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**April 9, 2025**

## KEEPING SENIORS MOVING IN RURAL ALBERTA

Submitted by Government of Alberta

Alberta's government is investing \$3.5 million to partner with Healthy Aging Alberta to expand transportation and mobility services for seniors in rural communities.

Whether for connecting with neighbours and the community, going grocery shopping or a

visit to the doctor, seniors living in rural Alberta often rely on accessible transportation services to maintain their independence. According to Statistics Canada, transportation challenges are a key barrier to participation in social activities for seniors. Rural communities are vital to the province's identity and success, and Alberta's government is support-

ing their growth and prosperity by helping seniors age with dignity and respect in their own homes and communities.

"This investment will provide a lifeline for seniors and those with mobility issues by empowering them with the freedom to access essential services and social outings. Our government is making

*Continued on Page 2*

## THE CONSUMER CARBON TAX IS GONE: MINISTER NALLY

Submitted by Government of Alberta

Minister of Service Alberta and Red Tape Reduction Dale Nally issued the following statement on the

elimination of federal carbon taxes on fuel:

"The time has come. After years of relentless pressure from our government, the federal conservatives and other provincial govern-

ments across Canada, the federal government has finally scrapped its punishing consumer carbon tax that has wreaked havoc on Canadians' personal

*Continued on Page 3*

## PROTECTING ALBERTA'S COMMUNITIES

Submitted by Government of Alberta

Local fire services across the province will benefit from firefighter training grants to help keep Albertans safe.

When Albertans need them the most, firefighters are always there for them. Whether

it's battling fires, clearing accident scenes or providing emergency care, firefighters protect and preserve the safety of Alberta's communities.

To bolster support for protecting and preserving the safety of the province's communities, Alberta's government is investing more than \$1 mil-

lion through the Fire Services Training Program Grant to support local fire services. This funding is being distributed to more than 65 municipalities, Metis Settlements and First Nations across the province.

"Firefighters put their lives on the line to protect us,

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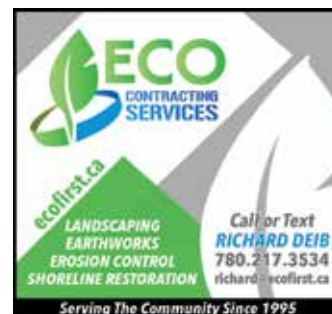
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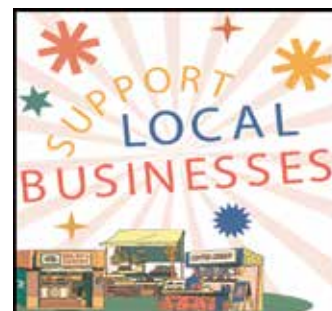
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## Keeping Seniors Moving In Rural Alberta

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sure seniors can remain active and independent by investing in this program, helping seniors age in the rural communities they call home.”

Jason Nixon, Minister of Seniors, Community and Social Services

As part of a three-year partnership, Alberta's government is investing \$3.5 million so Healthy Aging Alberta can provide accessible and affordable transportation services for seniors and Albertans with mobility issues across 19 rural communities. This project helps more seniors and Albertans with mobility issues access services that are vital to their health and well-being.

“It is important to ensure all Albertans have access to safe and affordable transportation especially in rural areas where

accessing transportation can be challenging. This program will help make it easier to run errands, connect with friends and family, and carry out appointments in our rural communities.”

Devin Dreesen, Minister of Transportation and Economic Corridors

The Healthy Aging Alberta provincial transportation project started with five communities in 2023. From October 2023 to November 2024, nearly 7,200 rides were provided to seniors and persons with mobility challenges in rural communities through this program. The project is now being expanded to a total of 19 communities, with Phase 2 adding 14 additional communities throughout the province. Communities with a high percentage of low-income seniors

were prioritized and successful communities were chosen based on need and their readiness to implement or expand assisted transportation services.

“Transportation is a lifeline for older adults, enabling older Albertans not only to access essential services, but also to remain actively engaged as volunteers and caregivers – roles that form the foundation of vibrant, interconnected communities. Healthy Aging Alberta and the United Way of Calgary celebrate the Government of Alberta's continued leadership and investment in this critical social infrastructure.”

Karen McDonald, provincial director and chair, Community Leadership Council, Healthy Aging Alberta

*Continued on Page 3*

### MAYERTHORPE & DISTRICT RURAL ELECTRIFICATION ASSOCIATION ANNUAL AGM



April 16, 2025  
Doors open for registration at 5:30 pm  
Supper at 6:00 pm  
Meeting to start at 7:00 pm  
Please RSVP to the office via phone or email by April 10th if you are attending

We have 4 director positions on the Board to be voted on at this year's AGM. To be eligible to cast your vote at the meeting we must have a current contract on file that matches the land title, if you are unsure, please contact the office in advance.

Please come and hear what is new and happening at the REA!

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## Keeping Seniors Moving In Rural Alberta

*Continued from Page 2*

Seniors and individuals with mobility issues in these communities will now be able to rely on increased access to affordable transportation and mobility services delivered by local community organizations and partnerships. This

includes more frequent trips being available, new routes for out-of-town services, additional accessible vehicle options, and more. With this investment, Alberta's government is improving seniors' quality of life by helping them age in place and remain inde-

pendent, addressing mobility challenges in rural communities and supporting caregivers across the province.

"The expansion of Healthy Aging Alberta's provincial transportation project is a positive step in supporting seniors in rural Alberta. This invest-

ment will provide many seniors across the province with greater access to essential supports and services, which is an essential aspect of prosperous rural communities."

Kara Westerlund, president, Rural Municipalities of Alberta

## The Consumer Carbon Tax Is Gone: Minister Nally

*Continued from Page 1*

finances.

"With the removal of this costly tax, Alberta drivers will save an average of \$215 per year at the pumps. Our government expects that

retailers will pass these tax savings on to Albertans in full.

"We do not want the removal of the federal government's consumer carbon tax to be a phony tax, so we

will continue to use every tool at our disposal to ensure Alberta drivers are not being gouged at the pumps.

"We will be monitoring and reviewing pump prices for any wrongdoing, and

take action if needed. Businesses found guilty of price gouging can be fined by the courts up to \$300,000 or receive up to two years of jail time."



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**JOKE of the week**

A small plane pilot running out of gas found himself in the middle of the forest. Spotting a group of hikers, he quickly made a sign saying "Where am I?"

The pilot put the sign to the window so they could see it. Conversing for a few minutes, the hikers soon made their own sign and flashed it at the helicopter pilot. Their sign said, "You're in a helicopter."



