

THE COUNTY CHRONICLE

COUNTY OF WARNER NO. 5



FALL 2013

Municipal Election 2013

results

Results from the Municipal Election on October 21, 2013
County of Warner Council Members for the 2014-2017 Term:

Division 1 – David Cody (Acclamation)
Email: dcody@warnercounty.ca

Division 2 and Reeve– Ross Ford (Acclamation)
Email: rford@warnercounty.ca

Division 3 and Deputy Reeve – Phillip Jensen (Acclamation)
Email: pjensen@warnercounty.ca

Division 4 – Randy Taylor (Acclamation)
Email: rtaylor@warnercounty.ca

Division 5 – Robert Jones (Acclamation)
Email: bjones@warnercounty.ca

Division 6 –Don Heggie (Elected)
Email: dheggie@warnercounty.ca

Division 7 – Geoffrey Krokosh (Acclamation)
Email: gkrokosh@warnercounty.ca

The Councillors would like to thank everyone who came out to vote in their division, and all others for their continued support.

Meet your councillors



DAVID CODY - DIVISION 1

David is a 3rd generation farmer and actively farming in the County of Warner since 2000. David currently owns and operates Napa in Milk River for 27 years. He is looking forward to working for the county residents.



ROSS FORD - DIVISION 2

Ross was born and raised in the Coutts area and is a third generation grain producer. He attended Lethbridge College receiving a Diploma in Agriculture. He is also a licensed heavy duty and motor mechanic and worked several years in the trade. Married to Jackie they have one daughter, Katie and reside east of Coutts along the Canada/US border.

Ross begins his fourth term for Division 2 on County of Warner Council and believes strongly in local governance and planning. He has served with many organizations including UFA, Agricore United, and Alberta Wheat Pool. He is a former Mayor of the Village of Coutts and is currently Reeve of the County.



PHIL JENSEN - DIVISION 3

Phil was born and raised in Raymond. He is married to Linda and has 4 children and 10 grandchildren. Phil is semi-retired and previously owned a construction business and has been involved in the cattle industry for 35 years. Phil was elected to council in 2010 and is serving his 2nd term. Phil enjoys being on council and serving rural residents.

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*
Cathy Preston, *Assistant Fieldman*
Kerry Hyatt, *Municipal Conservation Technician/*
County Chronicle Publisher
Website: www.countyofwarner5.ab.ca

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

.....
SHAWN HATHAWAY,
Administrator/Economic Development Officer
TYLER NELSON, *GPS/GIS Coordinator*
MORGAN STRATE, *Property Assessor*
RANDY SHAW, *Accountant*

PUBLIC WORKS CONTACTS:

Phone: (403) 642-3833
Fax: (403) 642-3832
New Toll Free Number: 1-888-642-3831
LARRY LIEBELT, *Public Works Superintendent*
.....

COUNCIL MEMBERS

DAVID CODY, *Division 1* dcody@warnercounty.ca
ROSS FORD, *Division 2* rford@warnercounty.ca
PHIL JENSEN, *Reeve, Division 3* pjensen@warnercounty.ca
RANDY TAYLOR, *Division 4* rtaylor@warnercounty.ca
BOB JONES, *Division 5* bjones@warnercounty.ca
DON HEGGIE, *Division 6* dheggie@warnercounty.ca
GEOFFREY KROKOSH, *Division 7* gkrokosh@warnercounty.ca



Meet your councillors



RANDY TAYLOR - DIVISION 4

Randy has been the councillor for Division 4 since 2004 and was recently acclaimed for another 4 year term. Randy is the Chairman for the Ag Service Board as well as the Parks Committee and is involved in the Canadian Badlands Committee, the Fire Department, and the Ridge Water Commission.



BOB JONES - DIVISION 5

Bob was born and raised on a farm east of Warner and has spent 21 years on County Council, 7 years as Reeve, 6 years as Deputy Reeve, and 6 years as a Director for Alberta Association of Municipal Districts & Counties. Bob's goal is to continue to be part of operating the County of Warner in a cost effective and fair manner and promote it to be the best place to live in the province.



DON HEGGIE - DIVISION 6

Don is starting his 1st term on Council and serving Division 6. Don is married to Roslynn Nilsson and has 3 children Todd, Jeff, and Shawn and 11 grandchildren. Don lives on a farm two miles east of Raymond and is a retired school teacher and now a farmer/rancher. Don sits on the following committees Baron Eureka, Community Peace Officer (Alternate), Farm Safety, Oldman Regional Services, Stirling Recreational Board and Ag Service Board.



GEOFFREY KROKOSH - DIVISION 7

Geoff is married to Monique and has farmed and ranched within the County of Warner for over 30 years. Geoff says the most important thing he has achieved was raising his family in rural Alberta.

Geoff is honoured to serve Division 7 and the entire County of Warner. If he can be of assistance, remember you can always contact him and discuss county matters.

Public Works Fall 2013

HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENTS are also available on the website at the Administration Office or the Public Works Shop. These agreements must be signed before any County Equipment can perform work on private property such as hauling gravel, snowplowing lanes, weed spraying, tree spraying, tree moving, etc., etc.

DUST CONTROL

Request forms can be found on the County of Warner No. 5 website or can be picked up at the Public Works Shop – they can be faxed, emailed or delivered in person to Public Works. For more information please call 403-642-3833 Deadline for requesting dust control will be May 15, 2014.

