

WEST CRESTON COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

August 2012

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Annual Corn Crickers' Picnic:

Here it is almost time for the annual Corn Crickers' Picnic! The picnic will be held on **Sunday, September 9th, 12:00 noon to 4:00 pm** at the West Creston Hall.

There will be the usual old time family fun corn shucking contest, games for all ages, barbecued hamburgers (with all the trimmings), fried onions (can't you smell them already), hot dogs, smokies and fresh corn. Don't forget the yummy homemade pies!!

This picnic is a great opportunity to visit with your neighbours, and also great area for children to play.

Come and enjoy a relaxing afternoon and support your community.

Hope to see you there!!

When the Winds Blow:

If you haven't seen it yet, there is a new look at the Community Hall yard following the removal of a number of trees!

Back in May we hired a professional logger to come in and remove a few dangerous trees (mostly Cottonwoods) from around the Hall property, as we felt they were or could potentially be a hazard.

Despite our efforts to limit the number of trees removed, Mother Nature had her own way on July 20th and blew down 30 more trees. One large Cedar fell on the corner of the Community Hall and two other large Firs scored a direct hit on the Fire Hall.

The damage to the Community Hall and property is considered to be minimal, but the Fire Hall was not as fortunate. The Fire Hall was smashed and one truck is beyond repair.

Clean-up after the wind storm took 8 days. We brought in a professional logger to make the property safe and remove the damaged trees, and used an excavator to gather the branches and stumps into piles for future burning. A number of residents also volunteered (along with some members of the Creston Valley Motorcycle Club) to hand rack the remaining branches and complete the job.

A special THANK YOU to our caretaker Renney for all his hard work before and after the Wind Storm. Also thank you to all the volunteers who helped clean-up the mess, plus a thank you to Director Binks for being so supportive during the process.

Looking back, the pro-active removal of the first batch of dangerous trees actually prevented more serious damage to our Community Hall during the Wind Storm!

Looking forward, the yard has been opened up for better air flow (maybe fewer mosquitoes) and there is now more space for activities and improved camp sites.

West Creston Fire Protection Society:

Last month's windstorm proved to be devastating for the Fire Society. The garage housing the fire trucks and equipment was totally destroyed, and the water tender has been deemed a write off.

Despite this major setback, the fire society is still functioning. The new pumper truck came out unscathed, the satellite units are okay and the water tender can limp along until we have a replacement for it.

The fire ban will remain in place **until September 19th** unless B.C. Forest Service informs the public otherwise.

EMERGENCY FIRE CALL OUT - phone number **250-402-9779**.

Area C Town Hall Meeting:

Larry Binks, Area C Director will be hosting a Town Hall meeting, **September 17th; 7:00 p.m. at the Hall.**

This is your opportunity to hear up-to-date information on Area C and ongoing valley issues.