



## OTIS Awards

The OTIS Award is a way to recognize the efforts of individuals, agricultural initiatives, businesses and organizations, and youth in the Battle River and Sounding Creek watersheds who are Outstanding In Stewardship by taking action to care for our environment. The award is named after the main character in the book “Otis and Friends: Environmental Adventures” written by high school students from Ponoka for the Caring for our Watersheds Contest. The book is about Otis and his friends helping to create a better watershed.

### 2023 Award Winners:

Agriculture - Darrel Fipke

Individual - Rebecca King

Organization/Business - Scandia Roadside Native Prairie Restoration Project

Youth - Samson Cree Nation Mimiw Sakahikan Aquatic Habitat Project

If you know anyone who is an outstanding steward, [nominations for 2024 are now open](#).

## Riparian Restoration and Conservation Funding Available!

Contact BRWA about funding for riparian projects, including riparian fencing, installation of livestock watering systems, native vegetation planting, and more.

[Program Guidelines](#) | [Application Form](#)

## ANNUAL REPORT

BATTLE RIVER  
WATERSHED ALLIANCE

2023-2024



### Annual Report

Check out what we have accomplished over the past year. The Annual Report features engagement through our community events and education programs, updates on our riparian restoration initiatives, and partnerships across the watershed.

[2023-2024 report](#)

## Workshops & Events



### BRWA Important Bird Area - Monitoring

**Date:** July 17

**Location:** Dilberry Lake Provincial Park

**Start Time:** 10:00 am

**About the Event:** BRWA staff will be at the Dilberry campground to conduct a bird count. We welcome the public to join us for a day of monitoring different bird species! We will have binoculars for the volunteers. Please email: [stewardship@battleriverwatershed.ca](mailto:stewardship@battleriverwatershed.ca)

### Camrose and District Centennial Museum: Watershed Days

**Date:** July 12

**Start Time:** 10:00 am

**About the Event:** Join BRWA at the Camrose and District Museum for free admission and activities around Watershed



Awareness!

For questions call (780) 672- 3298



### **Paddle the Battle**

**Date:** July 18

**Location:** Riverdale Mini Park (meeting place)

**Start Time:** 10:00 am

**About the Event:** BRWA staff are planning to paddle the Battle River in the Riverdale region. Exact location to be determined depending on water levels. It's a bring your own boat, safety gear, and provisions outing. Anyone wishing to join, please email: [stewardship@battleriverwatershed.ca](mailto:stewardship@battleriverwatershed.ca)



### **Midge Lambert Memorial Watershed Festival**

**Save the Date!**

**Date:** July 27

**Location:** [Camrose and District Fish and Game Pleasure Island Pond](#)

**Time:** 11:00 to 3:30

**About the Event:** BRWA's Watershed Festival is a day where the public can come and enjoy activities, such as pond dipping, games, crafts, guided hikes, and a watershed expo.

If you are interested in **volunteering** please email: [engagement@battleriverwatershed.ca](mailto:engagement@battleriverwatershed.ca)



# Upcoming Events

## Alberta Métis Fest 2024

Come visit our booth and learn more about Metis culture at Métis Crossing, Smoky Lake

**June 21st-22nd**

## June 22nd

10:00 am-Noon

## Camrose Community Tree Planting Event

Join BRWA and Camrose Green Action Committee at the berm between Enevold Drive and SW corner of Camrose Drive, Volunteers needed!

## Important Bird Area Monitoring

Join us to count the bird species at Dillberry Lake Provincial Park

## July 17th

Start time 10:00 am

## July 18th

10:30 am-3:00 pm

## Paddle the Battle

Join us for a paddle on the Battle River in the Riverdale region. Exact location to be determined depending on water levels. Bring your own boat, safety gear and lunch.

## Islet Lake Outdoor Expo

Hosted by Alberta Parks at Islet Lake Staging Area. Everyone is welcome!

## July 25th

1:00-3:30 pm

## July 27th

10:30 am-3:00 pm

## Midge Lambert Memorial Watershed Festival

Join us at Pleasure Island Fish Pond for a day of activities and a watershed expo. Everyone is welcome!