GRAVEL

Individual landowners are allowed to purchase a maximum of forty (40) yards of gravel per year. This gravel can either be spread on a lane or roadway, or placed in a pile at a loca-

tion agreed to by the land owner and gravel foreman or his designate. Request forms can be found on the County of Warner No. 5 website or can be picked up at the Public Works Shop – they can be faxed, emailed or delivered in person to Public Works. The delivery of gravel will be done when we are at the closest pit. For more information please call 403-642-3833 Deadline for requesting yard gravel will be May 15, 2014.

BRIDGE MARKERS

The county has been noticing a lot of bridge markers have been getting knocked over with equipment.

When this happens the sign and post usually need to be replaced this in turn costs the county an unnecessary expense. So to try and come up with a solution to this reoccurring problem we have been installing brackets in which the sign can be easily removed and replaced.

ROAD SLOPES

When doing road inspections the crews have been noticing that a number of the road slopes are been farmed closer and closer every year. Drift from Round Up applications is affecting the road slopes as vegetation is deteriorating and not holding the slopes and weeds take over. This promotes the road slopes to be cut away; culverts to be torn out and eventually affect the road base. With keeping safety and the integrity of our road structures in mind please stay a safe distance away.

FENCED ROAD ALLOWANCES

If you have an electric fence that has been put up so you can graze the road allowances remember that the fence is to be at the BOTTOM of the road slope. If the fence is on the top it interferes with our grading, mowing and snow plow operations. Please if they are on top move them to the bottom or you will be asked to remove them completely.



TAXES are *due*

The County of Warner would like to remind everyone that property **taxes are due November 30, 2013** 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.

Cheques can be 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, 2012. (A postage imprint is

not an acceptable proof for date of mailing) There is a NIGHT DEPOSIT located just right of the County main entrance doors.

We look forward to your yearly visit and if you have any questions please contact our office at (403) 642-3635 or 1-888-642-2241.

Planning and Development

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. Non-residential farm buildings (barns, etc.) are exempt, but must meet the required setbacks from road allowances.

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.

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.

ROAD SETBACKS

Buildings and other developments/improvements such as dugouts, must be at least 150 feet from the center 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.

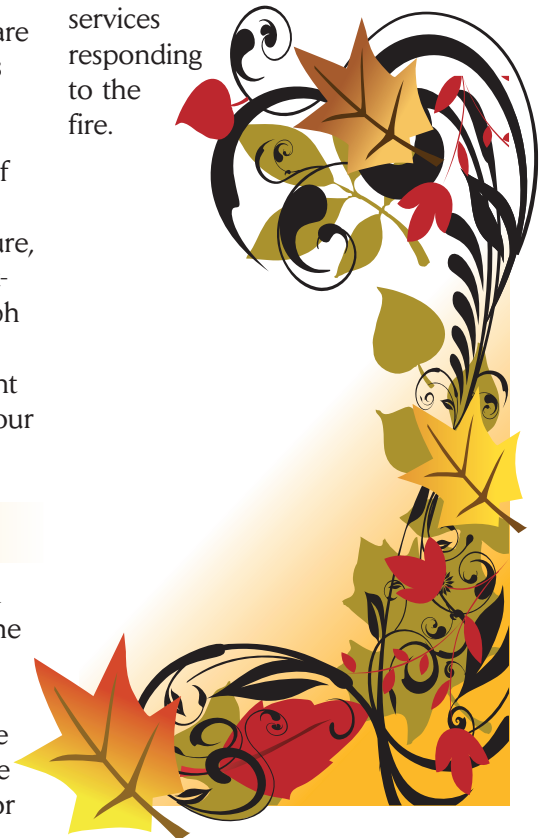
SUBDIVISIONS

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.

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.





Growing Forward 2 UPDATE

Growing Forward 2 is a federal-provincial-territorial partnership with a mandate to drive an innovative, competitive and profitable Canadian agriculture and agri-food sector.

The five-year Growing Forward 2 policy framework, which came into effect on April 1, 2013, focuses on three priorities: innovation, competitiveness and market development. Growing Forward 2 programs aim to help the industry position itself to respond to future opportunities and challenges and achieve its full potential as a productive and profitable sector of the Canadian economy.

Growing Forward 2 was officially launched on Tuesday, April 2, 2013 in Alberta.

The following programs are open and eligible projects are listed below.

On-Farm Stewardship provides financial support for the implementation of beneficial management practices that reduce agriculture's impact on water quality. Eligible producers will be reimbursed for 30%, 50% or 70% depending on the project of costs related to a maximum of \$50,000 per applicant. Please note some areas of funding have project maximums between \$2,000 and \$30,000.

Eligible projects include:

- riparian area fencing and management
- year-round/summer watering systems
- portable shelters and windbreaks
- wetland restoration
- improved manure storage facilities
- livestock facility runoff control
- livestock facility & permanent wintering site relocation
- projects related to improved pesticide management
- fuel storage/used oil storage

On-Farm Energy Management shares the cost of investments that improve energy efficiency on Alberta Farms. This enables producers to conserve energy and reduce carbon emissions, ultimately reducing the environmental footprint of Alberta's agriculture industry. For most items the program covers 50% of eligible costs, to a maximum of \$50,000. Some items are funded on a square-footage or formula basis. The program also covers 100% of the cost for each applicant's first three submeters.

