

STARLAND **COUNTY** **LINE**

FALL/WINTER 2024

Starland County Office

217 Railway Ave North
PO Box 249 Morrin, AB
Canada T0J 2B0
ph. 403-772-3793
info@starlandcounty.com

Division 1

Mark Landry
Division 1 Councillor
p. 403-821-0168
mlandry@starlandcounty.com

Division 2

Steve Wannstrom - Reeve
Division 2 Councillor
p. 403-823-7361
swannstrom@starlandcounty.com

Division 3

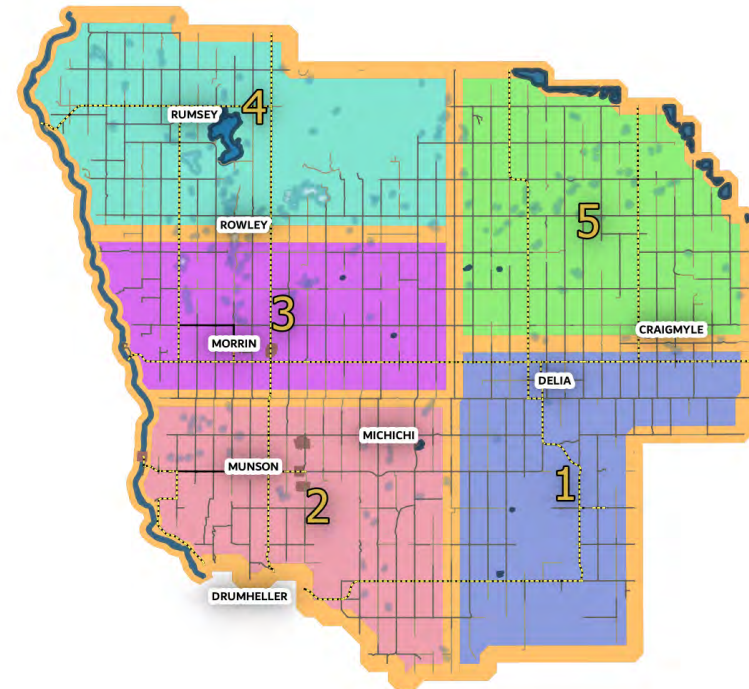
Bob Sargent - Deputy Reeve
Division 3 Councillor
ph. 403-820-1509
bsargent@starlandcounty.com

Division 4

Jackie Watts
Division 4 Councillor
C: (403) 820-5451
jwatts@starlandcounty.com

Division 5

John Rew
Division 5 Councillor
C: (403) 820-0320
jrew@starlandcounty.com



STARLAND COUNTY COUNCIL

Left to Right

Division 3
Bob Sargent

Division 5
John Rew

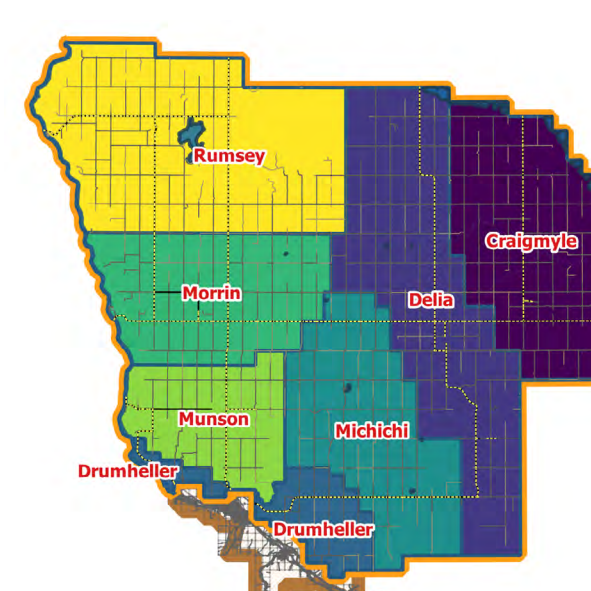
Division 4
Jackie Watts

Division 1
Mark Landry

Division 2
Steve Wannstrom



FIRE SERVICE REGION MAP



Delia 403-820-4074	Morrin 403-820-0204	Munson 403-820-2355
Rumsey 403-334-4640	Craigmyle 403-854-6508	Michichi 403-820-4174

Emergency Contacts

In the case of a major emergency or disaster event this page will contain important contact information. For Starland County's 24/7 Emergency line please call 1-403-772-3793. If calling outside business hours please wait for the answering service.



Fire & Emergency Services

Starland Regional Fire Services includes 6 departments manned by 106 volunteer firefighters serving our communities.



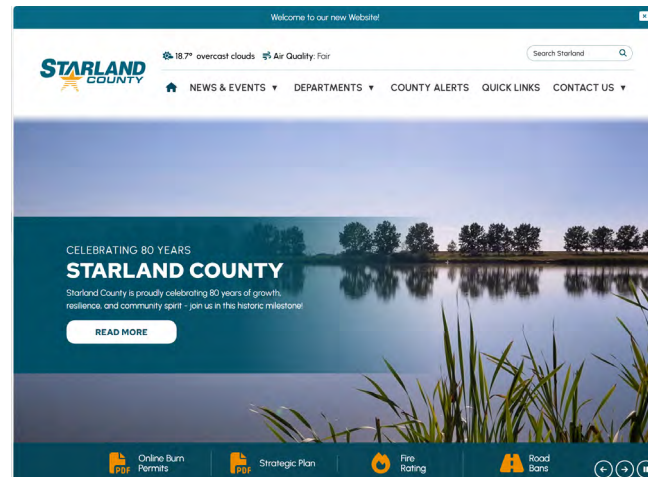
Electronic Burn Permit Application

Fire permits can be obtained free of charge by applying online or at the County office. Electronic Burn Permits are now live at <https://starlandcounty.ca/status/burn>. Under the old system a user needed to physically come to our office, wait for an available staff person, and then fill out a permit application. This was a time-consuming process. Under the new system, a user logs into our system and points out on a map where they want to burn. They then enter a brief description of what they are burning and agree to any conditions regarding the burn. Once submitted, staff will be alerted of the pending application and the user is notified immediately upon any status changes of the permit. The location of all approved burn permits will be publicly available on the County website. This will assist fire chiefs and neighbours and hopefully reduce the number of false alarms. If a

fire ban or another restriction is added, all active burn permit holders will immediately be emailed to let them know of the change of status reducing considerable administrative overhead. A fire permit is valid only for the period for which it is issued. Fire permits are issued for a maximum of ten days. You can re-apply if required. By obtaining a fire permit you have simply indicated that you wish to burn. You must follow the conditions set out on the fire permit. Fires must be lit when weather conditions are favourable. Do not start to burn under windy and gusty conditions. Fires must be monitored and kept from spreading to adjacent properties. Adequate fire guards shall be in place prior to any burn. Burns shall be done in compliance with the guidelines set forth under Bylaw #1173 and the guidelines set by the Forest & Prairie Protection Act.