For more information:

[stewardship@battleriverwatershed.ca](mailto:stewardship@battleriverwatershed.ca)

[www.battleriverwatershed.ca](http://www.battleriverwatershed.ca)



Regular updates are posted on the website [event page](#)

## In the Classroom







## Field Trip Season Comes to an End

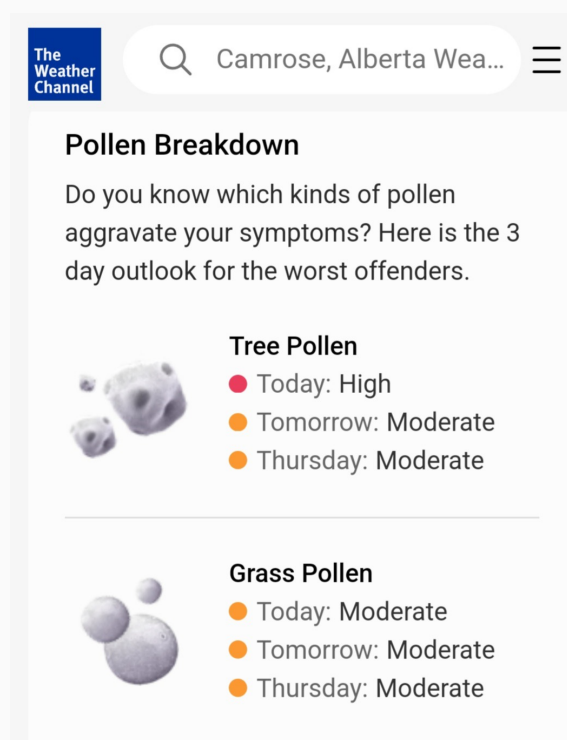
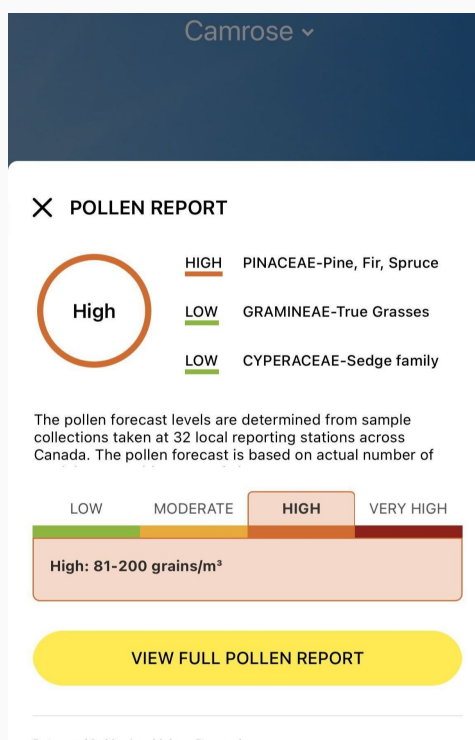
With the end of the school year, we wrap up our different school programs:

- X-stream science (Grade 7-12)
- Habit Tour (Grade 6)
- Discover Your Wetlands (Grade 5)
- Waste in Our Watershed (Grade 4)

The purpose of these programs is to get students out into their watershed, engaging with their environment, and developing an understanding of what makes up a healthy ecosystem and how to protect it.

[About the Youth Programs](#) | [Request a Program](#)

## Water Matters



## Increased Tree Pollen from Drought Stress

This spring, heightened pollen levels are observed due to last summer's drought-stressed spruce, pine and fir trees producing more pollen to ensure seed propagation. Weather apps have been adding pollen level updates on iPhone and Samsung devices.

Global News Article: [Last year's drought results in more pollen this spring](#)

## Drought Update

Earlier this month, the Alberta government's Drought Emergency Operations Centre reached out to all municipalities in central and northern Alberta (in the Battle River basin and north) to provide information on preparing for and responding to drought conditions. This is important information as drought conditions remain a concern across the province and particularly in some northern communities. As a key partner in Alberta's drought response, BRWA was asked to share a drought response resource sheet with information for (central) and northern communities in Alberta. The sheet includes links to drought response tools and support programs.

[Drought response resources for northern communities](#)

## In Other News

- [Alberta initiates campaign to keep invasive species out of waterways](#)
- [Alberta's increased aquatic invasive species fines will be the highest in North America](#)
- [Compare and contrast: Western agricultural communities need water conservation strategies to adapt to future shortages](#)
- [Climate change: rising temperatures may impact groundwater quality](#)
- [Water allocation to Alberta oil and gas producers up sharply in past 15 years](#)
- [Result in sight for long-delayed water law for First Nations](#)
- [Edmonton expands water bottle filling station program for summer 2024](#)

\*Many of the articles we feature have been shared through the [Alberta Water Portal Society](#). If you are interested in water-related issues in Alberta, we encourage you to subscribe.



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