Some Eligible projects include:

- natural gas boilers & furnaces with AFUE of 96% or higher
- tankless natural gas or electric water heaters with Energy Factor of 0.93 or higher
- energy free outdoor livestock watering fountains
- submeters
- wall insulation of R25 or greater, ceiling insulation of R50 or greater, and under-slab insulation
- energy efficient windows with NFRC total U-rating of 0.30 or lower

On-Farm Water Management provides technical assistance to agricultural producers to complete a Long-Term Water Management Plan (LTWMP), and shares the cost of related enhancements of their on-farm water supply management. Standard incentive projects are eligible for reimbursement up to 1/3 of expense to a maximum of \$5,000. Special Incentive projects for reimbursement of up to 50% of expenses, to a specified maximum per applicant or project.

Some Eligible projects include:

- wells
- dugouts
- spring developments
- farm site development (trenching, pipe and wiring to connect new water source)
- alternative watering systems for livestock
- water tanks/cisterns
- water well decommissioning and pit conversions
- water use meter

Food Safety Systems Producer helps producers invest in equipment and tracking systems to improve On-Farm Food Safety practices, enhancing producers business competitiveness and food safety performance. Successful applicants are eligible for reimbursement of 70% of eligible activities intended to enhance On-Farm Food Safety with a maximum of \$5,000.

Some Eligible Projects include:

- cattle squeeze
- a scale
- computer software for tacking health records
- other systems related to maintaining food safety standards within their operations as identified by their commodity specific on-farm food safety program

Irrigation Efficiency Program helps producers invest in new or upgraded low-pressure centre pivot (LPCP) irrigation equipment for their operations, improving the efficiency of energy and water use on Alberta farms. Eligible producers will be reimbursed for 40% of eligible costs for approved projects to a maximum of \$5,000

Some Eligible Projects include:

- new low pressure centre pivot irrigation equipment
- upgrades of high-pressure center pivot systems
- pump modification
- addition of high-efficiency sprinkler nozzles with efficiency ratings of 85% or higher
- variable-rate irrigation systems components (controllers and software)
- upgrades of center pivot control panels

Traceability Technology Adoption program is designed to encourage producers to implement traceability technologies in their livestock operations. This program reimburses eligible producers for 70% of approved costs.

Some Eligible Projects include:

- CCIA approved hand held RFID readers
- RFID Herd Management Software

For a further program details, please refer to the specific program pages on the Growing Forward website www.growingforward.alberta.ca or contact:

AGRICULTURE SERVICE BOARD

Kerry Hyatt
403-642-2255
khyatt@warnercounty.ca

Or

ON-FARM STEWARDSHIP

Diana Bingham
780-632-5487
Diana.bingham@gov.ab.ca

ON-FARM ENERGY MANAGEMENT

Dan Fox
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Daniel.fox@gov.ab.ca

IRRIGATION EFFICIENCY

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ON-FARM WATER MANAGEMENT

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Traceability Technology Adoption

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FOOD SAFETY SYSTEMS PRODUCER

Karen Mann
780-644-1872
karen.mann@gov.ab.ca



Growing Forward Meetings

We are hosting two Growing Forward Producer Information Meetings. These meetings will provide producers with information on funding that is available through the Growing Forward programs. There is a lot of funding opportunities out there to help producers on their operations.

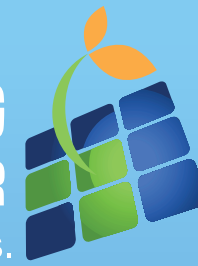
One meeting will be held
November 21st
at the
Seniors Center in Raymond at 1:30 pm.

The next meeting will be held
November 22nd
at the
Heritage Hall in Milk River at 9:30 am.

If you are interested in attending either of these meetings please call Kerry at 403-642-2255

FARMING SMARTER

Growing new ideas.



2013 CONFERENCE

December 3rd & 4th, 2013

Location: Lethbridge Lodge, 320 Scenic Dr. S.



Keynote presenters include:

Dr. Martin Parry Rothamsted Research – Harpenden, UK

Drew Lerner World Weather Inc – Kansas City, MO

Other highlights include:

Dr. Ross McKenzie Orville Yanke Award Recipient – Lethbridge, AB

Kelly Taylor Comedian – Prince Albert, SK

Plus many more including:

Don Huber, Merle Good, Dr. Shelley Hoover, Dr. Jan Slaski, Dr. Chantal Hamel, Ken Coles, Nevin Rosaasen, Scott Meers, Dr. Surya Acharya & MORE



For further information visit:

www.farmingsmarter.com or call (403) 381-5118



UPCOMING EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

If you would like to be added to the e-mail list of upcoming events and opportunities please let Kerry know at the Ag Service Board by e-mailing her at khyatt@warnercounty.ca or by calling her at 403-642-2255.



Milk River Transboundary State of the WATERSHED REPORT

On May 31, 2013 about 45 people assembled at the Visitor Centre at Writing-on-Stone Provincial Park to celebrate the completion of the Milk River Transboundary State of the Watershed (SOW) Report. After more than a year and a half of development in collaboration with the Milk River Watershed Alliance in Montana, and multiple agencies and organizations in Alberta, Montana and Saskatchewan, the SOW Report has been published.

