# **Words from Our Mayor**

April 1 saw different tax increases come into effect. Some do not apply to the Town but others do. An example is the carbon tax which like everyone, we have to absorb. Increases from 5 to 20% started in 2022 and have continued. Another recent example would be the garbage pickup has increased by 20%. This will see our rate go from \$100 to \$120 per hour. As a council we will try to maintain services.

Everyone must realize there is only so much that can be done with our limited resources.

We continue to have software issues with our new water meter readers. Administration is trying to resolve these issues. The company that supplied the new meters has nothing to do with the software. It is a slow process but we are hoping to get a fix soon.

As the provincial election gets closer, we will be asked to make a choice. Who do we want to lead our province into the future? The race for Fort Saskatchewan/Vegreville will feature Jackie Armstrong-Homeniuk for the UCP and Taneen Rudyk for the NDP. Two very capable individuals. Remember to listen to the issues but most of all go out and vote.

Just a couple of housekeeping things. FCSS has a survey that they would like everyone to fill out. Copies are available at the Town & County offices and the FCSS office. This is also the time of year where freeze and thaw cycles cause problems. Please keep an eye on your sidewalks for ice buildup and address this issue to prevent a slip or fall by pedestrians.

Wishing everyone a Happy Easter!



- April 7 Good Friday Office Closed
- April 10 Easter Monday Officer Closed
- April 11 Regular Council Meeting
- April 22 Two Hills Ag Society Tradeshow
- April 25 Regular Council Meeting



# April 2023





Submit your Town photos to <a href="mailto:info@townoftwohills.com">info@townoftwohills.com</a> for a chance to be seen here!

# **GET YOUR GARDEN** SPRING READY

It's that time of year to pull out your gardening gloves and have your tools at the ready to get your garden all set for Spring. Here are some of our top tips on making your garden bloom now that the frost has settled.

# **LEAVES BEGONE**

Whether it's an old fashioned rake or a powered leaf collector you use, it's time to tidy up any leaves that have made home in our garden. It's the perfect start to see what you're working with this Spring!





Whether it's adding compost to your soil, seeding your grass or giving your artificial version a hoover it's important that you give the ground some TLC

# SHEAR AWAY

There's no time to snip-snip like the present! Unleash your shears or hedge trimmer on all that appears unruly and give your garden a fresh trim



# SHARPEN YOUR TOOLS

Clean your spades and sharpen your trowels to make the whole process easier. Cleaning them regularly will help them last longer in that garden shed of yours too!



### Spread some love to the wildlife in your garden this Spring by adding a bird feeder Our flighty friends will help keep the pests of the garden in check too, ensuring your bulbs bloom without the use of chemicals!



# DON'TFORGET THE PATIO

There's nothing that looks quite as fresh as a jet-washed patio! Get rid of all the dirt and grime and restore your patio back to its original state!



FREE ADMISSION



# HOW TO TRIM TREES - DIY -

## WHEN DIY TREE TRIMMING IS OK. AND WHEN IT'S NOT

Want to trim a small tree with lightweight branches and a canopy at eye level? Go for it! However, you should not attempt to prune a tree if you have to climb a ladder to reach the branches.



# HOW TO TRIM SMALL TREE BRANCHES YOURSELF

Let's start with the steps to trimming just one branch, then get into pruning a small tree. To trim a branch:Make sure your pruning tool is sharp and clean. Get to know the parts of the branch and tree

## HOW HOMEOWNERS CAN TRIM A SMALL TREE THEMSELVES

When you trim a small tree, the process of removing a branch remains the same, but other factors come into play. Make a plan for the branches you'll cut and the ones you'll





## HOW DIY TREE TRIMMING CAN GO WRONG AND KILL THE TREE

One wrong cut won't immediately kill your tree, but pruning incorrectly or too often can. If a tree repeatedly loses too much of its canopy at one time, it can become weak or even die from the stress.

## WHY YOU SHOULD AVOID TRYING TO TRIM A LARGE TREE

You may have noticed the theme here is all about trimming small branches and trees. There's a reason for that! Attempting to prune heavy branches or a tall tree is not recommended.



