

"PROMOTING ECONOMIC,
ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL
BALANCE TO SUSTAIN AND
IMPROVE THE WATERSHED FOR
FUTURE GENERATIONS"



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Lower Souris Watershed
Committee Inc.



Upcoming Events*

CropSphere

January 9th and 10th, 2018

Saskatoon, SK

(306) 683 3663 or

www.cropsphere.com

Native Prairie Restoration/ Reclamation Workshop

February 7 - 8, 2018

Saskatoon, SK

(306) 242 1440 or

pcap@sasktel.net

*More events and information
on our website: lowsouris.com

Beyond Water

The Lower Souris Watershed Committee

Message from the Board:

On behalf of the Board and staff of The Lower Souris Watershed Committee Inc, I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy 2018.

2017 has seen changes at the Lower Souris but they are positive changes and we feel we have emerged strong and ready to help our members and their ratepayers achieve good things in the New Year.

We have said farewell to some and welcome to others,

Elaine Morgan retired in April. Elaine had been with us since the start and we wish her happiness in her retirement. We welcomed Amanda Kish as our new Admin Assistant – Amanda is bringing new ideas and a positive and cheery attitude.

Welcome to Daniel Phalen. Daniel is joining us as a second technical assistant and comes from Winnipeg, Manitoba where he studied Environmental Science at the University of Manitoba and Geographic Information Systems at Red River College. Daniel will be with us as an intern for 8 months and will be helping producers with sustainable water related projects.

Changes at the Board table have resulted in 2 new faces – A warm welcome to Danyelle Thompson from Carnduff and Steven Bendtsen from Storthoaks. We thank Martin Hjertaas, Don North, and Tyler Arthur for their valuable contributions.

2017 has seen good uptake for all the project areas we offer help with. We received a significant grant from Enbridge to allow us to help Moosomin Regional Park improve their walking trails. Thank you, Enbridge, for your generous support. We followed this with a tree planting project to reduce erosion around the lake. Thank you to the landowners involved and the Moosomin Generals.



As always, we have held multiple workshops which we hope you have found useful. Please let us know if there is a topic you would like to learn more about in 2018, suggestions can be made to Info@LowerSouris.com

We continue to work with Saskatchewan Water Security Agency on your behalf. We are currently working with Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture and hoping for good results in our negotiations for the new CAP (detailed on page 2) which will replace Growing Forward. Perhaps some new BMP's are on the horizon - we will keep you updated as we learn more!

With good wishes for the festive season to you all,

Teresa Walker, Chairman

Growing Forward 2 



Inside this issue:

- The Canadian Agricultural Partnership
- Having an Environmentally Friendly Christmas
- Moosomin Reservoir Restoration with the Generals Football Club



Canada 



The Canadian Agricultural Partnership (CAP) will see the implementation of new agricultural policy framework. This investment comes from federal, provincial, and territorial governments and is aimed to agriculture based sectors and Business Risk Management programs. The partnership will be in place by **April 1st, 2018.**

Strengthening the agriculture and agri-food sector – a key area of economic growth and job creation – to deliver the greatest benefits for farmers, food processors and Canadian families.

New federal programs under the Canadian Agricultural Partnership will include:

- AgriCompetitiveness
- AgriAssurance
- AgriMarketing
- AgriInnovate
- AgriScience
- AgriDiversity



\$1 Billion
In Federal Programs and Activities



\$2 Billion
in cost-shared programs and activities by federal, provincial, and territorial governments

Upcoming Changes to BRM

Under AgriStability, the Reference Margin Limit (RML) will be changed to ensure a more equitable level of support for all producers, guaranteeing all producers at least 70% of their Reference Margin.

A late participation mechanism for AgriStability has been added that provincial and territorial governments can trigger to allow producers to enter the program late in situations where there is a significant income decline and a gap in participation.

AgriInvest changes were necessary to reallocate funding to ensure a more equitable level of support for all producers in the AgriStability program.

