



THE MUNICIPAL CONNECTION

JOIN THE AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD (ASB)

The M.D. of Wainwright Agricultural Service Board (ASB) is seeking applications for a new Farm Member to join the Board! ASBs are special committees appointed by rural Municipal Councils to address agricultural concerns in their local jurisdictions. The M.D. of Wainwright ASB is comprised of two members of Council, three Farm Members from the community as well as the Agricultural Fieldman and Assistant Agricultural Fieldman. Applicants must be a resident and/or ratepayer of the M.D. of Wainwright, be familiar with agricultural concerns and issues, and be willing to sit for a four-year term. Farm Members are provided compensation for attending Board meetings and events. Expected time commitment is four to six meetings per year, including annual Regional and Provincial Conferences, with the possibility of attending other events. If you have any questions or would like to learn more about what is involved with being a Board member, please do not hesitate to contact Shelby or Kaitlin at 780-842-4454. Those interested are asked to submit an expression of interest via email (a letter and/or resume, including reasons why they are interested), by November 18th at 4:30pm to Neil at nloonen@mdwainwright.ca or applications can be dropped off at the M.D. Admin building at 717 14Ave Wainwright.

WORKING WELL WOKSHOP SERIES

October 29th 6:30pm Maintaining and Managing Your Well
November 5th 6:30pm Sampling, Testing and Treating Well Water

To sign up for these free workshops or for more information visit www.alberta.ca/working-well-resources

BATTLE RIVER ALLIANCE FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (BRAED) AGRICULTURAL FORUM

November 13th, 2025

9:00am-3:30pm

Galahad Community Hall

Agenda Highlights:

- Smarter Farming with Olds College
- Economics That Matter to You
- Strong Mind, Strong Farm

Scan the QR code to register for this free event



2025 ASB GOPHER IMPACT SURVEY

Participate in the ASB Gopher Impact Survey to help provide a clear and credible summary to the Minister, with the goal of encouraging timely action to support prairie producers facing increasingly severe pest damage. To participate scan the QR code or visit:

<https://forms.gle/T68xGrqm1qHVRxcV8>



2026 CALENDARS

The 2026 Calendars have arrived. Stop by the MD Admin office to pick one up.

TAX DEADLINE

The Municipal Tax Deadline is Sunday November 30th. Due to November 30th falling on a Sunday this year, taxes will be accepted at the Municipal Office without penalty until 4:30pm, Monday December 1st. Payments sent by mail must be post marked no later than November 30th. A penalty of 12% will be added to all outstanding taxes effective Tuesday, December 2nd.

Taxes may be paid in person by cash, cheque, or debit at the administration office. Payments may also be made online via online banking and Interac, or by credit card at paysimply.ca

Post dated cheques are accepted. The drop off box is located in the admin office main entrance. Call 780-842-4454 with any questions regarding tax payment.

MUNICIPAL AWARDS

During the annual Rural Routes event, the M.D. was proud to present three awards.

MUNICIPAL FARM FAMILY AWARD

For 50 years, farm families from northern and central Alberta were recognized as the recipients of the Farmfair International Farm Family Award. Agriculture Service Boards selected outstanding families who best represented the values of the family farm within their rural community. In 2024, the Farmfair Award program was discontinued. The M.D. of Wainwright continues to celebrate and recognize deserving local families through the creation of the annual Municipal Farm Family Award. Every year, an Agricultural Society within the M.D. of Wainwright is designated to nominate a local farm family deserving of this award. The nomination rotation is as follows: Irma, Wainwright, Edgerton, and Chauvin.



Qualities the farm family should possess include maintaining a high standard in their operation, promoting agriculture through community involvement and rural citizenship, and acting as a role model within the rural community.

The Wainwright Ag Society nominated Rutledge Ranching for the 2025 M.D. of Wainwright Farm Family Award. The Wainwright Ranch, purchased in 1945, is now a fourth-generation farming operation, demonstrating a long-standing dedication to the land and local community. The operation maintains a high standard by committing to the continual modernization of practices, integrating emerging technologies, and adhering to sustainable land stewardship principles. The family is actively involved in the Greenshields 4-H Club, supporting youth development and agricultural education. Their actions reflect the values of stewardship, cooperation, and leadership that are essential to thriving rural communities.



