

THE COUNTY CHRONICLE

COUNTY OF WARNER NO. 5



SPRING 2016



Western end of Ridge Reservoir (looking north). Pond #1 will be situated left-of-centre in this photo.

Milk River Ridge Reservoir Water Quality Stewardship Initiative (MRRRWQSI) – UPDATE

The construction of a wetland at the western end of Milk River Ridge Reservoir (situated between the highway and the reservoir) will be a significant undertaking in 2016 for the MRRRWQSI Work Team (the Team is comprised of representatives from the County of Warner, Alberta Environment and Parks, and the Alberta Conservation Association).

The overall wetland design contemplates the construction of a marsh and 3 wetlands at Ridge Inlet. The marsh and wetlands will function as nutrient settlement ponds. Contaminated runoff that is being conveyed through drainage ditches at the reservoir inlet will be intercepted and held by the new marsh and ponds. The ponds will function as large water filters. Cattails, bull rushes, reed canary grass, aquatic vegetation and wetland micro-organisms will together improve runoff water quality, which will then be allowed to slowly seep back into Ridge Reservoir.

The wetland project will consist of two phases. Phase 1 will entail:

- Finalizing the wetland project design (engineering support is being provided by Wilde Brothers Engineering, Raymond)
- Obtaining the necessary Government of Alberta water approval licenses
- Securing funding
- Constructing pond #1 (about 6 acres in size) and a marsh (about 2 acres in size)
- Installation of an underground pipe to provide supplemental water to pond #1 from the Headwork canal
- Mounding and grading of excavated sub-soil
- Establishing elevated walking trails and wildlife viewing

areas

- Constructing a parking lot off the highway
- Vegetation establishment
- Installing highway signs and some interpretive signs

Phase 2 (which will be undertaken in 2017 - 18 or at later date) will entail:

- Securing additional funding
- Constructing ponds #2 and #3
- Expanding interpretive displays and signage
- Increasing vegetative diversity

The MRRRWQSI work team is now well underway with Phase 1. Once donor funding is firmed up and necessary provincial approvals are obtained, contractors will be able to proceed with pond excavation. Three test pits were dug in January of this year to determine the depth of the water table and to ascertain soil texture. The top-soil and sub-soil at Ridge Inlet are of a poor quality and would present challenges if excavating coincided with wet ground conditions. It is hoped that dry ground conditions and a low water table will exist as we proceed with the upcoming earth-moving stage. A start date for the excavation of pond #1 has not yet been determined, but could commence as early as this spring if everything falls into place.

More details and a map of the Ridge Inlet wetland project will be shared with adjacent landowners and County rate payers at a later date.

If you have any questions about this stewardship initiative please contact Jamie Meeks or Patty Davis – staff with the County's Agricultural Services Board – at 403-642-2255.

County of Warner No. 5



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

Bob Jones, Division 5 bjones@warnercounty.ca

Don Heggie, Division 6 dheggie@warnercounty.ca

Geoffrey Krokosh, Division 7 gkrokosh@warnercounty.ca

Public Works

Dust Suppression

Changes have been made to the Dust Suppression Policy #320.51. This policy and others can be found on the County of Warner Website at www.warnercounty.ca. The county will not be offering oil as a form of dust suppression. The length of Dust suppression allowed has been changed. The cost and application time frame in which the applications will be offered has changed as well. **Applications must be in by May 15th of the current year.**

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 location 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 at www.warnercounty.ca 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 of the current year.**

HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENTS

Must be signed if you don't have one they are available on the website or 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.

Bridge Markers and Signs

Signs are for everyone's safety and to inform travellers of numerous different regulations and road conditions. With the evolution of farm equipment getting bigger we have been installing signage to try and accommodate for the width of the equipment. Bridges have removable bridge marker post that can be pulled out then replaced after you have passed across the bridge deck. We have our labour crew continuing to deal with signs that have been used for target practice or just being knocked down. If you happen to accidentally hit a sign please call the public works shop and let us know. An Example of what we are dealing with. This sign tab costs \$130.00 to replace

Masinasin Garbage

This dumpster is for domestic household garbage not for construction material or tree disposal. This has been an ongoing problem and progressively getting worse. Garbage other than household needs should be taken to the milk river transfer station. **REMEMBER THE MASINASIN DUMPSTER IS FOR HOUSEHOLD ONLY.**



Heavy Hauls

We would like you to take into consideration the condition of the road when heavy multiple use trips are being planned. The county doesn't haul gravel during or after a rain event because the road can be soft. We ask for your same consideration, if this can't be avoided respect needs to be taken in regards to the road infrastructure. If blow holes and soft spots

start to form use a different route if a different route isn't an option slow down so you don't continue to pump up the clays. Best scenario is to wait until the road dries up.

WHAT'S HAPPING THIS YEAR

The Public works crews will be out doing a number of road construction and rehabilitation projects around the county this season. In an effort to make travelling on our roads safer we are implementing new techniques and processes to the way we construct and rehab our roads. One new process that we're introducing is base stabilization this will be taking place in various parts of the County. When travelling through these work areas watch out for workers and equipment.

