

#### **Conversations on Water**

Sarah Skinner, BRWA Watershed Programs Manager, was one of three speakers at the Lougheed Performing Arts Centre for the Conversations on Water event in February. Sarah joined Poet Rita Wong and Samson Cree Nation Council Member Louise Omeasoo. The speakers offered an evening of inspiring stories, poetry and conversations on water. Special thanks to Professor Stephanie Oliver and her students in the English department at the University of Alberta (Augustana Campus) for hosting the event.

#### Workshops & Events - Join Us



WORLD WATER DAY - Collaborating with Nature & Each Other

Location: Virtual

Date & Time: March 22, 2023 (1:30 - 3:30 pm MDT)

Join the World Water Day Celebration hosted by Alberta's 11 Watershed Planning and Advisory Councils. Dr. Glynnis Hood, Professor of Environmental Science and Vice Dean at the University of Alberta's Augustana Campus, and Tim Romanow, Executive Director of the Milk River Watershed Council Canada, will share the benefits of collaborating to protect and preserve our waterways. Register here!

RIPARIAN WEB PORTAL 101 AND 102 WORKSHOPS



101 Dive into the Data: April 13, 2023 (1:30 - 3:30 pm MDT) 102 Where Data Meets Action: April 14, 2023 (1:30 - 3:30 pm MDT)

These free virtual workshops are designed for planners and project/program managers in government, agriculture, industry and ENGOs. Get the background and skills needed to put riparian data into action and share information about your projects on the Riparian Web Portal. Attendees must attend the 101 workshop before attending 102.

Register here!



#### **BRWA AGM - Save the Date**

June 12, 2023

This year's AGM will be a bus tour to the Alberta 4-H Centre at Battle Lake. BRWA members, watershed residents, local groups and businesses are all invited! The bus will start in Camrose, with speakers and stops planned within the Battle Lake watershed (including the fern glades pictured on the left). Please save the date and plan to attend!

#### Join the Biggest Hour for Earth 8.30pm 25th March





#### Earth Hour is March 25th at 8:30 pm (local time)

Join in creating the Biggest Hour for Earth on March 25th - switch off your lights and spend 60 minutes doing something positive for our planet!

## We asked BRWA staff, and others in the office, how they might like to spend Earth Hour:

Sarah's favourite Earth Hour activity is to light a ton of candles and curl up on the couch to read a good book.

Kandra likes taking the opportunity to do night photography, hopefully featuring aurora! Catherine likes to unplug, turn off all the lights, and play board games with her kids by candlelight.

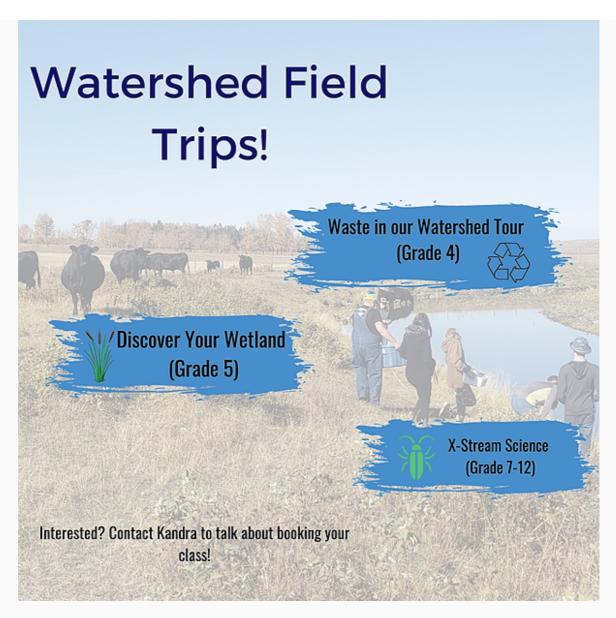
Heather (NSWA) celebrates Earth Hour regularly as she enjoys unplugging, taking time to read, journal, spend time with her dog and see people face to face.

Melanie (Hospice Society) likes to unplug and turn everything off and go for an hour long walk in nature.