NEW WEBSITE LAUNCHED!



Explore the Features of Starland County's New Website

Starland County's new website is a comprehensive resource designed to serve the needs of its residents and visitors. Here's a detailed look at the various features and services available:

Home Page

The home page provides quick access to important updates, such as fire advisories and other county alerts. It also highlights key services and information, ensuring that visitors can easily find what they need.

Department Pages

1. [Agricultural Service Board](#): Support for local farmers, including resources and programs to enhance agricultural productivity.
2. [Council and Governance](#): Information about the county's councillors, council minutes, history, bylaws, and policies.
3. [Corporate Services](#): Details on bill payments, job opportunities, tender opportunities, and financial information. Information on property assessments, tax payment plans, and how to appeal assessments.
4. [Development Office](#): All you need to know about developing property in Starland

County. This is where you come to find out about building permits, municipal addressing and the bylaws that cover development in the County.

5. [Economic Development](#): Projects and information aimed at fostering economic growth within Starland County.
6. [Emergency Services and Enforcement](#): Emergency information and notifications Critical information for residents in case of major emergencies or disasters. Enforcement, Fire, Disaster, and EMS Services dedicated to protecting the residents of Starland County.
7. [Community Services](#): Resources and support for families and individuals living in the county.
8. [Public Works](#): Roads and Infrastructure Maintenance, updates on county infrastructure and maintenance programs.
9. [Utilities](#): Information on water, sewage, and waste disposal services.

Visiting Starland County

This section provides information to help visitors explore and enjoy the county's camping sites and attractions.

Additional Resources

September 2024						
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	1	2	3	4	5	6

Community Calendar: **Calling all Community Groups!** Our new Community Calendar is a fantastic

resource for non-profit groups that benefit our residents. We can post your events complete with pictures (even video) and a map of your location. All events can be easily shared to social media from within the calendar listing. Please send events to info@starlandcounty.com

Development **Permits:** Information on whether you need a development permit and how to obtain one.

Property Tax: Understanding your property tax and key dates for payments.

Strategic Plan: The county's strategic plan for 2021-2031, outlining goals and initiatives for the future.

Starland County's website is a valuable tool for residents and visitors alike, offering a wealth of information and resources to support the community.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Share Your Events with Starland County

Submissions Now Open!

Send your community event details to info@starlandcounty.com
Please title the subject line: "Community Calendar"
*Design assistance available for all Starland County non-profit community groups.



Dear Ratepayers,

I'm pleased to share an update on the progress we've made across the county this last 12 months. With your support and patience, we've achieved several important milestones aimed at enhancing our community's infrastructure, environment, and recreational spaces.

One of our key focuses has been on our business park, where we recently received approval for a new water line connection that will service the park—a major step toward diversifying our tax base and growing our community. Additionally, we've finalized a Historical Impact and Resource Assessment (HIRA) as well as assessments on our local water bodies. These studies are requirements of new developments and unfortunately, even though an area may have been dry for the past 10 years, is not something we can avoid.

We've also been working on updating the preliminary Area Structure Plan (ASP) for future development, and we're excited to announce that we'll soon be sharing dates for public engagement sessions. We highly encourage you to attend these sessions, as they are your opportunity to provide valuable input on our plans.

Ensuring a reliable water supply has been one of my top priorities, and we've been actively upgrading our water infrastructure across the county to meet this. This includes essential repairs and replacements at our plants, pumps, and for our panels. Recently, we carried out an extensive update to the system in Rumsey, and I would like to extend our appreciation to the residents for their patience during the downtime. These upgrades are crucial for delivering a stable and improved water supply for all.

This year we also completed another bridge project using internal resources, resulting in significant cost savings for the county. Like the other bridges in our County this bridge culvert was in desperate need of a replacement. This bridge culvert was called the Herzog Bridge Culvert and was located between Highway 851 and 18-0 on TWP RD 32-2.

Maintaining our landscapes and controlling invasive weeds remain ongoing priorities. Our mowing and weed control efforts were notably successful this season, with additional support from the Government of Alberta, which approved several extra sites for treatment. This not only helps keep our county looking well-kept but also preserves our native plant life and reduces invasive species.

Finally, I'm thrilled to share that it's looking promising for a new restroom facility by the Starland Recreation boat launch. Many of you may have already noticed the new restroom facilities at the Starland Recreation Campground, and we hope you're pleased with these additions. The bathroom by the boat launch will be a bit different from those found in the

campground, but still available to the public. To go along with community services, you'll likely have noticed new cemetery gates in Morrin, a new road in Morrin cemetery and a new columbarium in Craigmyle. If you have questions what Community Services has been up to we always welcome engagement from ratepayers.

Thank you all for your ongoing support and feedback on these projects. Each step we take aims to improve the quality of life in our county, and your patience and feedback are invaluable to us. Please keep an eye out for announcements regarding the upcoming public engagement dates, as we look forward to hearing from you on our Area Structure Plan and other initiatives. A very warm thank you and Seasons Greetings from all of us here at Starland County.



Christopher Robblee
CAO, Starland County

A belated "Welcome to our Team" for Serena Michie, Legislative Coordinator

Serena was raised on a grain farm between Rumsey and Rowley, and has finally returned home after spending a number of years in Calgary. During her time away, she earned a Bachelor of Commerce and a Bachelor of Arts in Spanish at the University of Calgary. She has a number of diverse professional experiences which include an internship at AFSC and a role as a Trip Prep Specialist at Backroads (a luxury tour company in Canmore). Most recently, she



was an Administrative Summer Student at Starland County.

