

# **2024 Spring Newsletter**

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#### **ADMINISTRATION OFFICE**

The RM office is open to the public at location PT NE 32 14 14 W2

9:00am-4:30pm Monday - Friday

Please call ahead if planning a visit or require an appointment with the administrator

Phone (306)-245-3256 Email: info@rmoffrancis.ca

#### **2024 MILL RATES**

Property Class	Municipal		Education
Agricultural		0.80 MRF	1.42 Mill Rate
Residential	5.20 Mill	0.65 MRF	4.54 Mill Rate
Commercial/Industrial	Rate	1.90 MRF	6.86 Mill Rate
Resource		1.90 MRF	9.88 Mill Rate

#### **Road Crew**

Foreman - Todd Griffiths Andy Shooter Trent Deusterbeck Cory Walter Allan Moffat Danny Trautman Memphis Walter

**Weed Inspector** Bob Baker **Pest Control Officer** Katlin Lang

#### **Administrative Office** Assistant(s)

Jessie Roteliuk Karen Anderson &

Administrator Shala Kanasevich

Taxable Assessment x Mill Rate ÷ 1,000 x MRF = Taxes Discount periods are offered in August, September (5%), October (4%) and November (2%) for early payment that applies to both Municipal taxes and your Hail levy (if applicable).

#### SAVE POSTAGE AND PAY YOUR TAXES ONLINE!

- In order to pay taxes online, please look for FRANCIS NO. 127 (RM) TAXES as a payee and use your customer number located at the top of your tax notice as the account number. If your customer number is shorter than 4 digits, use zeros to prefix your account number—for example, if your account number is 127, you will enter 0127 as your account number. Affinity, Conexus, Cornerstone and Weyburn Credit Unions are able to provide this service.
- You are able to make payment by **E-Transfer**, please note new email to use **info@rmoffrancis.ca** (auto deposit)
- Or continue with paying by cheque or cash. Sorry, we do not accept debit or credit card payments at the office.

#### BEFORE YOU BUILD, RENO, MOVE-IN/MOVE-OUT A BUILDING OR DEMOLISH

It is important that you check with the RM office to see if a development permit and/or Building permit is required before you build any structure, AG exemptions for Farm buildings may apply. Steps outlining the permit process can be found on our website www.rmoffrancis.ca.

All buildings, dwellings, structures, fences and shelterbelts are required to be set back a minimum of feet from the center of any municipal road allowance and 300 feet from any intersection. Council has requested that ratepayers plan for placement of equipment and/or large compressed bundles of materials (ex; bales, grain and sileage bags) be considered a structure whether the intent is used for temporary shelters, walls or convenient areas of storage as it may create additional snow and/or other related hazards in abnormal seasonal conditions.

It is understood that there are existing properties in this RM where the shelterbelt/tree-line or building is within the prescribed setback distances of Zoning Bylaw 2012-03; however, such properties are considered as legal non-conforming as they existed prior to the enactment of the bylaw and any new development must conform with any current zoning bylaw (section 89 of The Planning & Development Act, 2007). Contact the RM administrator if you require clarification or have any questions/concerns in this regard.

# FIRE PROTECTION & CONTROLLED BURNS

The RM owns two fire trucks that are housed and operated by the Odessa and Sedley Volunteer Fire Departments in addition to having fire protection service agreements with the communities of Francis, Odessa, Sedley, and Vibank. Please consider the following fee structure and ensure that you have adequate insurance coverage with your provider:

call-out fee/First Hour = \$980.45

Additional Hours = \$350.00 per hour Maximum Fire Call Charge = \$15,000.00

REPORT YOUR CONTROLLED BURNS! You run the risk of receiving a bill with a minimum charge of \$980.45 if your controlled burn hasn't been registered and unbeknownst to you, someone has called 911 not knowing that it is

under control. To register your controlled burn, please call 1-866-404-4911 with your information and call back when it is complete. An unpaid fire call invoice is added to your property taxes at December 31st of the same year. (Fees subject to change with applicable Bylaws)

**CALL CONTROLLED BURN TO REGISTER PRIOR TO BURNING** 

**DUST CONTROL 2024** The Form for Dust Control is available on our website or by contacting the office. Please fill out and return to the office no later than May 1st of the current year as dust control application could be as early as mid-May. Secondary application rounds depend on total interest. Please note that the magnesium chloride used may be dependent on multiple factors including traffic, weather (dryer conditions), RM road work if needed, but typically works well to decrease the dust.