100-YEAR FARM FAMILY AWARD

Keeping the farm or ranch from generation to generation is an impressive achievement for any family. The resilience, adaptability, and determination required to accomplish this feat is immense and worthy of recognition. These are the families who laid the foundation of prairie farming and ranching we stand upon today, building the backbone of our community. These enduring legacies will forever be ingrained in our rural heritage. The M.D. believes it is important to recognize these special families to honor past, present, and future generations. This year we celebrated the Tondou Family for 100 years of family farming on the original homestead.

YOUTH COMMUNITY IMPACT AWARD

The Youth Community Impact Award is an opportunity to recognize deserving youth (12-18 years) for the amazing ways they choose to give back to their rural community. This non-academic award has been designed to shine a light on youth who exemplify selflessness and dedication to helping others. Whether or not in a leadership role, the nominee shows their commitment to bettering their community through volunteerism, mentorship or peer support, or taking the initiative in starting new projects or programs.

The M.D. was proud to present the inaugural Youth Community Impact Award to Gabrielle Rue. Gabrielle has shown a strong dedication to volunteering in her community, and has been praised for her willingness to step up without being asked. Her positive attitude and enthusiasm shines through with every task she takes on.



Pictured in the top right photo is Reeve Mike Wildeboer presenting Rutledge Ranching with the Municipal Farm Family Award. The middle image is Division 3 Councilor Richard Waddell presenting the Tondou Family with a plaque commemorating 100-Years of Family Farming on the Original Homestead. Pictured in the bottom image is Reeve Mike Wildeboer presenting Gabrielle Rue with the Youth Community Impact Award.

SPOTLIGHT RUFF AND READY DOG GROOMING SALON

Just a short 7km drive south of Wainwright, Ruff and Ready Dog Grooming Salon is making tails wag with its professional, caring, and convenient grooming services for local pet owners. Locally owned and operated by Shirley Davis, the business opened its doors in early 2024, filling a much needed gap in the regions pet care services.

After a 26 year career with Enerplus Corporation in the oil and gas industry, Shirley found herself at a career crossroad when the company sold all its Canadian assets at the end of 2022. Shirley, a devoted dog owner herself, first saw the need for a local option when her local groomer closed and she was driving all the way to Lloydminster for grooming services. Realizing that other pet owners in the Wainwright area were likely facing the same inconvenience, she was inspired to launch Ruff and Ready Dog Grooming, a business that combines quality grooming with small-town service and accessibility.

To turn her idea into reality, Shirley enrolled in the fast-track course at Prestige Dog Grooming School in Calgary, studying under Danna Alexander, a master groomer. This program included an intensive online program plus four weeks of hands on instruction, six days a week. Upon completion of her grooming certificate she set up a home grooming space, while functional it wasn't ideal. Just one year into business, she purchased and moved a 12x40 ft office building into her backyard. Following completion of utility hookups and some renovations, this space makes for a more quiet, settled environment. It now features a welcoming waiting area with a complimentary coffee bar for clients who choose to stay during appointments, as well as kennels and gated sections that create an efficient, functional flow for both pets and their owners.

From routine maintenance to full grooming transformations, Shirley ensures each dog receives personalized care in a clean, calm, and professional environment.

The salon offers a wide range of grooming services tailored to dogs of all breeds and sizes. These include:

- Puppy Introduction to Grooming
- Bath and Brush-Out
- Bath and Tidy
- Full Groom or Partial Groom Services
- Individual Services such as nail clipping or dremeling, ear cleaning, and de-shedding

Starting a small rural business comes along with many challenges. One of the hurdles Shirley has encountered has been the location itself. Being outside of town means some clients are less willing to make the short trip. Working solo can make dealing with some larger dogs unfamiliar with grooming more challenging as they may resist going in the tub. No matter the task, her goal is always to make the experience positive and as stress free as possible.

Committed to giving back, the \$10 charged per nail trim is donated to local rescues such Wainwright Community Cat Rescue and the Wainwright Town Pound. If either group has a rescue animal in need of grooming, Shirley provides that service free of charge. These organizations are always in need of financial support and this has been Shirley's way of utilizing her expertise to give back to the community.