Serena is happy to be back at Starland full-time, and even happier to be back in the community where she grew up. She loves visiting friends and family with her fiancé, playing music with her dad, and traveling places where she can put her Spanish degree to good use in her spare time. If you see her at the office, make sure to say "Hola!"

COMMUNITY APPRECIATION

Division 1, Mark Landry

Councillor Mark Landry donated \$500 to the 18-2 Volleyball Camp. There were 33 kids in this year's volleyball camp. Between this and other camps 18-2 puts on they have hosted over 200 kids from the county and surrounding area.



Division 2, Steve Wannstrom

Reeve Steve Wannstrom, had the honor of presenting Terra Adams of the *Munson & Area Community Association* with a generous donation of \$500. This contribution will bolster the upcoming Ladies Night fundraiser, slated for April 26th.



Division 3, Bob Sargent

Councillor Bob Sargent donated \$500 to the Morrin & District Agricultural Society, to help with repairs to the Zamboni room at the Morrin Arena. The Agricultural Society currently has 12 members and they're always looking for more!



Division 4, Jackie Watts

This year the recipient for the Community Division 4 Donation is the *Rowley Community Association*. They will be purchasing and making improvements to the benches outside of the iconic Sam's Saloon and Rowley Store. The cheque was presented to President Kelly Franciotti.

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE		
	Description	Fee
Aerial Photos		
	Landowners	No Fee
	Others: 11" x 17" (per property)	\$1.00 each
	Others: 22" x 34" on the plotter (per property)	\$10.00 each
Assessment Appeal Fees		
	Assessment Appeal Fee for Farmland and Residential (Refundable if Successful or Withdrawn Prior to Hearing)	\$50.00 per tax roll *GST Exempt
	Assessment Appeal Fee for Non-Residential (Refundable if Successful or Withdrawn Prior to Hearing)	\$650.00 per tax roll *GST Exempt
Assessment Roll Report		
	Assessment Roll Report of Individual's Assessment	Free to Landowner
	Complete Assessment Roll Report	\$100.00
Assessment Sheets		
	Assessment Summary or Detail Sheets	Free to Landowner
	Assessment Summary or Detail Sheets for Others i.e., ADC, Farm Credit, Banks, Mortgage Companies, Real Estate Firms	\$15.00 per parcel
Caveat & Caveat Discharge Fees		
	Caveat & Caveat Discharge Fees	As per Land Titles Fee
Fax Charges		
	Local (per page)	Free
	Long Distance (per page)	\$3.00 per page
NSF Returned Cheque Fee		
	NSF Returned Cheque	\$35.00 per cheque
Photocopies		
	Letter or legal sized (per copy)	\$0.25 each page
	Oversized (per copy)	\$0.30 each page
	Community Groups within Starland County	Free
Plotter (Scanned or Printed Copies)		
	36" wide x per inch in length	\$0.50 per inch
Starland County Maps		
	Large Wall Map	\$20.00 each
	Map Book	\$15.00 each
	Digital Landownership Map	Free
	Mailing Fee (Envelope Mailed)	\$5.00
	Mailing Fee (Rolled and Mailed)	\$22.00
Starland County Mementos & Swag		
	Hats, shirts, blankets, water/coffee cups, etc.	Cost + 20%
Tax Certificates		

	Tax Certificate	\$20.00 per roll number *GST Exempt
Tax Levy History Report		
	Tax Levy History Report	Free to Landowner
	Tax Levy History Report for Others (Lawyers, etc.)	\$25.00 per parcel
Tax Notification Fees		
	Tax Notification Registration (Plus Land Titles Fees)	\$50.00 per parcel + Land Title Fees *GST Exempt
	Tax Recovery Initiation Process (Including notifications, re- quired letters to be sent, etc.)	\$50.00 per parcel
	Tax Recovery Additional Fees (Appraisals on the property, etc.)	As per cost incurred
OPERATIONS		
	Description	Fee
Approaches		
	Residential/Farm	No Fee
Dust Suppression/Control		
	As per Policy 320-15 (Updated Annually)	
Pipeline Crossing Application		
	Industrial / Commercial	\$200.00
PARKS & RECREATION Please note all campgrounds are open from May 1st to Oct 1st weather permitting		
	Description	Fee
McLaren Dam Recreation Area		
	Unserviced Sites	\$25.00/night/unit
	Serviced Sites (On-line booking only)	\$35.00/night/unit
Michichi Dam Recreation Area		
	Unserviced Sites	\$25.00/night/unit
	Serviced Sites (On-line booking only)	\$35.00/night/unit
	Seasonal Sites	\$2,200.00 per season
Starland Recreation Area		
	Unserviced Sites	\$25.00/night/unit
Tolman Bridge Campground (East & West Sides) (aka Dry Island Buffalo Jump)		
	Unserviced Sites	\$25.00/night/site
	Group Site (East Campground) (On-line booking only)	\$165.00/night/Max.5 Units
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT		
	Description	Fee
1.	Development Permit Applications:	
	Home Occupation Permit	\$75.00
	Single Family Residence	\$100.00
	Duplex/Semi-Detached Dwelling	\$150.00

	Additions to Dwellings	\$75.00
	Ancillary Buildings	\$100.00
	All Other Developments	\$50 for the first \$1,000 of cost + \$10 for each additional \$1,000 of cost (Maximum Fee \$2,500)
	Commercial or Industrial Application < \$500,000	\$500.00
	Commercial or Industrial Application \$500,000 - \$2 M	\$1,000.00
	Commercial or Industrial Application \$2 M - \$5 M	\$2,000.00
	Commercial or Industrial Application > \$5 M	\$4,000.00
2.	Redesignation/Rezoning Land Use Bylaw	
	Redesignation/Rezoning Land Use Bylaw Application	\$500.00
3.	Development Agreement	
	Single Parcel	\$200.00
	Multiple Parcel (minimum) (or actual legal fees paid by the County)	\$5000.00
4.	Application Penalty	
	If the applicant commences construction of a development prior to obtaining the necessary permit, a 100% penalty will be applied to the above noted fees.	100% Penalty
5.	Certificate of Compliance Fees	
	Compliance Certificate	\$200.00 each
	Rush Service - Within 2 days	\$400.00 each
6.	Land Use Bylaw (*Free On-Line)	
	Printed copy of the Land Use Bylaw	\$25.00
7.	Municipal Development Plan (*Free On-Line)	
	Printed copy of the Municipal Development Plan	\$15.00
8.	Subdivision & Development Appeal Fees:	
	Appeals submitted by adjacent landowner on development up to \$1M (Refundable if Successful or Withdrawn Prior to Hearing)	\$300.00 each
	Appeals submitted by adjacent landowner on development over \$1M (Refundable if Successful or Withdrawn Prior to Hearing)	\$600.00 each
	Development appeal submitted by applicant/developer (Refundable if Successful or Withdrawn Prior to Hearing)	\$300.00 each
	Remuneration for SDAB Board Members & Secretary - Meeting Rates, Travelling Expenses, Living expenses	*As per Annual Organizational Meeting Rates Set for Committee Members
	Meeting Room Fees: County Office Council Chambers Rental of Community Hall	No Charge Fee as Set by Community Group
9.	Rural Address Sign	
	Initial Sign for Residence	No Charge
	Sign for Other or Replacement Sign	TBD

