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Know Your Watershed

May 2020

Spring and Summer 2020 Update

The Swift Current Creek Watershed Stewards would like to update our stakeholders about our activities for the past number of weeks and what we planned for this summer. The current COVID-19 situation has changed how we are doing business

but it has not slowed us down. Kevin and Dallas are working from home during this time to ensure that SCCWS continues promoting responsibility and understanding of water quality and watershed health issues during this time. We can be reached by e-mail and phone, please see the contact information at the end of this newsletter. At present our office phones are being forwarded to our cell phones.

The Swift Current Creek Watershed Stewards is monitoring the COVID situation and the plans to re-open the province. We are hoping to hold our Annual General Meeting in June. If that is not possible, SCCWS will look at other ways to inform our stakeholders about what we have been doing for the past year.



SCCWS Spring and Summer Projects

Lake Winnipeg Basin Fund Water Sampling for Phosphorous Levels in the Swift Current Creek

Dallas and her small group of dedicated volunteers have been out taking water samples from various points on the Swift Current Creek once a week since the middle of April. Sampling will now continue once a month until late September or early October.

Herbert Water Use Plan and Conservation Education Initiative Project

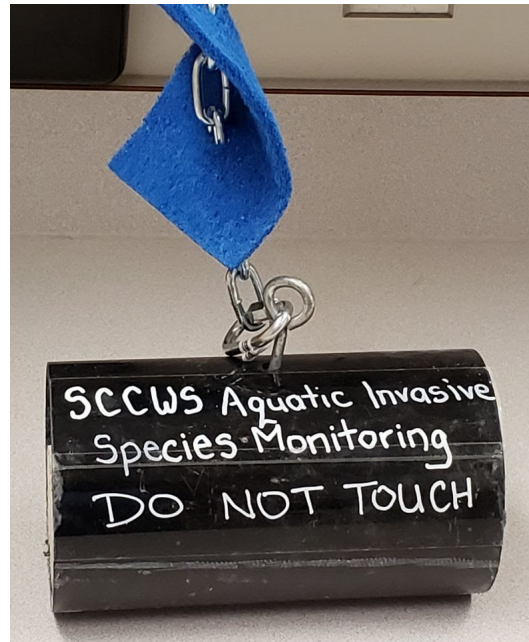
This is the final full year for this project and SCCWS will be out taking water

samples at Highfield Dam, Herbert Reservoir and the Town of Herbert Reservoir once a month starting this week until September. SCCWS is also drafting articles on water conservation for the Herbert Herald newspaper as part of this project. If you are interested in receiving these articles please contact us and we can forward them to you.



The SCCWS will continue to monitor Lac Pelletier and Duncairn Reservoir/Reid Lake for zebra and quagga mussels in the summer of 2020. Given the COVID 19 protocols in place now, we are looking for volunteers to hang substrate samplers on their docks. The SCCWS will deliver the samplers to your location at Lac Pelletier or Duncairn along with instructions on how to install and monitor the samplers for evidence of adult mussels. The samplers should be checked

at least once a month but can be checked more often if you wish. The SCCWS will also provide you access to an app that you can enter information about your substrate sampler and the results of monitoring into a provincial data base. The substrate samplers can be removed in late September and then the SCCWS will come to pick them up. If you are interested in having a substrate sampler on your dock at Lac Pelletier or Duncairn Reservoir/Reid Lake please call Kevin at 306-741-2240 or e-mail kevin.sccws@gmail.com.



The SCCWS will be collecting samples for veliger detection this summer. Veligers are the larval stage of zebra and quagga mussels and this testing is done to provide an early warning of the presence of these invasive mussels.

The SCCWS reminds boaters to Pull the Plug and to clean and drain their watercraft and trailer before leaving one water body to go to another this summer.

Canadian Agriculture Partnership AgriEnvironmental Technical Services

Funding is still available for producers looking to complete water projects or farm stewardship projects to improve their operations and the environment. Dallas Peters, the AgriEnvironmental Technician for the SCCWS can assist producers with applications for these programs. Call Dallas at 306-770-4606 or e-mail dallas.sccws@gmail.com if you have questions or are considering projects. Much of the work can be completed over the phone, by text or e-mail. Farm visits if needed are still possible by using the physical distancing rules the province has in place.



If you are considering planting trees this spring or in the future, just a reminder that SCCWS has a tree planter and two plastic mulch applicators available for

rent. If you are interested please give us a call, so that arrangements can be made for you to pick up the machines at the Swift Current Research Station during the current COVID situation.

Swift Current Creek Watershed Stewards Contact Information

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