The Transboundary SOW Report signifies a turning point for the Milk River watershed where managers understand the importance of sharing information with neighbouring jurisdictions for the better management of common resources. This report documents general trends in the condition of natural resources in the watershed and includes detailed information regarding:

- watershed characteristics,
- socio-economic condition,
- surface water quantity and allocation,
- surface water quality,
- groundwater,
- riparian areas and wetlands
- biodiversity (fish, wildlife, plants and invasive species)

- Land use (access, parks, protected and managed areas, tourism and recreation, agriculture, and oil and gas activity)
- watershed stewardship.

The Milk River watershed is characterized by a unique landscape, with rolling native grasslands and higher elevations that define the watershed boundary, including the Cypress Hills in Alberta and Saskatchewan, and the Sweetgrass Hills, Bears Paw and Little Rocky Mountains in Montana. Unified maps within the SOW Report show physical and ecological data as it relates to the watershed in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Montana. Where map information once ended at the inter-provincial and international border crossings, these unified maps illustrate the entire watershed's geography, hydrology and biology.

This semi-arid region experiences water shortages; water supplies are often variable and unpredictable due to low precipitation and aging water supply infrastructure. Water supplies continue to be a concern for local water users in times of drought. However, the past five years have been relatively wet and, in 2011, major flooding occurred in Montana near Glasgow. The SOW Report highlights this flood and discusses how water was managed to reduce flood concerns. Surface water quality is considered stable

in the Alberta reaches of the Milk River. Water quality in the Milk River, Alberta, is strongly influenced by the St. Mary River Canal water diversions. Water quality results for Alberta and Montana are presented from the headwaters in Alberta to the confluence of the Milk and Missouri rivers. In addition, the Milk River SOW Report highlights the Fecal Coliform Source Tracking Project that determines sources of fecal coliform bacteria in the Milk River, Alberta.

Groundwater is an important resource that crosses watershed boundaries below ground surface. Groundwater use and quality in Alberta, Montana and Saskatchewan is presented in the SOW Report. The current Milk River Transboundary Aquifer Project (MiRTAP) that spans the watershed in Alberta and Montana is highlighted.

The condition of riparian areas and wetlands is discussed in the SOW Report, as well as biodiversity. The report discusses fish species composition, which has not substantially changed since 1969. The large tracts of native grassland, coulees, cliffs, and river valley in the Milk River watershed provides habitat for numerous species, some that are at risk or of special concern in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Montana. The status of eleven select wildlife species is discussed and population data is presented where available. Invasive species are problematic in the watershed when they displace native

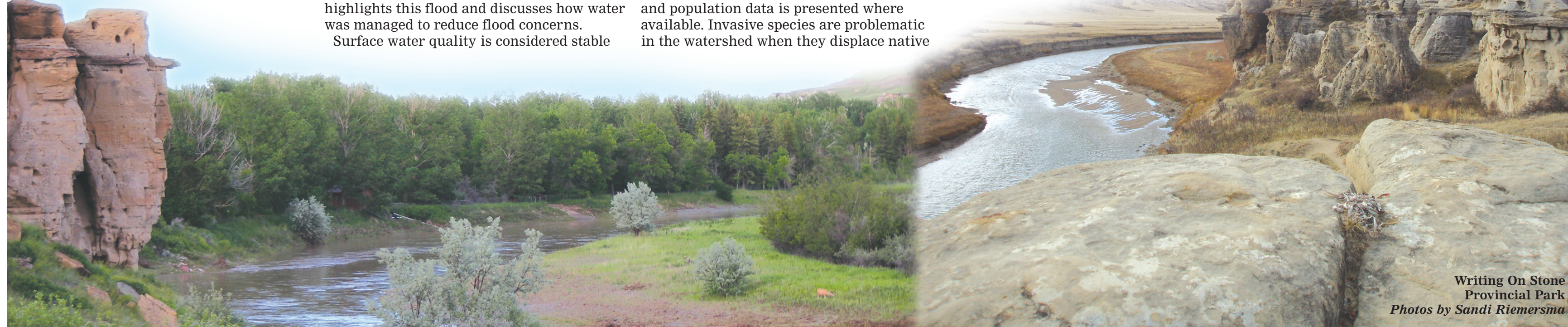
plant communities, alter wildlife habitat and reduce forage for wildlife and livestock. The SOW Report highlights a number of invasive and disturbance plants that are found in the watershed.

Access to lands within the watershed is increasing as roads are upgraded and new roads are developed to service various land uses. Parks, protected and managed lands are increasing in Alberta and Montana through land purchases by private organizations and the provincial and state governments. Many of these areas offer unique tourism and recreation opportunities and are also important grazing lands for the local livestock industry. Land use activities are mainly agricultural, with farming and ranching supporting much of the local economy. There is a strong oil and gas industry presence in the watershed, and exploration and development are increasing as new oil and gas fields are identified. Population continues to decline in the region. Aging community, poor employment opportunities, loss of local services (e.g., schools and hospitals) and a preference for large centres by younger people all contribute to this loss of population.



The Milk River Watershed Council Canada thanks all who contributed to the SOW Report, either with mapping and GIS, design and layout, chapter contributions, provision of supporting information or editing and review.

