



NEWS RELEASE – For Immediate Release January 3, 2013

Drivers Reminded to be Attentive to Logging Trucks on County Roads

Drivers are reminded to use caution as logging trucks will soon be traveling County roads east of Evergreen Park and PARDS and crossing Resources Road to Highway 40, south of the City.

The County of Grande Prairie advises the public to stay well away from logging equipment and to use caution when driving or recreating in this area.

As part of the local FireSmart Program, about 110 hectares of trees will be logged this winter, completing about two-thirds of a firebreak from the Aspen Ridge Subdivision to Evergreen Park. To date, approximately 235 hectares have been logged.

Logging in the area should be complete by the middle of January, with hauling commencing shortly after. Weyerhaeuser will purchase the logs for use in their pulp mill.

The local FireSmart program – a partnership between the County of Grande Prairie and Alberta Sustainable Resource Development – is a proactive planning tool aimed at reducing the risk of wildfire.

In operation since 2010, the initiative has targeted beetle infested areas, which heighten the risk of wildfire. Infected pine trees are harvested to prevent the rapid spread of wildfire.

In 2011, Alberta Sustainable Resource Development awarded the County a \$442,460 grant for its FireStart program.

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