# **RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF LEROY NO. 339**

Open Vision .....Strong Future

July 2021 Newsletter

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# Staffing

The RM would like to extend appreciation to Wendy Gowda for her years of dedicated service as the Administrator of the RM of LeRoy. Wendy's knowledge and experience will be missed by employees and Council. Best wishes on your retirement Wendy!!

Welcome to Administrator Donna Tymiak. Donna and Harvey come from Big River where Donna was the RM Administrator for over twenty years. Welcome to the community!

#### **Updated Municipal Maps**

Municipal maps will be updated with the 2021 Revaluation Assessments. Complimentary RM maps (one per RM household) can be picked up at the RM Office later this year.

# Secure All Loads in the RM of LeRoy

The RM of LeRoy No. 339 implemented a tarping bylaw that all loads require tarps to prevent the spread of noxious weeds. Dumping on roads is prohibited. A fine of up to \$5,000.00 will be implemented to any individual charged and convicted of dumping grain on municipal roads or rights-of-way. The bylaw includes provision for volunteer payments in lieu of charges.

Additionally, a littering fine and surcharges can be imposed on untarped loads hauling to the REACT site. At all times, loads must be tarped!

# Weed, Pest & Nuisance Control

Tenie Longmuir is appointed Pest Control Officer for the municipality under the authority of The Pest Control Act, and will be making annual inspections in due course. Ratepayers are requested to be diligent in inspection and baiting. Please contact the RM office if Pest Control Services are required.

Bryce Moore is appointed Weed Inspector for the municipality under the authority of *The Weed Control Act*. Please refer concerns about noxious weeds to the RM office for inspection.

#### What's New

Road construction projects for 2021 include clay capping 8 miles on Rge Rd 2210/2205 between Twp 340 and 352, also known as Road 667 or Park Road South.

The Ministry of Highways has taken ownership of Twp Rd 352 from the Town of LeRoy to LeRoy Leisureland Park, Road 761, with plans for resurfacing in 2021.

Equipment additions include a 2001 Cat Compactor, 2021 Fendt 512 Tractor with loader and a 2500 Schulte Rock-Picker.



Operator Jacob Jensen & the 2020 Grader in LeRoy's Canada Day Parade

# **Property Tax Information**

Property taxes are due on or before Dec 31, 2021. Arrears remaining unpaid after this will be charged 1% penalty per month. When remitting your taxes, please ensure you are paying the appropriate discounted amount (if applicable) and quote your customer number/numbers on your cheques. This number can be found on the top right had corner of the tax notice following your name.

Please ensure the municipality has your correct mailing address, along with email address and cell phone number. All information is confidential and is used only to correspond with property owners.

#### **Payment Options**

Property tax payments can be paid by cheque, cash or electronically. For electronic details please contact your financial institution and contact the RM office for your tax account identification number.

#### STARS®

The RM of LeRoy has been a proud supporter of STARS® since 2012, donating \$30,000. STARS® is a charitable, non-profit organization that relies on donations for operations. STARS® offers time, hope and life-saving transportation to critically ill and injured patients. STAR Saskatchewan has bases in Regina and Saskatoon. For more information, check out their website www.stars.ca.

#### **Grain Bag Disposal**

At times grain bags have been left unattended, resulting in shredded or ripped portions of the grain bags blowing and contributing to a nuisance and untidy appearance for adjacent landowners and the travelling public, besides being a host for pest infestations. Producers are reminded to voluntarily clean up discarded grain bags. For additional information respecting grain bag recycling, please refer to the Clean Farms website link: <a href="http://cleanfarms.ca/programs/grain-bag-recycling-">http://cleanfarms.ca/programs/grain-bag-recycling-</a>

<u>sk/collection-sites/</u>. Environmental Protection Orders may be issued, with potential charges and prosecution for noncompliance.

# What to Expect – Living in the Country?

The RM of LeRoy is an agricultural area with most of the land used for growing crops and feeding livestock. Country life is very different from city life. What to expect if you are thinking of purchasing rural land or living in the municipality:

- Farmers often work around the clock, their work can be noisy and may disturb your peace and quiet
- Dust farming operations and traveling over gravel roads will cause dust, especially during dry and windy conditions
- Noxious weeds land owners are responsible for the control of noxious weeds on their property
- Some municipal roads are not maintained year round
- In extreme weather roads may become impassable
- Gravel roads the speed limit is 80 km/hr (unless otherwise posted) – are dusty – are not always smooth – are often slippery when wet – can be muddy during the spring thaw – may contain potholes and washboard areas
- Garbage pick-up is not available the REACT Transfer Station is available to ratepayers – tipping fees apply

## **Hay Salvaging and Snow Plowing**

Hay salvaging along municipal roads is permitted until July 15<sup>th</sup>, however bales must be removed by August 15<sup>th</sup>, or the RM will have the bales removed.

Ratepayers are reminded to avoid pushing snow across municipal roadways. Moved snow piles can be hazardous for motor vehicle traffic as well as RM employees plowing roads.

## **Driving Safety on RM Roadways**

Every year accidents occur on Saskatchewan roadways involving equipment and vehicles that results in serious injury or fatalities. Many of these incidents are the result of individuals being struck or crushed by equipment. Recognizing these statistics, the RM would like to communicate how important it is for every driver on our roadways to adhere to safe operation of motor vehicles, especially around graders as these vehicles are on the roadways every day.

The RM has a large network of roads that can present challenges, including sight distances that may be shorter than normal, reduced or no shoulders, sharp curves, and many T- intersections, all alongside graders working on these roadways. Maximum speed limits are to be adhered to at all times and should be regarded as maximums under ideal conditions.

#### **UNDERSTANDING COLLISIONS**

Two thirds of total collisions are related to a driver condition or improper action such as following too closely to equipment, failing to yield to heavy machinery, driving too fast for road conditions and changing lanes or passing improperly.

#### STATS

Approximately 90% of all collisions in rural Saskatchewan are single vehicle collisions.

Wearing a seatbelt can reduce your chances of being killed in or seriously injured in a collision by as much as 50%

#### SAFE DRIVING TECHNIQUES AND TIPS AROUND GRADERS

Allow enough space between your vehicle and all municipal equipment such as graders, tractors, heavy trucks and sanding units to avoid incident.

Windrows created by graders may contain loose stones and rocks. Please try to avoid driving over or on top of windrowed material, as this may result in personal or vehicular damage.

Reduced visibility may occur in proximity to equipment, along with ice, small stones, road dust and sand being thrown from equipment.

When travelling near or behind a grader please reduce speed to 60 km/hour or lower, yield to machinery, stay back at least 15 meters and use patience. A little extra care and time can save lives and damage to your personal property.

Let's all do our part to make our municipal roads safer! Remember to "Share the Road" and "Think and Drive".

#### **Insurance Coverage**

It is the responsibility of the RM to provide Fire Protection Services, however; the property owner is responsible for all fire-fighting costs. Review your insurance to determine whether your coverage is adequate. Firefighting costs can be very costly. Talk with your insurance company to ensure you have adequate coverage.

#### **Controlled Burns**

Report all controlled burns to 1-866-404-4911 prior to burning.