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# County News Highlights

## MEETINGS & HEARINGS

[LSAC.ca/meetings](https://lsac.ca/meetings)

Meetings and public hearings are held at the County Administration Office near Sangudo; are open to the public and available remotely. Explore the County's online calendar for agendas, minutes, and meeting details.

### County Council Meeting

Thursday, April 10, 2025 at 9:30 am

### County Council Meeting

Thursday, April 24, 2025 at 9:30 am

## ROADSIDE CLEAN-UP PROGRAM

[LSAC.ca/news](https://lsac.ca/news)

Non-profit groups or clubs are encouraged to participate as a fundraising opportunity.

The County is seeking interested community groups to perform roadside clean-up on area roads. This roadside clean-up will be in coordination with the annual Alberta Highway Clean-up; held on the first Saturday of May. This year the event runs May 3, with the rain-out date of May 10.

Nine (9) County locations throughout the region have been chosen for the clean-up program this year. Lac Ste. Anne County will pay \$200.00 per mile of roadway cleaned (both sides). Garbage bags will be provided to participating groups. You will be responsible for your own safety vests.

If your group is interested in participating, please submit a letter of interest including the name of group, what division you are in, contact name, and telephone number via email to [publicworks@LSAC.ca](mailto:publicworks@LSAC.ca).

Deadline for letters of application is April 30, 2025 at noon.

## SOLID WASTE UTILITY BILLS WERE MAILED OUT

[LSAC.ca/waste](https://lsac.ca/waste)

A friendly reminder to watch for your Solid Waste Utility bill. If you haven't received your bill by the end of this week please contact the County Administration Office—contact information noted above.

The 2025 Solid Waste Utility rate has increased by \$6.42 to \$203.71 per year (increase of \$0.53 per month). This is due to rising inflation costs in relation to fuel, labour, supplies, and an increase to recycling fees.

The 2025 Solid Waste Utility is due upon receipt of the bill with a payment deadline of June 30, 2025. Any unpaid utilities amount, as of July 1, 2025 are subject to a penalty of 3.5%. Amounts outstanding beyond the payable period will be transferred to your tax account after 90 days.

## FROZEN CULVERTS CAUSED BY TRANSITIONAL WEATHER

[LSAC.ca/roads](https://lsac.ca/roads)

Public Works crews are actively thawing culverts throughout the region on numerous roads and approaches within our borders.

Thawing culverts is a very time-consuming and challenging process.

When warm Spring weather arrives, it takes some time for the culverts to fully thaw and to handle the increases in water volume. This may result in water pooling near County roads and infrastructure.

Please be advised to use caution and slow down while driving in affected areas.

To report a flooded road or blocked culvert please call the County Administration Office or visit [LSAC.ca/report](https://lsac.ca/report).

We're looking for a volunteer for the **County Library Board** from the Darwell area. If you're interested—please call Community Services Manager Donna Kerr for more info! To learn more about your local public library please visit [LSAC.ca/community](https://lsac.ca/community).

**A County-Wide Road Ban is in Effect.** This ban will remain in effect until further notice. Please visit [CountyRoads.ca](https://CountyRoads.ca) for more information.





# Protecting Alberta's Communities

*Continued from Page 1*

and we're making sure they have the training they need to do their jobs safely and effectively. Well-trained fire services are essential to keeping our communities safe, and these grant investments will help firefighters respond with skill and confidence when Albertans need them most."

Ric McIver, Minister of Municipal Affairs

The first to respond in an emergency is often a community's local fire service, which makes it critical that local firefighters receive training that is reflective of industry best standards and fits the needs of the communities they serve. The funding provided to municipalities, First Nations and

Metis Settlements across the province through the Fire Services Training Program Grant will support them in delivering a wide range of training for their firefighters including ice water rescues, toxic material responses and so much more.

"This investment in firefighter training is not only welcome – it's essential. The Alberta Fire Chiefs Association is pleased

to see the government's commitment to ensuring our firefighters are prepared to meet the growing demands of emergency response. These grants will directly support the safety and readiness of fire services across Alberta's communities."

Chief Randy Schroeder, president, Alberta Fire Chiefs Association

## ONOWAY LEGION NEWS



Submitted by Onoway Legion

April 11- Cost \$25- Ukrainian Easter Dinner Feast. On the menu borscht, chicken kyiv, perogies, cabbage rolls, sauerkraut/cole-slaw, garlic dill rolls and nalysnyky (apple crepes) served with ice cream for dinner. Thank you to SANG for sponsoring our Veterans Table and dinner for this evening. For reservations contact 780-967-5361 by Wed, Apr 9, 2025, Doors

open at 4 pm: Dinner starts at 6 pm.

April 25-Cost \$25- Italian Feast Fundraiser for OHS Class of 2025. Minestrone Soup, Italian garden salad, chicken parmigiana, fettucine alfredo, baked penne with meat sauce & cheese, fresh Italian buns, gelato with fresh berries. There will be a silent auction, dinner music by OHS band and Karaoke after dinner. Veterans Table sponsored by William Trefry. For reservations contact 780-967-5361 by Wed, Apr 23, 2025, Doors open at 4 pm: Dinner starts at 6 pm.

### UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Random Doubles Pool Tournament- Saturday, April 12 registration from 8:30 to 9:15 play starts at 9:30. Cost \$20 per player. Hot Lunch for \$10. Open to everybody, member or not.

Valour Coffee- Are you a Veteran, serving military or RCMP then why not join us for our Veterans Coffee. Our first coffee is scheduled for Sunday, Apr 13 from 1-3 pm. You don't need to be a Legion Member to attend.

Club Activities:

Tuesday- Dart League Tuesday

night. Cost \$3 each week. Registration 7 pm. Play 7:30 pm.

Wednesday – Join us for Pub Night-Musical Jam and our meat draw.

Doors open 6:30 pm, jam starts at 7 pm. We will now be hosting a meat draw every Wednesday, in conjunction with pub night. Tickets will be 3 for \$5.00. We will have four rounds with a fifth special all-in round. Tickets will go on sale starting at 6:30 pm.

Thursday – Pool League Thursday nights. Cost \$5,

*Continued on Page 6*

FEDERAL ELECTION / MONDAY, APRIL 28



## Did you receive your voter information card?



**It tells you where and when you can vote.**

If you're registered to vote, you should get a voter information card in the mail.



**Contact Elections Canada if your voter information card**

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- hasn't arrived by April 11



Visit [elections.ca](https://elections.ca) for the official information you need to vote  
1-800-463-6868 / [elections.ca](https://elections.ca) / TTY 1-800-361-8935



# Three Arrested In Connection With Armed Robbery

*Continued from Page 5*

play begins at 7 pm so arrive early.

Friday- Every second Friday is our new game night. Come out and play some classic games such as

cribbage, euchre, darts, pool or join in some fantastic board games. Next GAME NIGHT is May 2, bar will be open at 5 pm, games begin at 7 p.m.