10.	Road Closure Request Application	\$1000.00 each
PROTECTIVE SERVICES		
	Description	Fee
Animal Control (Within the Hamlets of Craigmyle, Michichi, Rowley & Rumsey) (See Animal Control Bylaw for further fees and violation fines)		
	Dog License for each neutered dog	\$20.00 each
	Dog License for each unaltered dog	\$30.00 each
	Replacement License Tag Fee	\$10.00 each
Burn Permit		
	Burn Permit Required From March 1 st to October 31 st	No Fee
Fire Service Fees		
	Fire Calls for Out of Area Residents	\$300.00/hr. for 1st hour for each unit responding \$100.00/hr. each additional hour
CEMETERIES		
	Description	Fee
Purchase of Cemetery Plots in All County Cemeteries		
	Purchase of Plot	\$100.00 per plot +GST
Purchase of Columbarium Niche		
	Purchase of Niche and Plaque	\$1,300.00 per niche +GST
Purchase of Memorial Wall Plaque		
	Purchase of Plaque for Memorial Wall	\$300.00 per plaque +GST
Grave Site Preparation		
	Full Service (Grave site prep and backfilling) <i>During regular weekdays and work hours</i>	\$650.00 +GST
	Winter Full Service (Grave site prep and backfilling) <i>Regular weekdays and work hours + Frozen ground conditions</i>	\$850.00 +GST
	Full Service – After-hours <i>During any portion of weekends, holidays, or after regular weekday hours</i>	\$900.00 +GST
	Winter Full Service – After-hours (Grave site prep and backfilling) <i>During any portion of weekends, holidays, or after-hours + Frozen ground conditions</i>	\$1,100.00 +GST
	Cremation Service (Preparation for cremation burial) <i>During regular weekdays + work hours</i>	\$100.00 +GST
	Winter Cremation Service (Preparation for cremation burial) <i>During regular weekdays and work hours + Frozen ground conditions</i>	\$175.00 +GST
	Cremation Service – After-hours <i>During any portion of weekends, holidays, or after regular weekday hours</i>	\$150.00 +GST
	Winter Cremation Service – After-hours (Grave site, prep, and backfilling) <i>During any portion of weekends, holidays, or after-hours + Frozen ground conditions</i>	\$225.00 +GST



STARLAND COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS NEWS & UPDATES PROJECT REPORT

Morton Pit Stripping

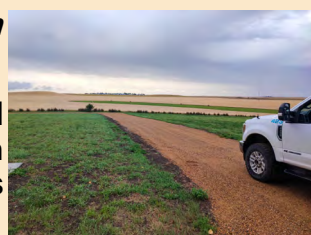
The Morton Pit has been stripped, piles have been moved and we are now ready for the next round of gravel crushing. **** won the bid and will be crushing **** of material to give us enough gravel for the next few years.



Morton Pit

Morrin Cemetery Expansion Road

The expansion road around the South side of the Morrin Cemetery expansion has been completed.



Morrin Cemetery Expansion Road

The New Rumsey Library

The new Rumsey Library is nearing completion as new stairs and a wheelchair ramp have been added.



New Rumsey Library

BF# 8272 Culvert Replacement



BF#8272 The old culvert was badly corroded.



BF#8272 in progress

The old culvert has been removed and the preparation work for the new culvert is nearing completion.

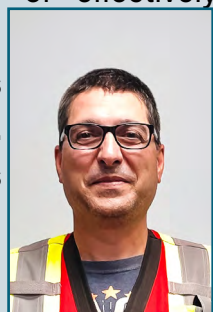
At the time of publishing the new culvert will likely be in the ground.

Visit the Public Works section of our new website to see all the latest news!

<https://starlandcounty.com/roads-infrastructure>

Meet our new Public Works Assistant Director

Jeff Turick is our new Public Works Assistant Director, bringing with him a wealth of experience from a construction background, specializing in road construction and paving. With a proven track record of effectively managing crews and ensuring timely project completion, Jeff is a valuable addition to our team. Outside of work, he values spending quality time with friends and family.



A Legacy of Dedication and Service DOUG FINKBINER



As we turn the pages of our municipal history, we find moments that stand out not just for their significance but for the incredible people behind them. We celebrate the retirement of one such individual, Doug Finkbiner, who has dedicated nearly three decades to serving our community through the

Public Works Department at Starland County.

Doug possessed a remarkable work ethic and a genuine passion for public service. He began his career as an equipment operator/Labourer, where he quickly learned the ropes and showcased his ability to tackle even the most demanding tasks. He was with the County when they looked after the secondary highways, from hot days filling cracks to early mornings plowing to keep traffic flowing. Doug's commitment did not go unnoticed.

His promotion to **Assistant Public Works Supervisor** was a testament to his hard work and dedication. Still, more importantly, it marked a new chapter in his journey of service to our community. Doug's role as Assistant Public Works Supervisor was characterized by his unwavering support for his team. Doug has not only shaped projects but also the very culture of the department, emphasizing teamwork and a commitment to Starland County.

His leadership was not just about managing tasks; it was about building relationships. Doug took the time to listen to his team and understand their needs and concerns. His open-door policy made him approachable, creating an environment where everyone felt valued and heard. This sense of camaraderie was a significant part of what made the Public Works Department thrive under his guidance.

