SUMMER VILLAGE OF OTAS BEACH

2022 Summer Newsletter

Proposed Feedlot Near Pigeon Lake

The Pigeon Lake Watershed Association (PLWA) is requesting funding donations to prepare and deliver a robust challenge to the pending Natural Resource Conservation Board (NRCB) decision on the confined feeding operation (CFO) in the Pigeon Lake watershed with a focus on adverse effects and environmental risks. They are looking to raise \$60,000 for legal, expert witnesses and administrative support.

In addition, PLWA needs volunteers to help with fundraising, impact statements, First Nations collaboration, environmental science, and legal expertise.

To support the Defend Pigeon Lake Watershed Initiative, you can donate at: www.plwa.ca/donate or volunteer by emailing info@plwa.ca.

Volunteers Needed

We need people to pull back garbage bins after Monday pick-ups. Too many times the bins are left at the side of the road, causing difficulty for snow removal and service work. We recognize many people have left the lake after the weekend, but the bins need to be pulled back. Ask a neighbour to help if you will not be around after pick-up. If you are around, try to help the Summer Village by helping your neighbour.

For the Health of the Lake

Be aware the Alberta government does not allow dumping of foreign material into the lake, including rocks, vegetation or even sand. It's a punishable offence that carries of fine of up to \$5000. For more information about shoreline regulations visit: https://www.alberta.ca/lakeshores.aspx



Paint Rocks for Smith Park!

We're inviting the kids of Itaska to brighten up Smith Park with a painted rock garden! (Of course, adults can join in the fun too!)

This summer, grab a rock and paint a picture or add a positive message Then find a spot for your unique creation in the flower bed behind the bench.

Rock painting is a great way to create your own unique artwork and to build a sense of community by spreading cheer and happiness to others.

Happy rock painting!



AMM & Picnic:

The Annual Information Meeting (AIM) will be on July 16, 2022 at 2 pm in the Itaska Beach Park. Following the meeting, there will be a picnic in the park. Please bring your own meat to bbg, the rest will be supplied.

Playground Enhancements:

Safety repairs were required as regular maintenance to the playground. While the repairs were being completed, enhancements to the park were considered.

Thank you to everyone for your valuable feedback who completed the survey on what you would like to see in the park area. Through Provincial grant funding, the following items are new features which should be installed starting mid-July:

- expansion of basketball area, with two hoops. One will be at regulation 10-feet, and the other at 8-feet allowing younger children to play. Future plexi-pave surface will be considered for this area when the tennis courts are resurfaced.
- added sand area in toddler section
- adult fitness area "Thrive 450"
- gazebo by park to add a shaded area to sit
- health ladder
- 33' Sky Run zip track
- 2 bike racks

Large Item Garbage Collection

July 16, 2022, at 7 am

There will be one major clean-up this summer where residents may put their garbage out at the end of the driveway (the same place you would place your garbage bin). Check www.itaska.ca for guidance on what can be discarded.



Beach Clean-up

The Summer Village and the Audubon Society are planning a clean-up of the beach and Audubon area. Please come and help on Saturday August 6, 2022. Volunteers to gather at 10 am at the Schlosser Park Bridge.



Smith Park Upgrades

In the summer of 2021, Smith Park was given a bit of a facelift by someone with close ties to the space. Angela Smith, great granddaughter of Robert and Elizabeth Smith, Founders of the Summer Village of Itaska Beach, along with her partner Mike and daughter Lily, added some flower barrels and sanded and stained the bench to make the park more inviting and cheerful.

Beach Road Naturalization

Council is working with McElhanney on a plan to naturalize the boulevard along Beach Road. The plan will involve installing native tree and shrub plantings, complete with native grass overseeding. Additional canopy trees will also be planted in the park area for shade. McElhanney is currently overseeing the development of numerous naturalization projects using the same approach.

Monthly Tax Payment Program

If you would like to participate in our direct debit monthly tax payment program, please email our office at info@itaska.ca.

New Permit Requirements

Effective May 16th, 2022, all new builds and additions must include a letter from a professional engineer declaring any proposed changes to site drainage will not cause water to flow onto neighbouring properties. For more details check out





NEPL Bylaw Proposed

The Northeast Pigeon Lake Regional Services Commission (NEPL) is contemplating a bylaw, to update rates and clarify when a charge for a second dwelling on a property would be charged. A dwelling will have a charge if it contains both a kitchen and a bathroom.

To note: Our Land Use Bylaw does not allow for a kitchen in a second dwelling, so this should not affect any of our residents.

Drainage

Council is working with McElhanney on reviewing drainage throughout the Summer Village. The first step is to ensure the Summer Village water flows are being managed appropriately. Secondly, we will be developing guidelines around individual property drainage.

Friendly Reminder

Please do not connect downspouts to the sewer system. The system was not designed to collect rainwater.