

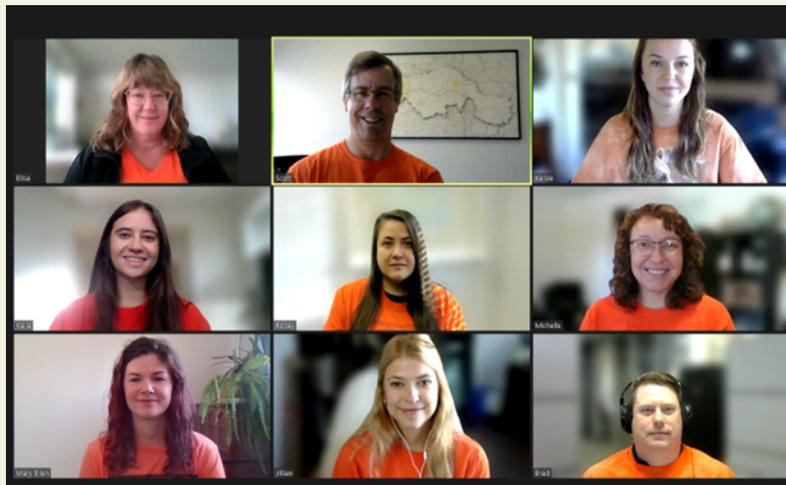


**NSWA**  
NORTH SASKATCHEWAN  
WATERSHED ALLIANCE



## ***IN STREAM NEWSLETTER*** **SEPTEMBER 2022**

### **TRUTH and RECONCILIATION**



I invite you to join me and my NSW Board and colleagues in acknowledging the intergenerational harm caused by residential schools, and I call upon and encourage everyone to wear orange to honour the experiences of children who were stolen from their families and placed in Indian Residential Schools – those who did not return home, those who survived, their families, and their communities. The legacy of Indigenous Residential Schools, Indian Day Schools, the Sixties Scoop, and many other aspects of colonialism continue to impact Indigenous peoples today.

I invite you to take part in any of the many ways of learning of the harms of residential schools and the path of reconciliation that are available here in the Edmonton area and across the province.

Here are a few links to events and resources in the Edmonton area:

- [The City of Edmonton has several Truth and Reconciliation events planned.](#)
- [The Bent Arrow Society is presenting an Orange Shirt Day commemorative event.](#)
- [MacEwan University is offering National Day for Truth and Reconciliation programming.](#)

I invite you to read your Treaty - we are all treaty people! If you are in the North Saskatchewan River watershed, you will be reading [Treaty 6](#). A map of the numbered treaties can be found in [this education guide](#).

I invite you to [register for the free University of Alberta 12-week MOOC 'Indigenous Canada'](#).

I invite you to [read or re-read the Truth and Reconciliation Commissions of Canada's 94 Calls to Action](#) (no excuses - it's only 10 pages and every Canadian should be familiar with what it says!), and to select one that you will personally action.

I invite you to find your own ways of acknowledging, reflecting, learning, and doing.

The NSWA recognizes the role of watershed management practitioners in perpetuating colonial systems through the exclusive use of western science and engagement systems. We are committed to decolonizing these systems and working to co-create space for full and meaningful inclusion of Indigenous Peoples, Indigenous Science, and Indigenous knowledge systems. We make this statement as an affirmation that we are committed to improving the practice of watershed stewardship for everyone in the North Saskatchewan watershed and beyond.

The NSWA office is closed on September 30, 2022.

Scott Millar  
Executive Director, North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance

## MAKING CONNECTIONS



Thank you to Jill and Kaila for making connections with many people in our watershed this summer! As fall begins we take a look back at some of our **favorite summer events**..

We were excited to join the **University of Alberta's Environmental Engineering class** on a canoe trip down the NSR through Edmonton. We stopped along a river bank along the way and talked about watersheds and water quality management with Mike Christenson from **EPCOR**. The students were very enthusiastic had a lot of great questions. It was a lovely day for a paddle.