Doug's influence extended beyond the walls of our office.

He understood that Public Works plays a critical role in the daily lives of our residents. Whether it was overseeing infrastructure improvements, maintaining public spaces,

or ensuring that essential services ran smoothly, Doug's commitment to excellence was evident in every project. His impact on the community is something we can all be appreciative of. Doug exemplified what it means to be a public servant, consistently going above and beyond to ensure the welfare of our residents.

While it is difficult to say goodbye to someone who has been such a vital part of our team, we are excited about what the future holds for Doug. Retirement will allow him to explore new adventures, spend time with family, and pursue hobbies he may not have had time for during his busy career. He leaves behind a team that has been deeply inspired by his example. Doug's dedication, leadership, and commitment to the community have left an indelible mark on us all, and we are motivated to continue his legacy. We are a community that will forever be grateful for his service.

Thank you, Doug.



Facts & Figures

What is Public Works responsible for?

Gravel Roads ~ 700 miles

Dirt Roads ~ 300 miles

Yearly Gravel Use ~ 40,000 yards

That's a lot of territory to cover!

Public Works cont...

Meet our new Operations Foreman



Austin grew up on a farm, he was hauling cattle when he was 19 and eventually bought his own truck and continued hauling livestock for 3 years. He hauled heavy equipment around western Canada for 3 years. He then went to Kneehill county as a grader operator for 3 years.

Employee Spotlight: Cody Nelson



Cody started with the county with Stan Hampton on road crew roughly 8 years ago and moved to special projects after that. He applied for grader position for division 3 and was the successful candidate. If you see Cody out and about give him a wave and a well-deserved "Thank you"!

2024 Leaders of Tomorrow Scholarship

We are thrilled to announce the recipients of the 2024 Leaders of Tomorrow Scholarships!

Doan Stanger has been awarded the 2024 Leaders of Tomorrow Academic Scholarship, valued at \$1,000. The Scholarship Committee was highly impressed with Doan's outstanding scholastic achievements and their passion for returning to and contributing to their community after completing post-secondary studies.

Tanner Hansen from Starland County Council has been selected as the recipient of the 2024 Leaders of Tomorrow Trade Scholarship, also valued at \$1,000. The Scholarship Committee commended Tanner's exceptional community involvement and their commitment to returning to and working in their community upon completing post-secondary education.

Congratulations to both Doan and Tanner for their remarkable accomplishments and dedication to their communities!

TIPPS

TAX INSTALLMENT PAYMENT PROGRAM

Starland County's TIPPs (Tax Installment Payment Plan) program allows eligible taxpayers to pay their current year taxes in twelve equal, penalty-free monthly installments from January to December.

Key Features:

- Flexible Enrollment: Join anytime by catching up on missed installments.
- Automatic Renewals: Once enrolled, your plan renews each year automatically.
- Easy Payments: Monthly installments are automatically withdrawn on the last business day of each month.

Eligibility:

- No outstanding tax amounts.
- Monthly payments based on the previous year's tax levy, adjusted for the current year.

Opt-Out & Penalties:

- Opt-out anytime with 15 days' notice.
- Missed payments lead to plan cancellation and penalties.
- For more information or to sign up, visit Starland County's website or call 403-772-3793.

Don't miss out on this convenient way to manage your taxes!



VOYENT ALERT!

Stay informed during times of crisis from Starland County. Register now to receive important notifications that matter to you. The Voyent Alert! service is FREE, easy to use and anonymous. [Register now by following this link!](#) Or scan the QR code in this ad.



Exciting Developments in Starland County!

Welcome to the latest edition of the Starland County Line Newsletter. We are thrilled to share the progress and upcoming plans that are shaping the future of our community. Here's a snapshot of what's happening:

Economic Development Strategy Nears Completion

Our comprehensive Economic Development Strategy is in its final stages. This strategy outlines our vision for sustainable growth, focusing on attracting new businesses, supporting local enterprises, and enhancing the quality of life for all residents. This will also allow the county to open new doors for grant funding and opportunities for investment readiness. Stay tuned for the official release and public consultation sessions.

Business Park Conceptual Design Finalized

We are excited to announce that the conceptual design for the new Business Park is complete. This development will provide a hub for innovation, commerce, tourism and amenities offering modern infrastructure and services. Engineering for utilities is set to begin shortly, ensuring the park is ready for future tenants. Lot pricing and incentives will be the next phase of exploration before the area structure plan commences for approval along with public engagement and feedback.



Housing Opportunities on the Rise

Starland County is expanding its housing options with several available lots ready for new housing starts. These lots are perfect for those looking for land to build and develop their dreams within the county. The available lots will be available in the economic development section on the new website.

New Development Area Rezoning

A new development area is in the process of being rezoned for housing. This initiative will create additional residential spaces, catering to the increasing demand for housing in our county. The zoning process is progressing smoothly, and we anticipate new housing projects to commence soon.

On Schedule and Within Budget

We are pleased to report that all our projects are currently on schedule and within budget. This reflects our commitment to efficient planning and execution, ensuring that Starland County continues to thrive and grow.

Thank you for your continued support and interest in the economic development of Starland County.

Together, we are building a brighter future!

For more details and updates, visit our website or contact Jason in the Economic Development Office.
email: jasonj@starlandcounty.com

Meet Our New Assistant Ag Fieldman

Amy Kiemele grew up on her family's grain farm near Munson Alberta, and went to school in Morrin. After graduation, she earned her Bachelor of Science in Ecology at the University of Calgary. During her work experience co-ops, Amy worked at the Southeast Alberta Watershed Alliance and the Northern Forestry Centre. Before starting at Starland County in June of 2024, she worked for an environmental consulting company out of Calgary as a Jr. Environmental Scientist. Being



born and raised in Starland County, Amy always knew she wanted to end up in the area, so it wasn't a surprise when she settled down by Rumsey with her husband, where his family also farms. Amy has a passion for the environment and a deep respect for agriculture, and she is excited to be able to work hard to improve both in a place that she loves. Amy enjoys curling at the community rink and baking for her family in her free time.