To obtain a copy of the Milk River Transboundary State of the Watershed Report please contact the MRWCC at 403-647-3808 or email mary@milkriverwatershedcouncil.ca



Writing On Stone Provincial Park
Photos by Sandi Riemersma



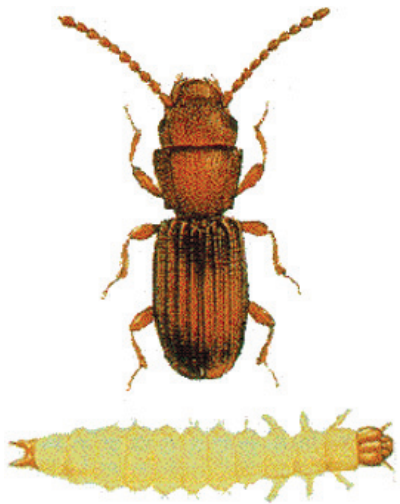
Milk River Ridge Reservoir Water Quality Concerns

Milk River Ridge Reservoir is a multi-use reservoir in southern Alberta, from which many towns and rural residences receive their water. Complaints and concerns regarding the water quality in the reservoir prompted an inquiry and research was undertaken.

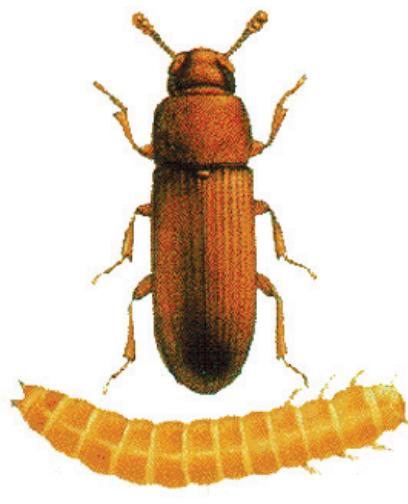
The results of the study indicated nutrient loading as a major contributing factor on the quality of water. The Ridge Water Quality Committee was initiated by the Town of Raymond to address water quality issues within the reservoir. A sub-committee with representatives from Environment and Sustainable Resource Development and the County of Warner has been established to discuss ways to improve the water quality in the Milk River Ridge Reservoir.

It is the sub-committee's expectation that other partners and stakeholders will be engaged to participate and contribute to best management practices adjacent to the reservoir. The Milk River Ridge Reservoir Water Quality Stewardship Initiative will include a number of projects, but not be limited to, working with partnering organizations to identify and implement mitigative measures. More information on this initiative and how you can participate in improving the water quality in the Milk River Ridge Reservoir will be forthcoming.

If you have any questions regarding best management practices or land use management practices please contact Jamie or Kerry at the Ag. Service Board 403-642-2255 or for questions regarding canal and reservoir operations please contact Owen J. Gibson at ESRD 403-381-5298.



Rusty Grain Beetle



Red Flour Beetle

Stored Grain PESTS



Each year there is the potential for producers to have an insect infestation once the grain is off the fields and into the bins. Bins should be checked every couple of weeks to make sure the temperature of the grain is not too high and to see if there are any bugs present. There are two major types of grain beetles that farmers need to be aware of; the Rusty Grain Beetle and the Red Flour Beetle. Most of the damage is caused by the larvae of the beetles eating the germ of the kernels.

Warm, moist or weedy crops would be most susceptible to damage. Warm or moist grain will contribute to moisture migration within a bin. These conditions can cause loca-

tions within the bin where grain will spoil and result in insect infestation, mite and mold development. In fall the outside of the bin cools quickly. The cool heavy air associated within the bin wall drops, while the warmer air, located in the interior rises, causing a circular flow within the bin. This air pattern deposits moisture, through condensation, at the top center of the bin. In spring the reverse occurs, where warming from the sun warms the outside layer, causing a circular air movement depositing moisture at the bottom of the bin. Moulds that develop give off additional heat and moisture, resulting in a microclimate more favorable for stored grain

insect populations. Mold byproducts can be toxic if fed to farm animals. The more moisture in the grain, the more likely it is to have a zone with enough moisture to start a stored grain insect problem if the pests are present.

Weed seeds, which often have higher moisture content than the harvested crop, can be concentrated in the central core as the grain when binned. This situation can cause more moisture to buildup in this area. If the stored grain is particularly weedy and/or moist, cleaning or drying the grain may reduce insect problems in storage at a later date.

1 Reducing the grain temperature through aeration and/or moving the grain when air temperatures are cold. Depending on the temperature it can take a considerable length of time to kill beetles. The following chart shows the effect different grain temperatures have on grain beetles within the grain.

2 Fumigants: It should only be applied by a properly licensed applicator. It works best when the grain is warmer than 10 C. Great care has to be used when using fumigants and all labeled directions have to be followed, as it is extremely toxic. The big advantage to this product is it will spread through the grain as a gas so proper mixing in the grain is not as important as other products. Preventing infestation with stored grain insects is the best solution. However once you have grain insects, moving and

Grain Temperature	Affect On Grain Beetles
30-35 C	Optimum Temperature for Beetles
>18 C	Beetles Stop Laying Eggs
>10 C	Beetles Stop Feeding and Moving
>-5 C	Beetles Killed within 12 Weeks
>-10 C	Beetles Killed within 8 Weeks
>-15 C	Beetles Killed within 4 Weeks
>-20 C	Beetles Killed within 1 Week
>-25 C	Beetles Killed within 1 Day

aeration is a good option to control them. The most important practice is to continually monitor your bins so you can catch a small problem before it becomes a big problem.