Did You Know? You Do not Have to Be a Legion Member to Join Our

Activities!

You're always welcome to come out and enjoy some great camaraderie, have fun, and meet new people—whether you are a member or not! We offer a variety of activities open to everyone in the commu-

nity.

If you are interested in becoming a member, supporting our veterans, and giving back to the community, feel free to stop by the Legion for more information. We would love to have you join us!

## ALBERTA IS READY FOR THE 2025 WILDFIRE SEASON

Submitted by Government of Alberta

Budget 2025 builds on the province's commitment to prepare for,

mitigate and respond to the impacts of catastrophic wildfires.

Alberta has faced unprecedented wildfire challenges over the last two years, and as the province

enters the 2025 wildfire season, Alberta's government is focusing on a three-pronged approach to tackle the threat of catastrophic wildfires: prevention, mitigation

and readiness to respond. With increased wildfire activity in recent years, it is crucial that Alberta's wildland firefighting teams and communities at risk are prepared for any challenge that may arise this season.

If Budget 2025 is passed, the province will invest a new historic high of \$160 million in base funding for wildfire personnel, equipment, training and contracts for aircraft, an additional night vision equipped helicopter, and heavy equipment. This investment is vital to ensure Alberta's wildland firefighting teams have the equipment, training, and personnel needed to respond to wildfire threats and mitigate the impacts of catastrophic wildfires on Alberta's communities.

"There is nothing more critical than protecting Albertans, our homes and our communities from the effects of wildfires. Alberta is home to some of the best firefighting personnel in the world and through Budget 2025, we are making a major investment in our wildfire teams and communities, giving them the tools, training and support they need to prevent, mitigate and respond quickly to any challenge that may come up this wildfire season."

Todd Loewen, Minister Forestry and Parks

"We thank our Alberta Wildfire team and first responders for their ongoing dedication to keeping people safe. The Alberta Emergency Management Agency (AEMA) aims to strengthen the province's emergency preparedness and recovery efforts, collaborating with communities to enhance resilience and public safety. With a 2025-26 budget increase of \$10 million for a total of \$118 million, the AEMA will empower communities to turn challenges into opportunities for growth and safety."

Mike Ellis, Minister of

*Continued on Page 7*

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# Alberta Is Ready For The 2025 Wildfire Season

*Continued from Page 6*

Public Safety and Emergency Services

The Community Fireguard and FireSmart programs are critical to ensuring vulnerable communities in the Forest Protection Area have the tools needed to successfully mitigate the risks of wildfires. In addition to ongoing work on Fireguard projects across the province – including in the Bow Valley near Canmore, as well as Cypress Hills Provincial Park, Hinton, Whitecourt and Slave Lake, Budget 2025 would allocate an additional \$15 million over three years to continue supporting projects being administered by the Forest Improvement Association of Alberta (FRIAA).

Alberta's government would also allocate \$10.8 million to ensure Albertans can easily access FireSmart resources to better protect their homes and properties.

"FRIAA is pleased to help support Alberta Forestry and Parks as the province enters the 2025 wildfire season. We continue to strongly encourage all communities in Alberta that are exposed

to risks of wildfire to participate in the Community Fireguard and FireSmart programs by developing plans and proposals to access funding. Wildfires pose a significant risk to Alberta's communities, and it's great to see the province is making wildfire management a priority."

Todd Nash, manager, Forest Improvement Association of Alberta

"Alberta's wildfire team remains fully prepared and is ready for the 2025 wildfire season. Each year we improve our ability to meet the challenge ahead and the investments we make in people, resources and new technology prove critical in our response efforts."

Trevor Lamabe, executive director, Wildfire Management Branch

A key part of prevention efforts is stopping wildfires before they start. It is essential that every Albertan understands their role in wildfire prevention – every action counts in protecting our communities and natural resources. Last year, the province saw a significant decrease in human-caused wildfires. In 2024, there were 282 wildfires caused by residential and

recreational fires, down from 385 in 2020, 395 in 2021, 399 in 2022, and 303 in 2023. This represents a nearly 30 per cent drop from the highest numbers Alberta saw in 2022. It is more important than ever to continue building on that progress to further reduce the risk of future wildfires. As part of these efforts, Alberta's government is renewing its commitment to public awareness and education campaigns on safe practices, while also enforcing fire bans when necessary.

"Wildfire is the hazard which poses the greatest risk to communities like Canmore. We are more prepared than we have ever been with work on the Bow Valley Community Fireguard ongoing, years of FireSmart work in the community and ongoing efforts to ensure we have the emergency resources we need in place. The support from the Government of Alberta has been instrumental in helping us advance these initiatives."

Sean Krausert, mayor, Town of Canmore

"As a community surrounded by forests, fire hazard reduction

and protection is a priority for the ongoing safety and security of our community. With the ongoing support of the province, we are nearing completion of our internal community fireguard which will help break the path of a wildfire and keep it away from populated areas and vital infrastructure."

Tom Pickard, mayor, Town of Whitecourt

In 2025, Alberta Wildfire is also launching a pilot project using hoist-equipped helicopters. These helicopters will enable rapid deployment of crews to remote, hard-to-reach areas and provide critical support for emergency evacuations if needed. One new helicopter is under contract and two specialized crews have been hired for this wildfire season. The results of this pilot will determine whether the program will be expanded and continue into 2026.

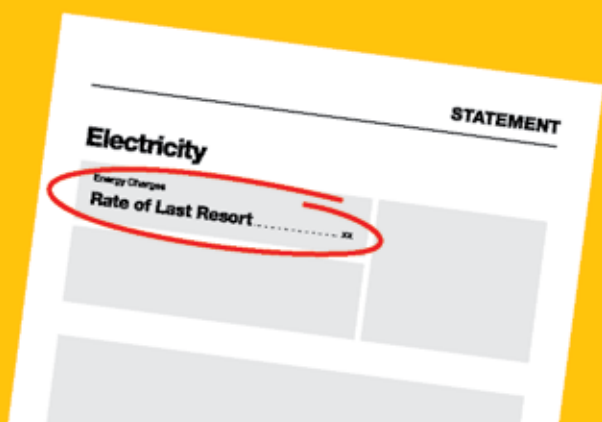
Budget 2025 is meeting the challenge faced by Alberta with continued investments in education and health, lower taxes for families and a focus on supporting the economy.

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## HOME SAFETY CHECKS TO COMPLETE TODAY

A new kitchen or a bathroom remodeling job might be dream projects for many homeowners, but the right home improvement project at a given moment is not necessarily the most glamorous project. Sometimes safety upgrades around the house must take precedence over more popular projects.

