

March 2017



EAGLE CREEK
WATERSHED GROUP

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EAGLE CREEK WATERSHED NEWS

Program Deadlines Are Looming !!

Farm and Ranch Water Infrastructure Program

Application Deadline – August 1, 2017. This is firm and has been in writing since the beginning of GF2. **ALL FRWIP applications must be received (fax/email) or postmarked (regular mail) by this date. If projects are completed – application and claim together – it also must be submitted by this date.**

Claim Deadline – February 15, 2018. All FRWIP projects must be completed and claims submitted by this date.

All payments will be processed by March 31st, 2018 for GF2.

Farm Stewardship Program (see page 2 of this newsletter)

Pre-Approval deadline is June 30, 2017. All pre-approval applications must be received (fax/email) or postmarked (regular mail) by this date. Please do not wait to send in applications as the timelines will be tight to get site inspection and field sheets completed. **Projects must be completed and claims submitted the earlier of 18 months following written project approval or January 31, 2018.**

Rebate Deadline is January 31, 2018. Some examples of rebate projects are Protecting High Risk Erodible and Saline Soil, Grain Bag Rollers, Used Oil Storage, etc. **Projects must be completed and claims submitted on or before January 31, 2018.**

Note: A decision on future programming (after March 31st 2018) has not been made at this time.

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE at eaglecreekwatershed.ca for further information on programs. Phone us at 306-831-6009 if you have questions or need assistance in navigating around on our website.

Beneficial Management Practices

Livestock Site Management	Funding Level	Pre-Approval/Rebate
Relocation of Livestock Confinement*	60% up to \$50,000	Pre-Approval
Fencing to Protect Surface Water*	50% up to \$10,000	Rebate
Farmyard Runoff Control*	50% up to \$30,000	Pre-Approval
Riparian Area Grazing Management and Fencing*	50% up to \$10,000	Pre-Approval
Native Rangeland Grazing Management*	50% up to \$10,000	Pre-Approval
Carcass Disposal Plans	75% up to \$30,000	Pre-Approval
Manure Management		
Manure Storage Enhancements	30% up to \$50,000	Pre-Approval
Manure Application Equipment and Technologies	30% up to \$30,000	Rebate
Land Management		
Natural Waterway Erosion Control*	75% up to \$30,000	Pre-Approval
Creek and Stream Crossing*	50% up to \$20,000	Pre-Approval
Native Plant Establishment*	75% up to \$10,000	Pre-Approval
Protecting High Risk Erodible & Saline Soils*	50% up to \$10,000	Rebate
Shelterbelt Establishment	\$1200/per mile up to \$5,000	Rebate
Water Flow and Erosion Control*	50% up to \$20,000	Pre-Approval
Weather Data Collection and Monitoring	50% up to \$1,000	Rebate
Multi-Producer Erosion Control	Contact us	
Irrigation Management		
Irrigation Management Planning	50% up to \$2,000	Rebate
Irrigation Equipment Modification	30% up to \$50,000	Pre-Approval
Variable Rate Irrigation Technology	30% up to \$15,000	Pre-Approval
Irrigation Efficiency	40% up to \$25,000	Pre-Approval
Precision Farming		
Variable Fertilizer Equipment	30% up to \$5,000	Rebate
Variable Rate Mapping	30% up to \$2,000	Rebate
Agricultural Wastes		
Used Oil Storage	50% up to \$2,000	Rebate
Plastic Grain Bar Roller	50% up to \$5,000	Rebate
Environmental Solutions	20-50% up to \$50,000	Pre-Approval

* Available through the Eagle Creek AEGP without an EFP. All BMPs are available with an EFP

DEADLINES for the Farm Stewardship Program:

Pre-Approval Application must be submitted by June 30th 2017.

Rebate Applications must be completed and submitted by January 31st, 2018.

The Eagle Creek Watershed supports enhancement of Native Bird and Plant Populations by Glenn Barclay PAg

Native Birds;

Phil Rose, the graduate student leading the SK Forage Network supported project 'Developing Grassland Songbird Management Targets for Multi-Species Conservation on Mixed-Grass Prairie Rangelands', contacted us about accessing potential study sites for the 2017 growing season.