How will you spend Earth Hour? Spread the word on social - use the hashtag #MyHourForEarth

**About Earth Hour** 

#### In the Classroom - Calling Educators & Learners



Spots are filling up fast for spring!
Bookings are also available for the fall.
\*Waste in Our Watershed - Wetaskiwin and Camrose
are open for Fall 2023 bookings\*

**Request a Program** 

#### **Water Matters**

On behalf of the BRWA, Alan Corbett (BRWA Board Co-Chair) has joined the Alberta Water Council Board of Directors. This is an opportunity to collaborate and bring a local voice to water resource planning at a provincial level. This is a four-year, volunteer commitment. Alan will act as an Alternate Director representing the Watershed Planning and Advisory Councils for two years and then the Primary Director for two years. Currently, Steve Meadows from Bow River Basin Council is the Primary Director. The opportunity to act in this position shifts to each WPAC across the province, alternating between north and south. Learn more about the Alberta Water Council here.



#### What's the value of viewing Earth from space?

Check out our <u>Riparian Areas From Above</u> video to hear from a retired astronaut about the value and impact of viewing the Earth from above. This "bird's eye" (or "satellite's eye") view can help us understand areas of our watersheds that would benefit from conservation and restoration efforts.

This video is part of the Riparian Video Series, a joint project of the BRWA and NSWA that you can watch now on our <u>YouTube channel</u>. You can also get your own bird's eye view of riparian areas in your region by visiting the <u>Riparian Web Portal!</u>

#### The Alliance



BRWA Board of Directors, January 2023. Left to Right: (back) Alan Corbett, Preston Weran, Greg Smith (middle) Terry Vockeroth, Ryley Anderson, Dale Pederson, Greg King, (front) Melissa Orr-Langner, Peter

#### Partner Events

### Working Well Workshop Schedule | Winter 2023

Register today for a water well management workshop.

These free workshops are hosted by local municipalities and community-based organizations and presented by the Working Well Program with technical expertise provided by staff from Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation, Alberta Environment and Protected Areas, Alberta Health Services and licensed water well drillers.

The next workshop for those who live in Leduc County or the County of Wetaskiwin will be hosted virtually on March 16th. You can <u>register here</u>, or <u>view other workshop</u> <u>dates/locations here</u>.

# ALUS Enhanced Grazing Workshops

Part 1 - March 15

Part 2 - March 29

10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Blackfoot Hall

#### Learn How to:

- implement enhanced grazing principles on your land
- increase forage production and improve animal health
- improve soil health, water quality, wildlife habitat, drought resilience - develop a grazing management plan
- access funding to install paddock fences and watering systems\*

  receive annual payments for project management and maintenance.

All projects will be considered but only those that are approved and implemented will be eligible for enrolment in the ALUS Vermilion River program.

Space is limited. All materials, lunch, and snacks are provided

#### To Register contact:

CHRIS ELDER - ALUS Program Coordinator 780-853-7844 celder@county24.com



\*Project funding provided by Caraill and A&W





# ENVIRONMENTAL FARM PLAN Workshop

March 13-17, 2023 - Environmental Farm Plan Workshop, Camrose County (Deadline to register is March 9th)

https://county.camrose.ab.ca/events/environments

https://county.camrose.ab.ca/events/environmentalfarm-plan-1-on-1-workshops March 23, 2023 - Environmental Farm Plan Workshop, Lacombe County <a href="https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/environmental-farm-">https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/environmental-farm-</a>

plan-workshop-tickets-482057997447

If you are part of a group in the Battle River or Sounding Creek watershed and have a watershed conservation project or event that you would like us to share, please send us a message. If it fits within our mandate, we will do our best to share it in a timely manner. Contact <a href="mailto:Kandra@battleriverwatershed.ca">Kandra@battleriverwatershed.ca</a>

#### **In Other News**

- Province plans to modernize Alta. irrigation legislation
- Scientists unlock key to drought-resistant wheat plants with longer roots
- Rising river temperatures hold important clues about climate and other human impacts