Road Closed Signs

When road construction projects are being done the road will be closed when the county deems necessary to provide safety and construction needs. If you come to a road closed sign please respect them and go a different route.

District Graders and Mowers

When approaching our district mowers and graders please slow down. Safety is the responsibility everyone. The operator pulls over and stop slowing down is your contribution to being safe.

Crews will be out graveling, replacing signs, culverts, maintaining bridge structures so again please keep an eye out for construction signs and workers.

Masinasin Transfer Bin

24 hr access - household garbage only

Milk River/Coutts Transfer Station

9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Tuesday, Friday and Saturday • Closed on Statutory Holidays

New Dayton Waste Transfer Station

9 a.m. to 5 p.m. – Saturday

Raymond Waste Transfer Station

(Hours may change without notice - please confirm hours with the Town of Raymond)

Summer Hours - May to August

Tuesdays and Thursday: 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Wednesday and Friday: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Saturday: 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Winter Hours - September to April

Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Stirling Waste Transfer Station

Summer Hours - April 1

4 p.m. - 8 p.m. - Tuesday and Thursday

9 a.m. - 4 p.m. – Saturday

Winter Hours - November 1

4 p.m. - 8 p.m. - Tuesday • 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. - Saturday

Warner Waste Transfer Station

10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

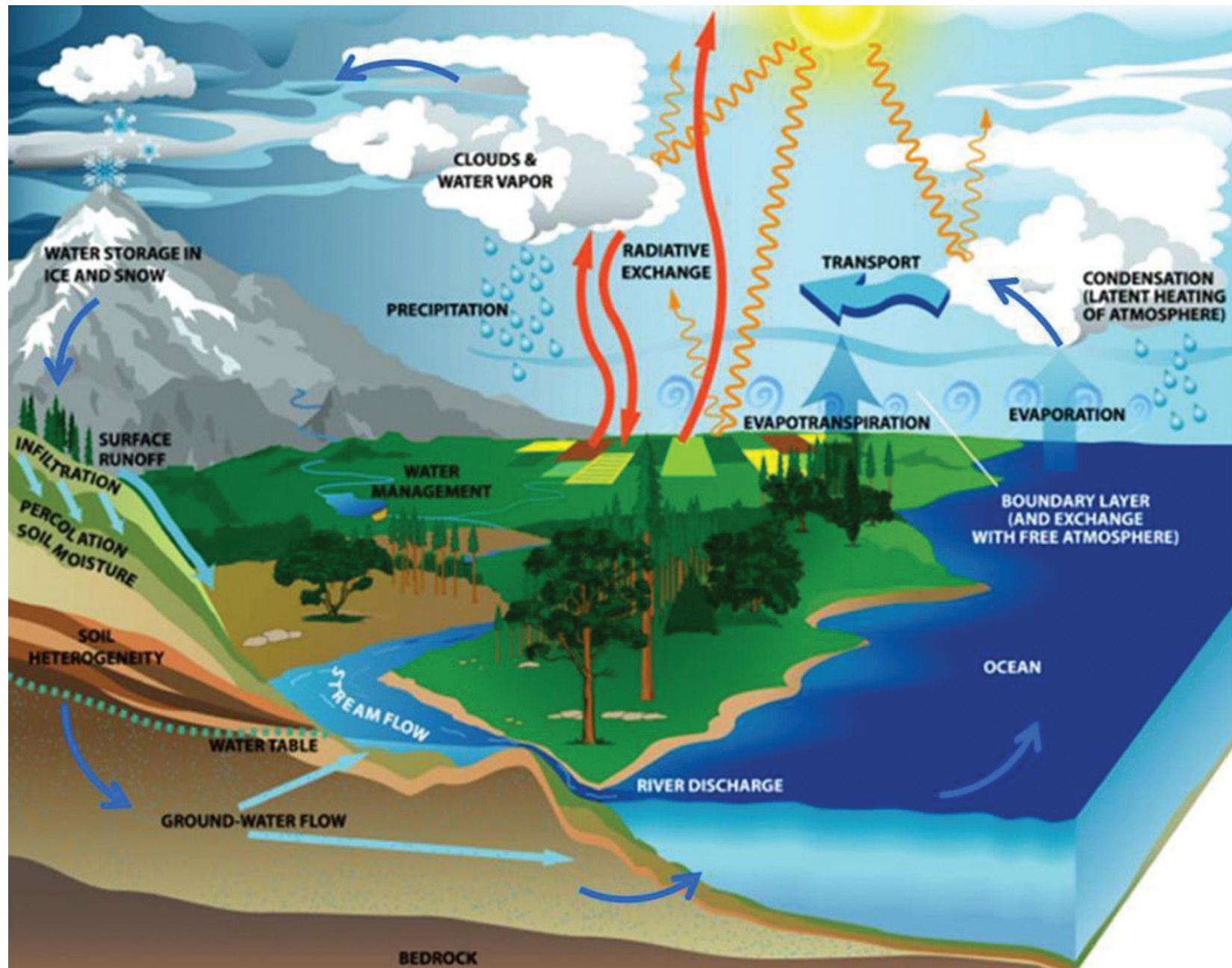
Thursday and Saturday

Wrentham Waste Transfer Station

11 a.m. - 7 p.m. - Friday



Groundwater Conservation



Groundwater is part of the hydrologic cycle. This cycle is constant, moving water from the earth to the atmosphere by evaporation and back to the earth's surface as precipitation. Water that seeps through the pores and fractures of the rocks and loose material of the earth's surface and reaches the zone that is saturated is groundwater. When there is enough groundwater in these subsurface materials to yield a reasonable supply of water to a well or spring, this supply of water is called an aquifer.