Accidents or injuries can occur in any part of the home, but homeowners who take certain preventative measures can greatly reduce their injury risk. The security resource A Secure Life points out that more than 18,000 Americans die every year from injuries that take place in the home. Unintentional injuries account for millions of medical visits each year. Home injuries also are prevalent elsewhere in the world. In the United Kingdom, the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents reports that there are approximately 6,000 deaths every year that result from accidents at home.

Periodic inspections for potential hazards can keep everyone safe. The following are a handful of ways for homeowners to ensure their homes are as safe as possible.

- Check for sturdy handrails and prevent tripping hazards. Falls are one of the leading causes of home injuries. Falls can be a particular threat for

- youngsters and the elderly. To help prevent falls, make sure that staircases feature sturdy railings and that there is ample lighting in walkways. Re-

- move obstructions from frequently used paths inside and outside the home. In addition, insert nonslip padding beneath runners or throw rugs.

- Check for frayed wires or faulty outlets. Address any electrical problems around the house, including frayed

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## ***Home Safety Checks To Complete Today***

### ***Continued from Page 9***

wiring and faulty outlets. Sparks can lead to fires, and poor wiring may cause unforeseen problems behind walls. Repair or replace any loose or frayed wires on all electrical devices. Be sure that cords do not run under doorways or rugs. Replace outlets that are in disrepair and install ones with ground-fault current interruptors as an added precaution. If small children live in the home, use plastic safety covers over unused out-

lets.

- Practice window safety. Young children are curious and do not always recognize the inherent dangers around them. Children excited to see the great outdoors may climb up to peer out windows, and open windows are falling hazards. Screens do not offer an adequate barrier against falls. Consider locking windows or use safety bars to guard against falls. Test to see how easily screens can be pushed out, replacing any that

do not provide adequate resistance to curious youngsters' hands.

- Check smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. Replace the batteries in smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors at least twice per year, and test them to make sure they're in good working order at least once per month. The National Fire Protection Association recommends replacing hard-wired smoke alarms every 10 years. Battery-operated alarms may need to be

replaced even sooner. Many carbon monoxide detectors work for five to seven years. Check the back of alarms for a date stamp that indicates how old the product is and when it expires.

Safety checklists are an important part of home maintenance. A proactive approach can prevent both injuries and damage to the home.



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# HOW TO CHOOSE THE RIGHT WINDOW TREATMENTS FOR YOUR HOME

Plantation shutters? Mini-blinds? Cafe curtains? Formal draperies? Homeowners' options in regard to window treatments for their homes are extensive, which can make outfitting home interiors challenging for novice decorators.

Some people do not pay a lot of attention to window treatments, failing to realize just how great an impact the right window treatments can have on a space. According to the design experts at Hunter Douglas, window

treatments are often an afterthought because residents may not consider them necessities. As a result, homeowners may install whatever is on hand or accept window treatments that came with a house or apartment. But ignoring window treatments, especially when they can fulfill certain needs, is a missed design opportunity.

One of the first steps to choosing window treatments is determining your end goal. Is privacy

your main goal? Are you seeking more natural light in a room? Is there too much light and you need to darken the room? Window treatments can serve multiple functions, and some treatments may make better fits depending on homeowners' ultimate goals.

Semi-sheer window treatments

Semi-sheer window treatments are often fabric and can help brighten rooms with natural light but offer little privacy. They're usually appropri-

ate for spaces where people gather, such as living rooms, dens or dining rooms. Semi-sheer curtains may be paired with another complementary window treatment so privacy can be customized as needed. For example, sheer curtains let light into a bedroom, but shades can be drawn at night.

Maximum privacy Bedrooms, work spaces or bathrooms can benefit from extra privacy. While some people may

*Continued on Page 12*

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## How To Choose The Right Window Treatments For Your Home

*Continued from Page 11*

think that privacy comes at the cost of light, that's not always the case.

Functional curtain panels can be drawn closed when privacy is desired and then opened to let in light. The thickness of the fabric will also dictate the amount of privacy the panels create.

Tiers are hung on a short rod-pocket panel and usually cover the lower one-third of a window. They're popular choices to let light in from the top, but obscure views

from the bottom portion of the window.

Cellular shades are another option that provide privacy but still let light in. Cellular shades come in hard and fabric varieties and their use depends on the room. Many cellular shades are constructed with a honeycomb design, offers the design resource Houzz, so they can insulate as well as decorate windows.

Blackout shades/shutters

Perfect for rooms where babies nap, shift work-

ers rest during daylight hours or external lights, such as that from a street lamp, need to be blocked out, blackout shades do just what their name implies. A dense fabric lining helps keep light out entirely.

Shutters also can block out light but add to the character of the room. They can be painted a bright color to make a statement or match wall colors to blend in seamlessly.

When selecting window treatments, shoppers

can choose retail options or custom treatments. Many designers recommend custom window treatments because they are measured, manufactured and installed specifically for homeowners' windows. However, there are many DIY options available at budget-friendly retailers.

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## HOW TO CLEAR A CLOGGED DRAIN

Home plumbing systems are designed to handle heavy usage. When everything is working as it should, toilets flush, showers drain properly, and sink basins empty of water in a snap. But when a clog is present in a system, water can quickly back up.

There are various techniques to clear clogged drains. Minor clogs may be cleared without the help of a plumber or even any tools. More significant blockages will require more elbow grease.

The first step to clearing a clog is to locate the problem. Drainage issues that

affect a particular sink or toilet may be isolated to that fixture. Clogs that are present throughout the house may be indicative of a larger problem in the plumbing that is directing waste away from the house and into the sewer system.

Sometimes a clog can be freed by pouring boiling hot water or a combination of baking soda and vinegar down the drain. If that doesn't help, move on to a plunger, advise the experts at This Old House. By creating pressure within the pipes, a plunger can dislodge whatever is causing the backup. If the clog

seems to be further down the drain, hair or grime may have become trapped. An auger, often referred to as a "plumber's snake," can be inserted into the drain to remove the grime and free up the water flow. Homeowners without access to an auger can try to fish the clog out of the drain with a wire hanger.

If clogs cannot be alleviated, drain traps may need to be accessed. Those who do not know their way around pipes and wrenches should hire a professional.

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# ENHANCED SUPPORT FOR LOCAL FIRE SERVICES

Submitted by Government of Alberta

Strengthened local fire services with more support for training, response planning and greater collaboration will help keep Albertans and their communities safe.

Emergency situations bring an uncertainty that can leave the effect of stress and anxiety for many Albertans and their communities. Alberta's local fire services hold a leading role in ensuring that Albertans and communities can navigate and make it through the uncertain times of an emergency through quick response and education around fire safety and prevention.