Upcoming Events

Vertebrate pests and nuisances can wreak havoc on your land. Join us on Tuesday, November 26th, 2024, for a Vertebrate Control Workshop. The event will include a presentation by the Agricultural Fieldman and Assistant Agricultural Fieldman about Integrated Pest Management, control options, and available services. Sign up by November 18th and we will provide you with all of the supplies to make a Gopher Bait Station for \$40. Snacks will be provided. For more information and to register contact Ag Services. Stay Tuned to the [ASB Events Calendar](#) on our new website for more info and follow us on Facebook to keep up to date with the latest news and events!

- **Vertebrate Pest Control Workshop**
- **Working Well Workshop- Winter 2025**
- **Ladies Calving Clinic- February 27th, 2025, in Rumsey Alberta**
 - **Tree Planting and Pruning Workshop- Spring 2025**
- **Gardening Workshop- Spring 2025W**

Clean Farms

Agricultural plastic jugs have not been accepted since January 1st, 2024, at County transfer stations. Pesticide and herbicide jugs will not be accepted at Starland County waste transfer stations. Follow these rules when dropping off Ag Plastics:

Grain Bags

Loosely rolled grain bags weigh very little but a require a lot of space. If they are not correctly rolled, they are difficult to manage and inefficient to transport for recycling.

Grain Bag Recycling Steps:

1. Remove Debris: Ensure grain bags are free of spoilage, dirt, rocks, etc.
2. Roll: Use a mechanical grain bag roller or old hay baler to roll bags tightly. Secure with twine. Starland County offers a grain bag roller for rent.
3. Return: Only tightly rolled grain bags are accepted. Unrolled, extractor rolled, or hand-rolled bags, silage tarps, and other films are not accepted.

Twine Recycling Steps:

1. Shake: Remove debris, snow, or ice. Dirty twine may be rejected.
2. Bag: Use clear bags for plastic twine only. Mixed materials will be rejected. Close bags with twine or a zip tie.
3. Return: Place bagged twine in the designated area at the transfer site. Contact your local site for assistance, hours, or preparation questions.



**Build your
own bait
station!**

VERTEBRATE PEST CONTROL WORKSHOP

Learn about integrated pest management and how to properly control vertebrate pests and nuisances on your land. Free presentation, but the cost to take home your own Gopher Bait Station supplies is \$40. Snacks provided.




**FOR MORE INFO
CONTACT**

403-772-3793 ext.325
ASB@starlandcounty.com

COST 
\$40 WITH BAIT STATION

LOCATION 
MUNSON COMMUNITY HALL

DATE 
NOVEMBER 26TH 2024

TIME 
6-8 PM

Resilient Agriculture Landscape Program Funding

Unlocking the Potential of Farmland with the Resilient Agricultural Landscape Program

Farmers and ranchers have seized a unique opportunity to undertake beneficial management practices and sustainability in Alberta. The Resilient Agricultural Landscape Program (RALP) received over 400 project submissions in 2024, a successful year for the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership, a federal-provincial-territorial initiative.

Did you miss the 2024 application window? Find out what you need to be successful in 2025.

What is RALP?

RALP is designed to bolster the environmental resilience of agricultural landscapes through the accelerated adoption of Beneficial Management Practices (BMPs). These practices are aimed at maximizing the provision of Ecological Goods & Services

(EG&S), with a spotlight on increased carbon sequestration and enhanced climate resilience. The program acknowledges that while many BMPs offer immense ecological value, their adoption can be hindered by high upfront costs or limited immediate financial return for producers. To bridge this gap, RALP offers substantial financial support for approved projects, covering up to 100% of eligible expenses.

Eligible Projects and Funding Opportunities

The program casts a wide net in terms of eligibility, covering a range of BMP projects including:

- Pasture Management: Enhancing

the management of riparian areas to protect water quality and support aquatic life or implementing rotational grazing practices to sequester carbon and improve nutrient distribution.

- Intercropping and Cover Crop Cocktails: Integrating soil-building pulses and legumes into rotations to reduce nitrogen use and bolster soil health.

RALP
RESILIENT AGRICULTURAL
LANDSCAPE PROGRAM

Prepare Your Farm's Future

Consider a 2025 Project

- + Rotational Grazing
- + Grass Waterways
- + Intercropping
- + Pollinator Habitats
- + Wetlands
- + Off-site Waterers
- + Tree Planting
- + Riparian Management

LEARN MORE

Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership | Alberta | Canada

- Shelterbelts and Eco-buffers: Establishing natural barriers to protect soil from erosion and improve biodiversity.

For a detailed list of eligible activities and the specific funding available for each, please refer to the comprehensive guide on the Alberta government's website at <https://www.alberta.ca/resilient-agricultural-landscape-program>.

Getting Started with RALP

Producers seeking to embark on a journey with RALP can learn more about what the program offers with a simple call or email. A dedicated team of Program Access Liaisons are ready to guide

farmers through the application process and to help identify the most beneficial practices for their agricultural operation, ensuring they have all the resources needed for a successful application.

Reach out for application support by calling 1-866-310-RALP, by emailing info@RALP.ca, or contacting Agricultural Services at ASB@starlandcounty.com or 403-772-3793.

Why Choose RALP?

Choosing to participate in RALP is not just an investment in your land, it's a commitment to the future of agriculture in Alberta. By adopting BMPs with the support of RALP, you're taking a proactive step towards creating a more resilient, productive, and sustainable agricultural landscape.

Starland County Shelterbelt Tree Program

In 2025, Starland County will be organizing a Shelterbelt Tree Program. Partnering with Tree Time, Starland County will organize seedling orders and shipping to the Starland County Office in Spring 2025. Shelterbelts can be a helpful tool to help reduce soil erosion and wind on your property and can increase biodiversity and attract native wildlife species. Purchasing seedlings through the ordering program allows you to get better rates through a bulk order and reduced shipping costs on popular trees. Tree Time sells 1-2-year-old seedlings for a variety of trees and shrubs. Please note that heights can be quite variable, and often range from 6"-24".

Starland County has a shelterbelt fabric roller and tree planter available for rent, and we can assist you with planting your shelterbelt. Contact Ag Services for more information.

Stay tuned for more updates on the Starland County Website and on the Starland County Agricultural Service Board Facebook Page for ordering details, and don't forget to visit treetime.ca in November to browse their products for 2025.