Viable aquifers are determined by two things:

- Their ability to store water (porosity)
- Their ability to transmit water (permeability).

Variability in aquifers:

- Fine-grains made of silt or clay have high porosity and hold a large volume of water

- Very small interconnections allow little water to pass through them.
- Sand and gravel deposit have lower porosity and larger interconnections that allow water to flow freely and yields large amounts of water to wells.

Common causes of groundwater contamination caused by human activity are:

- Improper storage or disposal of hazardous substances
- Improper use of fertilizers, animal manures, herbicides, insecticides, and pesticides
- Chemical spills
- Improperly built and/or maintained septic systems

- Improperly abandoned wells
- Poorly sited or constructed water wells.
- Improper disposal of pharmaceuticals and person care products

There are two very simple fundamentals for Groundwater protection:

- Keep it safe from contamination
- Don't waste it.

We all have a stake in protecting and preserving groundwater quality and quantity. 99 % Of all available freshwater comes from aquifers and most surface water is connected to groundwater. Protecting ground water protects the water from where you fish, swim and drink.

Roadside Spraying

Weed Control in the County

The control of noxious and prohibited noxious weeds in the county is a big part of the Agriculture Service Board's summer program and they work hard every year to ensure that these weeds do not spread. The following methods are used for control:

- Spraying all newly constructed roads;
- Spraying all established roads as deemed necessary by the Ag Fieldman
- Spot spraying for Canada Thistle and other noxious and prohibited weeds;
- Spraying public areas as necessary.

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

Ag. Service Board Services Offered and Rental Rates for 2016:

Great Plains No Till Drill

15 Acres or Less:

\$25 Service Charge plus Flat Fee of \$200

16 Acres or More:

\$25 Service Charge Plus \$12 per Acre

- \$100 clean fee if drill is not cleaned satisfactorily
- Maximum of 80 Acres

Pasture Pipeline Plough - \$25 Service Charge Plus \$50 per Day

Tree Moving or Auguring - Rural \$25 Service Charge Plus \$100 per hr for Urban \$30 Service Charge Plus \$125 per hr

Rural Tree spraying & Bin spraying c/w Two Operators

is \$100 per hour plus the cost of chemical plus \$25 Service Charge

Weed Spraying - Private - Prohibited Noxious and Noxious Weed Control -Policy 630.19 -\$25 Service Charge/ \$125 per hour Plus Total Cost of Chemical Based on 2 ATV's OR Based on ¾ Ton 4x4 Truck/ sprayer.

Tree Planters

- \$25 per Day

Plastic Mulch Applicator - \$25 per Day

Skunk and Raccoon Traps - \$100 Deposit, 30 Days Maximum, Deposit Cashed 10 Days after First Phone Call

RFID Tag Reader

- \$15 Per Day Plus \$100 Damage Deposit is required at Time of Pick Up

If you are interested in any of these services please call the Ag Service Board at 403-642-2255 for more information or to be put on the list.

County of Warner Parks

Ridge Park

Located on a huge irrigation reservoir with 31 powered sites and 17 non powered sites, two camp kitchens, boat dock, swimming area, washrooms, overflow area and RV Dump Station. Potable water is available. The park is owned by the County of Warner No. 5, however, maintenance and fee collection is contracted out. The park is located on Secondary Highway 50 on Milk River Ridge Reservoir. No reservations accepted. Limited long term sites available

Chin Lake

Located on Highway 36, approximately 22 miles 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 new boat dock, boat ramp, swimming area, camp kitchen, and washrooms. Potable water is available. No reservations accepted.

RIDGE and CHIN PARK: Info Seasonally at 403-642-3635 Non Service Site/Night \$20; Electrical Service Site/Night \$30, Day Use/Boat Dock fee \$5 The park is open from April 15 to October 15.



Controlling of 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, before green grass appears.

Products available for purchase through the ASB shop 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 @ \$85 and 50 lb bag @ \$150.

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 Shop in Warner or if you require more information please contact Jamie Meeks at the Agriculture Service Board Shop at 403-642-2255.

SOIL CONSERVATION

Topsoil is the uppermost layer of soil. Rich in minerals and nutrients, it is necessary for growth of everything from garden and lawn to crops and forests. It is literally the foundation of our landscape.

Soil erosion is the removal of topsoil. It takes 500-1000 + years to make 1" of topsoil in nature. Erosion happens both naturally and because of human impact. We can't stop the wind or rain, but the choices we make can speed it up or slow it down.



WHAT HAPPENS AS A RESULT OF SOIL EROSION?

- Reduced vegetation
- Reduced ground surface structure

WHAT CAUSES SOIL EROSION?

