

August, 2006 Newsletter

R.M. of Pense No. 160, Box 190, Pense, Sask., S0G 3W0

Phone: (306) 345-2303, Fax: (306) 345-2583

e-mail: rm160@sasktel.net, website: www.pense160.ca

Ratepayers with Security/Fire Alarm Systems

The Moose Jaw Fire Department informed us that they will be charging for all fire department responses to alarms including false alarms. Our fire fighting service is on a “fee for service” basis, so the owner/recipient of the service will be invoiced. Note: it can cost \$1200 for the Moose Jaw Fire Department, to respond to a call and return to the Firehall – this is without performing any service.

If you have or plan to have an alarm system installed, it is very important that you provide the alarm monitoring company with accurate information, such as:

- name of rural municipality (Pense No. 160);
- name and phone number of the Fire Department that will respond (Moose Jaw Fire Department 306-692-2792 or Pense Volunteer Fire Department 306-525-3999 – these numbers are required as alarm companies are not allowed to use the 9-1-1 system);
- correct legal land description;
- emergency response number (numbered sign in your driveway).

Please call the office for more information.

Controlled Burns

A reminder that controlled or planned burns **must** be reported to:

- Moose Jaw Fire Dept. (306)692-2792
- And
- EMS Communications 310-5000

in advance to avoid a false alarm.

Did you know that property owners are responsible for paying the cost of fighting fires on their property? If a controlled burn has not been reported, a landowner will find him/herself facing

a substantial fire bill if a well meaning passerby reports a fire. Unpaid fire invoices at December 31st are transferred to the property owner’s taxes. Please review your fire insurance policy, especially your deductible, to insure it meets your needs.

Provincial Education Tax Credit

For 2005, the Saskatchewan Government’s *Education Property Tax Credit Program* provided an 8 percent credit for all property taxpayers. For 2006, the credit for agricultural land changes from 8 percent to 38 percent. Other property classes (residential, commercial/industrial, railway/pipeline) are eligible for an 8 percent tax credit on the education portion of their property taxes. The amount of the property tax credit is shown on your tax notice.

Recycling Products

While we encourage ratepayers to recycle their papers, plastics, tin cans, glass, etc. – please be advised that there has been no provision made to utilize the Loraas recycling bins in the Village of Pense. There are a number of recycling options available within the City of Regina or the City of Moose Jaw.

Set back regulations - trees, fences, etc.

A reminder that obstructions such as trees, fences, buildings, bales, etc. must be placed back 150 feet from the centreline of any municipal road or 300 feet from the intersection of two municipal roads. This is to reduce snow blockage problems in the winter as well as ensure equipment can travel down municipal roads. (R.M. Bylaw No. 09-02).

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Landfill

Hours of Operation

Wednesdays & Saturdays

Noon – 4 p.m.

(Except Statutory Holidays)

The landfill will be open and supervised during the above times only. Please be sure to dispose of your garbage in the appropriate designated area:

- clean wood pit (trees)
- general garbage/household waste
- metal (appliances, etc.)

The landfill does not accept: chemical containers, grain, dead animals, concrete, railway ties, tires, hazardous waste, petroleum by-products, liquid domestic sewage, asphalt shingles and wire of any description and vehicles. Thanks for your co-operation.

Land Grantee Maps

We still have a few maps available for sale at a cost of \$10.00 each. The map shows the names, dates and locations of the original "Dominion Land Grant" as issued by the Dominion Lands Branch of the Federal Department of the Interior from 1871 – 1930.

New Municipal Map

Bradley Directories have been contracted to produce our new municipal map. We are very pleased with the results. Ratepayers are eligible for one map free of charge. Maps are available for pick up at the municipal office.

Ethanol Plant Development

After careful consideration and much discussion, Council decided not to join the South Central Renewable Fuels Initiative. This is the project that would have been funded through municipal taxes – most likely an increase in the mill rate. An information package was mailed out to all ratepayers in May.

Council received an application from Terra Grain Fuels Inc. to rezone a quarter of agriculture land to industrial. Their plan is to build a 150 million litre ethanol production plant north of Saskferco. The plant would use 15 million bushels (42,857 bushels/day) or 410,000 tonnes of wheat annually. Terra Grain Fuels hope to begin construction later this year and commence plant production in the 4th quarter of 2007. Number of jobs created: 150 during construction and 44 full time once the plant is operating. As of August 15, the rezoning has been approved and Sask. Environment has reviewed the project.

Gopher Poison

We will continue to offer one 7kg pail of Wilson Gopher-Kill free of charge per ratepayer/farming operation. You **must** pre-order the product by November 30, 2006 for delivery and pickup by May 31, 2007. We do not keep extra stock on hand due to the cost. We have had good reports on this gopher poison when it is utilized early in the spring. Call the office at 345-2303 to place your order.

2005 Financial Statement

A copy is posted in the municipal office. We would be happy to mail you a copy upon request.

Administration

Our office is located at 324 Elder Street in the Village of Pense. Contact information is located at the top of page one.

Carolynn Meadows, Administrator

Cathy Ripplinger, Assistant Administrator.

Road Crew

Ken Lovell, Foreman - R.M. shop 345-2424

Bob Nuttall, Grader Operator

Laurent Deneve, Grader Operator

Brent Anakaer, Mower Operator

Ron Ball, Casual

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Pest Control Officer/Weed Inspectors

Grant Peeling, Pest Control Officer 694-8485

Devon Parcher, Tom Beingessner

Prairie EcoSystems, Weed Inspectors 737-2180

Council Information

<u>Division</u>	<u>Council Member</u>	<u>Telephone</u>
Reeve	Tom Lemon	345-2230
#1	Terry Anderson	345-2015
#2	Lorne Straub	345-2390
#3	Roy Morrison	693-5116
#4	Bruce Good	345-2029
#5	Janet Lemon	345-2230
#6	Brian Short	345-2514

This fall rural municipal elections will be held with nominations open for the positions of Reeve and Councillor for Divisions 1, 3 & 5.