



RM of Meadow Lake No. 588 – 2024 UPDATE

Tax Rates

The RM of Meadow Lake has set the mill rates for 2024. Because of the efficiencies experienced by going to a contract model there will be no tax increases for a third consecutive year. If there are any changes to your tax dollar amount it will be due to an assessment adjustment, including new construction or re-evaluation.

NEW Construction

Any commercial or residential construction requires a development permit and a building permit before work is done. Further information is available at the RM office. Agricultural buildings, excluding homes, require a development permit.

The Tax Notice

Regular property taxes are calculated using the following formula (the taxable assessment amount x mill rate/1000 x mill rate adjustment factor). There are currently agricultural, residential and commercial mill rate adjustment factors. School taxes do not have mill rate adjustment factors.

In addition, the base tax is a flat tax on residential buildings and /or residential land that is used to pay for certain basic services regardless of house size or in the RM, homes that are subject to property tax exemptions. Currently the base tax covers the RCMP contract with the RM, the Fire Protection agreement with the City of Meadow Lake and a percentage of recreational services used by RM residents in the city. Other items that will appear on your property tax notices are school taxes and hail insurance if you have coverage. If you require information regarding your actual land and building assessment valuations that can be provided to you.

Fire Regulations and Burn Permits

The RM will issue a separate permit for burning wood just for recreational fire pit use. If a Fire Ban is declared no burning other than the latter is allowed and it is only allowed under certain conditions as stated in the permit.

If an RM resident starts a fire deliberately or accidentally and the fire spreads to adjacent properties they are liable for damages. Please assess your yard to see if there is flammable materials close to buildings and take any other measures that may reduce fire spread. **Check out: firesmartcanada.ca and get the phone app**

If a resident does not have fire insurance and there is a fire on their property, they will be liable for any fire suppression costs, such as invoices from the various fire departments as well as any costs incurred from bringing in heavy equipment or water bombers.

If an RM resident starts a fire without a burning permit or during a fire ban and a fire spreads, they may be fined under the provincial Wildfire Act up to \$500,000 in addition to fines under the RM bylaws.

Rural Address Signs

There are still a significant amount of Rural Address signs that have not been picked up. Anyone who wishes to have their rural address sign installed on their property may do so at their own expense. The signs and posts are available at the RM office and will be issued at no cost to you. A form must be filled out and we would require advance notice to have them available for pickup. An inspection will be done after installation is complete.

Reporting

If anyone observes someone damaging or removing signs, damaging culverts, bridges or roadways within the RM please contact the RM office immediately at 306-236-5651 or call 911. A number of signs are being removed, damaged or stolen every year, at a significant cost to the RM and there is still a \$1,000 reward available to anyone who provides information that results in a conviction. Also, the hauling of heavy equipment should be avoided during inclement weather to avoid road damage.

Emergency Procedures

Please mark down your GPS location (most important), legal property description, rural address including township or range road as well as which Division you are in, in case there is an emergency, and the first responders need the location. The RM office can provide you with all of this information. If you have a cell phone number, it is also beneficial to divulge this information to the RM office to add it to your property file in case we need to contact you. **Add the Voyent alert phone app for local emergencies.**