

THE RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF HAZEL DELL NO.335

NEWSLETTER SPRING 2020

DRINKING WATER

Since the closure of Country Pac Foods in Okla, there has not been a local source of drinking water. The RM office now carries a limited quantity of 18L bottles of drinking water. They are available for sale at a cost of \$5.50 each plus \$10 deposit for each bottle. We are not able to refill any bottles, however, we will accept empty bottles on exchange to waive the deposit fee.

MUNICIPAL WELL

The Municipal Well by the hamlet of Hazel Dell is up and running after being completely reconstructed in 2019. It is still in the same location, coin activation and the same amount of water per dollar as before. **Please be reminded that this is natural ground water.** It is NOT potable or treated in any way.

FROM DRIVEWAYS TO ROADWAYS

When performing work on private roads adjacent to RM roadways please ensure that there is no debris left on the road. This applies to snowplowing while leaving snowbanks, ridges or rough areas; and while gravel spreading/levelling and leaving rocks larger than road size gravel ($\frac{3}{4}$ " – 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ ") or clay lumps off of large equipment. These are all examples of something the RM can be left unaware of and yet blamed when there is trouble. Please keep what came from your property ON your property. Clean off the road whatever you leave behind.

ONLINE PAYMENTS

The RM is now set up with the Affinity Credit Union to accept payment for taxes via bill payments through their website/app.

Our registered vendor name is:

Hazel Dell No. 335 (RM)

The account number you need is your specific owner number, which is a 4-digit number at the top right corner of your tax notice. If the number is less than 4 digits you must add a zero (0) in FRONT of the number. (For example, if your owner number is 5, you would use 0005.) If you have more than one notice, you will have a separate owner number for each, and will need to make separate payments for each. Your receipt will be mailed to you.

If you wish to make one payment for all your notices together, you will need to come to the office or mail a cheque for us to process manually as before.

Online payments are an added option of payment for your convenience and not a replacement for cheques, cash or debit.

LINTLAW BYPASS

The village council of Lintlaw proposed to the RM council to create a route to be used by haul trucks to bypass Lintlaw when travelling north/south. The town's streets are no longer able to handle the weight of trucks hauling through town.

The RM is considering this proposal, however for the unforeseen circumstances this year, and to prevent financial strain, this project is put on hold.

NSF CHARGES

The RM has implemented policy #1-2020 which introduces a mandatory \$40 charge for Non-Sufficient Funds cheques.

GARBAGE BINS

The garbage bins located in the hamlets of Hazel Dell and Okla are for the use of the residences of the **Rural Municipality of Hazel Dell**. All of these bins are located for the ratepayers' convenience and **ONLY for household (kitchen) garbage**. There are separate bins for recycling paper and cardboard within both hamlets. Anything that cannot go into a household garbage can is not permitted in these bins, ie: appliances, furniture, renovation debris. This type of garbage must go directly to the dump and may have a fee attached depending on the product. (Fees are applicable to the public regardless of place of residence.)

If these bins are full DO NOT add to them, and DO NOT place garbage on the ground.

This results in an unsightly mess and attracts unwanted wildlife, rodents and birds, especially for those living nearby. It is also difficult and costly to clean up.

Abuse of the convenience of these bins will result in the bins being removed and therefore ALL ratepayers would have to go directly to the dump to dispose of all their refuse.

PLEASE RESPECT THE BINS, THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE NEIGHBOURS.

The secondary pavement to the Hazel Dell site is subject to Spring Road Weight Restrictions (road bans) implemented by Sask Highways and therefore the garbage truck is unable to make their regular scheduled pick-ups during that time. Please consider this when bringing garbage.

When at all possible, it would be best to bring your garbage directly to the landfill near Ketchen to relieve the pressure put on these bins during this time.

PROPERTY ASSESSMENTS

New physical property assessments have been completed. Changes to your property have been outlined in your Assessment Notices.

If you have questions about your assessments please call SAMA 1-800-498-0576. If you wish to make an appeal, please use the form on the back of your assessment notice and send in to the RM office with a cheque of \$100 per appeal. This cheque will be held at the office until your appeal is processed. If your assessment changes, your cheque will be returned to you.

Over-all, the total average of Assessment amounts for the RM has gone down from previous years.

CONTROLLED BURNS & FIRE BANS

Please be reminded, **any fire you start is your responsibility** until it is out. If your fire spreads to other properties you will be responsible for the entire cost of any fire-fighting bills incurred. Please protect yourself from this cost, in two ways:

1. If you are performing a controlled burn, it is your responsibility to call **dispatch for controlled burns at 1-866-404-4911**. This is a free service. Once notified, they will not dispatch a fire truck to your fire unless the same person calls in to 911. If dispatch is not notified of a controlled burn and a member of public calls 911 the local fire dept. has no choice but to respond, and bill accordingly. **Please DO NOT call the fire chief as he cannot over-ride dispatch.**

2. Have adequate firefighting insurance coverage in your policy.

Please take note and confirm if any fire bans are in effect in your area

If a fire ban comes into effect AFTER you have started a fire (controlled or not) it takes precedent and any fire MUST be put out. Fire bans are a serious matter and only put in place if conditions have become extreme.

The RM has passed Bylaw 7-2018 which enforces a fine for starting a fire after a ban has been implemented.