



InStream



### MAY 2023 NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTS

- Register for the AGM
- Welcome to Summer Student, Marijke
- Partner highlights

## NSWA Projects and Events



### REGISTER for the NSWA AGM!

Our Annual General Meeting will be held on June 28th at the Lodge at Snow Valley in Edmonton.

Hear updates on NSWA's work and projects. Speakers will discuss NSWA's wetland strategy and implementation.

After a BBQ lunch we will explore Whitemud Creek and some of it's unique features and biodiversity.

[Register for the AGM](#)



We are happy to have Marijke join us this summer as a Watershed Outreach Assistant. You will be able to meet her at our AGM and at various events throughout the watershed this summer.

Our summer calendar is filling up! If your organization or municipality has any events that you would like our staff to attend, please let us know! We enjoy connecting with our watershed partners. You can email us at [water@nswa.ab.ca](mailto:water@nswa.ab.ca)



The River Valley Alliance (RVA) recently held an event where Elder Jerry Saddleback named the **Amisko WaciwMêskanaw (Beaver Hill Road) trail** connecting Devon to Fort Saskatchewan. The RVA debuted a short film as part of the naming of the trail.

Amisko WaciwMêskanaw Trail

## MAY HIGHLIGHTS

Spruce Up Spruce Grove



Canada-wide STEM Science Fair - Edmonton



Science Fair Edmonton

WPAC Event - XStream Science - Camrose



It has been a busy start to the summer season! We have attended community events including the BLESS Migratory Bird Day at the Lois Hole Provincial Park in St. Albert, Spruce Up event in Spruce Grove, the Canada-wide STEM Science Fair in Edmonton and an XStream Science training day in Camrose with other WPACS. Follow us on social media to see where you can find us in the watershed this summer!



## Did you miss our LAKE STEWARDSHIP WEBINAR?

Speakers from NSWA, Cows and Fish and ALMS discussed lake shoreline management, lakeshore restoration and stewardship in our watershed. Check out the webinar recording and also the pdfs of the presentations on our website.

Lake Stewardship Recording

## CARING FOR OUR WATERSHEDS

If you were asked to develop a project in response to a deceptively simple question, “What can you do to improve your watershed?”, what would you do?

Stella Wagner (poet) and Paige Smyth (artist) created a beautiful, illustrated poem describing a glacier as a young woman who is dying from our abuse and neglect. It is a moving piece that is meant to draw our attention and our emotions to our changing climate.

Stella and Paige are students at the [Dr. Roy Wilson Learning Centre](#) in Medicine Hat and they brought their art as one of ten finalist teams to the [Caring For Our Watersheds](#) competition in Wetaskiwin on May 12th.

I was particularly moved by Paige and Stella’s work, in part because of the depth of the poem and illustration, and in part because of the courage it takes to put forward a creative work to try to have people see a challenging issue in a new way.

~ Scott Millar, NSWA Executive Director

# Cold

Through Alberta, from forest to prairie— in mountains of great heights, and coulees of greater lows

She is our cool of the Summer, the breeze of Winter's pass—  
—And the snow that came long before

A glacier bobbing in the water far, far away

We welcome her home to our province, and through the world which she resides North  
Lying still in movement, the harsh cold to come  
For the last hundreds of years she rests

We withdrew her through curse, and through fist and through rage  
Leaving a wet trail in our path  
Of destruction, and utter lack of care,  
Which killed any beauty in her, and inside our children— whom we heir

Those children are left no future, for she cries in what we've done  
Tears that flow through our coasts, taking people in her storm

Tears that will leave us for dead  
For something not be done

## RIPARIAN SAVE THE DATE!



The NSWA is hosting a summer workshop series to discuss **riparian bylaw alignment**. Planners and other interested stakeholders are welcome to join the conversation. Feedback from these sessions will be used to develop a Riparian Policy Best Management Guide.

The first workshop will take place on **July 27** in a location **West of Edmonton**. The second workshop will take place on **August 17** in a location **East of Edmonton**.

You're welcome to attend either event. The exact locations and registration details are coming soon! Free lunch provided.

## Partner Highlights

CELEBRATING PARTNERSHIPS

### THE WONDER OF WETLANDS: A CONVERSATION WITH RESTORATION and WETLAND ECOLOGIST KRISTEN ANDERSEN



As waterfowl nest along the shores of swamps and marshes, spring seems like an apt time to consider the significance of “nature’s sponge”, also known as wetlands. The NSWA will be releasing its Strategy to Improve Wetland Management in the NSR Watershed this year, so we wanted to take the opportunity to hear from wetland ecologist and enthusiast, Kristen Andersen, on a variety of topics related to wetlands and their management. Read more:

Wetland Conversation

### OTHER PARTNER INFORMATION

The City of Edmonton is asking for your input into its [Think Long Term - How can we make Edmonton Greener? survey.](#)

The City of Edmonton has announced the opening later this summer of the [Northeast River Valley Park](#). It will be a great addition to the City's River valley park system! Stay tuned for more details.

The **Alberta Low Impact Development Partnership** invites you to their online, annual general meeting on June 22nd, 9:00 am - noon. [Registration](#) is now open.

**Water Canada** has posted its latest feature article, [“Restoring Soil, Recovering Forests, and Rescuing Our Planet.”](#)

**Cows and Fish** have several events of note, including the Grazing School for Women in Two Hills - find out more [here](#).

One of our Watershed Wednesday speakers, **Joanna Eyquem of the Intact Center on Climate Adaptation**, recently spoke with CBC about different approaches to tackle river flooding. Listen to the [podcast!](#)

The Environmental Law Centre is presenting a series of reports and webinars in relation to the constitutional challenges around environmental management. [READ MORE](#)

## Celebrating our Watershed

ART, CULTURE AND HISTORY



### City of Edmonton Public Art Collection

As you are exploring the watershed and Edmonton's River Valley this summer you will see many works of art from the **City of Edmonton Public Art Collection**. Some of these include the paintings on the [Tawatina Bridge](#) spanning the River and the statue [Preparing to Cross the Sacred River](#) and many more. As you discover these works of art, take a moment to read about the artists and some of the history behind the art on the [City of Edmonton Public Art Collection](#) website. Art is a powerful way to help us connect to the environment around us.

## DONATE



### YOUR SUPPORT GOES A LONG WAY

NSWA is a registered charity. You can donate to support our projects and ongoing work in the watershed. More information on donations is on our [website](#).

[DONATE](#)





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