

THE COUNTY CHRONICLE

COUNTY OF WARNER NO. 5



SPRING-SUMMER 2020



Chin Park and Ridge Park are OPEN *with restrictions!*

Chin Park is located on a large irrigation reservoir, on Highway 36, about 35 km north of the Village of Warner and south of the Town of Taber on Chin Reservoir. There are 12 sites with electrical hookups and an overflow area. The park is owned and maintained by the County of Warner No. 5. There is a boat dock, boat ramp, swimming area, camp kitchen, and washrooms available. For more information and park restrictions please contact the park host at 403-222-2285

Ridge Park is a popular campground on the south side of the Milk River Ridge Reservoir. It is located on Highway 844 just west of Raymond or east on Highway 506 near Warner. The 16 km (10 miles) long reservoir has plenty of room for water skiing and sightseeing along the water with several islands east of the campground. Ridge Park has sites with electrical hookups, playground, boat launch and 14 slip marina, four camp kitchens, a dock, swimming area and washrooms, and overflow area. Potable water and Concession are available. A large grassed open play area adjoins the playground make this a favorite spot for young families. Stay for a few nights of camping or come just come to play for the day. For more information and park restrictions please contact the park host at 403-393-8297; email: ridgepark17@gmail.com

For park prices and to view the park brochures please visit the County of Warner website: warnercounty.ca

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County of Warner No. 5



Contact Information:

County of Warner No. 5
Administration Office
 300 County Road, Box 90
 Warner, AB T0K 2L0
 Phone: 403-642-3635
 Fax: 403-642-3631

New Toll Free Number: 1-888-642-2241
 Website: www.warnercounty.ca

Shawn Hathaway, Administrator/ Economic Development Officer
shathaway@warnercounty.ca

Morgan Strate, Property Assessor
mstrate@warnercounty.ca

County of Warner No. 5 **Agriculture Service Board**

202 County Road, Box 90
 Warner, AB T0K 2L0
 Phone: 403-642-2255
 Fax: 403-642-2256

Toll Free Call: 1-866-642-2221

Jamie Meeks, Agriculture Fieldman
jmeeks@warnercounty.ca

PUBLIC WORKS:

Phone: 403-642-3833
 Fax: 403-642-3832

New Toll Free Number: 1-888-642-3831

Larry Liebelt, Public Works Superintendent
lliebelt@warnercounty.ca

COUNCIL MEMBERS

David Cody, Division 1 dcody@warnercounty.ca
 Ross Ford, Division 2 rford@warnercounty.ca
 Phil Jensen, Division 3 pjensen@warnercounty.ca
 Randy Taylor, Division 4 rtaylor@warnercounty.ca
 Shawn Rodgers, Division 5 srodgers@warnercounty.ca
 Don Heggie, Division 6 dheggie@warnercounty.ca
 Morgan Rockenbach,
 Division 7 mrockenbach@warnercounty.ca

Notes from the Reeve

As Reeve of the County of Warner I would like to thank the residents of the County in all the efforts they have made to help control the spread of Covid-19 in our County. County Council stopped all meetings for a month to develop a strategy to move forward. We are now meeting on our regular scheduled dates at a larger venue to ensure proper social distancing. The County has developed a plan that allows us to ensure that operations can continue. I personally would like to thank all the hard work that council and staff have done to work through these trying times. Once again thank you everyone for all that you have done in the County of Warner to help slow the spread of this disease and we will continue to work together to get through these difficult times.

Administration office

Development Permits

Development permits are available through the County Administration office. The fee for the permit will depend on the type of permit being applied for. Fees range from \$50 - \$100 for basic permits that include permitted use and a minimum fee of \$200 for discretionary permits. Adjacent landowners must be notified for any discretionary use permit. Nonresidential farm buildings (barns, etc.) are exempt, but must meet the required setbacks from road allowances. Below is some commonly asked questions regarding development. If there are any other questions please feel free to contact our development officer Tyler Nelson at 403-642-3635.

Discretionary Use Permit

Adjacent landowners must be notified when a discretionary use permit is requested. The County is required to allow seven days for mailing of the notice and fourteen days for the opportunity to reply. If no objections are received, a permit is issued, however, adjacent landowners must once again be notified that the permit has been issued and there is one more opportunity to object. The seven days for mailing and fourteen days to reply is once again in effect. Therefore, an absolute minimum of six weeks is required, but could take longer. If objections to discretionary permits are received, a hearing is scheduled which adds several more weeks before a decision is made to issue the permit or not. When discretionary permits are required it is advisable to apply for them as soon as possible in order to avoid delays in the desired start date for construction.

Fire Permits

A fire permit is required before lighting any open fire in the County of Warner. This does not include screened burning barrels or fire pits at recreational areas. Please obtain a fire permit by calling your local fire department's fire chief. Their contact information is available on our website. Failure to get a permit could lead to fines and the landowner responsible for payment of fire services responding to the fire. During fire bans no burning at all is allowed, fire bans are posted on our website as well as on albertafirebans.ca.

Permitted Use Permit

A permitted use permit can generally be issued the day it is applied for if all setbacks and other requirements are met. Please call the County Administration Office and speak to the development officer for information on permitted uses in the area you are applying for. To expedite the approval process, completely fill out the application form and include a detailed site plan showing all setbacks from road allowances and other buildings and waterways. Homes must include a detailed plan showing square footage or square meters of buildings or additions.