Farming this year...

The storage of a crop is critical, especially if it is grain that was not sold last year. Some quick decisions need to be made to use it up, sell it or figure out how to dry it to save its storage condition.

Stock piling on the ground is one of the only other options for a lot of farmers and although the yields this year are nice to see, a lot of the crops may be coming off in a hurry and may not be ideal for storage. High moisture concentrations from greener crops or heat near the cone of the pile on a ground pile or in the bin are perfect conditions for insect infestations and crusting. Patience may be dwindling as we get closer to winter, but it may be worth while to wait for crops to dry and cure properly to save time and money when trying to salvage stored grain from grade loss if an infestation does occur.

Even outdoor piles need to be checked regularly for infestations and grade decreases. If the pile crusts over, heat cannot escape and air cannot circulate properly to dry and cool the grain. These hot spots are where infestations of the Rusty Grain Beetle and Red Flour Beetles occur. Grain bins and ground piles should be checked at least once a month, if not more to ensure that hot spots are cooling and moisture levels are not too high within the piles. If an infestation is noticed, treatment of the grain may be required to prevent any further damage. If a quick drying/cooling method is not available, such as moving the grain, then an application of the restricted chemical Phostoxin may be required. The Ag Service Board is available to provide this service for the cost of labour and chemical, or producers can obtain their own Farmer Pesticide Certificate to purchase and apply this restricted chemical on their own through courses offered through the Ag Service Board.

If you have any questions about grain storage or are interested in attending a Farmer Pesticide Course, which will be offered several times throughout the winter, please contact the Ag Service Board at 403-642-2255.



BROWNING of Evergreens

Poplar and elm leaves are not the only trees changing color and losing leaves, so are spruce, pine and juniper needles. This natural occurrence happens every fall as the oldest needles on the evergreen change color and will eventually fall off.

AUTUMN NEED SHED

The loss of older interior needles in the fall is a natural process, which is often confused with injury, disease or insects. This process usually goes unnoticed since the needles on the inside of the conifer are concealed by the foliage on the exterior of the tree. Leaf drop on evergreens usually takes place gradually, but there are occasions when many leaves will discolor simultaneously, and the tree or shrub may appear to be dying. The foliage throughout the interior portion of conifers turns yellow, then brown, and finally drops off. Entire bundles of pine needles will shed. Cedars and some junipers have scale-like leaves covering branchlets instead of needles. Entire branchlets are dropped instead of single needles. The oldest or innermost, needles of spruce shed first; however, needles drop is not always restricted to the oldest needles. Any factors that increase stress on evergreens will intensify autumn needle drop.

WINTER COLOR

Some selections of Scots pine yellow naturally during the fall, but with the return of spring, they turn green

again. Several juniper species turn purple or purple-brown as the temperatures drop in the fall.

WINTER INJURY

Winter injury includes winter desiccation (drying), sunscald and cold temperature damage. Springtime needle discoloration on previously healthy evergreens is often a symptom of some form of winter injury. Winter damage can adversely affect the appearance and growth of highly prized evergreens. Careful pruning will be required to restore their shape and form.

ANIMAL DAMAGE

Dog urine will turn the foliage of lower branches yellow, then dark brown or black. Juniper and cedars are especially susceptible to this type of damage. Rabbits, mice, deer and porcupines will de-bark trees and branches. Deer also eat the foliage of coniferous trees, especially cedars, and disfigure them. If rodents have fed on bark during the winter, foliage will turn yellow and brown the following spring. Sap sucking birds peck holes in horizontal rows on the trunk and larger branches of trees. These holes will cause stress to the tree. Wounds from these sap sucking birds also provide entry points for disease.

Lastly, remember to water those evergreens in well late this fall. This will help prevent damage to the root system during the winter. (From the Issue of Agri-News and Alberta Agdex 275/07-1)



COW HERD Profitability

During the course of the fall calf run many producers will be trying to decide whether their cow herd is profitable. Many factors come into play in calculating profitability including calf prices, feed costs and pasture rent. How these factors play out often means the difference between a profitable year and one that needs an infusion of outside cash. Ted Nibourg, farm business management specialist with Alberta Agriculture, discusses calculating future profitability. **Rancher's Return** can be found on Alberta Agriculture's website



Common Burdock (*Arctium minus*)

Provincial Designation: Noxious

Description:

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. Heavily burred cattle can experience eye, nose or mouth injuries, are stressed, de-valued at market, and aid in the weed's spread. There have even been occasional accounts where birds and bats have become entangled in the burrs and died.



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 shortstalked clusters along the stems. Spiny, hooked bracts surround the florets.

Seed: 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.

Habitat:

Common burdock is found in places where the soil is disturbed (but not cultivated). It does not survive under cultivation because of 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.

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.



Control:

Grazing: Livestock (primarily sheep) may 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.

