

MISTUSINNE COUNCIL UPDATE #31 – JULY, 2014

1. OUR 8th ANNUAL TREE PLANTERS BEE

In 2007 we planted our first batch of 2,400 trees. Last year we achieved a milestone with a total of more than 10,000 new trees planted in our village. This spring, a cadre of diligent volunteers showed up for our 8th annual work bee. This work bee focused on two areas:

- The **reclaiming of the old stump area between the Sask Tel Building and the Maintenance Building.**
- The addition of a couple of **plantations in the center of Sakuhikan Crescent.**



2. THE 20 TREE BEDS AT OUR VILLAGE ENTRANCE

Last fall dozens of volunteers turned out to plant flowering shrubs and apply mulch to the 20 tree beds located at the village entrance along Mistusinne Street. These flowering shrubs and the semi-load of mulch were purchased with the \$5,000 grant awarded to our Friends of Trees.

While the new trees are doing well, unfortunately so are the weeds and grasses coming up through the mulch. So here's the plan for remedying the situation:

- Ensure that the **beds are thoroughly watered down** (either from recent rains, or by thorough watering with the village truck on the day before weeding).
- 2nd Organize a team of **volunteers to pull the grasses and weeds,**
- 3rd Possible later application of **additional mulch to the beds.**

Please join us for a **WEEDING BEE** from 9:00 to 11:00 am on **SATURDAY, JULY 19th** (morning before the Wyatt concert).

We will gather at the first bed near the entrance to the Village. Bring your gardening gloves. Cold drinks and munchies will be served. Let's all help to repair these beds of flowering shrubs!

3. THE FLOWER BED IN FRONT OF THE VILLAGE OFFICE

Plans are also underway to do some work on the flower bed at the front of the office. We are seeking **volunteers who will meet later in the summer** to plan for the removal of many of the daisies and to plan for the addition of other perennials. See page 4 to volunteer.



4. OUR 7th ANNUAL FAMILY FUN DAY ON CANADA DAY

Our annual Family Fun Day began with our usual parade of kids on bikes and golf-cart floats, led by the local constable around Sakuhikan Crescent.



Lots of spectators turned out to enjoy the kids' enthusiasm.

Then it was off to the Gathering Place to decorate cupcakes, make crafts, and have our faces painted.



Then came the call for the races, with the 3-legged races, the sack races, and water balloon tosses.



Our young musicians entertained us during a yummy barbeque lunch.



5. REMINDERS FROM JANICE

- Your **tax notices are enclosed**. There has been no increase in the mill rate over last year's rate.
- The deadline to trim Elm trees has passed. Please **do not trim any Elm trees**. If you are trimming trees on your property and you have no use for them, please contact the maintenance department (306-854-2068). We will chip the branches up and use the chips on the new tree seedlings.
- **Grass clippings and leaves also make a great mulch for the trees**. You can put the clippings on the black plastic that surrounds some of the earlier plantings and it will help deteriorate that plastic. Remember to give the tree breathing space when placing the clippings around the trunk; please do not place the clippings tight around the base of the tree.
- Please do your part to help **preserve our shallow rooted natural grass** around the village. Please do not drive on the green spaces with vehicles, licensed or non-licensed. Even though we do not currently have a bylaw specifically prohibiting golf carts on the green space, they also make paths on the green space and wear out the grass. We are asking for your cooperation to help preserve our grass by using the roads. Please ensure that your children and your grandchildren are safe and that they know the rules.
- FYI: The **Trans Canada Trail is not intended for motorized vehicles of any sort**. According to the website, the Trans Canada Trail was created for hiking, bicycling, walking, and skiing.
- **Get your tickets for the WYATT concert** - to be held **July 19, at 7:30 pm at the Gathering Place** near the Maintenance building. Tickets are available at the Mistusinne Village Office.
 - This is a family friendly event. Come have a glass of wine, listen to some great music and help support the playground. For more information contact the Village Office.
 - This a great way to relax after the tree weeding bee early in the morning!
- Get your teams registered for the upcoming **Family Fun Golf Tournament on August 9th**. You can register yourself or your team by contacting Janice at the Mistusinne Office at 306-854-4637. For more information contact Patricia Carey at carpat@sasktel.net (955-0214 or 260-9210). The cost is \$10 per person or \$40.00 per team. All proceeds go to the Elbow First Responders and the Elbow Fire Department.
- The irrigation system provides unfiltered NON-POTABLE water direct from the lake and intended for irrigation use ONLY. **The Department of Public Health forbids any household use or consumption of this water**.
 - Also, please note that the irrigation system is designed for the occasional shut down as a safeguard against certain circumstances. These brief episodes will be dealt with in a timely manner during regular working hours. Because this water is meant for irrigation purposes, occasional brief interruptions will not be treated as an after-hours emergency!

At the playground:

- **Check out the new sign.**
- **The new slide is ready for installation; we are awaiting the rubber pellets to go beneath the slide (backordered).**

A MESSAGE FROM MAYOR SAAS

As some of you will be aware, this spring my husband suffered a massive stroke that has left him a hemiplegic. As a consequence, this summer will be the first in 8 years that he and I will not have been involved in the tree planting, in the Family Fun event on Canada Day, in the playground initiative or in the fun golf tournament.

I have been pleased, however, to note that most of the old volunteers continue to turn out to make these events their usual success. (I use the word old to mean either experienced or to mean senior, and many of our volunteers are both.). Many of these **same volunteers turn up every summer to make these events a success**. Many of them are grandpas and grandmas, happy to build our community for the future enjoyment of their grandchildren.

On the front page we mention the need for help with our flower bed in front of the office. Our usual flower bed coordinator is a grandma with her arm in a sling, recovering from surgery.

This week, one of our most dedicated volunteers, a grandpa who was helping to move the swim buoys into the lake, suffered a fall onto the cement boat launch and was taken to hospital in Saskatoon via the STARS helicopter. We understand that he is recovering – but I ponder how much longer our seniors can continue to serve in these volunteer roles. And I wonder why we have a beach committee with only one or two volunteers.

Do your kids or grand-kids enjoy the swim platforms at our 3 beaches?

Then perhaps you could volunteer to help the **Beach Committee** that puts this equipment into the lake in the summer and removes it in the fall.

Do you have a green thumb?

Then perhaps you could volunteer to help with the **flower bed in front of the Village Office**.

Did your kids or grand-kids enjoy the Family Fun Day on July 1st?

Then perhaps you could volunteer to help the **Canada Day Committee** cook burgers, or paint faces, or put up decorations.

Do your kids or grand-kids enjoy the Mistusinne playground?

Then perhaps you could volunteer to help the **Playground Committee** with their annual fund raisers such as the Wyatt Concert.

Do you appreciate the new trees that are replacing our ageing forest?

Then perhaps you could volunteer to help the **Friends of Trees** with planting or weeding?

Do you enjoy golfing in our annual Family Fun Golf Tournament?

Then perhaps you could volunteer to help the Tournament Committee to collect prizes, set up for the tournament or sell tickets?

Our Resort Village is a fun place for families and visitors. Our Village needs an infusion of new volunteers to help our committees.

To join a committee, just give your contact information to Janice

- Email mistusinne@sasktel.net or
- Phone 306-854-4637 and leave a message.

Janice will notify the appropriate committee chair and you will get a call.

We need your help and it will be much appreciated.