Road Setbacks

Buildings and other developments/improvements such as dugouts, must be at least 120 feet from the property line of the nearest county road, unless the road is a primary or secondary highway. If the road is a primary or secondary highway, the setbacks are established by Alberta Transportation. New shelterbelts must be set back 25 feet from any property line and must be set back at intersections so sight lines are not obstructed. The above setbacks are also required for undeveloped road allowances. Stockpiles are defined as the temporary storage of materials on or off a hard surface. Materials stored include: soil, manure, forage crop, or machinery. The setbacks shown in the above paragraph must be met. A full Copy of the Land Use By-Law and Development application forms are available on our website.

Subdivisions

All County of Warner subdivision applications are handled through the Oldman River Regional Services Commission located at 3105 - 16 Avenue North in Lethbridge. Steve Harty is the County planner and he can be reached at 403-329-1344 or 1-877-329-1387. More information about subdivision is available on the Oldman River Regional Services Commission website www.orrsc.com.

Taxes

The County of Warner will be sending out the property tax bills by July 1, 2020 will be due November 30, 2020 in order to avoid penalties. The County office is located at 300 County Road in the Village of Warner. It is important to note that the office hours are Monday thru Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and on Fridays from 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon.

Payment of taxes can be made by:

- Cheques made payable to the County of Warner No. 5. If the cheques are mailed the envelope should be clearly postmarked by Canada Post no later than November 30, 2020. (A postage imprint is not an acceptable proof for date of mailing)
- Debit Card at the County Office
- Cash or money order
- Online through ATB, Credit Union and Scotia Bank.

To pay online set up the County of Warner through your online banking and use either your customer number or roll number so we know who to apply the payment to.

There is a **NIGHT DEPOSIT** located just right of the County main entrance doors in which payments can also be dropped off at.

WILDFIRE SEASON STARTS MARCH 1

Fire permits will be required for any burning in the Forest Protection Area (excluding campfires).

firepermits.alberta.ca

Toll Free: 310-0000



AGRICULTURE SERVICE BOARD BUILDING

Adjacent to the Public Works Shop

North of the Village of Warner

Please visit our new location.

Operational Hours - Ag Service Board

7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday – Thursday

PUBLIC WORKS



Public Works would like to remind everyone that they will be out repairing culverts, replacing signs, patching, re-graveling roads, upgrading roads for snow storage and drainage. While County crews are out working please keep safety in mind and follow the signs that are placed and slow down when passing workers. When possible updated road construction and work being done will be updated on the County website.

Farm Pivots and Irrigation, The County of Warner has been experiencing road problems occurring from Irrigation pivots spraying water on the roads. This has washed gravel off the road surface and created dangerous soft spots. County of Warner Bylaw NO. 883-10 will be enforced resulting in fines of up to \$1000.00 plus repair costs.

Gravel request forms and Dust suppression forms can be found on the County of Warner website. All requests must be in by May 15th of the current year.

Policy Change Highlights

Policy #320.42- Access Approach Installation policy

- One approach per quarter Section
- If a culvert is required, the cost is the responsibility of the landowner.

- If a second approach is requested and approved the landowner is responsible for the cost if culvert and installation. Policy# 320.45 – Gravel Sales and Distribution
- Landowner must have a residence on their property.
- Cost of Gravel and delivery will be the responsibility of the landowner.
- Maximum of 50 Tonnes per year.
- Delivery will take place when time permits. Policy # 320.70- Texas Gates
- Texas Gate maintenance and cleaning of are the responsibility of the applicant.

Alberta Fields Needed For Fusarium Study

The 5-year project - Developing a Risk Model to Improve the Effectiveness of Fusarium Head Blight (FHB) Mitigation in Western Canadian Cereal - was launched last year. Researchers need more fields in Alberta to survey this year. FHB is a fungal disease that affects cereal crops by reducing productivity and producing mycotoxins in grain. However, using farm management decisions for controlling FHB to improve crop production, lower toxin levels and marketability by as little as 1%, can add greater returns for the producer following harvest.

Greg Daniels, senior plant pathology technologist at Alberta Agriculture and Forestry, says that the project aims to use local weather data, crop variety resistance levels and seeding date to develop a specifically western Canadian model for disease development. It will be used to create a publicly available viewer that will help with disease prevention and management. Researchers are looking for fields in areas where FHB has been found and are located as close as possible to weather stations. Participating producers will be asked to set aside a small area to remain unsprayed with fungicides at anthesis. A student technician, following stringent biosecurity protocols, will need access the field 3 times to rate the crop for disease and to collect a small harvest sample. Producers will receive an initial summary of results and analysis of the samples from their fields.



T.K. Turkington

**For more information, connect with
Greg Daniels,
greg.daniels@gov.ab.ca**



The Canadian Agricultural Partnership Grant Program

The Canadian Agricultural Partnership is a five-year, \$3 billion federal-provincial-territorial investment in the agriculture, agri-food and agri-based products sector that began in April 2018 and is the successor of the 2013-18 Growing Forward 2 partnership.

In Alberta, the Canadian Agricultural Partnership represents a federal -provincial investment of \$406 million in strategic programs and initiatives for the agricultural sector. The Canadian Agricultural Partnership program suite in Alberta began in April 2018 and the program will end on March 31, 2023.

Current programs

The following programs are open and accepting applications:

- Accelerating the Advancement of Agricultural Innovation
- Adapting Innovative Solutions in Agriculture
- Agriculture and Food Sustainability Assurance Initiatives
- Efficient Grain Dryer
- Emergency Preparedness
- Environmental Stewardship and Climate Change – Group & Producer Programs
- Farm Water Supply
- Irrigation Efficiency
- Products to Markets (Small Projects)
- Public Agriculture Literacy
- Risk Mitigation
- Surveillance
- Youth Agriculture Education

Please regularly check the Canadian Agricultural Partnership website for a current list of programs open and accepting applications.



