



## KEY CONTACT

**Newell Regional Services Corporation** - Phone: 403-794-4000 Web: [www.nrsc.ca](http://www.nrsc.ca)

**Newell Recycling Association** - Phone: 403-362-2132 Web: [www.newellrecycling.ca](http://www.newellrecycling.ca)

**Newell Regional Solid Waste Management Authority (NRSWMA)** - Phone: 403-362-5188 Web: [www.newellwastemanagement.com](http://www.newellwastemanagement.com)

**Natural Resources Conservation Board (NRCB)** - Phone: 403-381-5166 (Lethbridge)  
Web: [www.nrcb.ca](http://www.nrcb.ca)

## IMPORTANT DATES

### Dust Abatement

February 14 to April 30 - Application Submission Period  
June 14 to July 14 - Road Application

### Roads

March 1 to November 30 - Gravel Road Grading  
April 1 to October 31 - Maintenance & Construction  
June 1 to September 30 - Graveling  
November 1 to March 31 - Snow & Ice Control

### Taxation & Utilities

Taxes are due on or before June 15.  
Taxation penalties - 3% June 16, 8% November 16, 12% March (following year)  
Rural Water - Invoices are issued annually  
Hamlet Utilities - Invoices are issued every 2 months (starting January) and are due 30 days after the invoice is issued.

### Vegetation Management

December 1 to February 28 - Tree & Brush Control



# RURAL LIVING GUIDE



COUNTY OF NEWELL

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# PROTECTIVE SERVICES



Complimentary to Fire & Emergency Services, the County employs two Municipal Enforcement Officers to enforce County Bylaws and Provincial laws/regulations. These officers are part of the Municipal Services Department.

There are two Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) detachments located within the County - one in the City of Brooks and one in the Town of Bassano. The RCMP look after all aspects of policing.

Emergency Medical Services are run and operated by the Province of Alberta. There are two ambulance stations located within our boundaries. One is located in the City of Brooks, and the other is located in the Town of Bassano.

Along with ambulance stations, the Town of Bassano and City of Brooks both have hospitals to assist with your emergency medical needs.

For more information on medical services such as Chiropractic, Dental, Vision, and more, visit [www.livenewell.com](http://www.livenewell.com).



# PROTECTIVE SERVICES



## DID YOU KNOW?

The divisional fire departments are always looking for new volunteers. If you're interested, please contact the County for more information.

Photo By: Fire & Emergency Services

Fire protection services are located throughout the County. The fire halls (with a few exceptions) are placed one per fire division. Fire services are provided by dedicated volunteers who live and work within the County. Emergency response times can vary depending on travel distances from the service provider and road/weather conditions. It's critical to know your Rural Address or the particular location of the emergency when contacting 9-1-1, this will assist in reducing response times.

Rural settings do not have fire hydrants. Water for fire suppression is transported to the scene. Firefighters will also use ponds, reservoirs, canals, and lakes as water sources, depending on the time of year.

Fire prevention starts with you. In the case of an emergency, ensure your property is accessible to emergency responders. Buildings and equipment should be clear of combustible materials such as weeds, garbage, etc. If possible, keep a fire-resistant buffer zone around your property and have a 72-hour emergency kit on hand.

For more information on how to be rural fire smart, please contact our Fire & Emergency Services Department or your local Fire Chief. Remember that Safety is an Attitude.

# AGRICULTURE



Photo By: Samantha Plett

## DID YOU KNOW?

Typical farming equipment requires both lanes of traffic and makes wide turns. Please give these operators plenty of space.

An objective of the County is to promote, protect, and enhance agriculture as the primary land use within our boundaries. If you wish to live in a rural setting, you will likely find yourself close to farms and ranches. The County will not intervene in the normal day-to-day operations of your agri-business neighbours. Alberta's Agricultural Operation Practices Act, which is enforced by the Natural Resources Conservation Board (NRCB), governs farmers' livestock operations and limits the ability of a neighbour to raise nuisance and liability claims.

Farming can be a 24/7 business, especially during seeding and harvest time. There will be noise associated with these activities. Agricultural activities can also cause dust during dry, windy weather.

Farmers occasionally burn ditches adjacent to their property as well as fields to keep them clean of debris, weeds, and other obstructions. This burning created smoke that you might find unpleasant.



## AGRICULTURE



### DID YOU KNOW?

The Land Stewardship Centre has a “Green Acreages Guide” available. For more information visit: <http://www.landstewardship.org/our-work/>

Photo By: Carol Schaffer

Fertilizers and herbicides are often used for growing crops. Ground equipment usually applies these compounds; however, they can be applied by crop-dusting airplanes. These chemical applications are something to keep in mind as many people are sensitive to these types of materials.

The County of Newell has many confined feeding operations (CFO's) within our borders. CFO's involve traffic, dust, and odor. These activities are regulated by the NRCB and are an expected part of agriculture.

Moving to the country is not a license to let pets roam free. Even gentle, beloved family pets can become bothersome to neighbours or prey to coyotes. Alberta law protects livestock from nuisance caused by domestic animals. The County also has the Animal Control Bylaw in place, which is available through our website ([www.countyofnewell.ab.ca](http://www.countyofnewell.ab.ca)) or by contacting our office.

