

## Carrot River Valley Watershed Association

202 Main Street or PO Box 40, Melfort, Sask. S0E 1A0

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9am-4:30pm

Phone: 306-752-1270 or 306-920-7228

Email: [crwatershed@gmail.com](mailto:crwatershed@gmail.com)

Website: [www.crwatershed.ca](http://www.crwatershed.ca)

Summer 2018



### **Seeking Shorelines for Naturalization Projects**

The Carrot River Valley Watershed Association Inc. (CRVWA) is dedicated to preserving and maintaining the character and integrity of the watershed through education and awareness. We are proud to be a local, grassroots, non-profit organization serving our members:

City of Melfort  
Town of Carrot River  
Town of Arborfield  
Town of Wakaw  
Village of Lake Lenore  
RM of Tisdale No. 427  
RM of Connaught No. 457  
RM of Moose Range No.486  
RM of Kinistino No.459  
RM of Invergordon No.430  
RM of Hoodoo No.401  
RM of Fish Creek No.402  
RM of Humboldt No.370  
RM of St.Peter No.369  
RM of Pleasantdale No.398  
RM of Nipawin No.487  
RM of Star City No.428  
Melfort & District Wildlife Federation  
Tisdale Wildlife Federation  
Cudworth Wildlife Federation  
Pasquia Regional Park  
Wakaw Lake Regional Park Authority  
Kipabiskau Regional Park  
Resort Village of Wakaw Lake  
Resort Village of Tobin Lake  
St.Peter Conservation & Development Authority  
Arborfield Conservation & Development Area Authority  
Moose Range Conservation & Development Area Authority

New members are always welcome to add their voices to protecting our watershed by joining the CRVWA. Contact us for more information.

The Carrot River Valley Watershed Association is very pleased to offer a shoreline naturalization program to lakefront home and cabin owners this summer! This program is divided into two different funding programs based on the project that the shoreline property owner is looking to implement. The first is a shoreline naturalization program for planting native plant species and provide habitat to wildlife. This program is designed to help landowners of shoreline properties to create a natural shoreline by planting a selection of native trees, shrubs, wildflowers, groundcovers, and grasses suitable for their property, and will also include the opportunity to include rain gardens, butterfly gardens, and birdhouses. This program is an easy step-by-step process that works with landowners to restore the areas of their shoreline that aren't necessarily used for water access with natural vegetation. The plants chosen help reduce soil erosion, improve water quality by filtering runoff, and are essential to providing habitat, including shelter and food. Free site visits to begin developing personalized planting plans will begin in July 2017, then landowners will review and approve their own planting plan, and planting will occur in August and September. Our staff will work with you to ensure that you are happy with the planting plan and species selected, will look after sourcing and ordering all plants and other supplies such as mulch, and will also provide the labour for the planting itself. Landowners will be required to sign a stewardship agreement to ensure that they are willing to look after the plants once our staff have planted them. Landowners participating in these shoreline naturalization projects that involve planting native species will be able to take

advantage of our grants and only will be responsible for 25% of the total project costs. Funding for this program has been made available through the Recreation Fisheries Conservation Partnership Program, through Fisheries and Oceans Canada.

If you have a larger project, such as a shoreline erosion mitigation project, then your project may be eligible for 50% cost-shared funding up to a maximum of \$2500 through our grant programs. Projects eligible under this funding program will include removal of railway tie constructions at or near the shoreline (for example, railway tie retaining walls), shoreline erosion control projects, and other larger naturalization projects that will have a direct benefit to your lake. Funding for this program is available through EcoAction Community Funding Program, through Environment and Climate Change Canada. To discuss this program and determine if your project would be eligible, please contact our office at 306-752-1270 or [crwatershed@gmail.com](mailto:crwatershed@gmail.com).