A big thank you to the families and event organizers who came to help plant the eco-buffer at the Claude N. Brennan Memorial Trout Pond in Vermilion Provincial Park. Event volunteers planted all morning. The kids in attendance stole the show with their enthusiasm and excitement in choosing what to plant where!

We planted native shrubs and trees along the pond, providing a 'buffer' against pollutants, enhancing habitat for wildlife, and providing stability against erosion. After a BBQ lunch, event partners planted a second eco-buffer at the Vermilion dog park. This project was made possible by **Lakeland College, ALUS, Agroforestry and Woodlot Extension Society (AWES), Alberta Environment and Parks, Vermilion River Watershed Alliance, and the Town of Vermilion.**

We recently teamed up with [Cows and Fish - Alberta Riparian Habitat Management Society](#), [Ukrainian Heritage Village Museum](#) and [Lamont County](#) to install a beaver coexistence device at Goose Lake. This included a pond-leveler and culvert protector to mitigate damming of the culvert and further road flooding. Beavers are a valuable part of our watershed, and their dams provide a host of benefits. However, these dams are often at odds with human land-use change, leading to conflict.

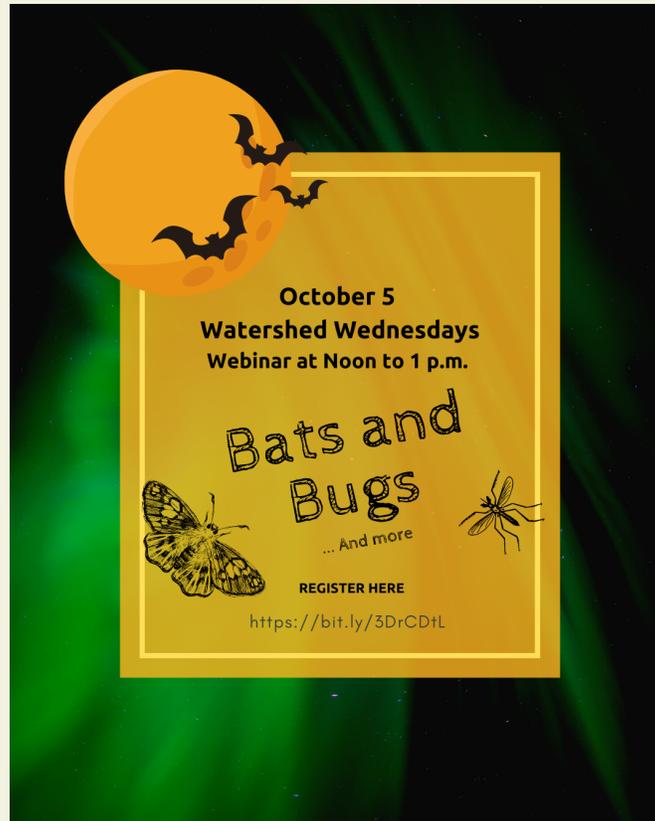
NSWA is happy to support projects that look for innovative methods to ensure we can coexist with the

wildlife in our watershed!

We look forward to making connections with many of you this fall. We hope you will join us for online webinars and follow us on social media for prizes and updates. If you have events this fall that you would like NSWA to attend email [water@nswa.ab.ca](mailto:water@nswa.ab.ca) with details. We value making connections with people from across our watershed.

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## WATERSHED WEDNESDAYS WEBINARS - FALL 2022 - BIODIVERSITY



**Watershed Wednesday webinars** are returning on **October 5, November 2 and December 7th**. These online webinars are over the lunch hour (noon to 1 pm) and will feature speakers on our fall theme - **Biodiversity in Our Watershed**. Join our watershed community to learn more from various experts.

