

Celebrating 20 Years of Watershed Management

IN STREAM Newsletter MAY 2020

RELAUNCH INTO SUMMER



We hope you are enjoying the watershed as it relaunches into summer! Our Instagram, Facebook and Twitter feeds will feature places that you might want to explore this summer for your staycation. Follow us for ideas on unique places and fascinating watershed facts. Our book, *Living in the Shed*, can be used as a tour guide to the watershed. You can order a copy at our [SHOP](#).

Unwind, renew, take a breath of fresh air...and please send us some watershed stay-cation photos (water@nswa.ab.ca) so we can share on our social media pages. Each month we will choose a photo to win a copy of *Living in the Shed*!

Like many of you, the NSWA staff are working from home and will continue to check emails and voicemail. If you have any questions or comments, please check our website or email us at water@nswa.ab.ca and we will get back to you as soon as possible.



NSWA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING UPDATE

New Date - June 24, 2020

The NSWA will be holding its Annual General Meeting on June 24th and postponing our 20th Anniversary Reunion to a later date.

The AGM will be held virtually through ZOOM and the agenda will include:

- Minutes from the 2019 AGM
- Annual Report
- Audited Financial Statement
- Annual Operating Plan and Budget
- Updated NSWA Bylaws

Please register now and further details will be emailed to you in June.

[Register Now](#)



NSWA IS AN EMERALD AWARDS FINALIST

The NSWA is pleased to be one of the finalists for the 2020 Emerald Awards for our submission

NSWA - 20 Years of Watershed Management Excellence

We are honored and want to congratulate all the finalists for their great work. The 29th Annual Emerald Awards Ceremony will take place on June 2, 2020.

[Emerald Awards](#)

STURGEON RIVER WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN



The NSWA has been working with the **Sturgeon River Watershed Alliance (SRWA)** on the development of a watershed management plan for the last five years. The SRWA includes a Steering Committee of elected officials from 12 municipalities and a Technical Advisory Committee of municipal staff, non-governmental organizations, and technical experts. The SRWA received over \$800,000 in grant funding to complete 10 technical studies which provided the foundation for developing the management plan. The Sturgeon River Watershed Management Plan contains six key outcomes:

1. Policies and Plans are well-informed and align to support a healthy watershed.
2. All residents have access to safe, secure drinking water supplies, whether they are on public or private systems or draw from surface or groundwater.
3. Aquatic Ecosystems, including our rivers, lakes, wetlands and other water bodies, are healthy.
4. The importance of water quantity is recognized and reliable, quality water supplies are available for people, livestock and a sustainable economy.
5. Wise land use ensures the cumulative effects of growth and development are mitigated, the land is resilient to climate change and individuals and communities are well prepared for flood and drought events.
6. Residents and stakeholders support the Sturgeon River Watershed Management Plan and are willing to participate in local and regional initiatives to improve watershed health.

The SRWA will be pursuing the priority projects from the Management Plan with a new **\$200,000 Alberta Community Partnership grant**.

DISCOVER YOUR WATERSHED



Many of you are at home with your children, and we would like to invite you to the **Discover section on our Resource webpage**. We have included a short list of watershed related learning activities and links to complement your online school lessons. We also provide links to other great education resources such as Alberta Environment and Parks, and the Alberta Council for Environmental Education. Our book, *Living in the Shed*, also has information on history, science and fun facts about our watershed for youth. Science at home is fun - especially when it involves water!

We hope you enjoy exploring the watershed in ways you might never have before! We would love to see some photos of your 'science at home' watershed discoveries. Send them to water@nswa.ab.ca - and please give us permission to post some of them on Instagram.

[DISCOVER](#)

OTHER WATERSHED RESOURCES

The **Environmental Law Center** has announced a new online resource for high school students and teachers - the [Albertaenvirolaws](#) website. This is a great resource for grades 10-12 social studies and science courses.

The **Miistakis Mondays Webinar series** will cover topics of watershed conservation interest. Register for these webinars on their [website](#).

Ducks Unlimited is offering a free [Wetlands 101](#) course - Everything you need to know about Boreal Wetlands.

CONGRATULATIONS! WABAMUN and WIZARD LAKE Watershed Stewardship Groups

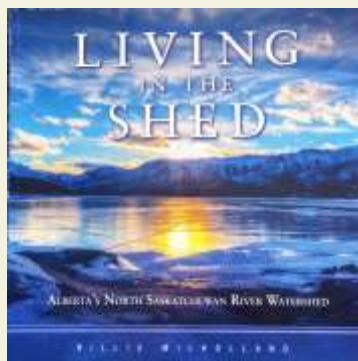


Both the *Wabamun Watershed Management Council* and the *Wizard Lake Watershed and Stewardship Association* were recipients of **Alberta Watershed Stewardship Grants** for projects at their lakes. The **Land Stewardship Center** [website](#) has more details on these and other watershed grant recipients.



20 YEARS OF MEMORIES ~ DO YOU REMEMBER?

Ernie Ewaschuk, a wildlife biologist and one of the founders of the Land Stewardship Centre, joined the NSWA board of directors in July 2000. He was the visionary behind NSWA's very popular *Community Watershed Toolkit*, a strong supporter of the Heritage River designation and an active champion in engagement for the Integrated Watershed Management Plan. Ernie retired from the board in the summer of 2008.



2020 ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL

Living in the Shed is priced at \$20 per copy for our 20th Anniversary. Purchase your copies today at our [SHOP](#). Some deliveries may be delayed at this time.

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



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