



## Summer 2022 Newsletter

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The watershed received significant rainfall early in the summer, which led to high water levels in the battle river. All precipitation is welcome!

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## Meet our New Executive Director

On July 4th, Catherine Peirce became the BRWA's Executive Director. Catherine replaces David Samm, who has retired after 15 years of leading the Alliance. Catherine Peirce comes to the BRWA from the Pigeon Lake Watershed Association, where she has been the Executive Director since 2018. Catherine has over 15 years of management experience at not-for-profit



organizations with a focus on developing national, education-based programs and services. Her experience includes managing multi-stakeholder initiatives, collaborating with subject matter experts, raising funds to support program development, and communications. Prior to working with watershed groups, Catherine was a Manager at the Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada and a Sessional Lecturer at Carleton University in the Department of Public Affairs. Catherine has a Master of Arts in Communication with a Bachelor's degree in Communication and Political Science.



## 2022 OTIS AWARD

FOR BEING OUTSTANDING IN STEWARDSHIP



### Nominate a Steward

in one of 4 categories:

Individual

Youth

Business

Organization

Nominations Due Oct. 14 2022

[battleriverwatershed.ca/otis-awards](http://battleriverwatershed.ca/otis-awards)

[Nominate Here!](#)



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An aerial photograph of a river winding through a landscape. Two kayakers in colorful kayaks are on the river. The right bank is covered in dry, brown grass. The left side of the image features a graphic overlay with diagonal stripes in orange, yellow, and blue.

# 2021-2022 ANNUAL REPORT

**BATTLE RIVER**  
WATERSHED ALLIANCE

[Read it Here](#)

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## 2022 Finalists

1st	Rainwater Management in our Watershed	Linkin Jaycox, Kaitlyn Rak, Libby Sherbinin	Bishop Lloyd Middle School
2nd	From the Faucet, Down the Drain: A Novel Solution to Waterway and Watershed Pollution Caused by Undeveloped Water Treatment	Naga Kondepoti	Queen Elizabeth High School
3rd	Seedling Story Walk	Katie McCaig, Georgia Davison, Katelynn Standell	Crescent Heights High School
4th	Local Farmers Market Campaign	Adina Latif and Sarah Collier	Robert Thirsk High School
5th	Rain Gardens!	Paul Pavlakos and Kieran Hustwick	Vincent Massey School
6th	A Rain Barrel A Day Keeps Climate Change Away	Ella Humphrey and Kenzy Antaya	Vincent Massey School
7th	Making Battery Recycling Fun	Kaitlyn Rumohr	Glendale Sciences and Technology School
8th	Perceive and Protect	Aamayra Hassan and Alexis Living	Dr Roy Wilson Learning Centre
9th	Jensen Reservoir Riparian Area	Tabitha Murray-Peyton and Rain Hoek	Magrath Junior Senior High School
10th	Bats Beat Bugs	Damon Losey, Carson Pimm, Garren Robertson	Erle Rivers High School

Congratulations to all participating students and their schools!  
This years competition had 275 proposals from 534 students from 24 schools throughout the province.

This is the first year the Caring for Our Watersheds contest has been province wide and we had 275 proposals from 534 grade 7-12 students representing 24 schools across the province. The virtual finals were held in April and the following are the top ten proposals. We look forward to keeping the momentum going this upcoming year and getting set for the 2023 contest!

What is Caring for Our Watersheds?



# Emerald Award Winner

Riparian Web Portal is an exciting new project created by Alberta's watershed community, including the Battle River, Red Deer and North Saskatchewan Watershed Aliiances. Officially launched in 2021, this online space is designed to encourage Albertans to conserve and improve riparian health today for a better tomorrow.

The Riparian Web Portal:

- 1) provides access to riparian data and summary tools,
- 2) shares examples of on-the-ground restoration and conservation projects, and
- 3) provides resources such as beneficial management practices, and links to relevant grants and programs.

Examples of real on-the-ground projects can be found throughout the Web Portal's map. Landowners can browse photos, timelines, and supporting partners of restoration and conservation projects in their area. Links to over 75 online resources are provided to users of the site.



[Riparian Web Portal](#)

**The Riparian Web Portal was featured in the June edition of Water Canada! Check it out here.**

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**RIPARIAN  
WEB PORTAL**

## RIPARIAN WEB PORTAL TRAINING

Planners and Project Managers in government, agriculture, & ENGO;  
Get the background and skills you need to use the data and  
contribute your riparian projects to this exciting new resource.

**101: Dive into the Riparian Data:  
Our Intactness Project**  
November 15th, 1:30pm

**102: Where Data Meets  
Action: Riparian Web Portal**  
November 16th, 1:30pm

All Workshops are offered at no cost, via Zoom.  
Attendees must complete the 101 workshop before 102.  
**Register at [battleriverwatershed.eventbrite.com](https://battleriverwatershed.eventbrite.com)**

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## Education Programs

### Field Trip Season!

**Discover Your Wetlands**  
(Grade 5)

**Waste in our Watershed Tour**  
(Grade 4)

**X-Stream Science**  
(Grade 7-12)

Interested? Contact Kandra to talk about booking your class!

\*Pending COVID restrictions

Our staff had a busy spring delivering our Discover your Wetlands and X-Stream Science field trips to **546 students** from **26 different classrooms** throughout the watershed.

Kandra also delivered Future Farmers for Freshwater to 4-H and school groups and is looking forward to following up with some riparian plantings this fall!

### **Back This Fall- Waste in Our Watershed Tour!**

With restrictions lifted we are again offering our Waste in Our Watershed tours in Camrose.

**Coming soon:** Expanding to Wetaskiwin! Stay tuned!

[Learn More](#)

[Request a Program](#)



**FUTURE FARMERS**  
FOR FRESHWATER

How can we  
grow food and  
keep our  
water clean?

4-H Club  
Presentations and  
Service Projects  
available.



In this new project, 4-H club members will learn more about agricultural best management practices for growing food and keeping our water clean. Clubs will be engaged through virtual or in-person presentations and activities, and take part in a hands-on community service stewardship project such as a tree planting. [Contact Kandra](#) if you are interested.

## **Magpie Camp**

**Magpie Camp** was a success! We had 27 participants over two weeks and lucked out with awesome weather. The kids got to meet a live bat, learn about plants and plant pressing, make seed bombs, go pond dipping to learn about invertebrates, make cattail cordage, plant willows, learn to fish, and help clear out invasive



tansy. The kids pulled 7 bags worth of this invasive plant! Each week the kids came to camp excited to see what was in store.

If you would like to be added to the email list so you can know first when registration opens, please contact Kandra.

***Huge thanks to Cargill for sponsoring the camp and allowing us to make it accessible for everyone and Camrose and District Fish and Game for letting us use the Pleasure Island site yet again!***



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## **Annual General Meeting**

The BRWA hosted a successful AGM on June 23rd. It was a great way to showcase all the awesome work we have been up to from the Riparian Web Portal to Caring for our Watersheds. As well we were able to hear more about the Pigeon Lake sub-watershed from our incoming Executive Director Catherine Peirce before surprising our long time fearless leader David with a proper send off (including cake!). We enjoyed seeing BRWA members and partners in person this year. Thank you to those that attended.



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## **Municipal Presentations**

Our staff spent this spring touring around our watershed and delivered 20 presentations to municipalities. It was an excellent opportunity to connect with councils that have been great at



supporting our work and updating them on what projects we have on the go. Municipalities are a huge part of what we do and we are grateful for their shared passion for a healthy watershed.



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