Program profiles

Farm Water Supply

This program provides support to producers to improve their water supply security and more effectively and efficiently manage their on-farm water resources, supports producers to protect their water resources through beneficial management practices; and provide technical assistance to producers to complete an assessment for the management of their water resources (e.g., Long-Term Water Management Plan).

Standard Incentive projects:

Water supply development and conveyance projects, including construction of water sources such as wells, dugouts, spring developments, dams, pipelines, and connections to a multi-user water supply pipeline, Water protection projects, including aeration systems and off-source watering systems and monitors, and Projects are eligible for reimbursement of up to one-third of expenses, to a maximum of \$5,000 per applicant.

Irrigation Efficiency Program

The purpose of this program is to increase water savings and reduce energy use in irrigated agriculture by assisting producers with the purchase of more efficient irrigation equipment and systems.

This program assists producers with eligible costs incurred for the purchase and installation of a new lowpressure centre (LPCP) pivot irrigation system, a drip irrigation system or an upgrade of an existing irrigation system.

Emergency Preparedness

The purpose of the Emergency Preparedness Program is to improve the capacity and readiness of industry and regional authorities to prepare for and respond effectively to an Emergency that has the potential to negatively impact the health of people, livestock and crops in Alberta, cause significant economic losses for Alberta's agriculture and food industry, and/or threaten the infrastructure of Irrigation Conveyance Works in Alberta. The Program provides financial support for the development of, or update to, an Emergency Preparedness Plan, including related training and education. For funding purposes, the Program has four areas of focus (plant health, livestock health, food safety and irrigation conveyance), each with separate funding constraints.

For more information or assistance with your application, please contact the Ag Service Board.

CAP - Environmental Stewardship and Climate Change

The Canadian Agricultural Partnership, Environmental Stewardship and Climate Change - Producer program provides grant opportunities to producers. The purpose of the Environmental Stewardship and Climate Change - Producer program is to support producers in reducing negative impacts on the environment while enhancing sustainable production, managing climate change and increasing profitability in the agriculture sector. The program is comprised of five categories A-E

To be eligible to apply to the Program, a person must be either:

- a) an Active Producer operating in Alberta that has a current EFP certificate or letter of completion from an EFP technician; or is currently working on an EFP and is in a position to receive and EFP certificate or letter of completion from an EFP technician before the end of the project term; or
- b) a Commercial Manure Applicator that has completed a manure management training event or course after January 1, 2019; or will complete a manure management training event or course before the end of the Project Term.

CATEGORY A – Riparian Management

- Riparian Area Fencing and Management (101)
- Year-Round/Summer Watering Systems (102)
- Watercourse Crossings (103)
- Riparian Management Strategies – OPEN (104)
- Wetland and Riparian Assessments (105)

CATEGORY B – Manure and Livestock Facilities

- Engineering Investigation and/or Feasibility Assessment (201)
- Construction or Upgrade of a Surface Water Management System (202)
- Improved Manure Storage Facilities (203)
- Relocation of a Livestock Facility and Permanent Wintering Site or Confined Feeding Operation (204)
- Improved Land Application of Manure (205)
- Manure and Livestock Facilities Management Strategies –OPEN (206))

CATEGORY C – Agricultural Input and Waste Management

- Improved Pesticide Management (301)
- Improved Nutrient Management (302)
- Plastic Rollers and Compactors (303)
- Shelterbelts and Eco-Buffers (304)
- Agricultural Input and Waste Management Strategies –OPEN (306)

CATEGORY D – Innovation

- Innovative Solutions (401)

CATEGORY E – Commercial Manure Applicators

- Improved Land Application of Manure (501)
- Manure Management Strategies – OPEN (502)



Funding

Cost shares will be determined through a merit based review process.

Review our Funding List for more information regarding funding caps for individual Activity Codes.

The maximum funding an applicant can receive from the program is \$100,000 over the program term, except in the following limited circumstances:

- a) You may be eligible for up to an additional \$100,000 under Category D: Innovation Solutions.
- b) You may be eligible for up to an additional \$100,000 over the program term for each operation owned by an applicant that is located on a different premise ID number for Category B only.

For more information

Phone: 310-FARM (3276)

Email: CAP.ESandCCProgram@gov.ab.ca Web:

www.cap.alberta.ca

For assistance with your applications to the Canadian Agricultural Partnership please contact Brad Calder at the County of Warner Ag Service Board Office at 403-642-2255 or 1-866-642-2221

The Agroforestry & Woodlot Extension Society (AWES) is a non-profit organization with the mission of increasing awareness of the economic, social, and environmental values of agroforestry and woodlots in the agricultural landscape. AWES provides information to the public for establishment and maintenance of shelterbelts and Ecobuffers.

For more information visit their website at:

<https://www.awes-ab.ca/>, or phone number:

Phone: 780-643-6732.



AWES

Planning a shelterbelt

Critical aspects of planning a shelterbelt include;

- Location planning: Ensure that the footprint will be suitable for the next 30+ years.
- Design the shelterbelt to fit the available space.
- Select tree and shrub species which are adapted to your soil and climatic conditions.

- Prepare the planting site and fence off the area.
- Arrange labour and equipment to complete planting.
- Provide care and protection for young seedlings.
- Control weeds.

