members or the administrator to ensure materials are time sensitive and relevant.

Fireworks
The Summer Village of Sunset Beach has no fireworks bylaw. It is unlawful to set off fireworks within the Summer Village boundaries.

Dogs
There is no dog bylaw in the Summer Village of Sunset Beach, although respecting other residents would include: keeping your dog under control and not roaming.

Speeding
The posted speed limits in the Summer Village are 40km and residents are asked to be mindful of children at play and residents walking or visiting on the road.

Grey water Disposal
Grey water, including shower, dishwashing and water from sinks, needs to be captured and disposed of appropriately.
Emergency Contact & Community Resources

Emergency Contacts:

Fire and Ambulance - 911

Environment and Sustainable Resource Development Emergency numbers:

Forest Fire – Toll Free: 310-FIRE (3473)
Telus Mobility #3473

Report a Poacher – Toll Free: 1-800-642-3800
Telus Mobility #3800

Environmental Emergencies/Complaints – Toll Free: 1-800-222-6514

Alberta Fish & Wildlife – Athabasca Office (ESRD office) 780 675 2419. Hours of operation: Monday to Friday 8:15 am to 4:30 pm

Athabasca Community Resources:

Hospital - Athabasca Healthcare Center: 780 675 6000; 3100 48 Avenue
   Hours of service: Emergency 24 hours 7 days a week
Athabasca University: 780 675 6111; 1 University Drive
Alice B. Donahue Library & Archives: 780 675 2735; 4716 48 Street
See www.athabascalibrary.ab.ca for hours of service and more information
Athabasca Regional Multiplex Centre: 780 675 2967; 2 University Drive
Athabasca Landing Pool 780 675 5656; 4705 48 Avenue
Waste Management, Recycling & Bottle Depot Centre - 780 675 2900; 13 56 Avenue

Other Resources:

Association of Summer Villages of Alberta – http://www.asva.ca/


BAILS – In January, 2014 members of councils of the six Summer Villages of Baptiste Lake and Island Lake incorporated “Baptiste and Island Lakes Stewardship Society” (“BAILS”), with a mandate to encourage and promote the protection, maintenance and improvement of the health of the lakes and their watersheds. BAILS seeks the support and involvement from all within these respective watersheds. More information will be available from council members, newsletters, and on the website “bails.ca” presently being established.
Information available on website:

Homepage: location, history, photos

Council: members and duties

Information: archived council minutes, Sewage Committee Recommendations to Council, Proposed Sewage Bylaw, Newsletters, Whispering Hills Transfer/Landfill Hours of Operation, Financial Statements, Respect our Lakes link, Sunset Beach Resident Information Kit

Planning & Development – Land Use Zoning, Land Use Bylaw, Permit Application Forms, Development Permits Issued

Firesmart – newsletters and Regional Firesmart Plan, 2013 Sunset Beach Firesmart Project

Weather – local weather at Baptiste Lake

Current Events – information on current Summer Village events

Zebra Mussels – information on zebra mussels (an invasive aquatic species)

Contact – contact information for the Summer Village

Members of Council:

Mayor, Mark Lindskoog
lindsk@telus.net

Deputy Mayor, Morris Nesdole
moeknife@gmail.com

Councillor, Gordon Shopland
gordshopland@gmail.com

Contact Information:

Chief Administrative Officer – Ed Tomaszyk
Email: Tomaszyk@mcsnet.ca
Phone: 780-675-9270

Summer Village of Sunset Beach
724 Baptiste Drive
West Baptiste, AB T9S 1R8