If you own livestock, it's your responsibility to fence them in, not your neighbour's responsibility to fence them out.

## ROADS



### DID YOU KNOW?

The County maintains 210 kms of paved roads, 1485 kms of gravel roads, and 304 bridges (including bridge-size culverts).

Photo By: Michelle Marshall

The County's transportation network is made up of paved and gravel roads. Some of these roads are County maintained; some fall under Alberta Transportations Authority.

Roads are classified as arterial, collector, and local. Many roads are also considered haul routes; large transport vehicles and oilfield traffic use these routes regularly. For more information on road classification, please contact Municipal Services, 403-794-2311 or visit our website.

Gravel roads are not always smooth; they can get washboard. They are often slippery when wet or ice covered. Seasonal weather events can cause rural roads to become impassable. You may need snow tires, a 4x4 vehicle, or even some other mode of transportation. Vehicle maintenance costs can increase if you travel rural roads regularly.

Keep in mind; gravel roads also generate dust, which is an unpleasant fact for rural living. The County of Newell offers a dust abatement program to assist residents.

Private road and driveway upkeep is the responsibility of the landowner(s) who uses them. County roads are repaired and maintained as quickly as possible. However, several factors (such as weather) can cause delays. For more information on roads and road maintenance, visit our website for call Municipal Services at 403-794-2311.



# UTILITIES



## DID YOU KNOW?

The County has a program to supply potable water to rural residents. Contact us at 403-794-2311 for more information.

Photo By: Russ Seidel

Utility services such as water, sewer, gas, electricity, internet, and other services may not always be available or are not equivalent to urban standards.

Sanitary sewer services are only available in some Hamlets. For all other areas, an approved private sewage systems are required. To obtain a septic permit or for more information contact our office, or visit our website.

Potable water is available throughout the County through our Rural Water System. It's the responsibility of the landowner to provide potable water to their residence. Contact Municipal Services to determine what options are available.

Private companies supply electricity, natural gas, cable, phone, and internet services. Cellular coverage is dependent on your service provider and may not be available in some areas within the County of Newell. Internet services are available through private companies including the Eastern Irrigation District.

Rural residents must dispose of their garbage and recycling. Please contact Newell Regional Solid Waste Management Authority (NRSWMA) for more information on garbage and recycling collection sites. Burn permits are required to burn waste/debris and are available through the County office.

# MOTHER NATURE



## DID YOU KNOW?

The topography of your land will dictate where water will flow during heavy rainfall or melting. A flash flood can quickly transform a dry gully into a raging river.

Photo By: Municipal Services

Rural living allows residents to experience mother nature in a very different way from urban dwellers. While rural life can be enjoyable, there are some things to keep in mind:

- Wildlife is an integral part of rural living. While animals can be nice to look at, they can cause accidents, property damage, and livestock deaths.
- Insects thrive in rural settings, and the County does not use chemicals to control them.
- Storms and snow melting can cause flooding. Be cautious of standing water and be patient while waiting for water to drain. It's important to ensure natural and human-made drainage courses are clear.
- Heavy snowfall can cause roadways to become impassable. Rest assured, County crews will be out in full force, but there are no guarantees for how long it will take to have your roads cleared. Make sure you are well stocked with supplies such as food and water.

## RURAL ADDRESSING



Photo By: Michelle Marshall

**143008**  
**RGE RD 213**

Rural addressing is a standardized system of identifying and locating rural properties whether residential, commercial or industrial. Addresses are based on the location of the primary access along a road allowance. Each mile of road is divided into intervals of 40 meters, with numbers increasing from South to North and East to West. Even numbers are along the North and West sides of a road allowance, and Odd numbers are along the South and East.

It is beneficial to know your rural address vs. legal land description in an emergency situation. A legal land location can tell you that a property is located somewhere in a specific quarter, but a Rural Address will pinpoint the access to the property range road or township road.

By providing your Rural Address to the 911 operation in an emergency situation, they can dispatch the required emergency services to this particular location, which will save time and possibly lives. It's recommended to have your Rural Address posted by every phone in your home. If you use a mobile phone, take a picture of the sign and store it somewhere safe. Be sure to educate your children on what your Rural Address is, what it's for, and how it should be used in the event of an emergency.

## SOLID WASTE & RECYCLING



Photo By: Unsplash @ Pixabay

### **DID YOU KNOW?**

The NRSWMA has several recycling facilities, depots, and trailers throughout the County of Newell?

### **Solid Waste**

The County of Newell Municipal Services Department handles complaints related to solid waste disposed of in roadside ditches of our jurisdiction. Solid waste found in bags will be searched by Municipal Enforcement Officers for evidence of ownership and handled accordingly. The Agricultural Services Department oversees the proper handling, care, and disposal of found dead wildlife, again respective to roads and allowances of County jurisdiction.

### **Newell Regional Solid Waste Management Authority (NRSWMA)**

NRSWMA was formed by a partnership of all Urban Municipalities in the County of Newell including the County to see a central regional use landfill facility developed. The facility is responsible for the safe and environmentally responsible collection of wastes for recycling or disposal, charges may apply.

For more information please visit the NRSWMA website at [www.newellwastemanagement.com/](http://www.newellwastemanagement.com/)