BRM Program Review

Governments will undertake a review of BRM projects to assess each programs effectiveness and impact. The early focus on programs dealing with market risk with a specific focus on AgriStability. In July of 2018, options based off the review will be discussed to improve timeliness, simplicity and predictability, and that are cost-neutral.

Do You Want to Advertise in This Newsletter?

Get noticed across the Lower Souris Watershed. The winter issue alone will have over 5,000 copies distributed.

Contact the Lower Souris Watershed Committee
Info@LowerSouris.com
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An Environmentally Friendly Christmas

Are you looking to reduce your impact on the environment this Christmas? Here are some tips:

- LED lights are much more efficient than traditional lights and can be used with timers to reduce the amount of time that they are on. Keep them on in the evenings but make sure they are off overnight.
- Use recycled gift wraps or avoid wrapping presents and use gift bags which can be reused. If you buy gift wrap, avoid glossy or metallic papers.
- Recycle old electronics. If you receive a new TV, phone, laptop, or other electronic device, be sure to recycle your old one
 - Instead of turning up the heat, put on an ugly Christmas sweater!
 - You can look to support local businesses and craftsmen instead of purchasing mass produced products from Amazon or through department stores.



Are you trying to decide between a live tree or an artificial tree?

Live Trees

- Smells and Feels like Christmas
- Trees are usually farmed, sequestering carbon and producing oxygen
 - Live trees can be recycled into mulch
 - Require maintenance (water/cleaning)

You can go one step further...

Live Potted Trees

- Live potted trees share most of the benefits of a regular live tree
 - They can be replanted outside after Christmas
 - They can be used for more than one Christmas
 - Returning them to the outdoors allows them to create a home for wildlife and continue helping the environment

Artificial Trees

- One-time purchase! They can be a money saving investment
- After initial purchase, they are carbon neutral
 - No maintenance
 - Easy to set up and take down
 - Some come with lights installed

The Verdict

- Live Potted Trees are likely the most environmentally friendly option
- Regular live trees are nearly carbon neutral with recycling programs
- Artificial trees can have a high initial footprint but if used every year, the impact per year is small



Well Decommissioning

Wells provide easy access to water in aquifers for land owners. But wells also provide a direct route for contaminants to enter the aquifer, affecting all people who rely on the aquifer. To prevent contaminants from entering a water source, a well can be sealed up through a series of steps.

There may be funding available with the implementation of CAP, but it has not yet been confirmed. If you have abandoned wells or want to learn more about well decommissioning, contact Info@LowerSouris.com

Shoreline Stabilization with the Moosomin Generals



With funding from the Natural Edge, we designed a project that required the planting of over 600 plants at the Moosomin Reservoir to restore bank stability. The task was made easier with the recruitment of the Moosomin Generals.

This planting project placed a mix of Red Osier Dogwood and two types of Willows at three locations along the banks of the Moosomin Reservoir. The locations were picked due to high amounts of erosion on the banks; the roots of these plants will increase soil stability and help protect the Moosomin Reservoir.



Fisheries and Oceans
Canada

Sponsors

Village of Fairlight
Village of Fleming
Village of Gainsborough
Village of Manor
Village of Maryfield
Village of Storthoaks
Town of Redvers
Town of Moosomin
Town of Wapella
RM of Argyle #1
RM of Storthoaks #21
RM of Reciprocity # 32
RM of Moose Creek #33
RM of Antler #61
RM of Maryland #91
RM of Walpole #92
RM of Wawken #93
RM of Moosomin #121
RM of Martin #122
RM of Silverwood #123
RM of Kingsley #124
RM of Chester #125
RM of Willowdale #153

Don't Forget! The LSWC Has a Grain Bag Roller!

Do you need a Grain Bag Roller? The LSWC has one for the citizens of the Lower Souris Watershed. It is **free** to use, just contact us to set a date and then come pick it up at RM of Walpole Shop. The bags can then be dropped off at Wawota by appointment.

Remember, burning grain bags is prohibited!



This issue of the newsletter was designed and put together by Daniel Phalen, the newest member of the Lower Souris Watershed Committee!