The application deadline for these programs is July 15, 2017. Funding available is limited, and will be available on a first-come, first-served basis for approved projects. Some projects may also require Aquatic Habitat Protection Permits through Water Security Agency, so it is important to apply early. Contact the Carrot River Valley Watershed Association at 306-752-1270 for more information and to apply as soon as possible.

This project was undertaken with the financial support of the Government of Canada.

Ce projet a été réalisé avec l'appui financier du gouvernement du Canada.



Fisheries and Oceans  
Canada

Pêches et Océans  
Canada

Canada

Summer water use can be 2 to 4 times more than water usage in winter months. Some easy ways to save water are to use a broom instead of a hose to clean sidewalks, driveways, porches or decks and use a rain barrel to collect water for watering lawns and gardens.



## Love Your Lake Coming to Struthers and Dixon Lakes for 2017

Carrot River Valley Watershed Association is partnering with Watersheds Canada, Canadian Wildlife Federation (CWF), and the RM of Invergordon No.430 to assess the shoreline health of Struthers and Dixon Lakes through the Love Your Lake program this summer.

Lakes participating in the Love Your Lake program will have their shorelines assessed from a boat on a property-by-property basis by trained staff using a standardized Shoreline Assessment Protocol and datasheet. During the assessments, trained staff look for shoreline features such as: vegetation, development (decks, docks, boat houses, and more), retaining walls, and wildlife habitat. Restoration opportunities and shoreline improvement recommendations are also recorded. After each shoreline property on a lake is assessed, CRVWA staff enter the data into an online database, which generates individualized property reports. Each report consists of information on the state of the property's shoreline and provides suggested **voluntary** actions for shoreline improvements and property maintenance that will benefit the

health of the lake ecosystem. Each shoreline property owner can access their individualized property report online by entering the unique code received in a letter after all the information has been entered into the database at Report.LoveYourLake.ca. Shoreline property owners will have the opportunity to order their report as either an electronic PDF to be emailed to them or a bound hardcopy to be mailed to them.

Additional to the individualized property owner reports, the Love Your Lake program provides each Lake Organization with a valuable lake level report. This report summarizes the data collected along the entire lakeshore and encourages stewardship action at the community level. The simple but effective suggested actions discussed in both the individualized property reports and the lake level report will help protect and enhance shoreline and lake health for both people and wildlife.

Shorelines are unique and sensitive areas that warrant special attention. Due to their ecological, aesthetic, and recreational value, protecting waterfront properties benefits people, wildlife and the lake ecosystem. A healthy, natural shoreline has important biological functions, including:

- Acting as a filter, reducing the amount of pollutants that enter the lake;
- Stabilizing soils and protecting against erosion; and,
- Providing vital habitat for fish and wildlife.

Shorelines are among the most productive environments on earth. The shallow water and first 10-15 metres (30-50 feet) of shore around lakes and rivers provide food and habitat essential to the survival of many species. In fact, 90% of all

lake life is born, raised, and fed here. Plants, microorganisms, insects, amphibians, reptiles, birds, mammals and fish depend on healthy shorelines for survival. Keeping shorelines healthy and natural is also the easiest way to protect water quality and the value of waterfront properties. By filtering nutrients and reducing erosion, the quality of lake water can improve over time, providing cleaner, clearer water for recreational activities like swimming and boating.

Since 2013, more than 15,000 shoreline properties on 51 lakes have been assessed through the Love Your Lake program in Canada. Last summer was the first time that this program was available outside of Ontario, and the CRVWA was very pleased to be one of the first groups to bring the program to Saskatchewan. During our first year with the Love Your Lake program, CRVWA staff assessed all shoreline properties at Wakaw Lake. This summer, we are looking forward to working with the RM of Invergordon No. 430 to assess the shoreline properties at Struthers and Dixon Lakes. For more information about the Love Your Lake program, visit [loveyourlake.ca](http://loveyourlake.ca) or contact our office.