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada - Shelterbelts Design Guidelines

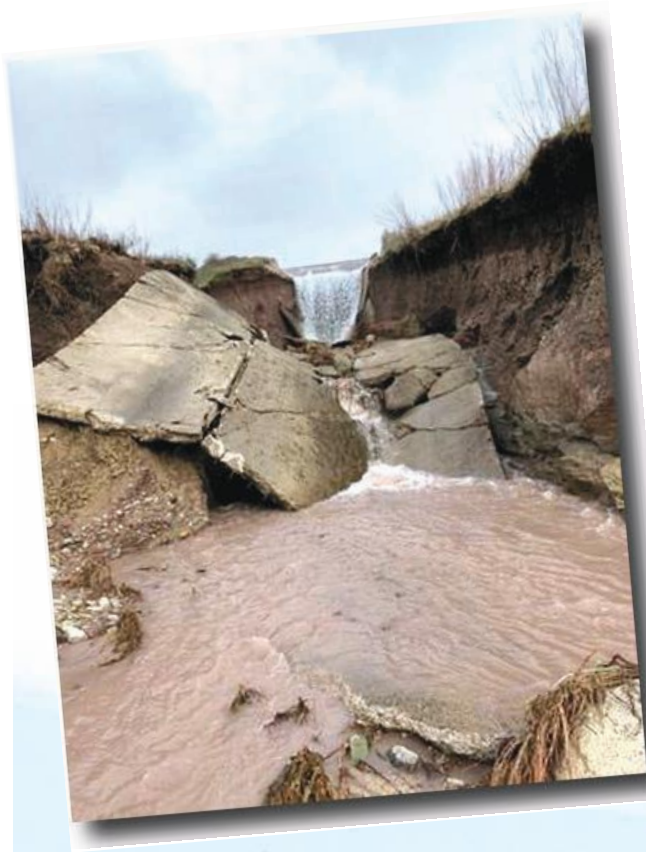


Milk River Board of Control moving quickly to replace failed diversion works

The Milk River watershed is a unique watershed located in the most southern part of Alberta. It is known not just for its dry climate, extraordinary landscapes, and diverse plant and wildlife communities but also for the direction in which the Milk River flows. The Milk River is the only watershed in Alberta that drains south to the Gulf of Mexico. Alberta shares the Milk River watershed with the province of Saskatchewan and the State of Montana, U.S.A. The Milk River is augmented by inflow from the St Mary River Diversion. First con-



structed in the early 1900s has provided 600-800cfs to the North Fork of the Milk River for 105 years. During late summer over 80% of the flow in the Milk River is St Mary river water. This water improves water quality in the Milk River for the Towns and Villages, Water co-operatives, and about 40 farm families that make use of allocations to irrigate approximately 8,200 acres within Alberta. In Montana, the St Mary diversion project supports irrigation for over 100,000 acres of irrigation and municipal water for towns across the Montana Highline.



Photos by US Bureau of Reclamation



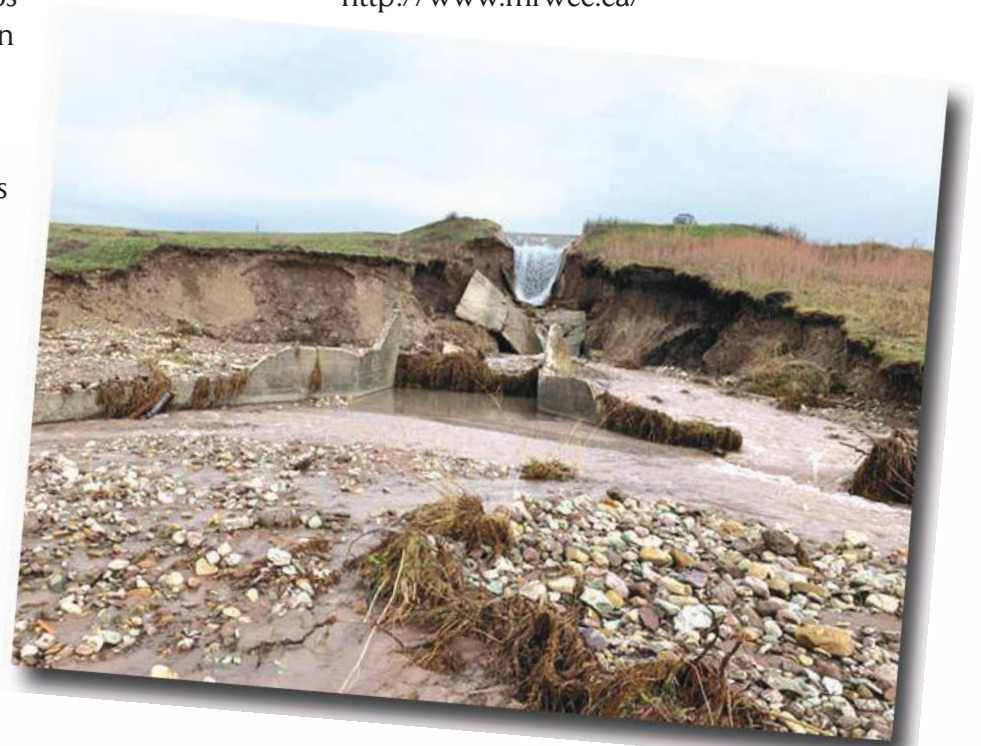
On May 17th, drop structure 5 which is the final structure before the North Fork Milk River failed. This drop is approximately 259ft long and moves water through a 58 feet vertical drop, the second-largest along the canal system.

The Milk River Joint Board of Control has met and a decision was made to immediately replace Drop structure 5 as well as Drop 2, another high-risk drop structure that was anticipated to fail. An interim fix was not seen as justified considering the anticipated costs and minimal gains in water supply this season.