To further support municipalities in strengthening public safety during emergency situations, Alberta's government is providing \$585,000 to support municipal fire services and the Alberta Fire Chiefs Association (AFCA). In addition, Alberta's government will establish a committee to strengthen ties between the provincial government, local governments

and fire services to bolster public safety.

"We are committed to public safety and improving how we support our brave and dedicated fire services. We appreciate the valuable feedback we received during our fire service review and look forward to the ongoing dialogue and collaboration we'll achieve through the Provincial Fire Liaison Committee."

Ric McIver, Minister of Municipal Affairs

Municipalities and their local fire services are often the first line of defence for an emergency, which makes it essential that firefighters receive training reflective of industry best standards. To ensure firefighters have access to the best training, Alberta's government is providing a one-time increase of \$500,000 for the Fire Services Training Program, bringing total funding to \$1 million for training grants this year. This funding is available to all municipalities, Metis Settlements, and First Nations communities in Alberta and will prepare firefighters with the knowledge and skills they

need to navigate emergency situations.

"We appreciate the Government of Alberta's commitment to strengthening local fire services. This investment will help ensure the safety of our residents, first responders, and communities. Together, we will build a stronger emergency response network to protect Albertans when they need it most."

Bob Marshall, reeve, County of Grande Prairie

In addition to the funding available to municipalities, \$85,000 will be provided to the AFCA to enhance their core competency tool, which municipalities can use to conduct risk assessments, develop appropriate fire service response plans and determine training needs. This new grant builds upon the Alberta government's previous grant of \$200,000 that was provided in 2024 to the AFCA to strengthen provincial fire reporting. Together, the core competency tool updates and improvements made to reporting will put municipal leaders in a better position to make well-in-

formed decisions about local fire services and protection strategies for their communities.

"The government support provided here today to our municipalities will play a crucial role in enhancing the skills and training of Alberta firefighters, ultimately leading to safer communities and continuously enhancing emergency response."

Chief Randy Schroeder, president, Alberta Fire Chiefs Association

To further support the role of municipal fire services in strengthening public safety, a provincial fire liaison committee that will be made up of municipal, First Nations, Métis and fire service representatives is also under development. The diversity of the representatives on the committee will ensure that a variety of demographics, community sizes, skill sets and fire department structures are considered as part of its work. The committee is anticipated to be in place later this year.

## 2025 Rimbey Spring Machinery Consignment Auction

Edson Area - Grazing Lease

Sale Starts on April 18th, 2025

Grazing Lease (Located in the Cattle Handling Ring) - April 21st, 2025

Selling a 1244.43 Acre M/L Grazing Lease Just West of Edson Area - Grazing Lease #38603

Consisting of Approx. 8 Quarters of Land in 1 Block, On 10 Titles with a Carrying Capacity of 366 AUMs (Animal Unit Month). There are four separate pastures; three with dugouts. There are three springs, one is fenced off. The fourth pasture has water holes in a wet year but cattle can access the pasture # 3 dugout.

Legal Descriptions:

1. NW 11-53-19 W5M - 114.5 Acres M/L
2. SW 11-53-19 W5M - 19.5 Acres M/L
3. SE 10-53-19 W5M - 8.24 Acres M/L
4. NE 11-53-19 W5M - 160 Acres M/L
5. SE 14-53-19 W5M - 23.5 Acres M/L
6. SW 12-53-19 W5M - 160 Acres M/L
7. NW 1-53-19 W5M - 156 Acres M/L
8. NE 1-53-19 W5M - 142.34 Acres M/L
9. SE 12-53-19 W5M - 160 Acres M/L
10. NE 12-53-19 W5M - 160 Acres M/L

North side of lease borders Hwy 16 for easy access with four separate entrances to the lease (2 are metal gates), only 10 min from Edson. \$1200.00 Altgas revenue and huge swath of new pasture cleared, broke and seeded from Trans-Mountain Pipeline.



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## DISCRETIONARY DEVELOPMENT PERMITS

[LSAC.ca/permits](https://lsac.ca/permits)

The development permits below have been conditionally approved under the provisions of the Land Use Bylaw. This list does not include permitted uses. Please contact County Planning & Development to request additional information on permits listed.

Those who claim to be affected and wish to lodge an appeal against a discretionary development permit must do so in writing to the applicable appeal body prior to the deadline listed.

Anyone who claims to be affected and who wishes to lodge an appeal against any of these developments must do so in writing on the applicable form on or before 4:30 pm on the noted date(s) to the appropriate appeal body.

### Subdivision & Development Appeal Board (SDAB)

Secretary of the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board  
Box 219, Sangudo, AB T0E 2A0  
Email: [appeals@LSAC.ca](mailto:appeals@LSAC.ca)

OR send to:

### Land and Property Rights Tribunal (LPRT)

2nd Floor, 1229 91 Street SW, Edmonton, AB T6X 1E9  
Email: [lprt.appeals@gov.ab.ca](mailto:lprt.appeals@gov.ab.ca)  
Please contact LPRT to receive the applicable form.

### 25-D0016

Lot 12, Block 4, Plan 2322082, Eagle Ridge Estates  
NW 15-54-01 W5M;  
Detached Garage, Main 20.0' x 29.5' (590.0 sq. ft.) 11.0' Walls  
Appeal to SDAB by April 21, 2025

### 25-D0020

Lot 22, Block 4, Plan 1123418, Bilby Common  
SE 30-54-01 W5M; 5, 54406 RGE RD 15  
Detached Garage with Cantilever Roof Overhang, Main 36.0' x 48.0' (1728.0 sq. ft.) 16.0' Walls, Cantilever Roof Overhang, 12.0' x 48.0' (576.0 sq. ft.)  
Appeal to SDAB by April 21, 2025

### 25-D0006

SE 03-57-03 W5M; 3212 TWP RD 570  
Secondary Detached Garage, Main 30.0' x 40.0' (1200.0 sq. ft.) 14.0' Walls with attached lean to 14.0' x 40.0' (560.0 sq. ft.)  
Appeal to LPRT by April 28, 2025

### 25-D0023

Lot 5, Block 5, Plan 9023655, Lakeview Place  
NW 26-54-03 W5M; 208, 54425 Ste. Anne Trail  
New stick build home on basement with covered deck, Main 30.0' x 40.0' (1200.0 sq. ft.) 8.0' walls, Basement 30.0' x 40.0' (1200.0 sq. ft.) 8.0' walls, Deck 8.0' x 30.0' (240.0 sq. ft.) with Rear Yard Variance Request for proposed development - Regulation: 7.5 m, Requested: 5.0 m, Variance: 2.5 m  
Appeal to SDAB by April 28, 2025

## DUST SUPPRESSION PROGRAM RETURNS

[LSAC.ca/dust](https://lsac.ca/dust)

Submit your Dust Suppressant Application by April 30!