LoveYourLake.ca

The Love Your Lake program is coordinated by

Regional Partner

Watersheds CANADA

CANADIAN WILDLIFE FEDERATION

Carrot River Valley Watershed Association

### Farm Stewardship Program

Farm Stewardship Program is in its final year.



Apply for Beneficial Management Practices requiring pre-approval by June 30, 2017.

For more info visit [www.Saskatchewan.ca/GrowingForward2](http://www.Saskatchewan.ca/GrowingForward2) or call 1-877-874-5365.

Growing Forward 2

Government of Saskatchewan

Canada

Wash your car or boat with a bucket of water and soap and then rinse it using a hose with a shut off device. Do not leave a hose running or left unattended. If you wash your vehicle on the lawn, with chemical-free soap, you will be watering your lawn at the same time!



*Help conserve water by watering lawns and gardens early in the morning or late in the evening to help minimize evaporation loss. Avoid watering on windy days and at midday, when water will likely evaporate before it can soak into the soil.*



## **Aquatic Invasive Mussels Monitoring Project Expanding in 2017**

Zebra and quagga mussels are aquatic invasive species that first moved in the Great Lakes in the late 1980s. Since that time, both of these invasive mussel species have steadily been moving west and have infested numerous lakes in the USA and eastern provinces. In 2013, zebra mussels were found in Lake Winnipeg and eradication measures have failed to control the population, which continues to grow. This spring, the Government of Manitoba issued a press release that an adult zebra mussel was found on a substrate sampler in Singuish Lake in Duck Mountain Provincial Park. The continued movement and spread of these invasive mussels is a huge cause for concern, as they move closer to our Saskatchewan waterbodies. These invasive mussel species have no natural predators in North America, reproduce prolifically, and are able to adapt to live in various environmental conditions. Eradication of these invasive species is almost impossible, and early detection and prevention are our best forms of defense to

protect our lakes and rivers. Once they enter a waterbody, they can cause economic and environmental damages beyond measure.

The Carrot River Valley Watershed Association (CRVWA) launched an Adult Invasive Mussel Monitoring (AIMM) project at Wakaw Lake in 2015. In 2016, this project expanded to include monitoring sites at Wakaw Lake, Kipabiskau Regional Park and the Resort Village of Tobin Lake. This summer, we will expand even further to include monitoring at Lenore, McBride, Greenwater, Marean and Codette Lakes. Small substrate samplers that are made of PVC pipe and concrete are attached to docks or boat lifts, and sink to the lake bottom providing a favorable home for adult zebra and quagga mussels. If these species are in the waterbody, the adult invasive mussels will attach to the substrate samplers because they prefer to live on a firm surface rather than the soft and sandy lake bottom. The locations of the substrate

samplers are recorded and reported to the Ministry of Environment, and the samplers are monitored monthly. If you would be interested in participating, or would like more information, please contact the CRVWA at 306-752-1270 or [crwatershed@gmail.com](mailto:crwatershed@gmail.com).

If you suspect zebra or quagga mussels on a boat or in a waterbody, please contact Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment SaskTip Line at 1-800-667-7561, or #5555 from your cell phone.

For more information, contact the CRVWA at 306-752-1270 or [crwatershed@gmail.com](mailto:crwatershed@gmail.com).



**Farm and Ranch Water Infrastructure Program (FRWIP)**

*FRWIP is in its final year.*

*Apply for water development and protection funding by August 1, 2017.*



For more info visit [www.Saskatchewan.ca/GrowingForward2](http://www.Saskatchewan.ca/GrowingForward2) or call 1-877-874-5365.





**Farm Stewardship Program**

*Apply for your Beneficial Management Practices rebate by January 31, 2018.*



For more info visit [www.Saskatchewan.ca/GrowingForward2](http://www.Saskatchewan.ca/GrowingForward2) or call 1-877-874-5365.