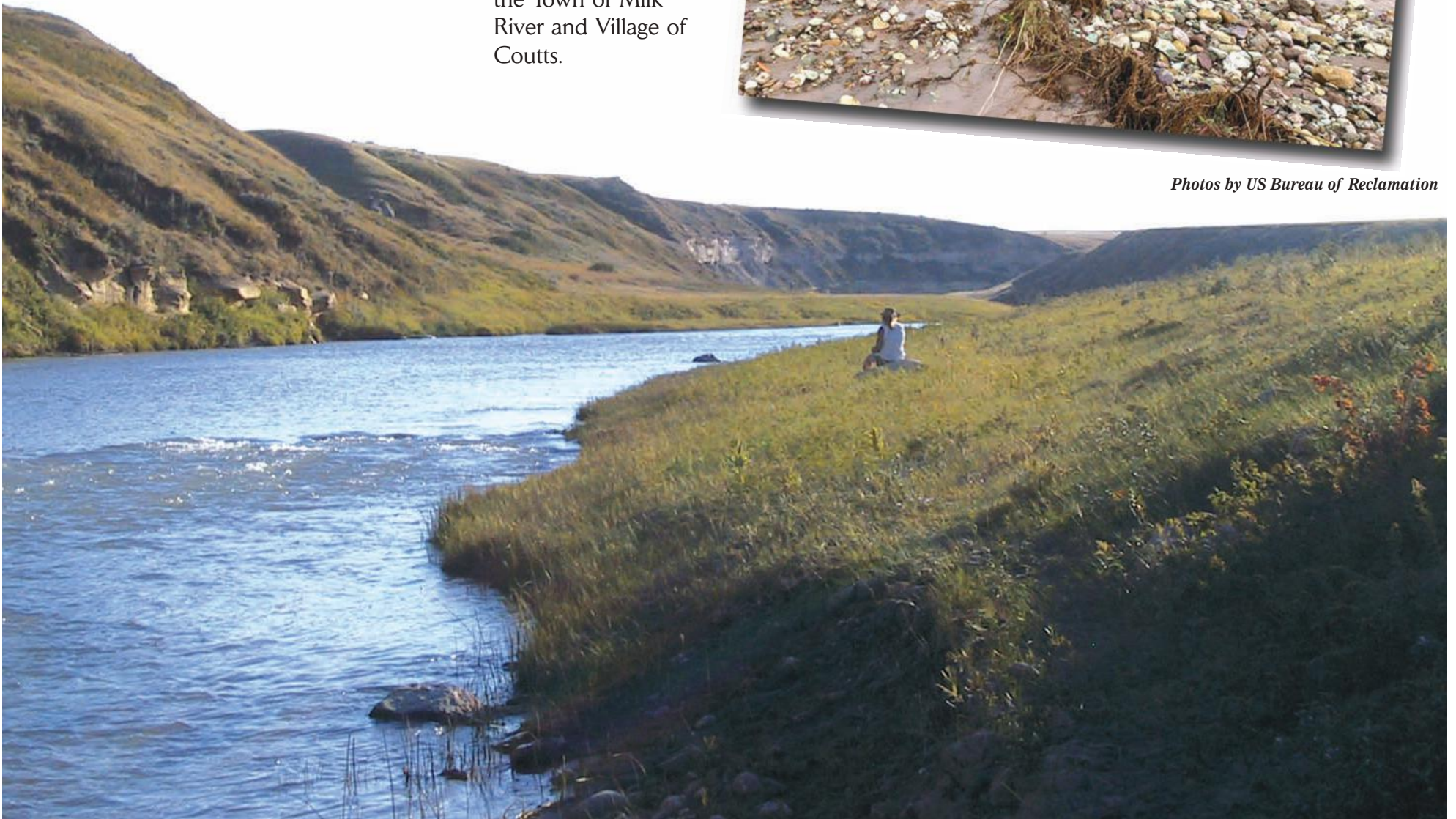
No more water is scheduled to be transferred from the St. Mary Basin to the Milk River Basin in 2020. The Reclamation and the Milk River Joint Board of Control are actively working on the repairs. There is a possibility that the St. Mary Canal will be operable by September 2020. If this is the case, the plan would be to transfer water stored in Lake Sherburne to the Milk River Basin during

September and early October. The river is experiencing natural flow conditions for the first time in 105 years, and there is the possibility that the river will run dry which would affect the irrigation of 40 producers and ranchers that use the river as a watering source and boundary. Alberta producers should not count on any water above natural flow for the balance of the season. If possible, the implementation of temporary riparian fencing and alternative livestock water supplies should be explored. This would be a good time to review your grazing management plans and pasture use rotation. This shortage is also expected to affect municipal water supply for the communities of the Town of Milk River and Village of Coutts.

The Milk River Watershed Council Canada Research and Monitoring Team are currently mobilizing to collect as much environmental information as possible during this time. If you are interested in volunteering your services or equipment to aid with this effort please contact the Milk River Watershed Council Canada or visit their website for more information. <http://www.mrwcc.ca/>



Photos by US Bureau of Reclamation





Pest Control

Richardson Ground Squirrel (Gophers)

The County of Warner No.5 Agriculture Service Board is urging all farmers and ranchers to consider early control of the gopher population. Products available for purchase through the Ag Service Board building include:

- 2% Liquid Strychnine Concentrate for Agricultural producers: rate at 250 ml in 1 kg of clean (hulled or hullless) oats or wheat.
- The rodenticide Rozol (anti-coagulant) Ready-To-Use Premix in 20 lb pail Ready – To – Use Premix in 50 lb bag
- Also registered for ground squirrel control in Alberta is the fumigant, aluminum phosphide and is available to producers with a valid Farmer's Pesticide Certificate (FPC).

