

Elbow Village Office News

Summer 2020

Mayor's Message – The Village of Elbow would like to welcome back our seasonal residents, summer vacationers and wish all who reside and visit our Village a safe and healthy season. The Covid 19 situation has brought about some challenges for the Village, so Summer in Elbow is going to be a bit different this year. We are happy to see that most of our businesses are opening and welcome the new ones. As you all know in order for them to open they have guidelines they have to put in place. These guidelines are for the safety of all people in our Community as well as your own safety, please make sure you follow the guidelines. Practice social distancing, good hand hygiene, stay home and isolate if you are not feeling well and get tested. Our playgrounds and parks are open for everyone's enjoyment but please be aware you are using at your own risk – recommend using hand sanitizer before and after.

There are a lot of people who visit Elbow increasing our foot traffic and have little ones running around. We ask that you watch your speed when driving around and slow down. Our top speed in the town is 40km. We hope everyone stays safe and have a great time in our Village.

Colleen Hoppenreys, Mayor

2020 Tax Notices – The 2020 mill rate and base tax are unchanged from the last two years. The discounted amounts for early payment are noted on the bottom of your tax notice. Council has extended the early payment discount for this year due to the COVID-19 situation. The 5% municipal discount is now available until October 31st, and the November discount amount was increased to 2.5%. If you are paying your taxes before December, ensure you pay the correct discounted amount. Please remember that payments must **REACH** the Village Office by the end of the month in order to receive the respective discount. Also, in order to avoid any penalty charges, payments must **REACH** the Village Office by 5 p.m. December 31, 2020. You may want to consider sending in a post-dated cheque in advance of the deadline in order to ensure you received your discount or avoid penalty charges. Cash or cheque payments are accepted at the Office, etransfers are accepted (see box above), and there is always the option to mail, but keep in mind Canada Post delivery times.

Building Permits – Why do we have to apply for a Building Permit? The answer to this question is covered under *The Uniform Building and Accessibility Standards Act*, Section 4 states: "4(1) Subject to the other provisions of this section, each local authority shall administer and enforce this Act, the regulations and order and decisions of the appeal board pursuant to sections 12 & 18." "Appropriate local authority" means the local authority that has jurisdiction over the geographical area in which a building is or is to be situated. If you are building in the Village of Elbow, the Village of Elbow is the local authority.

Section 7(1) states that: "the owner of each building in Saskatchewan shall ensure that the building is designed, constructed, erected, placed, altered, repaired, renovated, demolished, relocated, removed, used or occupied in accordance with the building standards."

Section 14 allows the local authority to make bylaws with respect to the regulations. These bylaws must be approved by the "Minister" so the bylaws are strictly enforced by the province in how they are written. The permit supplied by the local authority does not authorize any person to construct a building that does not comply with the provision of any other Act or law.

Please contact the Village Office and make application BEFORE beginning any construction or renovation project!

Annual Notice to Consumers – As per Section 44 of *The Water Regulations, 2002*, the Drinking Water Quality and Compliance Report for January 1 – December 31, 2019 is now available to Village ratepayers, at no charge, at the Village Office. A copy is also posted on the Village website (http://elbowsask.com/municipal_services/utilities).

Village Office Hours:

Monday – Friday
9 a.m. – 12 noon, and 1 – 5 p.m.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
on Tuesdays and Fridays

We are always available by phone or email during office hours. The drop slot on the ramp side of the building can be used if you need to drop something off.

Payments can be made online (through PCCU or etransfer), dropped in the drop slot on the ramp side of the building, or by regular mail.

E-transfers – quick and secure, it's another option for making your utility or tax payment. It's very easy to set up through your financial institution – set up the Village of Elbow as a recipient using elbow@sasktel.net as our email address. Just remember to let us know the answer to your security question in a separate email!

Construction Garbage – remember that construction waste is NOT accepted at the Transfer Site. Please make arrangements with the Village Office for a Loraas 6 yard bin.

Transfer Site Hours:
Mondays from 4 – 7 p.m., and
Saturdays from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
(including stat holidays)

Things NOT to put down your sewer: Being aware of what can and cannot be flushed down your drain and toilet will not only help maintain and protect your in-home plumbing, saving you the cost of unnecessary plumbing services. It also helps prevent costly repairs to the Village sewer system and lift stations.