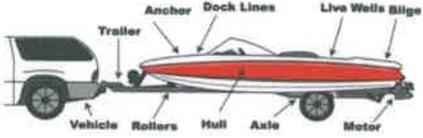




**Carrot River Valley Watershed Association**

Aquatic invasive species threaten our environment and economy. They can spread through water or by attaching to watercraft, related equipment and gear, and aquatic plants. You can help stop the spread by remembering to:

**CLEAN + DRAIN + DRY YOUR BOAT**



The transport of watercraft overland is a major pathway for AIS spread and introduction.

Never release leftover or unwanted bait, aquarium pets, plants or water into our lakes, rivers or wetlands. Contact CRVWA at 306-752-1270 for more information.

*Lawns need twice as much water as beds filled with flowers and shrubs. Replace lawn with native plants or outdoor living areas to help reduce your watering needs. Adding mulch to flower beds can further help to conserve soil moisture, reducing watering, and also will help to suppress weeds.*





*Lawns need only 25 millimeters (1 inch) of water per week, including rain. Longer, infrequent watering will help to develop deeper, healthier roots. Keep lawns mowed 2 to 2.5 inches high and you will help the soil retain moisture and reduce evaporation.*

### Growing Forward 2 Funding Program Deadlines

With Growing Forward 2 coming to an end on March 31, 2018, there are some important deadlines approaching that agricultural producers need to keep in mind. Contact our Technician, Charlotte Asplind, at 306-920-8166 or 306-752-1270 for more information about these deadlines, current programs and eligibility criteria.

Program	Application Deadline
Farm Stewardship Program Pre-approval Applications	June 30, 2017
Farm and Ranch Water Infrastructure Applications	August 1, 2017
Farm Stewardship Program Rebate Applications	January 31, 2018

### Pasture Management & Weed Identification Field Workshop

July 24, 2017  
Alvena, SK

- 8:30-9:00am—Registration  
Gazebo in park across from the Co-Op
- 9:00am—Self-drive or carpool to the NCC property near Alvena, SK
- 9:30am – Introduction to site: NCC Vision & land management  
Matthew Braun  
Conservation Science and Natural Areas Manager, NCC
- 9:45am—Producer Perspective  
Derek Yuzik
- 10:00am – Native Plant ID & Range Health Assessment Basics  
John Hauer, PAg  
Regional Forage Specialist, Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture
- 11:00am – Weed Management  
Renny Grilz, PAg  
Meewasin Valley Authority
- 11:30am—Riparian Area Health Assessment Basics  
Andre Bonneau, PAg  
Regional Forage Specialist, Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture
- 12:30am – Return to park for BBQ lunch

Cost is \$10 and a BBQ lunch is included. Register before July 19, 2017 by contacting Lynne or Charlotte at 306-752-1270 or by email [crwatershedaegp@gmail.com](mailto:crwatershedaegp@gmail.com).



### Livestock and Forages

### FROM SOUP TO NUTS – PASTURE FIELD DAY

Wednesday, July 5, 1 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.  
Burnt Out Creek Ranch, near Mistatim SK (call for directions)

**AGENDA:**

- Pasture Management
  - Winter Feeding Experiences
  - Utilizing Forage Mixes
  - Reintroducing Legumes
  - Plant ID
- Keeping #2 Out of Your #1 Water Source
  - Water Systems and Quality for Livestock
  - Berms
- Assessing the Land
  - Soil Health
  - Riparian Health
- Programs and Funding

REGISTRATION: \$10; REGISTRATION DEADLINE: July 3

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER:  
Contact the Tisdale Regional Office 306-878-8842



*Check your sprinklers to make sure they're working properly and fix any leaks. When running a sprinkler, set an oven timer to ensure you don't forget to turn the water off.*

**Did you know? We are on Twitter and Facebook!**

**Follow us @crwatershed or [www.facebook.com/CarrotRiverValleyWatershedAssociation](http://www.facebook.com/CarrotRiverValleyWatershedAssociation)**