**** You cannot buy fumigants if you don't have a valid Farmer's Pesticide Certificate ****

- "Accessing and using fumigants has become more complex as requirements for application and record keeping have changed. Products containing phosphine are highly toxic and rules have been recently updated to reduce the risk to both the applicators and the public." (Health Canada)
- Labeling Requirements for Fumigating Rodent Burrows: Purchase or rental use of a National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) approved respirator is required.
- * Fast acting fumigant must not be used within 500 metres (1,500 feet) of residential areas.
- * When the air or soil temperature is below 5 degrees celisus, fumigation is not recommended.



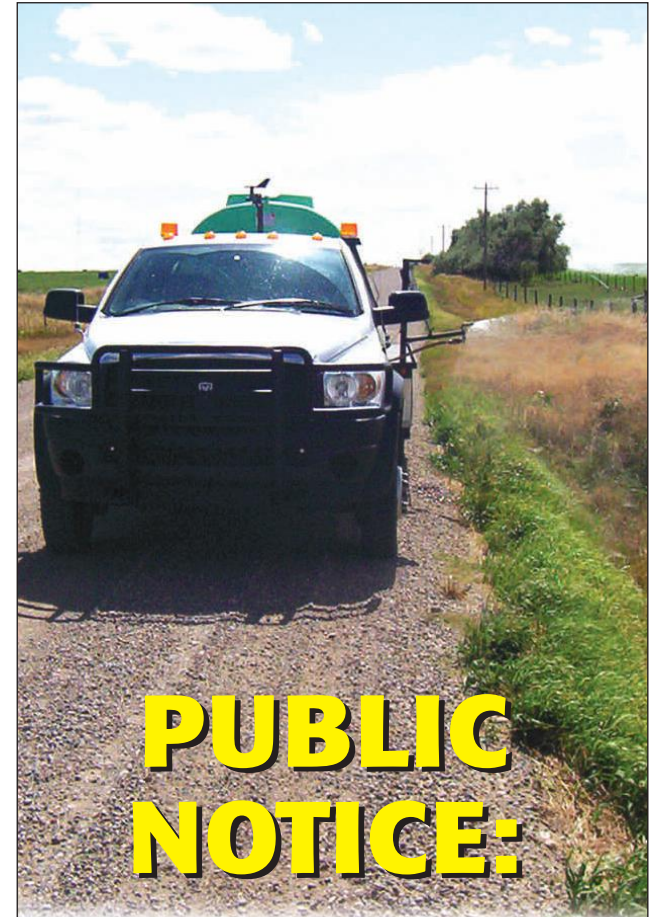
Other gopher control methods include:

- Shooting, using traps, cultivating burrows.
- Biological controls – nest boxes or owls and hawks. Leaving existing lone trees in place and protecting lone trees from rubbing or damage by cattle.
- Cultural controls – crop rotation, use of buffer zones etc.

To purchase these products please stop in at the Ag Service Board Building (403) 642-2255.

Availability of Strychnine for control of ground squirrels

- The following deadlines are in effect:
- MANUFACTURERS CAN SELL TO THE COUNTY UNTIL MARCH 4TH, 2021.
 - THE COUNTY CAN SELL THE PRODUCT UNTIL MARCH 4TH, 2022.
 - PRODUCERS HAVE UNTIL MARCH 4TH, 2023 TO USE ALL REMAINING PRODUCT.



PUBLIC NOTICE:

Roadside Spraying

The County of Warner will be controlling broadleaf and noxious weeds on:

- Developed and Undeveloped Road Allowances
- Newly Constructed Roads
- Bladed Trails
- Established roads
- Other public areas as necessary

As deemed necessary by the Ag Fieldman.

Commencing May 1, 2020 to September 30, 2020. The County will be conducting Roadside Spraying activities with care and consideration. Selective Spray to ensure effective control of target plant species.

If you have any question about which weeds are Noxious or which weeds are considered Prohibited Noxious within the County of Warner, please contact the Ag Fieldman at the Ag Service Board Shop by calling (403) 642-2255.



abinvasives.ca
info@abinvasives.ca



Last Updated January 2014

Provincial Designation:
Noxious

Common Burdock

Arctium minus (Aka Lesser burdock)



Flowers

Overview:

An introduced biennial that forms a rosette of leaves the first year, and large, stout flowering bolt with many branches the second year. It prefers areas with moist fertile soils – riparian areas – and recent soil disturbance. Its prickly seed heads are designed for dispersal, readily attaching to whatever animal may brush past (Burdock was the inspiration for the invention of Velcro by George de Mestral in the early 1940's). Common Burdock produces burrs which can entangle in the manes and tails of horses and the wool of sheep and can damage and de-value the wool of sheep. Several instances have been documented where birds and bats have become entangled in the burrs and died.

Habitat:

Common burdock is found in places where the soil is not disturbed; therefore, it is not commonly found in cultivated areas. This is due to the fact that it is a biennial, so it needs areas that are not severely disturbed on an annual basis. Such areas include: farmlands,

pastures, waste places, open or disturbed woods, road sides, fence rows, barnyards, abandoned fields, and stream banks. It is found both on moist fertile soils, many with high soil nitrogen content, and on sterile clay soils. Not many other plants will be found growing around large burdock patches – most likely due to the large leaves that reduce light at ground level.

Identification:

Stems: Are erect, coarse, branched and thick, have a reddish tinge and may be grooved or angular. Mature plants grow 1 to 3 m tall.

Leaves: Rosette leaves are large, hairy, and heart-shaped and readily shade out smaller plants. Stem leaves alternate and are broadest at the stalk. Leaf edges are wavy or toothed. Leaves are woolly on their undersides, and dark green above.

Flowers: Are purple and borne in short stalked clusters along the stems. Spiny, hooked bracts surround the florets.

