



**Fire Prevention Week is October 4-10, 2009
“Stay Fire Smart! Don't Get Burned”**

Despite the fact that fewer fire losses are reported in Canada, still, on average, eight Canadians die from fire every week. Most of these fires are preventable and caused by careless behaviour.

- ◆ Heating appliances such as space heaters should not have anything combustible close by and need at least one metre (three feet) of space around them. Inspect the electrical cord attached. If it overheats, you have a fire hazard. Keep young children away from them.
- ◆ Most chimney fires occur with wood-burning fireplaces. Ensure chimneys are cleaned professionally inspected regularly. Burn only appropriate fire wood and small quantities of wood at a time.
- ◆ It is important to install a carbon monoxide detector in your home. However, carbon monoxide detectors do not replace the need for prevention through yearly maintenance and inspection of heating systems and appliances.

If you require more information, please contact:
Safety Codes Officer Martin Corriveau at 403-591-7755 or by email at
martin.corriveau@gov.ab.ca

**Kananaskis Emergency
Services**

STATISTICS

August 2009

Parks/Dispatch Calls	720
EMS Transport Calls	10
EMS Non-Transport	38
Fire Response Calls	34

July 2009

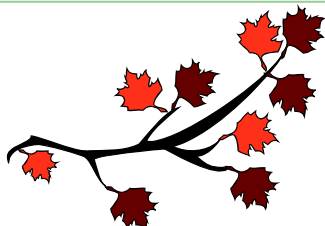
Parks/Dispatch Calls	778
EMS Transport Calls	15
EMS Non-Transport	48
Fire Response Calls	40

**Welcome to
Captain Poulin!**

I am proud to announce that Mr. Ron Poulin was the successful applicant in the recent Fire Prevention Officer posting with the Kananaskis Improvement District. Mr. Poulin will be assigned the Operations Officer position and he started his first day with the KID on July 22, 2009

Mr. Poulin joins our team from Suncor Emergency Services in the Fort McMurray area where he was employed as an Emergency Response Officer – EMT since 2006.

We are very excited to have Mr. Poulin on our Team and welcome him to the area.



Household Hazardous Waste Roundup

The results from the August 2009 Household Hazardous Waste Roundup has just been received and has been a fantastic event. Identified below is a listing and quantities of some of the collected material. KID Council has been a strong supporter of this very important recycling initiative and future events that will continue to decrease the amount of waste that accumulates in our community and then is diverted from the regional landfills.

- ◆ 85kg of glues, tars
- ◆ 2415 liters toxic household waste
- ◆ 24 liters of corrosives
- ◆ 65 aerosol cans
- ◆ 3600 liters of paint
- ◆ 2415 liters of flammable liquid (diesel, gasoline, jet fuel)
- ◆ 31 propane tanks
- ◆ 2 pallets of acid filled car batteries
- ◆ 688 kilograms of Electronic Waste

Contact the Kananaskis Emergency Services Centre at (403) 591-7755 to answer any questions you may have in the proper disposal or safe transport of Household Hazardous Waste or Electronic Waste to the Kananaskis Emergency Services Centre.

Thank you to everyone who made time throughout the year to collect and drop off their hazardous and electronic wastes to the Kananaskis Emergency Services.

**The Kananaskis
Improvement
District is a proud
member of
E911.**

**To report an
emergency:**

- **Fire**
- **Ambulance**
- **Police**
- **Mountain
Rescue**

Dial 911



Be Bear Aware!

As summer moves over to make way for fall bears get an incredible urge to fill up with all the yummy food they can get their paws on. Bears are ruled by their need to eat. In the fall they need about 20,000 calories every day to prepare for hibernation. That is the equivalent of about 300 apples, or 60 hamburgers, every day! A bear's natural foods include vegetation (greens, roots and berries), insects, carrion, and fish. If natural food sources fail, bears are more likely to try foraging in areas inhabited by people.