**DUST CONTROL FORMS DUE - MAY 1st** 

Gravel for ratepayers will be available for purchase from the RM at \$25/yard (25 yard limit/1 load) per residence. Please note that deliveries will be at the RM's discretion dependent on scheduling with competing priorities. Contact your Councillor for gravel orders. Gravel will not be available outside RM boundaries. Feel free to contact your local gravel providers for additional loads for other than the above.

## MASS NOTIFCATION SYSTEM - H2S Safety (TEXT/EMAIL/Voice Mail)

Sign up for our mass notifications system for messages such as road bans, road closures and other RM related matters. Typically, notifications of an emergent nature will be sent via phone or text, while more informative messages will be received by email.



Call the office or visit the rm website if you require assistance setting up the mass notification system. Place your camera over the QR code. Watch for posters with the QR code in your local community.





The RM's public water well located at SE 32-13-13 W2 has a fob system for access. The current cost is a base fee of \$60.00 which provides for the first 20,000 gallons and then \$4/1000 gallons to be billed after Dec. 31. Renewals/billing are sent out every January. Call the office to set up an account.



#### **RODENT CONTROL**

#### **RATS & MICE**

The RM provides rat and mouse poison at no-charge to its ratepayers. Should you require Warfarin, Hawk Bait Chunx, or Ratak for bait please visit the RM Office to pick up your supply.

Appointed Pest Control Officer Katlin Lang will be touring the RM throughout the season. Look for Katlin to be stopping in at your vacant and occupied yard sites in the next few months. **Co-Founder, FarmSimple Solutions** (c) 306-424-7741 (Email) katlin@farmsimple.ca

#### **GOPHER CONTROL 2024**

This year the RM will have ZP Rodent Oat Bait for gophers available to ratepayers for purchase. The bags come in 20.4 KG bags and will cost approximately \$162/bag. These should be arriving within the next couple weeks. Please call ahead if you are planning to pick up at the office. Through the Gopher Control Program (GCP) administered by SARM you can get up to a 50% rebate for Oat Bait for amount used. Please ensure that your claim form is submitted back to the RM office no later than July 19th, 2024 to qualify for this rebate. The claim form is available on the SARM website or by contacting the RM office. Please ensure to read the guidelines and contact the RM if you have any questions. **GOPHER REBATE CLAIM FORMS DEADLINE JULY 19th** 

#### **WEED CONTROL**

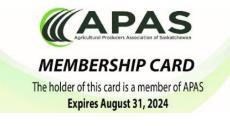
#### WEEDS - INVASIVE PLANT CONTROL PROGRAM (IPCP)



The RM has adopted a Weed Management Plan to tackle noxious and prohibited weeds within various areas of the RM and to allow for ratepayers to have the ability to access rebates for this control through the Invasive Plant Control Program. This is funded through the federal Canadian Agricultural Partnership program and administered by SARM. Claim forms are due no later than October 31, 2024.

RM Appointed Weed Inspector RM 127 Bob Baker - (306) 537-0716

WEED REBATE CLAIM FORMS DEADLINE OCTOBER 31st



Ratepayers are welcome to pick up their membership card At the RM office to take advantage of membership discounts

Please visit www.apas.ca for details

# <u>INFORMATION</u>

Visit our website at www.rmoffrancis.ca

# Follow us on Facebook



Rural Municipality of Francis No. 127

Have a safe & successful season!





## RECYCLE BIN HOURS

Office hours 9-4:30pm Sing-in at front office Monday-Friday





Last day to file crop reports

JUNE 30

Last day for new applicants to apply with SMHI

OCTOBER 31

Last day of hail & fire coverage

MARCH 31

Last day for owners to withdraw from SMHI

APRIL 30

Last day to apply for crop exemption