Seeds: Seed production starts in July and

continues into the fall. Seeds are shed continuously throughout the fall, winter and following spring. A mature plant can produce from 6,000 to 16,000 seeds.

Prevention:

Avoid soil disturbance, re-seed bare soil where possible, encourage desirable, competing vegetation, and don't let existing infestations produce seed. Preventing the production of the burred seed is a key way to prevent spread. Clean burrs off clothing and animals.

Control:

Grazing: Livestock find burdock palatable, however infestations in riparian areas will suffer damage due to trampling.

Cultivation: Tillage will kill plants in the rosette stage – burdock is intolerant of cultivation. Mowing or cutting can eliminate seed production and should be done after the plant has bolted, but before flowering.

Chemical: 2,4-D, Aminopyralid in product combination with 2,4-D, Dicamba in tank mix with 2,4-D or MCPA, Dichlorprop, Hexazinone, Imazapyr, Linuron, MCPA, Picloram in product combination with 2,4-D, and Triclopyr are registered for use on common burdock. Always check product labels to ensure the herbicide is registered for use on the target plant in Canada by the Pest Management Regulatory Agency. Always read and follow label directions. Consult your local Agricultural Fieldman or Certified Pesticide Dispenser for more information.

Biological: Currently, there are no official forms of biological control for Common Burdock. However, there has been repeated interest from various provinces in researching biological control options. There are 13 insect species which attack Common Burdock. Only one of these insects, the Burdock moth (*Metzneria lappella*), has been reported in North America. This insect greatly reduces the number of viable seeds in the plant.



Invasive species

Aquatic Invasive Species

Invasive plants can spread through small fragments attached to gear or a watercraft. Fish diseases, like whirling disease, can also be spread through mud and water. To prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species and diseases always clean, drain, and dry all watercrafts and gear that touches the water between waterbodies.

Invasive mussels, such as zebra or quagga mussels, can be spread from one waterbody to another on boats or gear that have not been properly cleaned, drained and dried between uses. The adult invasive mussels attach onto hard surfaces and can be hard to spot on a watercraft. The microscopic forms of these mussels, called veligers, can survive in standing water in a watercraft for many days. If this standing water is moved into a new waterbody, that waterbody may become infested.

Whirling disease is caused by *Myxobolus cerebralis*, a microscopic parasite that affects salmonid fish such as trout, salmon and whitefish. The parasite has a complex lifecycle that requires a salmonid fish and an aquatic-worm, *Tubifex tubifex*, as hosts.

Species such as rainbow trout, cutthroat trout and whitefish are particularly susceptible to whirling disease, though disease impacts differ among salmonid fish species and in different waterbodies. The severity of whirling disease depends largely on the age and size of the salmonid host. Young fish are most vulnerable, with mortality rates reaching up to 90%.

In Alberta, it is illegal to transport your watercraft with the drain plug still in place, as outlined under subsection 6.1 of the provincial Fisheries Ministerial Regulation.

Watercraft users must demonstrate upon inspection that their watercraft has been drained of standing water. Those who fail to comply may be subject to a \$172 fine.

Clean - Clean and inspect watercraft, trailer and gear

Remove all plants, animals, and mud at the access area or dock. At home, soak your gear in a bleach solution for at least one minute. Rinse, scrub or pressure wash your boat, hot tap water preferably 50 degrees Celsius, away from stormdrains, ditches and waterways.



Drain - on land, before leaving the waterbody, drain all water from: Bait buckets, Ballasts, Bilges, Coolers, Internal compartments/Livewells, etc. Leave the drain plug out during transport as in Alberta, it is illegal to transport your watercraft with the drain plug still in place. Those who fail to comply may be subject to a court appearance and fined up to \$100,000.



Dry - Dry the watercraft and gear completely between trips and allow the wet areas of your boat to air dry. Leave compartments open and sponge out standing water.

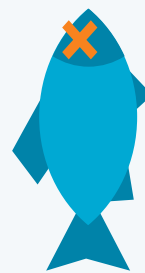


ZEBRA AND QUAGGA MUSSELS (DREISSENA SPP.)



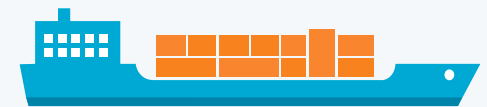
1 MILLION EGGS

One female mussel can produce up to one million eggs a year.



Invasive mussels can disrupt natural food chains, create toxic algal blooms and reduce recreational enjoyment of natural areas.

NO NATIVE PREDATORS IN ALBERTA



Originated in the Black and Caspian Seas, brought to North America in the ballast of large cargo ships.



Transferred between water bodies on watercraft and equipment that is stored in the water.

\$75,000,000

An invasion causes millions of dollars in damage to water-operated infrastructure - one estimate predicts it could cost Albertans over \$75 million dollars annually.

Standing water in bilges, ballasts and live wells can harbour hitchhikers, parasites and disease:



For more information please visit the following websites:

- <https://canadainvasives.ca/>
- <https://www.alberta.ca/>
- <https://www.albertaparks.ca/albertaparksca/science-research/aquatic-invasive-species/>
- <https://mywildalberta.ca/>

CLEAN + DRAIN + DRY YOUR BOAT to prevent the spread of invasive mussels.

Grain Bags

Follow these 3 steps to ensure that your used grain bags can be accepted and recycled:

1. Shake – Remove debris; grain bags need to be as clean as possible with care to remove as much organic material (spoilage, dirt, etc.) before or during rolling. Excessively dirty or loose/unrolled bags may be rejected or subject to a landfill tipping fee or additional charges at drop off.
2. Roll – Prepare grain bags by tightly rolling with a mechanical grain bag roller or baler, and then securing tightly with twine. In Alberta, grain bag rollers and compactors are available for use at some but not all collection sites. Contact your local collection site to inquire if a grain bag roller is available for use.
3. Return – Please contact your local pilot collection site prior to dropping off material if unloading assistance is required and if you are unsure if you have prepared it properly. Some, but not all, Alberta collection sites may also accept properly prepared twine (excluding net wrap) for recycling.