- Wind
- Water
- Salinity
- Lack of vegetation
- Steep Hills
- Soil Acidity due to nutrient depletion
- Overuse of soil rendering it unable to support vegetation growth
- Dry weather conditions

HOW CAN WE CONSERVE SOIL?

- Plant trees along water ways to keep the banks from washing away
- Plant shelter belts as a wind break to keep soil from blowing away
- Plant trees for shade to keep the soil from heating up and drying out
- Plant grass and other vegetation in bare patches
- Cover bare patches with mulch or rocks
- Plant trees on steep hill sides to keep soil stable and in place
- Control runoff with flumes (lined channel) to direct water into narrower path
- Protect over cultivation of forests
- Maintain soil nutrient with organic matter so it can support plant growth



February 10, 2016

Dear Participating Municipalities,

Chief Mountain Regional Solid Waste Authority (CMRSA) is a Class II Landfill with a restriction of 10,000 tonnes per year. When the Landfill was set up this tonnage was sufficient, but as populations grow and more waste is generated a concern of staying under the tonnage restriction arises. The solution is to either change the classification of the Landfill or stay under this limit.

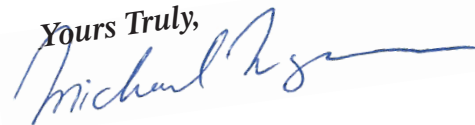
The result of the change in classification would be a change in the CMRSA operating procedure (cell construction would change requiring liners and leachate collection systems) and will result in a substantial cost to the taxpayer.

After looking at the cost the board has decided to stay under the 10,000 tonne limit. In order to achieve this CMRSA will require the help of every citizen. A best practice study was conducted and it was determined that this would be possible by eliminating grass clippings, garden waste, cardboard, newspaper print, tin cans, and glass from the CMRSA waste stream.

What do we do with this waste as citizens? Most Transfer Stations have a separate location for grass clippings and garden waste but the best place for them is mulched back into lawns or composted back into garden soil. Other items such as cardboard, newspaper print, tin cans, and glass are also easily recycled. Most of the larger communities have a recycling trailer or organizations such as the Cardston Handicapped Association or Southern Alberta Association for the Handicapped. These organizations benefit greatly when residents use them to handle their recycling. Rural residents are welcome to bring their recycling into the town nearest them.

With a little effort residents will be able to help CMRSA stay under this 10,000 tonne limit and keep the taxpayers cost to a minimum. CMRSA will no longer (effective immediately) be accepting grass clippings or garden waste, please review this information and notify your citizens.

Yours Truly,



Michael Maynes
Chairman

MM/sp



STOCKING RATES, ANIMAL UNITS AND STOCK DENSITY

Knowledge Nuggets

- Proper use of either native rangeland or tame pasture, depends on the amount of forage the area can produce and the amount of forage needed over the grazing season by the animals.
- The animal unit (AU) is a standard unit used in calculating the relative grazing impact of different kinds and classes of livestock. One animal unit is defined as a 1000 lb (450 kg) beef cow with or without a nursing calf, with a daily dry matter forage requirement of 26 lb (11.8 kg). An animal unit month (AUM) is the amount of forage to fulfill metabolic requirements by one animal unit for one month. One AUM is equal to 780 lbs (355 kg) of dry matter forage.
- Forage requirements change with the size and type of animal. Animal Unit Equivalents (AUE) have been calculated for various species and sizes of animals. For example, a 1500 lb cow is 1.5 AUE, a 700 lb heifer is 0.7 AUE, while a sheep is 0.2 AUE.
- Stocking rate is the number of animals on a pasture for a specified time period and is usually expressed in Animal Unit Months (AUM) per unit area. For example, an area that supports 30 (1,000 pound) cows for a four-month grazing season has a stocking rate of 120 AUMs for the area. If the pasture is 100 acres in size, the stocking rate would be expressed as 1.2 AUM/ac.
- Stock density is the number of animals in a particular area at any moment in time and increases as the number of animals in a paddock increase or as paddock size decreases and is based on level of grazing management. For example, a herd of 30 (1,000 pound) cows on a 2 acre paddock on the 100 acres has a stock density of 15000 lbs/acre or 15 Animal Units/acre, even though the stocking rate for the 100 acre pasture is 1.2 AUMs/acre.
- Carrying capacity is the average number of animals that a pasture can support for a season. It is a measure of a pasture's ability to produce enough forage to meet the animal requirements over the long term and is expressed in AUMs.
- Along with proper grazing management, adequate rest after grazing and grazing during the correct time of year, appropriate stocking rates are critical for sustained
 - Pasture productivity.
- Condition of the pasture impacts stocking rate. Factors such as previous grazing management, species of forage, age of stand, soil type, texture, fertility level and moisture conditions all impact on forage yield and consequently stocking rate.
- Stocking rate histories on similar fields in the same area can be very useful in setting initial stocking rates.
- The optimum number of animals on a pasture makes efficient use of the forage and still leaves enough forage behind to allow a quick and complete recovery.
- Estimate the amount of forage available per acre by taking yield clippings from at least 10 random locations within a paddock. Dry down the forage and use the actual weights to calculate yield. Estimating the area of forage in the stand needed to feed on cow for one day is another technique. Once determined, measure the area and extrapolate to the whole field.
- Calculation of stocking rates or grazing acreage needed is done by the following three steps:
 - Estimate animal consumption (per day) - Nursing cows (with calves) and growing steers or replacement heifers consume approximately 2.5% of body weight as forage dry matter.
 - Estimate the amount of trampling and consumption to determine a level of forage disappearance.
 - Estimate the production of the each paddock as it is about to be grazed each time to acquire a total production estimate.
- Calculate stocking rates (animals/acre) by dividing the amount of forage needed by an animal unit into the total estimate of production of the land.