**The first webinar on October 5 will feature speakers on some spooky Bats and Bugs (invertebrates) in our watershed! Our speakers are:**

**Cory Olsen - Alberta Community Bat Program - *Wetland and Riparian Area Management for Bat Conservation***

**Dr. Heather Proctor-University of Alberta - *Scary Little Suckers : Predatory and Parasitic Invertebrates in Alberta's Streams and Sloughs***

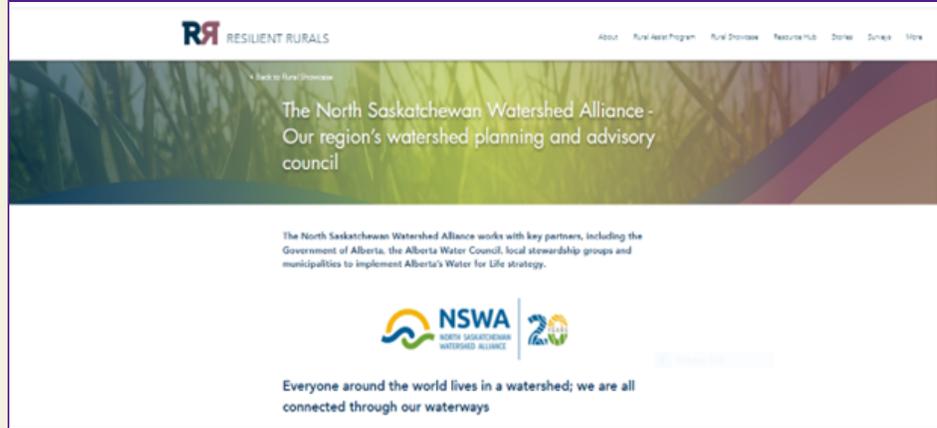
November's presentations will be on fish populations in Alberta including sturgeon, and native trout. December's webinar will feature aquatic species monitoring projects.

Sign up on Eventbrite for the Biodiversity series this fall and we will send you emails with the Zoom links to join us.

**Register now!**

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**RESILIENT RURALS features NSWA**



**Resilient Rurals** is a partnership between the towns of **Bruderheim, Gibbons and Lamont** to facilitate a regional climate change adaptation and resilience project within Alberta's Industrial Heartland.

The NSWA is featured in a showcase article. Hear from some of NSWA's Watershed Planning Coordinators about NSWA's work in this area of the watershed.

Read more on the Resilient Rurals website:

[NSWA SHOWCASE](#)

## 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.

<b>101: Dive into the Riparian Data: Our Intactness Project</b>	<b>102: Where Data Meets Action: Riparian Web Portal</b>
November 15th, 1:30pm	November 16th, 1:30pm

All Workshops are offered at no cost, via Zoom.  
Attendees must complete the 101 workshop before 102.  
**Register at [battleriverwatershed.eventbrite.com](https://battleriverwatershed.eventbrite.com)**

Join the **North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance** and the **Battle River Watershed Alliance** on **November 15 and 16** for the interactive **Riparian Web Portal Training**.

In the Riparian Web Portal 101 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.

In the Riparian Web Portal 102 workshop, you will gain login access to see and understand riparian data and be trained on adding your projects to the site. Attendance at the 101 workshop is necessary before taking the 102 workshop.

For more information and to register use these links:

Riparian 101

Riparian 102

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## OTHER WATERSHED RESOURCES

**Working Well Program** has a new schedule of workshops. This fall, the Working Well program is offering a mix of in-person and virtual water well management and maintenance workshops for private water well owners across the province. Check out this [link](#) for more information and how to register.

The **Wetland Knowledge Exchange** will be holding a series of webinars this fall. On October 25, Matt Dyson with Ducks Unlimited Canada presenting on 'Ducks and Development: Nesting Ecology of Ducks in the Boreal Forest'. The webinar is from 12:00 - 1:00 MDT - Register [here](#).

Check out a website with information on [Alberta's Native Trout](#) that provides information and tools to help protect and support these important species.

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.

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## SUPPORT THE WORK OF NSWA

The NSWA accepts donations through the **ATB Cares** program which matches 15% of every dollar donated to Alberta-based charities through their [ATB Cares Web Portal](#). It is easy to use and automatically issues a charitable tax receipt for donations \$10 and over.

For more information on supporting our watershed projects go to our [DONATE](#) webpage.



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