



Oldman Watershed Council

What's Happening at the OWC!

Dutch Creek Restoration Event



Thank you - Volunteers!

A big thank you to the 50 volunteers who planted willows, gathered leaves, installed signs and built a barricade in Dutch Creek on October 17 and to all the partners and funders for making it possible!



Volunteers enjoying a lunch break

Our effort to restore a large ford crossing will reduce sediment runoff into the creek which is home to endangered Westslope Cutthroat Trout.



Riley Sawyer

[Read more](#) about the Dutch Creek Restoration Event from one of the volunteers and OWC's Communication Intern Riley Sawyer.

OWC Lunch and Learn

We had our first Lunch and Learn on September 30 to share updates on our Engaging Recreationists and Film Projects and we had many great discussions and networking ice breakers. About 40 people joined us to hear the results from our research over the summer interviewing and surveying off



Discussion on the Engaging Recreationists Project

highway vehicle (OHV) recreationists and backcountry campers, as well as reviewing existing information. Our key learning is that there are 2 distinct types of OHV users who are looking for different experiences and therefore have different needs. We now have a much better understanding of the user perspective and will use this research to guide the design of our programs for next summer.



William Singer III giving update on the filming on the Blood Reserve

The film trailer was also shown and we shared how the summer has been very challenging for capturing footage between all the rain, smoke and even ticks. The film project has allowed many watershed experts and community leaders to tell their stories and voice their concerns and hopes for the future. We are very excited to have captured these voices and to be able to share them with you over time through the film and shorter videos. To view the Film Project Trailer, [click here](#).

Recreational Vehicle User Education Program

Over the summer and fall we had two Outreach Assistants, Adam Janzen and Rowan Garleff busy in the headwaters as part of our Recreational Vehicle User Education Program.

We focused our efforts on building relationships within the OHV community and on developing a better understanding of the concerns, barriers, and opportunities facing OHV riders and random campers. Our primary goal was to clarify what, if anything, we could do to support recreationists to steer clear of water. Read more [here](#).



Interns Adam Janzen and Rowan Garleff

OWC welcomes Larin Guenther, Planning Manager



Larin Guenther

Larin Guenther was born and raised alongside the Oldman River in Lethbridge, AB. Most recently, she has worked at Tervita with a role in Waste Processing where she coordinated proper and environmentally regulated waste disposal for her clients. Previous to Tervita, Larin worked for Bullfrog Power, and as an Environmental Planner in southern Alberta with CA Planning. She has also held numerous roles in non-profits and other organizations, including Calgary EATS!, the Alberta Indigenous Games, the Digital Youth Council and the Vancouver Aquarium.

Larin holds a BSc in Neuroscience from the University of Lethbridge and an MSc in Environment and Management from Royal Roads University.

Taking on the role of Planning Manager at the OWC, Larin is committed to . . . [read more](#)

Welcome Cody to the Watershed Legacy Program (WLP)

Cody Spencer comes to the OWC's Watershed Legacy Program with a connection to the land. A lifelong southern Albertan, he has a fascination with how this place came to be and what the future holds. He was drawn to bison ranching because of its potential for sustainability and grassland conservation, and bison's natural adaptations to the harsh climate of the northern plains. He launched his grass-fed bison meat venture Sweetgrass Bison in the spring of 2014.

Information to apply as a funding recipient, or to become a WLP sponsor is [here](#).



Cody Spencer

What Does the Liberal Federal Government Mean for Environmental Issues?

Mairin Gettman, OWC Intern and Political Science Student at the University of Lethbridge, shares insight into what we can expect and her hope for an active citizenry. It is inspiring to see young watershed residents getting involved in politics and we encourage Mairin's continued initiative!

A change in government is always exciting but can also make us anxious: what kinds of changes will this new regime make? Will they be positive changes? How well will they collaborate with the provinces? A looming issue, largely disregarded by the previous federal government has been . . . [read more](#)



Film Project



Interview with Shirley Pickering

We have been filming throughout the summer and have just finished in High River along the Little Bow. We are moving into post-production to construct key messaging for our three audiences: scientists, public and children. Behind-the-scenes photos of all of our locations can be found [here](#).



Holding the Reins - it's back!

HTR is a landowners summit for agricultural producers to share their stories of stewardship with the public, learn from each other and about some of the "hot topics" in the watershed.

It is typically held in February - we'll keep you posted on the date!

AVIVA Community Contest

The judges of the Aviva Community fund are now reviewing the finalists and the Grand Prize winners will be announced December 2nd. Sadly, the Oldman's project bid didn't make it into the finals, but we would like to thank everyone who participated and voted! Find out more about the finalists [here](#).

Green Drinks Invitation - #GreenDrinksYQL

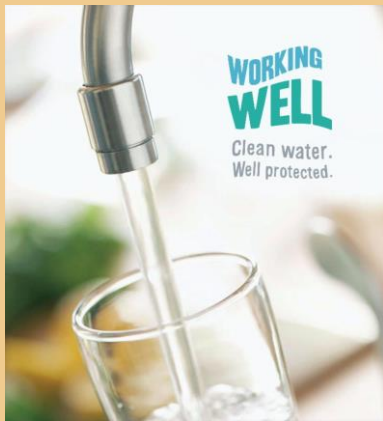
Green Drinks meets in Lethbridge on the first Tuesday of every month at 4 pm at the Owl Acoustic Lounge - **next meeting is Tuesday, December 1.**

- Meetings are on an open-house, informal basis - all are welcome, bring a friend, to enjoy conversing and sharing in an easygoing manner.
- Drinking is not a requirement, but paid for individually by the drinker.
- On December 1 we will talk about shared hashtags and better collaboration on social media.
- Group focus is: communication, outreach, collaboration, environment, community, networking, learning, social media, marketing, mentoring, cutting down on duplication of effort, enjoying each other's company.
- Overall focus is on developing communication professionals and practice in Lethbridge.