The County of Warner Agricultural Service Board nominated the

ELIASON FAMILY

from our area as a potential recipient for
the 2016 BMO Calgary Stampede
Farm Family Award.

The Eliason Farm Family accepted
the award.

The Calgary Stampede and BMO Bank of Montreal will be hosting the Awards Ceremony during this year's Stampede to hand out this award to the deserving Southern Albertan Recipients. The objective of the award is to recognize outstanding Southern Alberta farm families "who best typify the value of the family farmer to our rural communities and society in general and to honor these families at the Calgary Exhibition and Stampede," says an information sheet from the Calgary Exhibition and Stampede. Each year residents are asked to select a family that deserves recognition for both agricultural and community involvement. The family must be active in primary agriculture, have agriculture as the main source of their income and have members residing on the farm.

13th Annual

Southern Alberta

GRAZING SCHOOL

For *Women*

JULY

27th-28th 2016



Follow us on Facebook!
"Grazing School
for Women"

ELKWATER COMMUNITY HALL

Cypress Hills Provincial Park, AB

TOPICS INCLUDE

- Range & Riparian Health • Local Plant Identification
- Stocking Rates • Grazing Principles & Practices
- Riparian Grazing Strategies • Species at Risk & Your Land



MILK RIVER WATERSHED COUNCIL CANADA

Please Save the Date!

**11th Annual
General Meeting
May 31, 2016
Milk River Civic Centre**

12:30 pm - Registration
Meeting starts at 1:00 pm



Call for Nominations

The following Board of Directors seats are open for nominations:

- Non-Government Organization - (Environmental and General)
- Agriculture – Farmer
- Agriculture – Rancher
- Water Users
- Municipal District/County x2
- Provincial Government x2 (one must be Alberta Environment and Parks)
- Health
- First Nations

All nominees must be members of the Milk River Watershed Council Canada.

Visit our website for membership information.

Nominations will be taken from the floor on May 31, 2016 or received in advance by phoning 403-647-4342 or emailing tim@mrwcc.ca

Membership

Membership is open to all who live and/or work in the Milk River watershed and who share our common mission. As a member, you are entitled to vote for the Board of Directors at the AGM.

To become a member please contact us or visit our website at: www.milkriverwatershedcouncil.ca



Our Water - Our Legacy!!



Alberta
Agriculture
and Forestry

Weed Alert

Jimsonweed – Not Common to Alberta
ALL PARTS OF THE PLANT ARE
POISONOUS

Concern: Jimsonweed (a.k.a Devil's Trumpet) is a serious weed in cultivated land in the United States and eastern Canada. The plant has toxic effects that have resulted in death to livestock and humans that ingest it.

Plant: The plant has smooth thick red to purple stems that can reach 2 meters tall. Leaves have irregular toothed margins 10-20 cm long. Flowers are white to purplish, 5 point trumpet shape, 7-10 cm long. Seed pod is 2-5cm wide, has spines, is egg shaped and may contain up to 600-700 seeds per capsule. The seed capsule will explode expelling the seeds once mature. Has distinctive sour repulsive odour.

Where to Find This Weed: This invasive weed has been showing up in canola fields. Jimsonweed has been reported recently in Barrhead, Leduc and Westlock Counties while producers are swathing canola.

Control: Jimsonweed seed is difficult to clean from canola, removal prior to combining is recommended. Jimsonweed should be pulled from fields prior to swathing down, once cut the seed capsules may mature into viable seeds for next year. When hand pulling, wear gloves and long sleeves and double bag the plants for the landfill disposal. In this year of feed shortages, canola stubble should not be baled up for feed where plants have been found. These practices will increase risk for poisoning in livestock feed.

Do not compost. Do not burn, as this will release toxins in the air and may cause secondary poisoning.

Early detection and eradication is very important to stop the spread.

Please report any sightings to Nicole Kimmel, Weed Specialist, Agriculture & Forestry at 780-422 0885 or nicole.kimmel@gov.ab.ca.

- County of Warner - Further Education Courses

Register in advance with: Carolyn or Lynette, Further Ed Office, **403-642-8607** or **403-642-2134** (evenings). Send cheque to office, Box 278, Warner, AB T0K 2L0.

Downsizing

Eliminating accumulated possessions can lower your stress level, save time and help you to appreciate what you have. It is a gift to yourself, and to your family, relieving them of the burden of handling all of the possessions that you have acquired through your lifetime. Learn how to get started, how to keep going, and strategies for sorting, gifting, selling and donating your 'treasures'.

