

Winter 2021



# EAGLE CREEK WATERSHED NEWS

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### Do you have your PID?

Producers applying for FRWIP or FSP funding who own, lease or rent property where live-stock and poultry are grown, bred, kept, raised, displayed, as-sembled or disposed of require a Saskatchewan Premises Identifi-cation (PID) number. To register for a PID, visit

[www.premisesid.saskatchewan.ca](http://www.premisesid.saskatchewan.ca)

**Are you planning to seed permanent tame or native forage in 2021? Don't wait until spring to apply! Call now to begin the pre-approval process.**

**Pre-approval is required for the Permanent Tame Forage and Permanent Native Forage BMPs available through the Farm Stewardship Program.**



## The Eagle Creek Watershed Group invites you to join us for a live webinar!

Wednesday, January 20, 2021  
12 noon

- Silage Nutrition for Cows- Dwayne Summach, Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture
- Eagle Creek Watershed Group Update- Chelsey Siemens, Eagle Creek Watershed Group

To register, please visit:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6614689852349131536>

Or call Chelsey at 306-831-6009



For more information, please visit our website:  
[www.eaglecreekwatershed.ca](http://www.eaglecreekwatershed.ca)  
or call 306-831-6009

**We are on Facebook!**  
Check out our page for updates and coming events.



## Eagle Creek Board of Directors

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## Eagle Creek Staff

**Chelsey Siemens**  
Technician  
306-831-6009

**Are you planning to plant trees in 2021?  
The Eagle Creek Watershed Group has a tree planter and  
plastic mulch applicator which can be rented. Please  
contact us for more information.**

### **Decommissioning Abandoned Water Wells Saskatchewan Water Security Agency**

There are plenty of reasons for you to decommission an abandoned well. First and foremost, all water wells can provide a direct pathway from the surface to the aquifer, which may result in groundwater contamination. When a well is no longer in use and is not being properly maintained, the risk of contamination from the surface increases. Once a water supply is contaminated, remediation will be costly and time consuming, and is never completely effective. In addition, there is often only one aquifer in a given area that is suitable for development. This may limit a landowner's options for securing a safe water supply once contamination has occurred.

Abandoned wells (especially large diameter bored wells) also pose a significant threat to public safety as people, animals and farm machinery have been known to fall into them. Abandoned or improperly decommissioned wells can also affect property values and impede a real estate transaction. Obviously there are numerous benefits to decommissioning any abandoned wells on your property. It will help keep your water supply safe, it removes a potential threat to your family's safety, and it reduces your liability and protects the value of your property.

As a landowner with an abandoned well, you are responsible for the proper decommissioning of that well. As stated in The Ground Water Regulations, "Where the well is no longer in use and is abandoned, the owner shall cause the well to be properly closed in a manner sufficient to prevent the vertical movement of water in it."

Abandoned wells are water wells that are no longer used for withdrawing water from the ground. A decommissioned well refers to a well that has been properly sealed to prevent the vertical movement of water. For more information, call the Water Security Agency's Ground Water Services staff at (306) 694-3900, or e-mail [groundwater@wsask.ca](mailto:groundwater@wsask.ca).

**Have you recently completed a new well, dugout or  
pipeline for agricultural use? You may qualify for a  
rebate through the Farm and Ranch Water  
Infrastructure Program (FRWIP).**

**Decommissioning an old water well? Planning a  
special project? These projects require pre-approval.**

**Contact us for more information!**