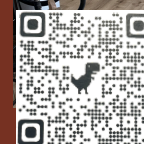
Shirley currently grooms 3 to 5 dogs per day, 5 to 6 days a week. Her grooming space continues to evolve, with plans for additional renovations and outdoor repairs before winter sets in. With a genuine love for animals and a strong commitment to community, Shirley Davis and Ruff and Ready Dog Grooming are proud to offer professional grooming. "I'd like to sincerely thank my dog and human clients for choosing Ruff and Ready Dog Grooming, for helping us grow the business by referring us to family and friends and sharing our Facebook content. It is so much appreciated! New clients are always welcome."



Before



After



PRAIRIE STAPLES WESTERN WOOD LILY *Lilium philadelphicum*

The wood lily is a small perennial wildflower species with a stem growing about 50cm tall. It starts emerging in mid-June where it provides an explosion of orange in the sea of green grasses. This species normally produces just one flower, but there can be clusters of two. Their flowers are highly beneficial for pollinator species including hummingbirds, bees, and butterflies. The leaves are narrow, alternately arranged, and whorled at the top of the stem. Lilies are most often found in clearings in woodlands, prairies, roadside, and meadows. They grow best in normal to moist conditions with full or partial sun exposure and prefer sandy to loamy, well-drained soils. Traditionally the bulbs were harvested and cooked by Indigenous groups. Medicinally, crushed bulbs were applied to cuts, bruises, and skin irritations to promote wound healing, while infusions of bulbs or leaves were used to treat cough and lung ailments.



RESTRICTIVE COVENANTS

An agreement between the owners of two or more properties.



**REGISTERED AT THE
ALBERTA LAND TITLES
OFFICE**

RUNS WITH THE LAND

Since a restrictive covenant “runs with the land” it means that it binds the current owner and every future owner unless discharged or amended.

A single property may be subject to more than one restrictive covenant.

PEST & DISEASE SURVEY RESULTS

Quality assurance, market access and yield are key to the success of Alberta's agriculture industry; Surveillance and monitoring for insects and diseases provides a key piece to this success by gathering information about established species populations and new threats to the cropping industry. The information gathered from pheromone traps, field insect collections and counts, and surveys is used to create forecast maps and make control recommendations.

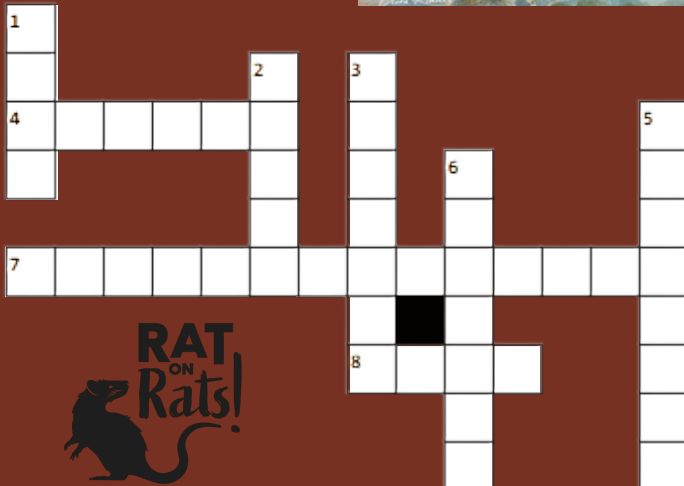
The M.D. of Wainwright partakes in a number of surveys each year. During the 2025 field season, field surveillance and surveys included: diamond back moth counts, bertha army worm counts, swede midge traps, canola flower midge traps, wheat midge soil sampling, grasshopper surveys, clubroot surveys, and wheat head surveys which are tested for bunt, loose smut, fusarium head blight, and ergot. Results and insect forecast maps can be found on the Government of Alberta website under the Alberta Insect Pest Monitoring Network.

RAT INSPECTIONS

Fall rat inspections are underway in Range 1 within the M.D. of Wainwright.



RAT ON RATS!



Across:

4. Norway rats can produce litters up to _____ young, every 21-23 days.

7. Established in the 1950s to prevent rat infestations from spreading into the province.

8. Rats are native to _____.

Down:

1. One of the most destructive invasive species in North America.

2.Number of municipalities in the Rat Control Zone.

3. The largest rat-free jurisdiction in the world.

5. Rats can host over 35 different _____ that can be transmitted to humans.

6. Rat damages are estimated to cost \$19 _____ annually in the US.