"Looking for owners or lease holders of native rangelands willing to grant access to their properties for a study on grassland bird habitat requirements. The study will take place over 2-3 days at each property between mid-May and Mid-July and will involve observing bird species/numbers and taking measurements of grassland characteristics (e.g., grass height, percent cover, litter volume, shrub density). It WILL NOT involve any capture or handling of wildlife. Vehicles will not be used in pastures unless specific permission is given for designated trails. Native rangelands must have at greater than 50% cover of native grasses with minimal tree cover". Phil would like to select a native rangeland site within 75 km of Kerrobert/ Kindersley, Kyle/ Beechy or Swanson.

For more information or to indicate interest in granting access to a site **contact: Phil Rose (MSc Candidate, University of Regina) at rose200p@uregina.ca or 204-730-0855.**

Native Flowers and Shrubs of Saskatchewan;

There are numerous websites that have pictures and descriptions of native plants of Saskatchewan. In my opinion, one of the best (perhaps the best) is a website developed by Maureen and Glen Lee from Regina. They are naturalists, avid wildflower enthusiasts, and gardeners. This website has photos and descriptions of over 600 wildflowers found in Saskatchewan. Wildflowers have been photographed from the province's Prairie, Cypress Upland, Parkland, and Boreal ecoregions. There are photos of native forbs and shrubs, both common and rare, and, photos of introduced species that are commonly found in Saskatchewan.

Most of the plants on the website are benign but there are also pictures of species that will be classified as weeds by farmers, ranchers and gardeners. For the farming community these photos can help producers identify many of their weeds. The species are sorted by flower colour so the website is easy to use. There are multiple pictures of each species and the quality of the photos are excellent. In my opinion, the residents of Saskatchewan should be extremely grateful for their work on developing this website.

The Lee's were kind enough to allow us to use their website as a link on the Eagle Creek website. Look under; eaglecreekwatershed.ca → Projects → 2016—2017 Invasive Weed Awareness

<p><i>You're at home here.</i></p>  <p>Central Plains</p> <p>Central Plains Co-operative Ltd.</p> <p><i>Serving West Central Saskatchewan</i></p> <p>www.centralplainsco-op.ca</p>	<p>Biggar Majestic Theatre</p> <p>For a complete list of shows and show times check our website at;</p> <p>www.majestictheatre.ca</p>	 <p>Saskatchewan's Ag Real Estate Professionals <i>Acres of Expertise.</i></p> <p>HammondRealty.ca (306) 948-5052</p>
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Water Quality Impacts on Livestock

Livestock can tolerate poor water quality better than humans. Research shows that livestock consuming high quality water, will drink and eat more, gain weight faster and have decreased health problems.

Some of the most common factors that reduce quality are; Nitrates, Sulphates, Blue-Green Algae (Cyanobacteria), Bacteria, Viruses, Parasites, Total Dissolved Solids, Water Temperature, Alkalinity, Taste and Odour.

Our website; eaglecreekwatershed.ca has more water information under two rolling banners; "Rural Water Project" and "Water Quality, Testing and Supply for Humans and Livestock". These two areas provide detailed water information, how to test your water, contacts for testing labs, interpretation charts and guidelines.

Consultations on the Modernization of Extension Services Now Open

Agriculture Minister Lyle Stewart is inviting farmers, ranchers and agribusinesses to provide input on how the province currently delivers agriculture extension services. Agriculture extension services include the business information, advice and support provided by specialists in regional offices around the province and at extension events, the toll-free Agriculture Knowledge Centre phone line, and a variety of print and electronic publications. An online survey will help identify the current and future needs of farmers and ranchers and the most effective way to deliver services. Focus group discussions will also be hosted around the province to help identify what is working and possible gaps producers may be finding.

Information collected during the consultation process will help determine how extension services should be delivered by the Ministry of Agriculture. The new delivery model is expected to be in place when the next federal-provincial-territorial agriculture policy framework starts in April 2018. The online survey can be found at <http://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/public-consultations/help-us-improve-agricultural-extension-services> and will be open until March 31st, 2017.

A report will be shared publicly following the conclusion of the survey and focus group discussions.

Distribution of Saskatchewan Green House Gas (GHG) Emissions by Major Sector, 2013

Our province's GHG emissions were 74.8 million tonnes of CO2 equivalent in 2013 according to Environment Canada. Canada's total GHG emissions in 2013 were 731 million tonnes.

Emissions directly related to animal and crop production accounted for 59 Mt or 8.0% of total GHG emissions for Canada. In Saskatchewan these emissions accounted for 16.0% of the total.

Source: Environment and Climate Change Canada 1990-2014 National Inventory Report

