



IN STREAM NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2021



We want to welcome Jill and Samantha to our team for the summer! If you have any COVID-approved events or activities in the watershed that you would like them to help with, please email us at water@nswa.ab.ca.

This month's newsletter includes a few updates on our AGM on June 23rd, and information on other things happening in our watershed.

As the weather warms up, we hope you can enjoy some adventures in our watershed. Our book *[Living in the Shed](#)* has some great ideas for places to explore. Follow our social media this summer for ideas for **Watershed Adventures**.



NSWA AGM JUNE 23, 2021

Join us on June 23, 2021 (9 am to 11:30 am) for the online **NSWA Annual General Meeting**. There will be updates on the work of the NSWA, elections for Board members and presentations on our Annual Report and Financial Statements.

Register on Eventbrite - link below. An online Zoom meeting link will be sent to all those registered closer to the meeting date.

[REGISTER for the AGM](#)



Vermilion River WATERSHED ALLIANCE

The **Vermilion River Watershed Alliance (VRWA), NSWA and partners** were honored to be the recipients of an Emerald Award!

The **Vermilion River Watershed Restoration and Enhancement Project** is a multi-year riparian and wetland restoration and enhancement project in the Vermilion River subwatershed. NSWA and many partner organizations and landowners who completed restoration projects were all essential to the success of this project.

The VRWA [website](#) has more information on restoration projects and reports.

Thank you to the Alberta Emerald Foundation for this special award.



RIPARIAN WEB PORTAL TRAINING

Planners and Project Managers in government, agriculture, & ENGO;
Get the background and skills you need to use the data and
contribute your riparian projects to this exciting new resource.

101: Dive into the Riparian Data: Our Intactness Project	102: Where Data Meets Action: Riparian Web Portal
Wed. June 16, 1:30pm	Mon. June 21, 1:30pm
Tues. July 13, 1:30pm	Thurs. Sept. 9, 1:30pm
Thurs. Sept. 9, 10:00am	

All Workshops are offered at no cost, via Zoom.

Attendees must complete the 101 workshop before 102.

Register at battliverwatershed.eventbrite.com

The results of our Riparian Intactness Project will soon be made public on our **Riparian Web Portal**. **Planners and Project Managers, in all levels of government, agriculture, and ENGOs are invited to get backstage access by signing up for these trainings:**

101: Dive into the Riparian Data: Our Intactness Project

In this 1.5 hour workshop, you will learn the Why and How of the Riparian Intactness Assessment project, how it applies to your work, and how it can improve the health of our watersheds.

102: Where Data Meets Action: Riparian Web Portal*

In this 2 hour workshop, you will be given login access and be trained on how to use the riparian data to better your work, and contribute your projects to the data set.

**The 101 Workshop is a prerequisite for the 102.*

All training is being offered online and at no cost. Space is limited.
Register now on Eventbrite.

Register Here

VERMILION RIVER WATERSHED ALLIANCE

Are you a local landowner, concerned citizen, or nature lover?

Check out the Vermilion River Watershed Alliance's monthly blog which features stories and projects relating to healthy water and landscapes.



JUNE BLOG:
Partner Series:
New Myrnam School -
Education and Outreach Partner

To learn more, go to:
<https://vrwa.ca/blog/>



This month the VRWA blog features the work of **New Myrnam School** and their environmental projects.

The full article can be viewed on the [VRWA website](#).

As well, the **VRWA AGM** will be held on June 25th - register on [Eventbrite](#) for this online meeting.

[Register for VRWA AGM](#)

NEW MONITORING STATION ON THE CLINE RIVER



The [WaterSHED Monitoring Program](#) is a unique partnership between Alberta Environment and Parks, EPCOR, North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance and the City of Edmonton. The Cline River water monitoring station (photo above taken from the station on June 8) is the newest addition to the project.

UPDATES ON NEW AND ONGOING FLOOD STUDIES



The Government of Alberta has a webpage with updates on new and ongoing flood studies in Alberta. When a flood study is completed, draft reports and maps are provided to impacted local authorities, such as towns, cities, counties, municipal districts, and First Nations.

Once a local authority completes its technical review and issues brought forward are addressed, public engagement proceeds. This engagement gives the public an opportunity to provide feedback about the draft reports and maps before finalization. Progress updates for each study are provided, as well as links to public engagement opportunities for studies in that stage of the finalization process.

[FLOOD STUDIES UPDATES](#)

DUCKS UNLIMITED WETLAND FIELD GUIDE AND TRAINING

Join **Ducks Unlimited** for a free online training event that will provide an introduction to wetland identification and classification of Alberta's wetlands in accordance with the Alberta Wetland Classification System (AWCS), and present the newly released AWCS Field Guide and review key aspects of the guides training. Check the information below for registration details.

WETLAND TRAINING

GET TO KNOW THE NSWA BOARD



Jim
Duncan



Jim Duncan is a third term Councillor with Clearwater County. He has been on the NSWA Board since 2018. He also sits on a number of other boards and committees related to environmental stewardship including the local Ag Service Board, Clear Water Landcare, Sasquatch and Partners, Bighorn Backcountry Standing Committee and Clearwater Trails Initiative. These groups bring education and awareness, promote best management practices and look for innovation and environmental sustainability for agriculture and recreation in Clearwater County.

Jim has also been with the **Headwaters Alliance**, since it started, bringing many municipalities with common watershed interests together. In a past life he was an environmental consultant working in western Canada and has been a cow/calf rancher southwest of Rocky Mountain House for 35 years.

Favorite place in the watershed

Being a cow/calf rancher, with deeded and lease lands along the edge of the green area, he loves being out on the land, managing with the tools and knowledge gained over the years. The photo is from a trail ride along the North Sask River.

Favorite NSWA memory:

"While I really enjoy the field days on the river with NSWA it has also been gratifying to see the pieces of the puzzle coming together with initiatives like the riparian health action plan and web portal coming to life."

Quote: *"I consider myself very lucky to be able to rub shoulders with all the experience and passion that comes with our Board and staff. As we work through the business of the NSWA I am constantly learning and gaining a wider perspective of watershed management."*

OTHER WATERSHED RESOURCES

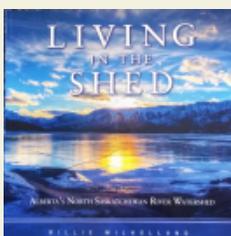
The **Environmental Law Centre** recently published their written submission for public consultation on the Alberta Coal Mining Policy. You can find it [here](#).

The **Alberta Emerald Foundation** has a great series of environmental podcasts, videos, documentaries and speakers on their website.

The **Land Use Framework** has resources on many topics including four webinars on conservation easements. Explore their [website](#) for more information.

ALUS Canada is a national not-for-profit organization that supports the delivery of the ALUS program across the country. ALUS helps farmers and ranchers restore wetlands, reforest, plant windbreaks, install riparian buffers, manage sustainable drainage systems, create pollinator habitat and establish other ecologically beneficial projects on their properties. There are many ALUS programs in the watershed including those in the [County of Two Hills](#), [Parkland County](#) and the [County of Vermilion River](#).

Check out the **NSWA DISCOVERS** section on our website with watershed resources and activities for adults and children. There are many activities to encourage watershed learning for your family.



SUPPORT THE WORK OF NSWA

Living in the Shed is a great book to help plan your summer adventures in the watershed. Priced at \$20 per copy they can be ordered at our [SHOP](#).

NSWA is a registered charity. For information on supporting our watershed projects go to our [DONATE](#) webpage.