If you are looking for larger tree stock, there are multiple nurseries available in the area with a large selection of trees and shrubs. Some nurseries

include-

- **Eagle Lake Nurseries- Strathmore**
- **Parkland Nurseries- Red Deer**
- **Mattson Tree Farm - Olds**
- **Linden Tree Farm- Linden**
- **West Haven Nursery & Tree Farm- Red Deer**

Visit our website for a larger list of tree suppliers in Alberta.

Wild Boar at Large

Wild boar at large (*Sus scrofa*), also known as feral pigs, are one of the most damaging invasive species in North America. Introduced into Alberta during the 1980s and 90s during a period of rapid agricultural diversification, the wild boar population



quickly grew outside of the farms and enclosures as they began to escape and breed. Now, wild boar at large continue to spread throughout Alberta and the prairie provinces.

Wild boar are deemed an agricultural pest due to the crop losses they can cause, but also because of the threat they pose to the Pork and Beef industry. Wild boar at large are known to host 39 different diseases that can be transmitted to livestock, humans, and wildlife. Additionally, their impact on the landscape can be detrimental- they can alter native plant communities and disturb soils, which can lead to increased erosion and invasive plant take over.

Controlling wild boar at large is difficult- these animals reproduce quickly and are evasive creatures. Initial control efforts in the form of a bounty program were implemented, and hunters could turn in wild boar at large ears in exchange for \$50. These hunting efforts were later deemed ineffective and may have even exacerbated the issue. Wild boar are incredibly smart and when only a few individuals are hunted from

a larger group (called a sounder), the remaining boar quickly learn to evade future hunting efforts by dispersing, changing movement patterns, and becoming more nocturnal. They pass these tricks on to following generations. The only way to

WILD BOAR AT LARGE Sus scrofa

28
COUNTIES

with confirmed sightings of wild boar

Hunting is
NOT an
effective
control
option



Wild boar are native to Europe and Asia, in North America, they are considered a pest.

SIGNS OF WILD BOAR

- digging/rooting
- wallowing/rolling
- hair on barbed wire
- trampled crops
- tracks and trails



reproduce multiple times a year, between 5-12 months old, with litters of 6 piglets

39

Wild boar at large can host 39 different diseases that can be transmitted to livestock, wildlife and humans.

\$65,000,000,000

An outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease would shut down all Alberta pork and beef exports and is estimated to cost \$65 billion dollars.

Report signs or sightings to:

- wildboar@gov.ab.ca
- 310-FARM
- your local municipality
- EDDMapS app



effectively eliminate wild boar at large in an area is by eradicating the entire sounder simultaneously. Wild boar at large are designated pests under the Alberta Agricultural Pests Act and associated Pest and Nuisance Control Regulation. As such, there is the responsibility to prevent the establishment of, or eradicate, this pest if it is on your property. The municipality shall also take active measures to prevent the establishment of, or control and destroy pests in the municipality.

Starland County Council passed the Prohibited Animal(s) Bylaw in March of 2022, which regulates Prohibited Animals in the County (including only wild boar at this time) regardless of parcel size or Land Use District. Under no circumstance can an individual keep a prohibited

animal on their property, regardless of the amount of time.

Awareness is important. The Squeal on Pigs program aims to raise awareness of the growing concern of wild boar at large in the province. If you see or suspect a wild boar at large, contact AG Services at 403-772-3793 or report the sighting through 310-FARM or EddMaps

Absinthe Wormwood

Absinthe wormwood (*Artemisia absinthium*) is an invasive plant that is common throughout Starland County. Brought over from Europe and Asia in the 1800s, absinthe spread quickly throughout the prairies due to its medicinal applications. As like other invasive plant species, it will readily take over disturbed areas, including gravelled areas, areas with high traffic, or rangeland that has been intensively grazed. This plant reproduces by seeds which can be transported in hay, water, and by human/animal traffic.



Absinth-wormwood

Absinthe wormwood is not a designated noxious or prohibited noxious weed. However, landowners may choose to control absinthe wormwood on their land for many reasons. Absinthe is not readily grazed by cattle and is unpalatable due to its bitter taste. If cattle do consume absinthe, their milk can begin to taste unpleasant. Having a healthy plant community in your pastures is a great way to help prevent and control the infestation of absinthe. If you have an established absinthe issue, mechanical and chemical control options can be implemented.

Mowing can reduce but will not eliminate seed production. Some success has been seen if late season mowing is followed by fall herbicide application, however it is not as successful as mid-summer herbicide application. Late season tillage can kill new rosettes, however established plants can survive tillage with sufficient moisture. Small patches can be hand-pulled or dug up. Ensure you

dispose pulled weeds in a landfill bound garbage bag.

Chemical control of absinthe wormwood can be effective, and there are many herbicides that can control or suppress the plant in pastures and elsewhere. Aminopyralid, glyphosate, 24-D, and dicamba are registered for use on absinthe wormwood. Remember to always refer to and follow the product labels.

How to Identify Absinthe:

Perennial herb with bushy growth pattern and woody stem.

Strong aroma similar to sage, but not as pleasant. Stems are gray-green and can grow 40-60 cm tall. Stems have dense, fine, whitish hairs.

Leaves are grey-green, deeply lobed and dissected, with the upper surfaces bearing fine, whitish hairs.

Flower stalks produce numerous nodding flower heads that are about 1/8 inch in diameter. Florets bear tiny, 1-2 mm yellow petals.

Seeds are cylindrical, hairless, shiny and about 0.5 mm.



Absinth-wormwood

Contact Agricultural Services and visit Alberta Invasives Species Council for more information.

Kochia Control

Kochia (*Kochia scoparia*) is a problematic weed that has been steadily proliferating throughout Alberta due to its ability to thrive in drought conditions and rapid herbicide resistance development. Dry conditions across much of the province have allowed Kochia to spread northwards into areas where it previously was not present. Kochia is an annual plant that spreads rapidly due to its high seed production and ability to grow in saline and other marginal areas. When mature, plants break off and tumble with the wind, spreading seeds as they move.



Kochia scoparia

Following the introduction of regular herbicide use, kochia developed resistance to most group 2 herbicides and is now considered fully

resistant in all populations. Glyphosate resistance was first detected in Kochia in southern Alberta in 2011 and has quickly spread across the western prairies. Most disturbing is the fact that group 4 and group 14 resistance have also emerged in some populations and will likely continue to increase. This leaves producers with fewer chemical control options for in-crop control.