Date: Tuesday, April 12
Time: 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM
Location: **Stirling Community Centre**
Fee: \$20
Register by: April 5
Instructor: Barb Cavers, B.A. M.Ed. Consultant

Healthy Diet, Healthy Aging

Good nutrition is important at any age but as you grow older your body and nutrient needs change. Cris will explain these needs and how we can meet them to enhance our aging.

Date: Wednesday, April 20
Time: 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM
Location: **Warner Senior Centre**
Fee: \$19
Register by: April 6
Instructor: Cris Robinson

Board Development

This workshop is designed for the board members of non-profit and voluntary organizations. It will cover issues that concern all boards of incorporated non-profit societies including:

- identifying ethical and legal responsibilities of boards and board members
- understanding roles and responsibilities within your organization
- formulating responsive policies
- developing and making the best use of working committees
- supporting strong board and senior staff relationships or ensuring that the work of the organization gets done if there is no senior staff
- recruiting, orienting, training and evaluation of board members
- this workshop does NOT include strategic planning
- lunch is included

Date: Saturday, April 30
Time: 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM
Location: **Warner County Office**
Fee: \$10
Register by: April 16
Instructors: AB Community Development

Rhymes Time

Exciting sessions for parents and young children aged 0 to 4 years. This interactive program teaches caregivers the value of engaging with their children through songs and rhymes, actions and bonding activities. Come out to connect and have fun with other parents, their children, and yours – learn new ways to entertain those little ones! This program runs for seven weeks with weekly sessions of 1.5 hours.

Date: Tuesdays, May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31; June 7, 14
Time: 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM
Location: **Coutts Historical School Building (Reading Room)**
Fee: No Cost – drop-in sessions
Register by: April 27 to confirm your attendance
Instructor: Yolande Champagne
Register with: Yolande, Literacy Office, 403-393-6647.

Emergency First Aid

This one-day course provides comprehensive First Aid and CPR techniques taught in an interactive environment, for individuals who want an overview of First Aid and CPR for the home or workplace. The course covers skills needed to recognize and respond to cardiovascular emergencies for adults, CPR and other topics such as choking, airway and breathing emergencies and prevention of disease transmission. Bring a bag lunch.

Date: Monday, May 9
Time: 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM
Location: **Raymond Fire Hall**
Fee: \$85
Register by: April 25
Instructor: Loni Snow, Red Cross Certified Instructor

Standard First Aid

This two-day course provides comprehensive First Aid and CPR techniques for those who want more knowledge to respond

to emergencies in the home or workplace. A variety of topics are covered from basic first aid such as cardiovascular and breathing emergencies, CPR, prevention of disease transmission, to wound care, injuries to the head and spine, musculoskeletal injuries, sudden medical emergencies (diabetes and seizures), poisoning, and environmental emergencies. Bring a bag lunch.

Date: Monday, May 9; Tuesday, May 10
Time: 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM
Location: **Raymond Fire Hall**
Fee: \$130
Register by: April 25
Instructor: Loni Snow, Red Cross Certified Instructor

First Aid for Childcare Workers, Parents and Caregivers

This three night course is designed for professional child care workers, but great for parents and all caregivers. This course includes emergency life saving skills, first aid topics with a focus on children and Level C CPR (adult, infant, child and 2-rescuer resuscitation) and AED.

Date: Tuesday, May 31, Wednesday, June 1 & Thursday, June 2
Time: 6:00 pm - 10:00 PM
Location: **Stirling, TBA**
Fee: \$130
Note: Includes \$35 supplies
Register by: May 17
Instructor: Loni Snow, Red Cross Certified Instructor

PDIC

(Professional Driver Improvement Course)

This course is the basic training in defensive driving for larger trucks. Topics include:

- Legislation
- Professional driving attitude
- Inspections and maintenance
- Defensive driving awareness
- Non-driving skills

Date: Thursday, May 26
Time: 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM
Location: Warner Fire Hall
Fee: \$125
Register by: May 12
Instructor: Gateway Safety Services



Growing Forward 2

Growing Forward 2 may be of interest to you – farmers and ranchers!

Grant funding is available to assist in numerous areas, particularly environmental and water resource management, and agriculture assurance projects.

Growing Forward 2 (GF2) is a federal/provincial/territorial cost sharing agreement. The Growing Forward 2 programs aim to help the agriculture 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. In Alberta there are 23 GF2 programs. The following are some of those which may be of interest to you. For a complete listing, all program details, and the application forms, please visit the website at:

www.growingforward.alberta.ca

GROWING FORWARD 2 PROGRAMS:

On-Farm Stewardship Program (OFS):

- All projects have maximums. The total available through On Farm Stewardship is \$50,000.
- Must complete an Environmental Farm Plan before applying for OFS grants

Riparian Area Fencing and Management

- 70% grant
- Eligible Costs Include
 - Projects which limit livestock access to environmentally sensitive areas on farms and ranches

Year-Round / Summer Watering Systems

- 50% grant
- Eligible Costs Include
 - Installation of remote watering systems to limit or eliminate direct livestock access to water bodies and water sources

Shelterbelt Establishment

- 50% grant
- Eligible Costs Include
 - Establishing a Shelterbelt to assist with shelterbelt establishment for livestock, wind erosion, and wildlife protection

Wetland Restoration

- 70% grant
- Eligible Costs Include
 - Restoration costs of drained or altered naturally occurring wetlands to “near natural conditions”

Livestock Wintering Site Relocation and Livestock Facility Runoff Control

- 50% grant
- Eligible Costs Include:

- Relocating livestock facilities which are close to water to improve water quality, Reduce stream bank degradation; Implement runoff control measures to protect surface water.