Reduce the impact of dust on your property with the County's Calcium Dust Suppression Program. The purpose of this program is to assist in the reduction of the impact of dust on residential rural properties adjacent to County roadways.

If you wish to purchase, the application and payment deadline is April 30. To qualify for the program, have your municipal address sign posted prior to applying.

Visit the website to download the application and review program details.

Registration closes April 11 for the 2025 co-ed softball season—for details please visit [LSAC.ca/softball](https://lsac.ca/softball). Don't delay—register today!

Appointments are available for the **Community Volunteer Income Tax Program** until April 15—call the County's Community Services Coordinator Taryn Monteith today!

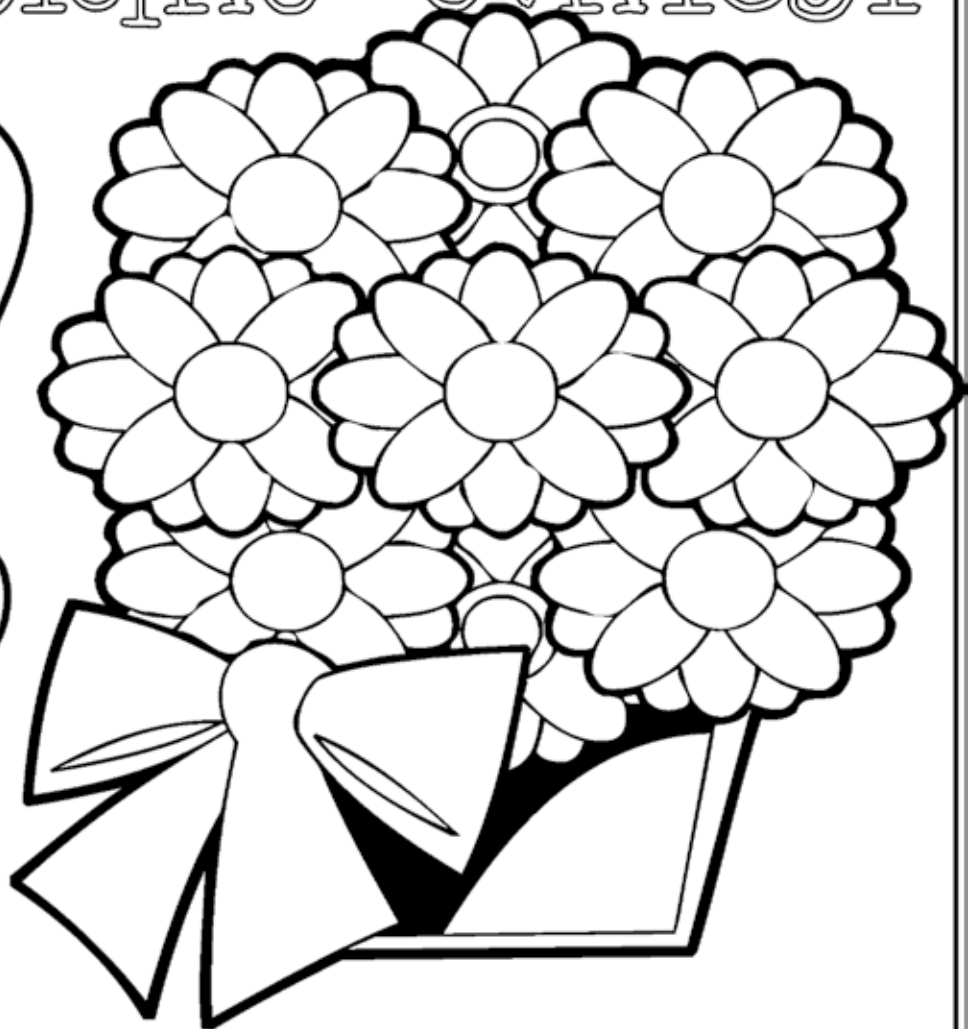
Transfer Station Summer Hours are in effect until October 31. Visit [LSAC.ca/waste](https://lsac.ca/waste) for the summer hours schedule.

**Poll Workers Wanted**—work the 2025 Municipal Election! Visit [LSAC.ca/election](https://lsac.ca/election) to apply today.



# Mother's Day

## COLOURING CONTEST



**AGE GROUPS:** 4-5 YRS | 6-7 YRS | 8-9 YRS | 10-12 YRS

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_ **AGE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **TOWN:** \_\_\_\_\_

*Entries must be recieved by May 8, 2025.*

**Mail to: Community Voice**  
**Box 3595 Spruce Grove, AB T7X 3A8**





# EXPANDING URGENT CARE ACROSS ALBERTA

Submitted by Government of Alberta

If passed, Budget 2025 includes \$17 million in planning funds to support the development of urgent care facilities across the province.

As Alberta's population grows, so does the demand for health care. In response, the government is making significant investments to ensure every Albertan has access to high-quality care close to home. Currently, more than 35 per cent of emergency department visits are for non-life-threatening conditions that could be treated at urgent care centres. By expanding these centres, Alberta's government is enhancing the health care system and improving access to timely care.

If passed, Budget 2025 includes \$15 million to support plans for eight new urgent care centres and an additional \$2 million in planning funds for an integrated primary and urgent care facility in Airdrie. These investments will help redirect up to 200,000 lower-acuity emergency department visits annually, freeing up capacity for life-threatening cases, reducing wait times and improving access to care for Albertans.

"Our team at Infrastructure is fully committed to leading the important task of planning these eight new urgent care facilities across the province. Investments into facilities like these help strengthen our communities by alleviating strains on emergency departments and enhance access to care. I am looking forward to the important work ahead."

Martin Long, Minister of Infrastructure

The locations for the eight new urgent care centres were selected based on current and projected increases in demand for lower-acuity care at emergency departments. The new facilities will be in west Edmonton, south Edmonton, Westview (Stony Plain/Spruce Grove), east Calgary, Lethbridge, Medicine Hat, Cold Lake and Fort McMurray.

"Too many Albertans, especially those living in rural communities, are travelling significant distances to receive care. Advancing plans for new urgent care centres will build capacity across the health care system."

Justin Wright, parliamentary secretary for rural health (south)

"Additional urgent care centres across Alberta will give Albertans more options for accessing the right level of care when it's needed. This is a necessary and substantial investment that will eventually ease some of the pressures on our emergency departments."

Dr. Chris Eagle, chief executive officer, Acute Care Alberta

The remaining \$2 million will support planning for One Health Airdrie's integrated primary and urgent care facility. The operating model, approved last fall, will see One Health Airdrie as the primary care operator, while urgent care

services will be publicly funded and operated by a provider selected through a competitive process.