Chemical control options for producers still exist for most crops for pre-emergent and in-crop applications. The most effective chemical control methods include rotating modes of action and using herbicide tank-mixes with multiple modes of action. Cultural control methods such as increased seeding rates, crop rotation, seeding competitive crops, selective tillage, and mowing of patches are also important to reduce spread throughout fields. If cut early, kochia can be used as livestock



Kochia in the field

feed, however, it must be limited in rations due to toxic substances that accumulate within the plant. Most kochia seeds do not survive longer than two years in soil, so multiple years of strong control can reduce overall populations relatively quickly. For more information on kochia control, please contact the ASB.

Starland Recreation

Department



Starland Rec Aerial View

As the season comes to a close, we would like to thank all those who visited our campgrounds this year. We focused on Starland Rec this year; we began the season by installing the six outhouses that we fabricated over the winter throughout the campground. After that the North ball diamonds were reconditioned. Our camp kitchen at Starland Rec is booked to have its roof tinned to protect the building for years to come. Installation of a playground at McLaren Dam will be completed this fall, this structure will be a great addition to the area.



New Outhouse at Starland Recreation Area

Cemeteries

We are continuing work to revitalize our cemeteries. We began the season by removing the old fence at St. Mark's Cemetery. A columbarium was placed at Craigmyle Cemetery, this provides a cost-effective alternative option for internment. If you have questions about them or if you are interested in reserving a spot, feel free to check out our new website or call the office.

Gates for the Morrin Cemetery are currently being built and are planned to be installed this Fall. The expansion has been surveyed and the road in it is completed.

Staff are working on addressing issues we noticed and that were brought to our attention throughout the year. Currently, the focus is on leveling headstones, minor repairs and removing overgrown/dead vegetation.

Transfer Sites

As many of you know, chemical jugs are no longer accepted at our transfer

stations. However, we still collect agricultural plastics (silage tarp, grain bags, twine etc.) at all three locations. We would also like to remind residents that we have paint and battery collection as well.

Fire

Our bunker gear replacement plan is still underway, two sets for each department is being budgeted for until all departments are properly equipped.

Another beginner course (S 300) is booked for November. Once that is complete, we will look at more advanced courses in 2025. Starland County

and the Villages of Delia, Morrin and Munson have started work on updating

the Fire Master Plan. This

document will help provide direction for the future of this essential service.

We would like to thank our volunteer firefighters for their hard work and dedication to protecting our communities. If you would be interested in becoming a volunteer firefighter, you can call your local Fire Chief or myself.

FCSS



Throughout the year, programs and events have been posted on our social media and website. For more information about sponsored

programs and events

If you or your group provide programming or host events that align with the FCSS guidelines and mandate, feel free to contact the office about possible partnerships.

-Matthew Kiemele,
Community Services Director

Craigmyle Historic Society's annual Pumpkin Festival

The Craigmyle Historic Society's annual Pumpkin Festival held on September 14, 2024 was a huge success. Over 70 children and their families joined in the fun and excitement of riding a custom-built wagon to the Pumpkin Patch at the Rees' property to pick out their perfect pumpkin. When the riders returned, they had the option to decorate their pumpkins or to participate in a wide variety of activities on the Historical Church grounds. Along with many activities set out for the children a bouncy obstacle course was a new addition to the event and was a huge hit for the day. There was also a BBQ hamburger/hotdog lunch offered to the families in the lower section of the church. The Craigmyle Historic Society wishes to thank the many

volunteers who assisted with the day; local youth from the 4-H club, students from the Delia School, and also many surrounding community members. Plus, many thanks go out to Starland County for the use of their BBQ, to Wild Aspen Enrichment Center for donating the water, to the Craigmyle Church Women, and to Starland County FCSS for their financial support in this very worthwhile community event.



Feeling snacky this holiday season?

Here are a few delightful and easy-to-make Christmas treats that will add a sweet touch to your holiday celebrations:W

1. Peppermint Bark:

- **Ingredients**: White chocolate, dark chocolate, peppermint extract, crushed candy canes.
- **Instructions**: Melt the dark chocolate and spread it on a baking sheet. Let it cool and harden. Melt the white chocolate, mix in peppermint extract, and spread it over the dark chocolate. Sprinkle crushed candy canes on top and let it set. Break into pieces once hardened.

2. Christmas Tree Brownies

- **Ingredients**: Brownie mix, green frosting, sprinkles, candy stars.
- **Instructions**: Bake brownies according to the package instructions. Once cooled, cut them into triangles. Decorate with green frosting to resemble a Christmas tree, add sprinkles as ornaments, and place a candy star on top.

3. Reindeer Pretzels

- **Ingredients**: Pretzel rods, chocolate, candy eyes, red M&Ms, mini pretzels.
- **Instructions**: Dip pretzel rods in melted chocolate. Attach mini pretzels as antlers, candy eyes, and a red M&M for the nose while the chocolate is still wet. Let them set before serving.

Fire Safety Presentation



Starland County brought in Mary Lambert to present her **Sing Out Fire Safety** for the K-6 students at Delia and Morrin Schools. It was a fun and educational experience for all involved. We would also like to thank our Volunteer Firefighters who assisted Mary and helped make the day a success!



Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays from all of us at,

STARLAND COUNTY

The Starland County Administration Building/Office

Holiday Closures:

Friday, December 20, 2024	Closed for the day at 12 pm
Tuesday, December 24, 2024	Closed
Wednesday, December 25, 2024	Closed
Thursday, December 26, 2024	Closed
Friday, December 27, 2024	Closed
Wednesday, January 1, 2025	Closed

Holiday Season Events, check out our Community Calendar for more!

Wine& Cheese Fundraiser	Delia Drop In Centre	November 30, 2024 at 5:00 PM - 9:00 AM
Delia Drop In Centre Raffle Draw	Delia Drop In Centre	December 14, 2024 at 9:00 AM
Delia & District Senior Citizen's Annual Christmas	Delia Drop In Centre	Dinner December 14, 2024 at 5:00 PM



Visit **STARLAND
COUNTY**