Chemical¹: Several herbicides are effective on Common Burdock – applications in riparian areas will have limitations though. The following herbicides are registered for use in rangelands (from AFRD's Crop Protection "Blue Book" for 2006):

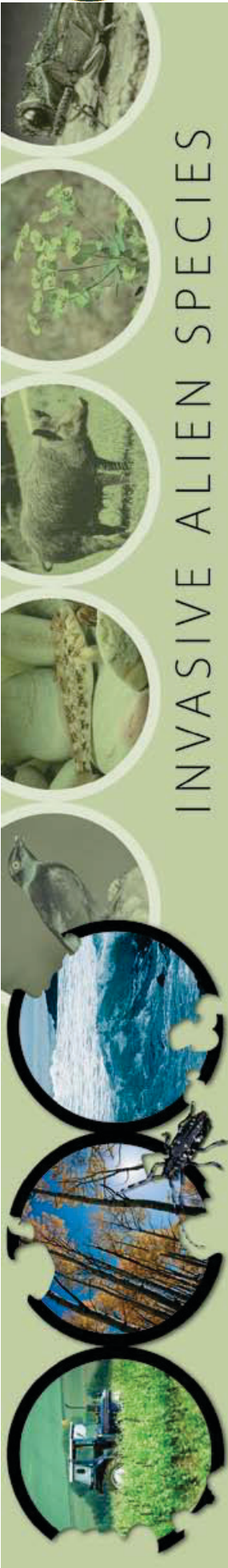
2,4-D, Grazon, MCPA (Amine, Ester, Na-salt) and Remedy/Garlon 4

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.



¹ Always follow the product labels. The use of pesticides in any manner not published on the label or registered under the *Minor Use of Pesticides* regulation constitutes an offence under both the *Federal Pest Control Products Act* and *Alberta's Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act*.

INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES





MUNICIPAL TRANSFER STATIONS

Winter Hours

MILK RIVER/ COUTTS
Tuesday, Friday & Saturday
9:00 am – 5:00 pm

NEW DAYTON
Saturday
9:00 am – 5:00 pm

RAYMOND
Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday
10:00 am – 5:00 pm

STIRLING
Tuesday: 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Saturday: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

WARNER
Thursday & Saturday 10:00 am
– 3:00 pm

WRENTHAM
Friday
11:00 am – 7:00 pm

MASINASIN TRANSFER STATION

Reminder that the Masinasin dumpster is for house hold waste only not renovation material. Renovation materials can be hauled out to the Milk River Transfer station Tuesday, Friday and Saturday.

RIPARIAN MANAGEMENT

Knowledge Nuggets

- Riparian areas are extremely productive parts of a grazing program. However, because riparian areas are also important areas for protecting water quality, they are very sensitive to uncontrolled grazing. With proper grazing management cattle, grass and streams can coexist in a long-term sustainable ecosystem.
- A riparian grazing plan must meet the needs of each specific riparian area, be compatible with the entire ranch operation and have the commitment of the operator/manager to achieve riparian objectives.
- Healthy riparian areas trap sediment, build and maintain stream banks, store flood water and energy, recharge the aquifer, filter and buffer water, reduce and dissipate stream energy, maintain biodiversity and create primary productivity.
- Vegetation plays a critical and complex role in filtering and slowing runoff, capturing sediments during flooding and building the capacity for storing and releasing groundwater and maintaining stream flow.
- Unhealthy riparian areas contain weeds, low forage production, damaged shrub growth, down cutting and erosion of the channel, slumping banks, soil exposure, low water table and decreased storage capacity with few fish or wildlife present.
- Early and mid-summer use can be detrimental to riparian areas unless grazing is limited in duration and frequency so that plants can recover.
- Grazing can work well when grazing duration is managed to minimize browsing, rubbing and trampling of shrubs and small trees.
- Fall and winter grazing can work when forage is sufficient for grazing through the snow, when enough residue is left to slow the water flow from next spring's runoff, when supplemental feeding sites are far enough away from the riparian area and cattle are discouraged from resting there.
- The easiest riparian zone to deal with is one that is large enough to be fenced and used as a separate paddock where control of livestock entry and exit is possible.
- Rest from livestock grazing is needed to re-establish a healthy stand of shrubs in degraded riparian areas. Shrubs grow rapidly when riparian areas are protected.
- In cases of uncontrolled access, cattle will concentrate in a riparian area because of water, salt, hot weather and shade, better forage or animal habits.
- Healthy riparian areas can be a safety net during drought where riparian areas are often the only green place remaining.

ASB Equipment for TENDER:

1994 (4X4) SIERRA TRUCK
VIN: IGTFK24K7RE531322
MODEL: GMC

- 2008 SUZUKI KING QUAD
- VIN: 5SAAL42A387107171
- 2WD/4WD
- DIFF LOCK
- AUTOMATIC
- DISC BRAKES
- H.D. BUMPERS
- HANDGUARDS
- 2500 LB WARN WINCH

Sealed Bids sheets can be picked up and dropped off at the Ag Shop and will be accepted until 12 noon on Friday, November 22, 2013.

Any or the highest bid will not necessarily be accepted.

To view these items please stop in at the Ag Service Board Shop between 7:00 am and 3:30 pm Monday – Friday.

If you have any questions we would be happy to answer them for you when you stop in or phone the Ag Shop at 403-642-2255



Further Education Information

GROUND DISTURBANCE – TRENCHING & EXCAVATION

This course is recommended for persons working in construction, pipeline work, electrical, farming and ranching, landscaping, municipal, provincial and federal employees involved in digging and heavy equipment operation. The material covers soil types, excavation, shoring and back sloping, Alberta First Call, responsibilities and hazard management and controls. Bring a bag lunch.