"Our new Airdrie facility, offering integrated primary and urgent care, will provide same-day access to approximately 30,000 primary care patients and increase urgent care capacity by around 200 per cent, benefiting the entire community and surrounding areas. We are very excited."

Dr. Julian Kyne, physician, One Health Airdrie

Alberta's government will continue to make smart, strategic investments in health facilities to

support the delivery of publicly funded health programs and services to ensure Albertans have access to the care they need, when and where they need it.

Budget 2025 is meeting the challenge faced by Alberta with continued investments in education and health, lower taxes for families and a focus on the economy.

## LIVE ONSITE AUCTION

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**Saturday April 26 at 1pm**

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**TRACTORS:** \*IHC 5288 w (7573hr), cab, duals \*Case 1370 w (3978hr), Power Shift \*Case 970 w Loader, cab \*Case 1030 w Loader \*IHC 766 w Loader \*Unique Ford Super 6 w Large 4WD Tires, 3pt, Loader \*HD Loader Grapple, 6ft 3pt Rototiller, Bale Fork, Old Case 930 and IHC 1066

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**FIELD EQ:** \*JD 5X16 TB Plow \*10' CS Angle Disc w 22" Discs \*14' Disc w Notched Fronts \*20' JD Fold Up Disc \*16' DT Cult \*30ft Krause Cult \*24' Vers Cult w Mulchers \*12 D Harrow Bar \*Metal Fert/Seed Box, Hyd Augers \*30ft Seed Drill Mover \*5 Wood Grainaries

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## 2025 Rimbey Spring Machinery Consignment Auction

Main Location: 3940 - 50th Ave - Rimbey, Alberta

Sale Starts on April 18th, 2025 - Machinery Ring Closes - April 22nd, 2025

Grazing Lease, Cattle Handling & Miscellaneous Ring #1 - April 21st, 2025

Buildings & Car Ring, Miscellaneous Ring #2 - April 22nd, 2025

Listing Include an Equipment Realignment for Dale Norton & Guest Consignors of the Castor Area & Offsite Dispersals for Oran Cabelka of Bentley, Paul & Rosemary Fetaz of Leslieville



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JD 4955 FWA Tractor  
JD 4630 2wd Tractor  
MF 8650 FWA Tractor  
MF 1105 2wd Tractor  
NH TM130 FWA Tractor  
2015 Kubota M5640SUD FWA Tractor  
Bobcat CT2035 FWA Tractor  
N/U 2023 Case IH 60A Farmall FWA Tractor  
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JD 568 Rd Baler  
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NH BR780A Rd Baler  
NH BR780 Rd Baler  
Vermeer 605H Rd Baler  
Hesston 1345 12' Discbine  
JD 946 13' Discbine  
Gehl 2175 Haybine  
NH 166 Swath Inverter

### HARVEST

Westward 9300 21' SP Swather  
Westfield MKX 13"x74' Swing Auger  
Spray Air 4261 Swing Auger  
Brandt 1545 15"x45' Belt Tube Conveyor  
Bateo 16"x45' Grain Conveyor

### GRAIN BINS

FB - Flat & HB - Hopper Bottom

3 - GSI 10,000 Bu FB  
2 - Caradon 10,000 Bu FB  
4 - Caradon 8,000 Bu FB  
Chief Westland 27' 6 Ring FB  
2 - Westeel Magnum F 5000  
Bu HB Fertilizer Bin  
2 - 5000 Bu HB & 3 - 4000 Bu HB  
3000 Bu HB  
2 - 3000 Bu Overhead HB  
4 Compartment Overhead Steel Bin  
9 Spout Grain Leg

### OTHER EQUIPMENT

Norwood HD 38 Hand Saw  
N/U 27' 30" Saw Mills  
N/U 4" Wood Chipper  
N/U 1A 14' 4 Way Blade  
JD 640 FEL w/ Grapple  
NH 195 Manure Spreader  
Wahner 5 Ton Fert Spreader  
NT Stantforge 68" 3ph Thud Mower  
Allied 8' 3 pth Blade



Allied 3' 1/2" Snowblower  
Super Vacuum 108 Pump  
4 - N/U Hummators  
2 - 8x12x11 Stencils  
Floating Slough Pump

### CATTLE HANDLING

52 Sq Bales of 2nd Cut Hay  
Bags of Saw Dust  
Highline Bale Pro 6600 Bale Processor  
Several N/U Calf Sheds  
Large Selection of N/U Free Standing Panels,  
Windboard Panels, Various Sized Gates & Panels,  
Single, Double, Triple Bale Feeders, Cattle Squeezes,  
Alleys, Chutes & Oilers

### TRUCKS

2002 IHC 9900 T/A Truck  
2000 Freightliner Conventional Truck  
2000 Mack 600 T/A C&C Truck  
1989 Peterbilt 377 T/A Vac Truck  
2008 Hino S/A Reefer Truck  
1980 IHC 1824 Bucket Truck  
2003 Dodge Ram 3500 4dr 4x4 FD Truck  
2000 Ford F450 SD Picker Truck  
1976 Dodge 3500 Reg Cab FD Truck

### TRAILERS

2005 Loading Super B Grain Trailer  
1998 Mamac 48' T/A Hi-Boy Trailer  
1995 Trail King 48' Tridem FD Trailer  
Fruehauf B Train FD Trailer  
2012 Heil Quad Water Tanker  
2007 Heil 7400 Gal Quad Water Tanker  
Trailmobile 53 T/A Reefer Van  
2014 Great Dane 53' T/A FD Trailer  
2008 Tranel 38' Tridem GN FD Trailer  
2007 Loadmax 25' Tridem GN Trailer  
2013 Load Trail GN FD Trailer  
2006 PJ 29' Tridem GN FD Trailer  
2 - N/U 2025 Variant S/A Tilt Deck Trailer  
2022 Trailtech 24' T/A Tilt Deck Equipment Trailer  
2012 Load Trail 14' T/A High Side Dump Trailer  
2014 Load Trail GN Tridem Dump Trailer  
Oasis 20' T/A BP FD Trailer  
2022 Southland 18' T/A BP FD Trailer  
2008 Felling 18' T/A HD Pintle Hitch Trailer  
2009 Royal 15' T/A Enclosed Trailer  
2005 Bison Stratus 833MMGN Tridem GN  
Alum Horse Trailer  
1995 Norberts 16' T/A Stock Trailer  
1984 Keen 18' T/A GN Stock Trailer

