

Community Debriefs Aug. 26 and Sept. 9

On the heels of the June 2014 flooding in the Town of Coaldale residents impacted by the flooding were asked to provide basic information to the Town on that impact.

This information is currently being used not only to assess the damage caused by the flooding but also to determine the best course of action to mitigate future flooding events.

In an effort to give voice to the concerns of local residents, on the issue of flooding in Coaldale, the Town has scheduled a trio of Community Debrief sessions to allow for the collection of additional information and to provide an means for connecting directly with residents who were impacted by June's flooding.

Two evening sessions and one afternoon session have been scheduled in order to provide residents with more than one option for attending a session.

The sessions will take place in August and September on the following dates and times:

- Tuesday, August 26 from 2 to 3:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, August 26 from 7 to 8:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, September 9 from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

All sessions will be held at the Town HUB, located at 2107-13 Street just south of the curling rink. The HUB is home to the Town's Emergency Operations Centre which was activated during the flooding once the local state of emergency was declared. Residents will be able to tour the EOC and learn more about how it functions during an emergency situation in the Town.

The Community Debrief is not just about collecting additional information from residents who were impacted by the flooding; it will also give the Town an opportunity to provide Coaldale residents with information about any provincial-level relief options, future storm water mitigation plans the Town is currently working on and provide information on how residents can combat the impact of flooding.

Those who attend the sessions will be asked to sup-

ply their name, address, phone numbers, and extent of damage to their property and whether or not the damage was covered by insurance.

The sessions will also be used to pass along information to residents on the ways and means of preparing for emergencies in general.

Throughout the province and across the country, both provincial and federal governments have been promoting the need for everyone to be better prepared to handle emergency situations. Information on how to prepare yourself and your family to handle the first 72-hours of an emergency situation will also be provided at these debrief sessions.

"Town council is pleased to offer a series of open houses that will allow for the sharing of important information stemming from the June 2014 Flood," says Mayor Kim Craig. "The format of the open houses has been established in such a way as to facilitate discussion and we welcome the opportunity to hear from you."

Coaldale's new Chief Administrative Officer, Larry Davidson, would like to see Community Debrief sessions held at various times during the year to increase the lines of communication between the Town and its residents on any number of topics.

"The Town recognizes the devastating impact to our residents from our most recent flood event and as the CAO, I am committed to working with our residents to develop short and long range plans to mitigate future events," says Larry Davidson.

Anyone who is unable to attend any of the debrief sessions, and if you have not already done so, are encouraged to leave the information requested by voicemail at 403-345-1336 or by email at disaster@coaldale.ca

The Town appreciates the willingness of residents to participate in this process of information gathering and planning in order to address the short and long term plans for flood mitigation in Coaldale.

Connect with us



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Community Calendar

August 6, 13, 20 and 27: Coaldale Farmers' Market hosted by the Coaldale and District Agricultural Society. The market runs Wednesday, 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the Community Centre through to Sept. 24.

August 11: Coaldale Town Council meeting at 5:30 p.m. Agenda and council minutes are posted on the Town website at www.coaldale.ca

August 16: Annual Insect Discovery Day at the Alberta Birds of Prey Centre in Coaldale from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Come out to get up close to a variety of interesting insects.

August 18-22: Coaldale Explorerz runs daily from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The camp is open to children 6 to 12 years old. This summer program is a Coaldale cultural journey in your own backyard. Investigate nature, music, sports, dramatic play, art, physical activity, literature, history and more. Go to www.coaldale.ca for registration information, email programs@coaldale.ca or call 403-345-1300.

August 25: Coaldale Town Council meeting at 5:30 p.m. Agenda and council minutes are posted on the Town website at www.coaldale.ca

August 29: Coaldale Movie Night. Come early to get a spot at Millennium Park, south of the Curling Rink. The Disney Movie, Frozen begins at 9 p.m. Snacks available for purchase or bring your own. Bring a lawn chair or blanket to sit on.

September 2: First day of the 2014-2015 school year for students attending classes at Coaldale Schools.

September 11: Town of Coaldale Mass Registration and Family Picnic 5 to 8 p.m. at the Kin Picnic Shelter. Join us for fun, games and registration for community sports groups, clubs and organizations.

At the Library . . .

Summer Reading Club

Drop-in for interactive storytelling, games, crafts, sing-alongs, and prizes to improve and promote reading through the summer months for students in K to 6. Wednesdays at 11 a.m. - noon or 2 - 3 p.m. July 2 - August 20.

Hot Book Club

30 minutes of paired reading, followed by 30 minutes of games, activities, and fun for students who have completed grades 1 to 3. We are also seeking volunteers in Gr. 4 and up to be paired up with younger students. Places are limited, so register as soon as possible. Tuesdays & Thursdays at 11 a.m. - noon July 8-August 20.

Coaldale Tween Club

Students who are in grades 4-7 are invited to join us for crafts, games, snacks and fun! Please register to hold your spot as space is limited. Register by coming into the library or calling 403-345-1340 August 29 from 2:30 - 4 p.m.

Coaldale Adult Summer Reading Program

Join the Coaldale Public Library's Adult Summer Reading Program and enter to win weekly prizes for every book you read and our GRAND PRIZE of a Kobo Glo eReader! Weekly draws will take place on Fridays from July 4 to August 22, 2014. The grand prize draw will take place on Friday, August 29. Ballots are available at the circulation desk or on our website, www.coaldalelibrary.ca. The program is open to readers aged 16 and over.

Community Peace Officer Corner

From the traffic section

August is well into the holiday season and brings with it an increase in holiday trailers on the highways. People pulling trailers are responsible for the safe operation and maintenance of the trailer. Safety equipment on the trailer should routinely be checked to prevent any mishaps. Things to check should include:

- Tire pressure
- Safety chains
- Tighten the wheel lugs
- Make sure the trailer brakes are in good working order
- Make sure all the lighting is in good working order including brake lights, signal lights, clearance lamps
- Make sure anything attached to the outside of the trailer including bikes, chairs etc. are secured

A few minutes spent on pre-travel preparation may save time and money in the event of a preventable breakdown and will ensure the safe travel for everyone using the road.

From the bylaw section

With the summer season in full swing and residents heading to the mountains to enjoy the weather, it is easy to forget about taking care of your yard.

It is easy to put off or forget about taking care of the little things which, with no ill intention, can turn into large problems.

Things such as yard weeds can easily get out of hand. To help mitigate and make the neighbourhood look great for everyone living there or passing through, here are some tips to help keep your lawn in tip top shape.

- Mow your lawn on a regular basis (This makes the next time you mow a lot easier.)
- Remove the weeds around the fence line and don't forget the alley way.
- Keep all your trees and hedges trimmed.
- Help your neighbour out with their lawn care.

These are just some tips to make all our community of Coaldale a better place to live, play and work in.