



BRWA staff wish you a happy holiday. Our office will be closed Dec. 25, 2024 - Jan. 1, 2025

# Workshops & Events - Join Us



April 11, 2025, Battle River and Sounding Creek Stewardship Community of Practice

Location: BRWA Office, Camrose

Time: 9am - 3pm

BRWA is hosting an in-person gathering of the Battle River and Sounding Creek Stewardship Community of Practice.

Register

In the Classroom



# **New Education Program - Weather Watchers**

The Weather Watchers program is aligned with the Earth Systems unit of the new Grade 5 science curriculum. This program takes students outside to observe weather and learn about the local climate. Pilot field trips will be run in the spring, and there are still spots available for schools in the area who would like to participate. Contact: education@battleriverwatershed.ca

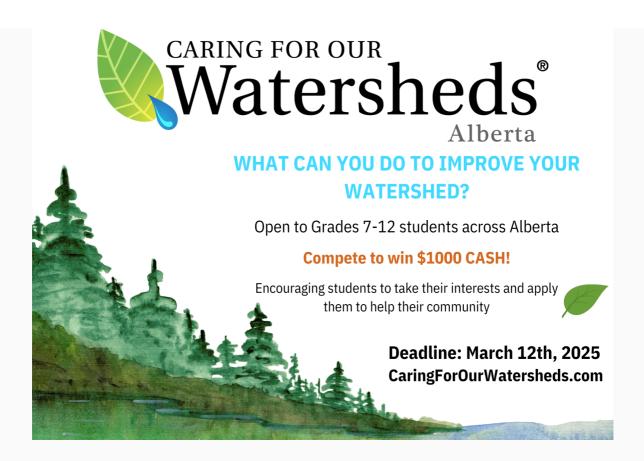
## **Youth Education Programs**

There is still availability for our educational programming in the spring. Each program aligns with curriculum goals and is delivered as a field trip guided by BRWA staff. Programs are free of charge. Book for your class or group today!

The available programs are:

- Waste in Our Watershed Tour (Gr. 4)
- Habitat Tour (Gr. 6)
- X-Stream Science (Gr. 7-12)
- Caring For Our Watersheds (Gr. 7-12)

Request a Spring Field Trip | Book a Caring For Our Watersheds Presentation



**Book a Presentation** 

#### **Water Matters**



# Winter LakeKeepers Program

The Alberta Lake Management Society (ALMS) Winter LakeKeepers program allows volunteers to monitor the health of lakes and reservoirs during winter. Participants can choose between a base-level protocol for more flexible sample delivery or an enhanced protocol for more detailed sampling. The data collected provide invaluable water chemistry and environmental data for Alberta's Lake.

BRWA is looking into doing some lake monitoring this winter. Please email sarah@battleriverwatershed.ca if you are interested in volunteering or have an ice auger you would be willing to lend us!

**Learn More About Winter Lakekeepers** 



# Alberta's Water Availability Survey

Share your ideas on ways to improve water management in Alberta by completing the Government of Alberta's Water Availability Survey. The survey covers topics such as inter-basin transfers, the use of rainwater, water allocation and transfers, and more.

Deadline: January 10, 2025

<u>Water Availability Engagement | Take the Brief Survey</u>

#### The Alliance



#### 2024 NALMS Conference

In November, BRWA staff member Sarah Skinner attended the North American Lake Management Society conference in Lake Tahoe. Nestled in the Sierra Nevada Mountains, water clarity in the lake is such that you can see an incredible 20 metres below the water surface!

While this context is very different from the prairie-fed watershed of the Battle River, the Lake Tahoe watershed and many others across North America face similar challenges. Many of these topics were covered at the conference, including beneficial practices to reduce the impact of winter traction control on water clarity, innovative approaches to invasive species management, community-based monitoring projects to strengthen watershed data collection, and the importance of Indigenous knowledge and storytelling in watershed education and management. The Alberta Lake Management Society was also there to share information about the important lake monitoring work they do right here at home!

Many of the lessons learned at this conference will help inform and enrich the BRWA's watershed education, monitoring, and management efforts.

### **Changes to Board of Directors**

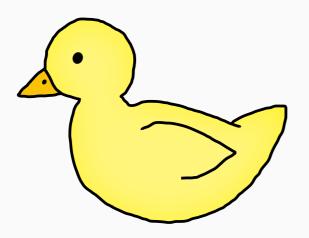
Thank you to Khalil Ahmed for his contribution to the Board. Khalil is stepping away after serving four years on the Board representing Agriculture. Welcome to Alex Retfalvi who is replacing Dustin Owens for Heartland Generation to bring an Industry voice to the table.

Staff & Board



### **Recognizing Our Funders**

This Giving Tuesday, BRWA acknowledges the ongoing contributions from Government of Alberta, Government of Canada; Business and industry partners: Cargill, CAF America, Enbridge, Heartland Generation, Nutrien; Community groups: Battle River Community Foundation, Vernon Malone Fund, ECO Canada; many municipalities; Beaver County, Camrose County, City of Camrose, County of Paintearth, Flagstaff County, Lacombe County, Leduc County, Municipal District of Wainwright, Ponoka County, Summer Villages of Argentia Beach, Crystal Springs, Golden Days, Grandview, Itaska Beach, Ma-Me-O Beach, Norris Beach, Poplar Bay, and Silver Beach, Town of Blackfalds, Town of Wainwright, and the villages of Bittern Lake, Chauvin, Edgerton, Halkirk, Paradise Valley and Rosalind; and additional funding from: Change for Climate Edmonton and Janet McGreer. Every dollar is used to care for the Battle River and Sounding Creek Watersheds. We are grateful for these generous contributions!



# OTIS Award Nominations Now Open!

The OTIS Award recognizes individuals, agricultural initiatives, businesses and organizations, and youth in the Battle River and Sounding Creek watersheds who are Outstanding In Stewardship.

Deadline: March 31, 2025

Nominate a local steward

#### **Partner Events**

- Identifying Fish and Fish Habitat Restoration Priorities in the Prairies, Fish and Fish Habitat Protection Program, December 18, 2024
- Kids Can Catch, Pigeon Lake Watershed Association, February 15, 2025
- Water Management in Canada's Boreal Conference, Grande Prairie, AB, February 25-26, 2025
- Beaverhills Biosphere Forum 2025, March 11-13, 2025

#### In Other News

- Ponoka, Camrose counties receiving funds to restore wetlands
- Death by a Thousand Invasive Cuts: Slowing the Spread of Plant Invasions in Alberta
- Alberta Treaty Chiefs slam feds after Ottawa denies legal duty to provide safe drinking water
- Are you buying a flood-prone home? It's hard to find out
- Alberta dubs water-sharing agreements 'major success' as experts say challenges still loom
- Alberta government proposes All-Season Resorts Act to increase tourism

\*Many of the articles we feature have been shared through the <u>Alberta Water Portal Society</u>. If you are interested in water-related issues in Alberta, we encourage you to subscribe.