Some people feel sorry for the bears, but letting a bear eat your plums, or a bit of dog food is not the way to help them through the winter. Bears often seem harmless at first. They keep their distance and are wary of people, but this apparent respect can disappear quickly. Bears that learn to forage in populated areas soon lose their fear of people, and may cause property damage or even injure someone. If we want to help bears, we have to make a few changes in our own behaviours and in our communities to make the habitat we live in less appealing to bears.

Garbage should be stored indoors, in a garage or basement. Conditioned bears will damage weaker structures to get garbage. Take garbage to the dump regularly. If you have collection service, set the garbage out on the day of collection. Try freezing pungent wastes until garbage day to combat odours.

Gardens should be kept neat. Ensure that all windfall fruit is cleaned up daily. Harvest fruit as early as possible. If you don't plan to use the fruit pick the blossoms. Remove unused fruit trees and replace them with attractive, non-bearing, native trees.

Compost is a great way to keep solid waste and soil nutrients out of our landfills, but it can attract bears. Compost

should not smell; if it does then something is wrong. If your compost has attracted bears in the past, it likely will again in the future. Try composting kitchen waste indoors using worms. If you have a garden enclosure put your compost inside the fence. Generally prune low brush and tall grass around your yard to eliminate cover. Bears are initially less comfortable crossing open exposed areas. Brushing also increases the distance that you will be able to see, so that you are less likely to surprise (or be surprised by) a bear. **Bird Feeders** also attract bears, especially in the spring. Seeds are high in calories and a very good source of energy. While feeding birds can help them survive through the winter and off-sets habitat loss, we have to balance the good we do one species with the harm we cause to another. Bears can climb to reach nearly any feeder. If yours is suspended by a metal pole, bears have been known to simply push the pole over. A feeder high up on the side of the house is likely safe from bears. Don't let seeds accumulate under your feeder or you will make the neighbourhood cats very happy. Put out your feeders after the first snowfall, once the bears are safely in their winter dens, and take them down when spring arrives.

Barbecues attract bears too, but this is easily remedied by burning off all excess residue after cooking and keeping the grill clean. Leave the barbecue on high with the lid closed while you eat your supper. Cover it with a tarp or a cover once it has cooled to prevent the food odours from being carried by the wind.

Other common attractants include pet and livestock feed. Here the only solution is to keep these items securely indoors. Beehives are very attractive as well. Though hives are often kept farther from our homes, bears can cause a lot of expensive damage.

Alberta Access Challenge

An inspiring group of Albertans with disabilities enjoyed a weekend in the wilderness at the 2009 Alberta Access Challenge. The Government of Alberta, in partnership with the Friends of Kananaskis Country and the Community Recreation Initiatives Society, hosted the challenge in Peter Lougheed Provincial Park.

The Alberta Access Challenge encourages people with disabilities to enjoy visits to provincial parks, using adaptive equipment that removes barriers to participation. Volunteers and staff helped participants on either a two-night backcountry trip, paddling sea kayaks equipped with outrigger pontoons, or exploring trails on adapted TrailRider wheelchairs.

The Government of Alberta encourages all people to visit and experience provincial parks. The Access Challenge program is part of the inclusion strategy outlined in Alberta's *Plan for Parks* that is intended to remove physical barriers in parks facilities and programs.

Wireless is available!

MyCanopy is now providing internet services in the Kananaskis Valley. Wireless "WiFi" services will be available in the staff residences at the village. Price plans for WiFi start at \$35.95/month. If you live at the golf course residences or the Mount Kid trailer park then an antenna will need to be attached to the building. Monthly price plans for these internet services starts at \$43.00/month.

Preparation has started for the expansion into Peter Lougheed Provincial Park as well as the system for the Lower Lakes area. For further information please call 1-866-609-5588 ext 105 or visit us at www.mycanopy.ca

Notice of date change for Council Meeting

Please note that the Kananaskis Improvement District Council meeting scheduled for September 1, 2009 has been rescheduled for September 22, 2009 at 1:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.