- **Grease, fats and oils** – the trifecta of plumbing woes! They act as a binder for all sorts of materials and create thick, sticky globs that can coat pipes and cause blockages in your line, as well as the Village sewer main causing backups into basements! When it comes to bacon grease, meat fat, and other substances like these, please let them cool and then scrape into your garbage. We have had two separate instances recently – one in a sewer main causing sewer backup into a basement, and one in a sewage lift station.
- **Coffee grounds** – most people assume that coffee grounds are small enough that they won't stick around in your pipes, but that's not the case. In fact, plumbers often say that coffee grounds are one of the most likely sources of a clog in your kitchen pipes. Consider composting them, or throw them in your garbage.
- **Garburator Waste** – garburators are great . . . but ONLY if you use a LOT of water to flush the sludge down the sewer line. The Village has had nothing but trouble with people using garburator's, and we don't recommend them at all.
- **Paper products** – such as disposable wipes, paper towels, napkins and tissues should be thrown in the garbage; not the toilet. Even disposable wipes labelled as "flushable" should be thrown in the garbage as they do not sufficiently break down in wastewater and can cause serious plumbing issues.
- **Petroleum products** – motor oil, fuels, etc. do not go down the sewer! This is extremely dangerous, hazardous, and all kinds of wrong! And it is happening in an area of town as recently discovered in a sewer line clean out. Please dispose of these types of products at a used oil recycling facility, such as Palliser Plains Co-op (Central Butte), Ecocentre (Davidson) or many locations in the cities. Check out www.usedoilrecyclingsk.com for various locations.

Pet Owners – please take note!

The Village Office has been getting a LOT of complaints regarding dogs and cats in the Village. Please be a responsible pet owner.

- Cat owners – not everyone appreciates your cat in their yard and flowerbeds, on their doorsteps/deck, and wanting in their house. Please take measures to keep your cat from roaming.
- Dog owners – please be aware that the Village of Elbow does have a dog bylaw. It is your responsibility to ensure that when your dog is off your property that it is on a leash, and that you pick up after your dog.

Use of Quad's/ATV's in the Village – as per the Highway Traffic Board, the Village has a Bylaw in place where ATV's can be operated on any Village street or alley with the sole purpose of transportation to another location outside of the Village via the shortest permitted route EXCEPT on: a provincial highway, Saskatchewan Street, Railway Avenue from Saskatchewan Street to Princess Street; and on South Elbow Drive. AS WELL, ATV's shall NOT be operated between 11 p.m. - 7 a.m., at a speed greater than 40km/hr on any street or 20 km/hr in any alley; in a manner as to create a nuisance or danger to the health or property of others; and without the operator or passengers wearing a CSA approved helmet. The operator's age and exceptions are covered in *The All Terrain Vehicles Act*.

Golf Carts in the Village – as per the Highway Traffic Board, the Village has a Bylaw in place where golf carts CAN be operated in the Village – but only for the sole purpose of transportation to and from the golf course by the direct shortest distance between the golf course and where the golf cart is stored. The golf cart is to carry a slow-moving warning device at the rear. No one shall operate a golf cart without a valid driver's license. All personal and public liability is the responsibility of the operator of the golf cart.

Urgent Messages – the fastest way to get urgent messages out to our community is through social media. The Village of Elbow has a Facebook page; if you haven't "liked" it yet, please do! We also post emergencies, such as drinking water advisories, through the SaskAlert system; so download that app if you don't already have it on your phone. For those of you that see these messages, consider reaching out to your family/neighbours who maybe won't see them. We do recognize that not everyone in our community is on Facebook so we would like to collect a list of phone numbers and/or email addresses from you. With so many without landlines now, we often don't have the numbers we need, and people change their email addresses without letting us know. Please call Claudia at 306-854-2277 or email her elbow2@sasktel.net to make sure we have your up-to-date information on file. As you can imagine, making 300+ phone calls to alert people would take a very long time; utilizing social media and SaskAlert gets the message out to the community so much faster!



Have a great, safe summer!