Twine

Follow these 3 steps to ensure that your used twine can be accepted and recycled:

1. Shake – Remove as much debris, snow or ice as possible. Excessively dirty or contaminated twine may be rejected or subject to a landfill tipping fee or additional charges at drop off.
2. Bag - Place loose twine in a clear collection bag, poke holes in the bottom to drain moisture, and secure bag closed with twine or a zip tie. Please do not knot the twine. Twine collection bags made from 90% PCR content with perforated holes in the bottom are available at no cost to producers and can be obtained from pilot collection sites and select County/MD offices. Contact your County/MD office for availability.
3. Return - Please contact your local pilot collection site prior to dropping off material if unloading assistance is required and if you are unsure if you have prepared it properly.

Grain Bag & Twine RECYCLING PROGRAM

- Grain bags which must be empty, clean, tightly rolled, and tied. Twine, which must be clean, loosely placed in Cleanfarms recycling bags (Available from the County of Warner Ag Service Board) or bulk tote bags.
- Producers may qualify for rollers or compactors: <https://cap.alberta.ca/CAP/Programs>

If you have questions about the Canadian Agricultural Partnership Programs or would like assistance with your application please contact Brad Calder at the Ag Service Board at 403-642-2255.

If you would like to participate in the Grain Bag and Twine Collection Program, please contact the Ag Service Board to schedule a delivery time.

All drop offs **MUST** be scheduled so we can ensure to have staff and equipment available to unload your plastics



cleanfarms

Let's make it 100%
Recycle every jug



Pesticide & Fertilizer Containers
(23L or less)

1 RINSE
Triple or pressure rinse to ensure no product is wasted.

2 REMOVE
Remove caps and booklets to ensure that containers can be recycled. Caps and booklets can be put in your regular garbage.

3 RETURN HERE
Return empty, clean containers to your municipal collection site.

No containers larger than 23L (return to retailer).

No obsolete pesticides (hold on farm for next collection event).

Seed Treatment Containers
Important Instructions

1 Rinse, if possible.

2 If rinsing is not possible, close cap securely and place unrinsed jugs together in a separate collection bag.

3 When the bag is full, securely close with a tie wrap, rope or knot and take the bag to your local municipal collection site for proper disposal.



Triple or pressure rinse and return to municipal collection site

cleanfarms

Every jug counts!

For more information: 1-877-622-4460 cleanfarms.ca



Economic update

The County of Warner is proud of the local business community that supplies high-quality products and services. Please support our local businesses during this time.

Small businesses struggling to reopen amid the COVID-19 pandemic will see some monetary relief from the provincial government through a one-time relaunch payment. The payment will account for up to 15 per cent of a business's monthly sales revenue and will be provided to organizations with less than 500 employees that were forced to close or were deeply affected by the pandemic. Eligible businesses will receive a one-time payment of up to \$5,000 to help open their doors as the province moves forward with relaunch.

For more information please visit: Alberta.ca

Alberta Small Business Resources:

If you are considering starting a business or if you have questions about your current business please consider consulting the resources for small businesses. The following information is available:

- Starting a business
- Operating a business
- Funding a business
- Regulations for small business
- The ability to consult a small business advisor

The resources are available from the following website: <https://www.smallbusiness.alberta.ca/small-business-in-alberta/>

The Canadian Federation of Independent

Business has free advice and support for businesses for COVID-19. If you are ready to reopen your business, please consult the Back to Business kit which can help with the process. Please visit their website for more information



New funding opportunity - The UFA Rural Communities Foundation Continues \$100,000

Community Grant Program

Last year, the UFA Rural Communities Foundation announced a \$500,000 commitment over five years to rural communities. The RCF is opening this year's program to applications and encourages communities to apply for up to \$100,000 for projects that enrich education, recreation and culture. The mandate of the foundation is to improve the sustainability of farmers and ranchers in Alberta by improving access to funding for educational, recreational and cultural facilities and programs in Alberta. Groups who are eligible to apply include registered charities under the Canada Revenue Agency, registered non-profit organizations who are registered with either their provincial or municipal government and community service cooperatives. The project must be located within 200 kilometres of a UFA location and must be completed within two years. Application forms are available on-line now from our website www.rcfufa.com. The application can be submitted between June 12 and August 31, 2020. Winners will be announced in October, during Co-operative week.



Renewing an Environmental Farm Plan

If your Alberta Environmental Farm Plan is more than ten years old, you will need to update it for your farm to be eligible for some funding programs. Renewing your plan gives you better access to markets and funding. Completing your plan through the Online platform connects you to trained technicians across Alberta. If you have not previously completed an Environmental Farm Plan, please contact Brad Calder for more information and assistance.



New funding opportunity

The Alberta Government will be providing a new funding source to agricultural ventures that demonstrate they can help boost the economy and lower carbon emissions through innovation. This new funding source announced in June is allocated to Emissions Reduction Alberta (ERA) and is from the Alberta's Technology Innovation and Emissions Reduction fund, an initiative that is funded by industry through carbon pricing. The objective of this funding is to mitigate the economic repercussions of COVID-19, and to support the agriculture industry toward innovative projects. The program will fund up to \$5 million per project with up to 50% of the project costs. The program requires a contribution of \$250,000 from the private industry partner. For more information: eralberta.ca