Used Oil and Lubricant Storage

- 50% grant
- Eligible Costs Include
 - Used oil storage tanks

Improved Nutrient Management

- 50% grant
- Eligible Costs Include:
 - Sectional control systems for seed drills
 - Sectional control systems for fertilizer applicators

Improved Pesticide Management

- 50% grant
- Eligible Costs Include:
 - Sectional control systems on sprayers

Agricultural Plastic Waste Management

- 70% grant
- Eligible Costs Include:
 - Grain bag roller

On-Farm Water Management

Eligible Cost Examples Include:

- Grant is 1/3 of eligible costs to maximum of \$5000
- Must complete Long Term Water Management Plan before applying.
- Eligible Cost Include:

- Enhancement of farm water supply;
 - wells,
 - dugouts,
 - dams,
 - spring development

On-Farm Energy Management

Eligible Cost Examples Include:

- Improving energy efficiency on farm
- Grant is 35% of eligible costs to a maximum of \$50,000
- Eligible Costs Include:
 - Energy free and low energy livestock watering fountains,
 - energy efficient lighting,
 - recommended insulation,
 - variable speed drives for pumps,
 - fans, compressors,
 - Conveyors,
 - Up to \$3500 for an energy audit.
 - 100% grant for up to 3 sub meters to provide info on energy use.

Livestock Welfare Producer

- Up to 50% grant for eligible costs of improved handling system to maximum \$50,000
- **Must have premise ID and complete Livestock Welfare Risk Assessment**
- Eligible Cost Examples include:
 - Loading/unloading chutes,
 - sort pens,
 - gating throughout the drive alley,
 - crowd tubs,
 - handling/sorting systems,
 - squeeze chutes,
 - anti-slip flooring

Food Safety Systems Producer

- 70% of eligible costs to maximum of \$5,000
- Eligible Cost Examples include:
 - Cattle squeeze with neck extender,
 - scale head (indicator),
 - loadbars,
 - scale platform,
 - milk guards,
 - computer software for tracking animal health record

Traceability Technology Adoption and Training

- 70% of approved costs for RFID readers and software to maximum \$3,500 for cow/calf
- 100% of approved training costs to a maximum of \$25,000

1 Animal Health Biosecurity Producer

- “prevent, reduce or eliminate the introduction and incidental spread of disease “
- 50% grant on eligible equipment, training, facilities; maximums apply
- **Biosecurity Risk Assessment must be completed**

Business Opportunity Program

- 50 % grant (maximum \$5000 per activity)
- eligible expenses such as hiring a third party to assist with business planning, feasibility studies for new opportunities, business diversification plans, marketing plans, market research, succession planning, etc.

Business Management Skills

- 75% grant (maximum \$10,000 per individual) for eligible costs associated with training in: marketing, financial management, risk management, productivity improvement, leadership, human resource management, farm safety training

Getting started with FarmSafe Alberta

What is FarmSafe Alberta?

FarmSafe Alberta (FarmSafe) is a health and safety management system consisting of instructional time and a planning manual. The manual is divided into eight elements, each a valuable part of a personalized health and safety system for your farming operation. Whether working on your plan one-on-one, or in a classroom setting, a trained FarmSafe Advisor will help you develop your individual documents and apply the plan on your farm.

You decide the best level of safety planning for your operation. Personalized instruction means you won't commit yourself to a safety system that you cannot deliver. You will work with your FarmSafe Advisor to arrive at realistic and achievable goals.

With some grants available, now is an excellent time to discover what a safety plan can do for your farm.

What are the eight elements?

1. Management Leadership and Organizational Commitment

The first step is to put your expectations in writing. This element guides you in writing a general policy and outlining the roles and responsibilities of all those who work or visit the farm business. You also gain an understanding of your moral and legal obligations to employees in terms of their health and safety on your farm.

2. Hazard Identification and Assessment

This element guides you through hazard assessment which is the foundation for your health and safety system. The components you cover include identifying, assessing and prioritizing the hazards of each task on your farm.

3. Hazard Control

This element continues what you started in Element 2. Once you have identified hazards, you can then implement controls and train workers on the use of those controls. Part of controlling hazards is a plan to review and revise controls on a regular basis.

4. Ongoing Inspections

Regular inspections are a critical part of a health and safety management system. This element outlines a step-by-step process for carrying out both formal and informal inspections. The outcome is a process for taking corrective action.

5. Qualifications, Orientation and Training

Training in job tasks and health and safety is part of your health and safety management system. Workers may be recruited with some of this training, be oriented after hiring and be trained on your farm on an ongoing basis.

