

# ***TOWN OF BIGGAR***

## ***NEWSLETTER #2008-3 MAY 2008***

### **BLACK KNOT DISEASE – FRUIT TREES:**

The Town has received information on Black Knot disease which is a disease that is affecting some fruit trees such as plum and cherry trees and Native and Shubert Chokecherry trees in the Biggar area.

This disease is characterized by the presence of thick, black, irregular swellings on twigs and branches. The galls are often noticed in the winter when leaves are not present. Initially this disease appears as small light brown swellings on current or previous season's growth followed by in the next year swellings that appear olive green with a velvety texture. Often the branch beyond the knot will either fail to leaf out or wilts suddenly.

If you notice that your fruit trees may have signs of this disease, please contact the Town Office for more information on the treatment and/or control of this disease. You may also want to check the following website for more information: [plantclinic.cornelledu/FactSheets/black\\_knot/blacknot.htm](http://plantclinic.cornelledu/FactSheets/black_knot/blacknot.htm)

### **TOWN OF BIGGAR SUMMER HOURS MAY 15 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2008**

Town Office Summer Hours

8:30 a.m. – Noon

1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Recreation Department, Utility Department, Public Works Department

7:30 a.m. – Noon

1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

### **LANDFILL HOURS CHANGES**

**MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY**

**10:00 a.m. – Noon**

**3:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.**

**SATURDAY**

**10:00 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.**

**PLEASE REMEMBER THAT ALL LOADS GOING TO THE LANDFILL MUST BE SECURED OR TARPED TO KEEP DEBRIS FROM FALLING OFF AND LITTERING THE ROADWAYS AND DITCHES.**

### **BIGGAR AQUATIC CENTRE & SUMMER DAY CAMP:**

The Town is in the process of readying Biggar Aquatic Centre for the summer of 2008. The pool staff has set up registration night for swimming lessons on Tuesday, May 27, 2008 at St. Gabriel's School from 6-8 p.m. **Registrations after this date can be dropped off at the Town Office until June 13, 2008. Then a late fee of \$5.00 will be added to all registrations after June 13<sup>th</sup>.**

Also the Summer Day Camp will be offered again this summer to children from the ages of 5-12. The camp will run Monday-Friday afternoons from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. at Jubilee Stadium. Please watch for notices regarding registration for this program

## **GARBAGE STANDS AND CANS:**

The Town of Biggar's Waste Collection Bylaw requires all households to have sufficient garbage cans with close-fitting water tight lids to provide storage for all garbage originating from the household for a period of seven days. The cans should be placed on a stand of a raised platform type so that the cans are secure in the stand and not subject to being knocked over or upset by dogs and should be made of sturdy construction. They should be a minimum of 18 inches above the ground.

## **WEST NILE VIRUS:**

The mosquito season is upon us!! The Town is asking the citizens of Biggar and surrounding area to protect themselves once again against the West Nile Virus by taking certain precautions such as the following:

- Apply insect repellent!!
- Wear long sleeved shirts and long pants.
- Minimize time spent outdoors between dusk and dawn.
- Use mosquito netting on strollers to protect infants and toddlers.

**One of the most effective ways to help discourage mosquito breeding is to remove standing water from your property.**

## **PROPERTY UP-KEEP:**

With the summer months upon us, please keep in mind that your assistance with the upkeep and mowing of your yard and the rear lane behind your property helps keeps our community neat and tidy and as well, saves on tax dollars. If a property becomes overgrown with grass and weeds or is declared a nuisance under the Town's Nuisance Abatement Bylaw #06-664 and in particular Section 8, the Town can order the property owner to clean the yard and if such work is not completed within the time period set out in the order, the Town could proceed to have the work completed and the charges sent to the property owner. These charges start at \$150.00 per hour and if the charges are not paid – same will be added to the property taxes as of December 31 of the current year.

## **WATER AND SEWER DISCONNECTIONS DUE TO NON-PAYMENT:**

Water and sewer statements are sent out every 2 months. These accounts are due and payable upon receipt of the invoice. All overdue accounts are subject to disconnection approximately 15 days after the date of the next water and sewer billing. If the water and sewer service is disconnected due to non-payment, a \$25.00 surcharge will be charged in order for the water and sewer service to be re-connected along with the bill being made current.

**PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOUR ACCOUNT IS KEPT UP TO DATE IN ORDER TO AVOID DISCONNECTION.**

For further information on any of the above, please contact the Town Office at 948-3317 or email the Town at [townoffice@townofbiggar.com](mailto:townoffice@townofbiggar.com)

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