



The Country BOOSTER

The paper
created
EXCLUSIVELY
for farm families
and rural
residents
of east central
Alberta

8 PAGES | MARCH 21, 2023

Water ...our most valuable commodity



On March 22, the United Nations (UN) observes a

WORLD WATER DAY

driving home the importance of one of the world's most valuable commodities, fresh water. The year's theme, "Accelerating Change", focuses on accelerating change to solve the water and sanitation crisis. For more information on what Battle River Watershed Alliance is doing locally, to help educate the public on our watersheds and sanitation systems, see the inside story on page 2.

Battle River Watershed Alliance education lead Kandra Forbes, standing, and Watershed Programs manager Sarah Skinner, seated, look over part of Stoney Creek, an integral part of the Battle River Watershed system.

Photo by Lori Larsen

Inside

A variety of merchandise,
services, events and more!

Win a colour photo of your farm! See page 6

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Sarah and Kandra had a chance to talk with Lori from The Camrose Booster about how the Alliance's work ties into the goals surrounding World Water Day, especially related to education about our relationship to water, how we use it in our day-to-day lives, and how we

are connected to the broader watershed community. [Water is the most important asset, by Lori Larson, The Country Booster](#)

In the Classroom - Calling Educators & Learners

Caring for Our Watersheds Contest

Top ten finalists have been selected!

The proposals featured below stood out to judges out of the 275 proposals received this year. In total, 17 schools and 582 students were involved. The finalists will go on to present their ideas in person to a panel of judges on May 12th in Wetaskiwin for a chance to win \$1,000 for themselves and their school. Students are encouraged to implement their ideas and make a difference in their communities.

Proposal Idea	Student Name(s)	School
Saving our bees and environment	Callie Ayers and Kalia Slarks	Cardston Junior High (Cardston)
Bat Boxes	Mary-Ann Toone	Willow Creek Composite High (Claresholm)
Our Eco-Week	Moses Lok Yin Mo	Centennial High School (Calgary)
Willow Staking	Jade Pham	Centennial High School (Calgary)
Environmentally friendly cosmetics	Alex Sharp	Elboya School (Calgary)
Brush Off, Invaders	Cassy Setter and Emmett Sherbinin	Bishop Lloyd Middle School (Lloydminster)
Trees & Beads	Taylor Ball and Kyptin Watters	Dr Roy Wilson Learning Centre (Medicine Hat)
The Weird, Abstract and Educated	Stella Wagner and Paige Smyth	Dr Roy Wilson Learning Centre (Medicine Hat)
Cover crops for gardens- lets stop erosion!	Bree Poissant and Jayla Senior	Crescent Heights High School (Medicine Hat)
Sustainable Irrigation	Aria Vanhala	Magrath Junior Senior High School (Magrath)

Introducing.... WoW: Wetaskiwin!

Our popular Grade 4 Waste in Our Watershed event is now
being offered in Wetaskiwin

Limited spots available for Fall 2023!



Current programs booking for Fall 2023

Discover Your Wetlands

X-Stream Science

Waste in Our Watershed: Wetaskiwin and Camrose

[Request a Program](#)

Workshops & Events - Join Us



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!

Water Matters



This year for World Water Day, Alberta Watershed Planning and Advisory Councils (WPACs) hosted a webinar "Collaborating with Nature and Each Other" featuring our own local beaver lady (Glynnis Hood, Professor of Environmental Science at the University of Alberta's Augustana Campus) and Tim Romanow (Executive Director of the Milk River Watershed Council Canada). [Access the Presentation](#)





Waste in our Watershed: Wetaskiwin Bus Tour

We were happy to enjoy World Water Day with a stakeholder pre-tour of our Waste in our Watershed: Wetaskiwin program. This tour allowed community leaders to get a look at the tour that will take grade 4 students through both the solid and liquid waste cycles of Wetaskiwin. Thank you to the presenters and participants for making it a great day! [WOW Wetaskiwin giving lessons on water and waste, by Christina Max, Wetaskiwin Times](#)

Partner Events



Join the next gathering of the Alberta Citizen Science Community of Practice: Addressing Gaps in Wildfire Smoke Monitoring Through Citizen Science. The guest speaker, Greg Wentworth, is a Senior Atmospheric Scientist with Alberta Environment and Protected Areas. He is part of the Airshed Sciences team, which is responsible for evaluating and reporting on air quality throughout Alberta. This event will take place on Wednesday, April 12, 2023, from 12:00 to 1:30 pm MDT. [Registration](#)

In Other News

- [Landowner Guide to the Alberta Wetland Policy - Alberta NAWMP Partnership](#)
- [Webinar recording: "Does drainage pay? Quantifying agricultural profitability associated with wetland drainage practices" by Dr. Shari Clare](#)
- [ABMI Wetland Atlas of Alberta](#) and [webinar recording](#)
- [Red Deer Watershed Alliance is hiring](#)

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 Kandra@battleriverwatershed.ca



BATTLE RIVER
WATERSHED ALLIANCE

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