6. Emergency Response

This element guides you in the creation of an emergency response plan for your farm. The steps are to identify all potential disasters or emergency situations, create and test an emergency response plan and communicate this plan to all those working on, or visiting, your farm.

7. Incident Investigation

You learn in this element how to write an incident reporting policy and develop a standard procedure for investigation of workplace incidents. Included in this policy is the method for recording and tracking incidents over time.

8. Program Administration

The final element focuses on recording, tracking and maintaining all aspects of your health and safety management system. These statistics allow you to identify trends and problems that need to be corrected. You are provided with some tools for keeping records or statistics.

COR or SECOR Prep (Optional)

After successfully completing all 8 elements, producers may

be eligible to obtain their Certificate of Recognition (COR) or Small Employer Certificate of Recognition (SECOR). This preparation and guided self-assessment will help to ensure a producer's plan meets current standards.

Do I need my COR or SECOR?

While some producers may opt to obtain their COR or SECOR, it is completely optional. FarmSafe has been developed to current COR standards, meaning that all producers who successfully complete a FarmSafe Alberta Plan are eligible to seek their COR or SECOR through a Certifying Partner.

Moving forward to build a health and safety plan

You have a many options when it comes to building your own health and safety plan!

- Work one-on-one with any of the FarmSafe Advisors;
- Attend a 2-3 day workshop covering comprehensive FarmSafe planning;
- Attend half- to whole-day workshop sessions on any of the 8 elements;
- Obtain a free copy of the FarmSafe manual to complete on your own;
- Visit the Alberta Farm Safety website to access a variety of pre-planning tools like simplified safety plan templates, hazard assessment checklists or e-courses.

For producers who would like to achieve their COR or SECOR, proof of training is required by the Certifying Partners. You can achieve this by working on-one-on with an Advisor, attending the comprehensive workshop or attending all of the short workshops covering the 8 FarmSafe Elements. Alberta Agriculture and Forestry will keep a record of the training you have completed and can communicate your completion to any of the Certifying Partners.

For more information about FarmSafe Alberta visit www.agriculture.alberta.ca/farmsafety and click on the FarmSafe link to contact the program, find an Advisor, link to grant information and access planning resources.



Red Creek Stewardship Group Tree Planting

A Red Creek Stewardship Group has been established with participating landowners within the Red Creek Watershed. The Red Creek Stewardship Group has been very busy over the last few years doing several on the ground projects and hosting a number of tours and field days.

We are planning a tree planting day to plant trees along the Red Creek on May 17th & 18th

If you are interested in helping out with the planting days or participating which is completely voluntary or have any further questions please contact Kerry at the County of Warner Agricultural Service Board Office 403-642-2255

Southern Alberta Youth Range Days 9th Annual

July 5th-7th, 2016, near Elkwater, AB

The Southern Alberta Youth Range Days are an interactive event for youth, and families, interested in learning about a variety of rangeland, watershed, wildlife, and other topics related to natural resource management. Youth from all backgrounds including farm and ranch, acreage or town, are welcome to attend. This year's camp will be held at the Group Camp which is located near Elkwater in the Cypress Hills.

Working Agricultural Landscapes are critical to environmental sustainability. Range Days celebrates our heritage and provides a mentoring environment for youth with experts working within southern Alberta on these topics!

See incredible Prairie Landscapes including the One-Four Research Ranch, Elkwater lake and the Cypress Hills!

Prairie Landscapes, Wildlife, Birds, Reptiles, Plants and Bugs! See the connections between landuse and the Environment Hike, Swim, Learn, and Have Fun! Win Great Prizes!

**Space is limited: please register by May 1st, 2016
Cost is \$50 per person Ages: 13-18, families welcome!**

For additional information, a basic itinerary and to register, contact:
Tracy Kupchenko: 403-529-3727 Tracy.Kupchenko@aer.ca
Lisa Monkman: 403-526-2888 lismon@cypress.ab.ca

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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 www.warnercounty.ca](http://www.warnercounty.ca).

DEVELOPMENT INFORMATION

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. Stockpiles must be set back 25 feet from any property line.

A full Copy of the Land Use By-Law and Development application forms are available on our website www.warnercounty.ca.

County of Warner Maps

wall maps are available for purchase at the County office at a cost of \$12, booklets are only \$20.

If you require clarification on any of the discussed items, please contact the County office at 403-642-3635 or 1-888-642-2241; fax 403-642-3631;

email: www.warnercounty.ca



County of Warner

Ag. Services

2ND ANNUAL

GRAIN BAG DRIVE

March 2nd-April 30th, 2016



The 2015 grain bag recycling drive was a successful pilot project, collecting 14 tonnes of recyclable plastics. It will be an annual event, as long as there is need. The recycling depot only accepts grain bags that are ...

#1 Empty

#2 Clean

#3 Tightly rolled and tied with twine.

If you would like to participate in this drive, please contact Patty at the Ag. Service office in Warner at 403-642-2255 to schedule a delivery time. You must schedule so we can be sure to have staff and equipment available to unload your plastics.

****Only bags that meet the recycling depots criteria will be accepted****

Grain bags can be delivered to the Ag. Service shop at 202 County Rd. Warner, AB