July 2023 - Newsletter News from the Municipality of Markstay-Warren



Feature of the Month - July 2023

Please be safe when having fun during the summer months. Please enjoy all the festivities that summer provides.

Due to the Holidays, the Landfill site will be open on Saturday, July 1st, Tuesday July 4th, and Wednesday, July 5th. It'll be closed on Monday, July 3rd.





Reminders

The Office will be closed on Monday, July 3rd due to Canada Day.

You can pick up a hard copy of the newsletter at the following locations; Bertrand's Store, Markstay Library, Warren Library, Health Unit, Rustic Cafe, Kukagami Jack, Hagar General Store, St-Charles Foodtown, and at the Seniors club.



The August's newsletter's deadline for articles and ads is Wednesday, July 19th, 2023.

Birthday, Anniversaries and Thank You's

If you have someone you want to wish a Happy Birthday, please send an email to <u>cdc@markstay-warren.ca</u> with the date and the name.

New Councillors

Congratulations to our new Councillors, Laura Schell and Maurice Turcot!

Municipal News - July 2023

Public Notices

Homeowners beware of scams and remember, if it sounds too good to be true, it most likely is.

From North Bay Public Works Department

We have had an interesting situation come up in North Bay (NB) and we wanted to make sure everyone is aware so you can watch out for it in your municipalities too. An asphalt company from southern Ontario (register in Etobicoke) called "Approved Contractors" have been paving driveways for the last couple days in (NB). In NB we have processes in place when work on CNB right of ways takes place (including staging/parking vehicles or equipment), the contractor will require a Street Work Permit and when altering/grading a driveway, a Private Approach Permit is



required. This is what caught our attention as "Approved Contractors" had neither and have completed roughly 12 driveways to our knowledge.

The plot thickened after we spoke to a couple homeowners and found out they had no PPE, drank on the job and all work was done by a crew of 18 (that's right, 18) workers. They are foreign workers. We notified the MOL.

It got even more interesting when the MOL ran their name, and we were not surprised to hear their WSIB was not current, and it was also noted on their file they were running a black-market company as all their work was done with cash. There were numerous prior reports, and it was obvious this was not the first time they were being investigated.

Yesterday, the MOL, City By-Law, Public Works and NB Police met with the crew and of all the workers, it is my understanding only one person could produce a license. It is also my understanding that there were no work visas in hand for the foreign workers either.

Their approach appears to be using illegal workforce to complete quick, shotty work and move to the next town. Unfortunately, the homeowners think they are getting good value (one homeowner said it was half the price of Miller and Pioneer's quote from the year before), but seeing how the driveways were finished, they will fail in just a couple years as there is large voids in the surface and the homeowner will be left to absorb more cost to repair again.

I am open to a competitive market and yes sometimes contractors from out of town will get some work before local contractors. It happens. However, I am very concerned when a company like this will completely disregard a Municipalities by-laws, policies and processes while not being compliant with Provincial regulations and laws, exploit foreign workers in addition to taking advantage of hard working local residents.

As I mentioned above, I am just making you aware of what had taken place and perhaps you may want to watch out for them yourselves.

Food Cycler Program Registration Form

We now have a registration form that you can fill out for the FoodCycler program. You can fill out the form here, FoodCycler Form.

The cost for the smaller unit is \$125.00, and \$200.00 for the bigger unit. To view more information on the FoodCycler, visit their website here, FoodCycler Website.

Building Inspector Information

If you would like to purchase building permits, or have any questions about your property, you can contact our Building Inspector, Paul Holland. You can contact him by email at cbo@markstay-warren.ca, by phone at 705-853-4536 ext. 209, or by visiting the Municipal Office on Monday, Tuesdays, or Wednesdays from 8:30am to 4:00pm.

Community Articles - July 2023

Protect yourself from the effects of wildfire smoke

Public Health would like to remind residents of the health effects of <u>forest fire (wildfire) smoke</u> and how to protect yourself.

Smoke from wildfires is a mixture of gases and fine particles from burning trees and plant materials. The smoke releases many contaminants into the air, such as fine particulate matter, nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide, and volatile organic compounds.

Low levels of wildfire smoke can impact your health. Milder symptoms of smoke exposure include mild cough, headache, and eye, nose, and throat irritation. These symptoms can typically be managed without medical intervention. More serious symptoms include dizziness,



chest pains, irregular heartbeat, severe cough, shortness of breath, wheezing, and asthma attacks.

To reduce your risk of experiencing symptoms:

- Avoid outdoor physical exertion. Stop, reduce, or reschedule strenuous outdoor activities.
- Keep airways moist by drinking plenty of water. Breathe through a warm, moist washcloth to help relieve dryness.
- Visit places with cleaner, filtered air, such as libraries or shopping malls.
- If the temperature is comfortable, keep windows closed indoors and in vehicles. Use the recirculation setting on air conditioners and HVAC systems to prevent smoke from entering. Once the outdoor air has improved, adjust the setting to bring in fresh air.
- Follow your health care provider's advice about managing your condition.
- People who have asthma should follow their asthma management plan.

The answers to the previous newsletter's What Am I game.

#1 - Lightning #2 - Wave #3 - Bridge #4 - Tree #5 - A Bank

Community Article - July 2023 - PTSD Awareness

Members of the Markstay-Warren Fire Department participated in the PTSD Awareness Day Walk held in Sudbury on June 27th.

Thank you to our dedicated volunteers!



Community Article - July 2023 - Thank you

The Markstay Golden Age Club is very happy that the students from Markstay Public School came over to paint the community garden boxes! They did a fantastic job! Thank you to everyone involved, especially the budding artists!







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