What is Greendrinks? What began in 1989 in a pub in Northern London has now spread to over 488 cities in 49 countries - and it's still growing! Greendrinks brings together a lively mix of people from all walks of life: academics, NGOs, local businesses and government agencies. The goal is to create an organic, self-organizing network where everyone is welcome. It's a great way to catch up with people you already know, as well as an opportunity to meet new people and make new connections. These events are very simple and unstructured, but many people have found employment, made friends, developed new ideas, done deals and had their own share of "aha" moments. For more information on Greendrinks International, visit www.greendrinks.org

Events & Activities in and around the Watershed

Working Well Workshop



MD of Willow Creek & OWC presents FREE Water Well Management Workshop

November 19, 5:30 pm - supper provided
Ardenville Hall (South of Ft. Macleod on Hwy 810)
If you are one of 450,000 Albertans who use their water well for household purposes, the key to ensuring your water supply is safe and secure is knowing how groundwater works, learning about your well an understanding how to properly maintain it.

For more information, [click here](#).
Register by November 13.



To attend the workshop, please pre-register by calling Carla Preachuk or Ron MacKay at MD of Willow Creek office 403-625-3351 (ext. 229) or email carla@mdwillowcreek.com

Southern Alberta Council on Public Affairs (SACPA)

Alberta's Environment: What are the Priorities?

Presenter: Minister Shannon Phillips, Minister of Environment and Parks

Thursday, November 12, 12 noon at Country Kitchen Catering
(lower level of The Keg, 1715 Mayor Magrath Drive South)

OHV's and Grassland in Lethbridge

Presenter: Becky Cousins

Thursday, November 19, 12 noon at Country Kitchen Catering
(lower level of The Keg, 1715 Mayor Magrath Drive South)

For more information and to register, visit SACPA.ca

Sustaining Alberta's Headwaters: Science Symposium

November 25, Calgary Zoo

Presented by Forest Management Branch, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry

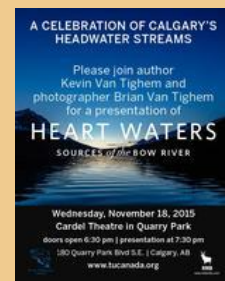
See the [workshop agenda](#) and [registration form](#) attached.

Send completed registration forms by **November 20th** to Wendy.Machan@gov.ab.ca or by fax to 780-427-0085.

Celebration of Calgary's Headwater Streams (Trout Unlimited Canada)

November 18, 6:30 pm (presentation at 7:30), Cardel Theatre - Calgary

Author Kevin Van Tighem will be joined by photographer Brian Van Tighem for a presentation of "Heart Waters: Sources of the Bow River." All proceeds from the event will help support Trout Unlimited Canada's conservation efforts. Please [click here](#) for event details and tickets.



2016 Shelter Belt Tree Program is launched. For more information, [click here](#).

Conferences



Alberta Irrigation Projects Association 2015 Conference

November 23-25, Lethbridge Lodge Hotel

Two weeks left to register for AIPA's Water Conference

[Click here](#) for registration and information and [here](#) for the Speaker and Talk List for the conference



Alberta Irrigation
PROJECTS ASSOCIATION

Farming Smarter Conference

December 8 & 9, 2015

Coast Lethbridge Hotel

Cost: \$225 full, \$150 one day, \$30 banquet

Register and find full agenda: www.farmingsmarter.com

Keynote presenters: David Montgomery, John Knapp and Peter Johnson



11th Prairie Conservation and Endangered Species Conference - Feb 16-18, 2016

First Call for Posters & Presentations

Saskatoon Inn, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

Theme: "Prairie - It's a Happening Place!"

[Registration](#) is now open; early bird rate until January 15.

Two awards will be given out at the Prairie Conservation and Endangered Species Conference: the [Young Professional Stewardship Grant](#) and the [Prairie Conservation Award](#). Nominations are due on November 30 and should be submitted to awards.pcesc@gmail.com.

Reports

2015
WATER AND
HYDRAULIC FRACTURING REPORT
Where knowledge can best support decisions in Canada



water - its use, management and protection, and ecological and socio-economic importance.

Canadian Water Network's 2015 Water and Hydraulic Fracturing report summarizes what we know now, what we most need to know, and what is reasonable for advancement through targeted research. 2015 report now available for download [here](#)

The rapid rise in the development of unconventional oil and shale gas reserves over the last decade has been accompanied by a similar explosion in levels of discussion and debate on the topic. Central to the vast majority of conversations about hydraulic fracturing is the issue of



Alberta Agriculture and Forestry has published a guide for landowners who are looking to increase their knowledge or experience with forestland management.

[Click here](#) for the Woodlot Management Guide for Alberta.

Requests for Proposals and Funding Applications

Lesser Slave Watershed Council is seeking the services of a qualified person to help develop a governance and policy manuals. [Click here](#) for the RFP.

Alberta Environment and Parks is pleased to announce that the third round of **Watershed Resiliency and Restoration Program funding applications** will be accepted until January 15th in a joint program approach with the Agricultural Watershed Enhancement Program.

More details of eligibility for these grant programs are at www.wrrp.alberta.ca. For timely responses please direct any correspondence to our joint program email at GOA.Watershed@gov.ab.ca. You are also welcome to contact Monique Dietrich at monique.dietrich@gov.ab.ca if you have any questions.

See what's happening on our social sites:



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Try it FREE today.

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