

Environmental Stewardship News

- *Highlighting information, projects & resources from the Environmental Stewardship Branch*

Environmental Stewardship Page

Can't wait for the next newsletter for updated information? Check out this newly designed one stop shop for resources, tools, information and programs related to [Environmental Stewardship](#). All of this information is on Alberta Agriculture and Forestry's website but this page was developed to create a quicker way to find resources for those delivering environmentally sustainable agriculture extension programs. For more details, [click here](#).

Energy Program Information and Posters

The [On-Farm Solar Photovoltaics \(OFSVP\)](#) and the [Farm Energy and Agri-Processing \(FEAP\)](#) program information and posters are now available online. Details for the [OFSVP](#) and the [FEAP](#) can be accessed from the Environmental Stewardship page as well as the quick links on the program posters.

If producers have questions about the above programs, they can contact the Energy Outreach Officers:

- [Vern Steinborn](#) with [SouthGrow](#) in Lethbridge can be contacted at 403-894-0050.
- [Lyle Lawrence](#) with [Lakeland College](#) in Vermilion can be contacted at 780-581-8403
- [Kale Scarff](#) with [Gateway Research Organization](#) in Westlock can be contacted at 780-307-7849.

CAP Consultation Survey

Alberta Agriculture and Forestry has developed a short online [survey](#) for input on the Canadian Agricultural Partnership (CAP). The CAP program is set to begin in April 2018 after Growing Forward 2 (GF2) expires in March 2018. The survey can be completed by anyone, so this along to your contacts and producers.

This survey offers agriculture stakeholders the opportunity to make suggestions on the proposed CAP program concepts. Input provided will equip Alberta Agriculture and Forestry to provide programming that meets the needs and priorities of Alberta's industry.

The five priority areas identified by Alberta are:

- Science and Research
- Risk Management
- Environmental Sustainability
- Products, Market Growth and Diversification
- Public Trust

[Survey Link](#) open until **March 18, 2018**. If the links does not work please connect through:

http://www.growingforward.alberta.ca/NextPolicy/index.htm?contentId=CDF_NEXT_POLICY&useSecondary=true



Utilizing Highway Right of Ways and Culverts to Accommodate Manure Draglines

For dragline or direct-flow manure application systems to reach fields, hoses may have to run in or along a road ditch (right-of-way) or through culverts to cross roads. Roads can be crossed by using existing culverts or may require the installation of a culvert or pipe to create a crossing. If you would like to use road right of ways, you need to obtain permission from the responsible jurisdiction, whether it be the municipality or the Province.

For further information on the application procedures for provincial highways, [click here for the factsheet](#).

ManureTracker App

Looking for a better way to keep records for your manure production, transfers and application? This Alberta-based manure record keeping mobile application called ManureTracker can assist with farm management and reduce paper records. This app will help keep track of what is still left to do – add a new soil test, finish incorporation or complete a manure transfer. You can also add users, send custom manure applicator requests and access records for a discussion with your agronomist.

With the ManureTracker, field and manure storage locations can be identified, allowing you to make custom notes and identify any necessary setbacks. When you select the date for spreading manure, ManureTracker will automatically record the weather data around the timing of the manure application. Worried about losing your information? Don't be. This app will back up your information to the cloud and can be accessed at www.manuretracker.ca.

ManureTracker is created through the partnership of Alberta Agriculture and Forestry, Alberta Milk, Alberta Beef Producers, Alberta Pork and the Natural Resources Conservation Board. Creation of the app was funded through Growing Forward 2 and is available as a mobile app on: [iTunes](#) and [Google Play](#).

Part 2: Alberta Peas for a More Positive Profile

In October we featured an article on the collaboration project between Environmental Stewardship Branch and Alberta Pulse Growers (APG) to measure the environmental impacts of Alberta pea production using a life cycle assessment (LCA) approach. LCA looks at all significant environmental impacts including carbon footprint, water footprint, energy use, eutrophication, acidification, photochemical smog, etc. This comprehensive assessment can help identify production areas where management decisions can be made to reduce these environmental impacts. The second article created was “A Win-Win Crop - High Nutritional Value, Low Environmental Impact.” Both articles were originally published in the APG's Pulse Crop News - Summer 2017 and Fall 2017.

For these articles and other environmental sustainable information, [click here for the Environmental Stewardship page](#). For further information on this topic, please contact [Aung Moe](#), Environmental Footprint Agrologist.

Online Resources:

- [A Win-Win Crop - High Nutritional Value, Low Environmental Impact](#)
- [Measuring the Environmental Footprint of Alberta Peas](#)



AFSC Yield 2018 Alberta

Agriculture Financial Services Corporation and Alberta Farmer has released the [Yield 2018 Alberta](#) – a publication of crop insurance yields by variety and risk area. Within this publication is examples of information from the [Alberta Climate Information Service \(ACIS\)](#) with precipitation received, soil moisture and mean temperature. Also, the program information for the [Canada-Alberta AgrilInsurance Products for 2018 Annual Crops](#) is available online.

Former ARECA Chair Receives Award

A story worth sharing is that the [former Chair of the ARECA Board of Directors Ian Murray](#) was awarded the Alberta Beef Producer's Environmental Stewardship Award for 2017. Full story on the Murray's using programs such as the Alberta Environmental Farm Plan and Verified Beef Production program can be found in the [Alberta Beef Magazine's December 2017 edition](#) on starting on page 12.

Staff Profiles

[Daniel Itenfisu](#) is a Drought Modeler with the AgMet unit in the Environmental Stewardship Branch. He collects data on weather and soil conditions from around the province and uses the information to create drought reports and maps that aid farmers. To read more about the work Daniel does with the [Alberta Climate Information Service \(ACIS\)](#) website, [click here to read the article in the GrainWest magazine](#).

Coming Events Calendar

Looking to connect with staff and update your resources from Environmental Stewardship? Alberta Agriculture and Forestry's website has a large listing of events around the province and is one of the most visited areas of our website. To view the Coming Events Calendar, click [here](#). If you have an event you would like to advertise on Alberta Agriculture and Forestry's website, please send all the event information to duke@gov.ab.ca.

Events:

[*Sustainability Series - Government's Role in Building Public Trust in Agriculture*](#)

- Webinar – March 15 at 2 pm
Sean Royer, Executive Director, Environmental Stewardship will review how Alberta Agriculture and Forestry has supported and will continue to support the agricultural industry and their journey to build public trust.

To join the webinar, [click here](#) or use the GoToMeeting App and use meeting ID **922-178-949**.

You can also dial in using your phone:

Canada: +1 (647) 497-9380

Access Code: 922-178-949