### MISCELLANEOUS

Selling Over 2000+ Lots of Miscellaneous including  
Large Assortment Tool Boxes Building Materials, 4'  
to 5' Trees; Colchester Clousing 18"x60 Lath, Gold  
Mining Equipment, N/U Dumping Bins, Bulldog 5500  
Generator, Powerlist Transfer Pump, Complete Bee  
Hive Sets & Bee Super Boxes, Landscaping & Gar-  
dening Supplies, N/U Double Strand Barb Wire &  
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Info on our Website**

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2017 Chevy 1500 4x4 CC SB Truck  
2013 Chevy 1500 4x4 CC SB Truck  
2013 GMC 2500 4x4 CC SB Truck  
2011 GMC 1 Ton Truck  
2008 GMC 1 Ton Dually Truck  
1994 GMC 2500 2wd EC SB Truck  
2016 Ford F350 4x4 CC SB Truck  
2009 Ford F350 4x4 CC SB Truck  
2006 Ford F250 4x4 EC LB Truck  
2015 Dodge Ram 1500 4x4 LB Truck  
2014 Dodge 1500 4x4 CC SB Truck  
2007 Dodge Ram 1500 4x4 QC Truck  
2005 Dodge Dakota 4x4 CC Truck  
2007 Toyota Tundra 4x4 SB Truck  
2015 Toyota Corolla 4dr Car  
2010 Toyota Corolla Matrix AWD 4dr Hatchback Car  
2014 Smart Fortwo 2dr Car  
2014 Ford Mustang  
2021 Chev Equinox SUV  
2010 Chev Traverse 4wd SUV  
2009 Pontiac Torrent SUV  
1985 Ford Bronco  
1980 Pontiac Firebird 2dr Car  
1974 Volkswagen Beetle  
1946 GMC 1/2 Ton Truck

### RECREATIONAL, LAWN & GARDEN

2014 Kawasaki Vulcan Classic LT Motorcycle  
2006 Mirada 30' S/A Class A Motorhome  
1997 Ford Fleetwood Storm 34' Motorhome  
2008 Jayco Eagle 35' T/A 5th Wheel Holiday Trailer  
2007 Jayco 32' Tridem 5th Wheel Toy Hauler  
2007 Pilgrim Lite 27' T/A BP Holiday Trailer  
Seadoo Sportster LE 14.5' Boat  
1988 Steering Car Dolly  
14' Trackless MT5 Mower  
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N/U 7"x6.5"x8' Toilet/Shower Combo Units  
N/U 7"x4.5"x8' Double Toilet  
N/U 30"x85"x15', 30"x65"x15', 30"x40"x15', 20"x30"x12'  
Fabric Buildings  
N/U 40'x20' Container Shelter Buildings  
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# SUDOKU

*of the week*

**Here's How It Works:** Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box.

**ANSWER:  
Last Weeks**

You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

2	6	7	1	3	9	5	4	8
9	1	5	6	4	8	3	7	2
4	3	8	2	7	5	9	1	6
7	9	3	5	2	4	6	8	1
8	2	6	3	9	1	7	5	4
5	4	1	7	8	6	2	3	9
1	7	9	8	5	2	4	6	3
6	5	2	4	1	3	8	9	7
3	8	4	9	6	7	1	2	5

3				7			1	4
		4		9			5	
	8							
			2	4	6			
						7		1
			1	7				9
9							8	3
8	6			3				7
				5	1			



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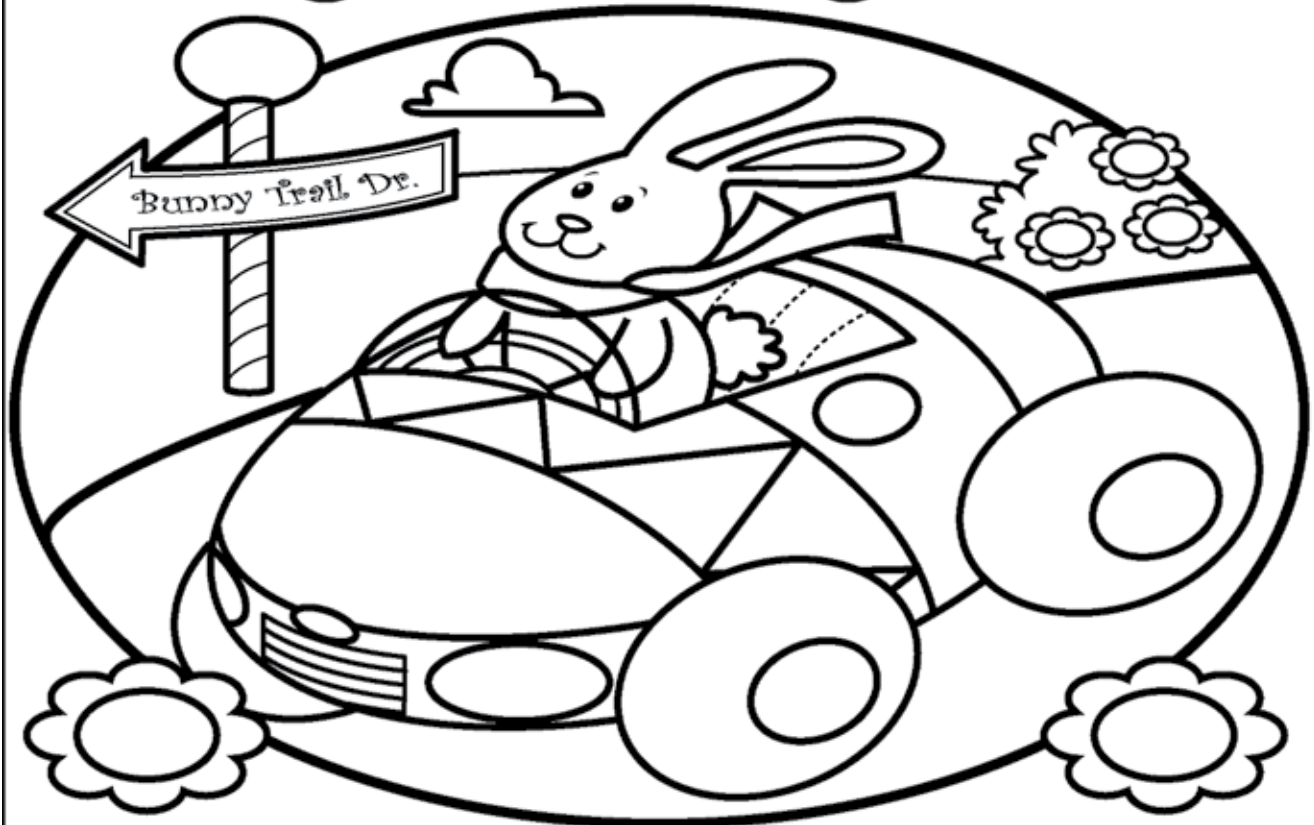
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**Entries must be received by April 12, 2025.**



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