Date: Wednesday, November 20
Time: 8:30 AM – 12:30PM
Location: Warner Fire Hall
Fee: \$95
Register by: November 6
Instructor: Lethbridge College
Minimum: 8
Maximum: 15
Register with: Carolyn, Bobbi, or Lynette, Further Ed Office, 403-642-3635 or 403-642-2134 (evenings). Send cheque to office, Box 278, Warner, AB TOK 2L0.

INTRO TO MICROSOFT EXCEL 2013

In this course participants will learn to use a spreadsheet to perform basic calculations. After learning to enter and edit information the course covers how to make a personal budget to track income and expenses, then format the information and print the worksheets. This is a hands-on class. There will be 2 Thursday classes.

Date: Thursdays, November 7; November 14
Time: 7:00 PM – 10:00 PM
Location: Warner Senior Centre
Fee: \$75
Register by: October 24
Instructor: John Walkey
Minimum: 6
Maximum: 12
Register with: Carolyn, Bobbi, or Lynette, Further Ed Office, 403-642-3635 or 403-642-2134 (evenings). Send cheque to office, Box 278, Warner, AB TOK 2L0.

ROCK TAPE – POWER TAPING CLINIC

Rock Tape is a new type of kinesiology tape engineered to enhance athletic performance in addition to providing therapeutic benefits. When applied properly, it can reduce fatigue, improve endurance and enhance muscle activation through better blood flow. Dr. Darren will discuss the benefits of Rock Tape and demonstrate how

ROCK TAPE – POWER TAPING CLINIC

(continues)

to apply it properly to the back, shoulder and knee area. It is a hands-on class. The tuition fee includes instruction, one roll of Rock Tape and handouts. A partner /spouse/parent can come to at no extra fee so they can be used as a practice partner. Extra tape can be purchased for \$20/roll. Please wear comfortable clothing, preferably shorts, sweats, T-shirts or tank tops so areas to be taped can be accessible. Tuition fee includes one, 5 meter roll of rock tape. You may bring one friend free so you can practice taping. Friend can purchase a roll of tape for \$20.

Date: Tuesday, November 19
Time: 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM
Location: Stirling School
Fee: \$33
Register by: November 5
Instructor: Dr. Darren Sillito, D.C. McLeod Family Chiropractic
Minimum: 5
Maximum: 15
Register with: Stacey Maynes, Box 72, Stirling, AB TOK 2E0, 403-756-3572.
Make cheque payable to County of Warner Further Education.

PINTEREST AND INSTAGRAM

Pinterest is a pin board style, photo-sharing website that allows users to pin images, videos and other objects such as events, interests, and hobbies. It allows users to save images and categorize them on different boards. They can follow other users' boards if they have similar tastes. Popular categories are travel, cars, food, film, humor, home design, sports, fashion, and art. Instagram is an online photo-sharing, video-sharing and social networking service that enables its users to take pictures and videos, apply digital filters to them, and share them on a variety of social networking services, such as Facebook, Twitter, Tumblr and Flickr. A distinctive feature is that it confines photos to a square shape, similar to Kodak Instamatic and Polaroid images, in contrast to the 16:9 aspect ratio now typically used by mobile device cameras.

Date: Thursday, November 21
Time: 7:00 PM – 10:00 PM
Location: Warner Senior Centre
Fee: \$40
Register by: November 7
Instructor: John Walkey

PINTEREST AND INSTAGRAM

(continues)

Minimum: 6
Maximum: 12
Register with: Carolyn, Bobbi, or Lynette, Further Ed Office, 403-642-3635 or 403-642-2134 (evenings). Send cheque to office, Box 278, Warner, AB TOK 2L0.

YOUTUBE

Learn how to effectively create video for YouTube and share your videos with your friends or with the whole world. This session will show you how to edit a movie, set up a YouTube account and post your videos online, as well as how to view and save different movie files.

Bring your laptop for a hands-on class.
Date: Thursday, November 28
Time: 7:00 PM – 10:00 PM
Location: Warner Memorial Library
Fee: \$40
Register by: November 14
Instructor: John Walkey
Minimum: 6
Maximum: 12
Register with: Carolyn, Bobbi, or Lynette, Further Ed Office, 403-642-3635 or 403-642-2134 (evenings). Send cheque to office, Box 278, Warner, AB TOK 2L0.

INTRO MICROSOFT ONENOTE 2013

OneNote is designed for note taking, brainstorming, research, searching, collaboration, collecting random bits of information – basically everything you've ever tried to do in notepads, sticky notes, to-do lists, and maybe even white boards. You'll find it all much easier to do with OneNote, and will be able to keep all your information in one easy-to-manage location. And with OneNote 2013, you can integrate your notes with other Office programs.

Date: Thursday, December 5
Time: 7:00 PM – 10:00 PM
Location: Warner Senior Centre
Fee: \$40
Register by: November 21
Instructor: John Walkey
Minimum: 6
Maximum: 12
Register with: Carolyn, Bobbi, or Lynette, Further Ed Office, 403-642-3635 or 403-642-2134 (evenings). Send cheque to office, Box 278, Warner, AB TOK 2L0.