



April 2019

## Community Gardens

Welcome to the *Alberta Land-use Knowledge Network's* new monthly newsletter in which we share information and resources about land use planning in Alberta.

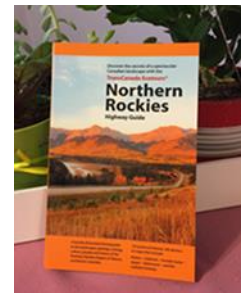
The **Land-use Knowledge Network** was launched in 2011 and the **Land Use Planning Hub** in 2018. These two tools continue to grow and support research-based land use decision making throughout the province

If this newsletter was forwarded to you, please consider **subscribing** to our monthly publication.

Review **past issues** of our newsletter



Congratulations to Rosemarie at the *Red Deer River Watershed Alliance*. We were happy to send her a copy of the Northern Rockies Eco Tours book in honour of our newsletter's first anniversary.



## Land Use Planning Hub

The **Land Use Planning Hub** is an informal network that supports the implementation of Alberta's regional plans.

## Currently on the Land Use Planning Hub

### Applying regional land use planning to urban agriculture

Regional plans provide the vision for the future on a broad scale, but the recommendations can be applied to smaller scales – including urban agriculture. Here's some examples of urban agriculture in Alberta's municipalities.



Farm to Garden



## How does the proposed Rocky View County solar project compare to other solar farms?

Rocky View County is preparing for **the creation of one of the largest solar farms in Canada**. When complete, this solar farm will have 700,000 solar panels and will be able to supply power to nearly 25,000 homes.

How does this mega solar project compare to other solar farms in Alberta?

## Using public participatory mapping to inform land use planning

Case study from California exploring how public participation can contribute to the land use planning process.

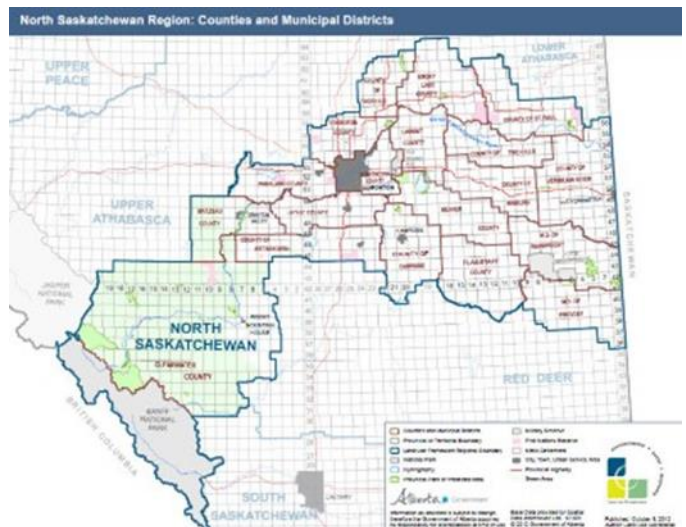


For more information about the Land Use Planning Hub, contact the website's coordinator, [Jeff Wiehler](#)



The North Saskatchewan Region contains a diverse landscape encompassing Rocky Mountain, rolling foothill and prairie parkland ecosystems. The North Saskatchewan Region includes headwaters forests that provide clean water to downstream communities, mountains foothills, and parkland that support a diversity of habitats that provide homes for species at risk and serves as a major source of recreation and tourism.

The North Saskatchewan Regional Advisory Council



Read Jeff Wiehler's post entitled [Preparing for the next regional plans](#)

Check out our resource list related to the [North Saskatchewan Regional Planning](#) process.

[Recommendations Document from the North Saskatchewan Regional Advisory Council](#)

## Community Gardens

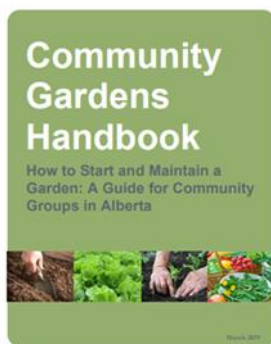
A community garden is a place where a group of people collectively garden a piece of land. Community gardens provide participants with fresh, local, and seasonal produce. They create a sense of community among members and preserve local green spaces. While the concept is simple – get a group of people together to garden a piece of land – implementing the concept can be time-consuming and difficult. Who should be

## Land Use Topics

involved? What land is available and suitable? Is gardening permitted? How should the garden be operated?  
(**Law Now**)

Alberta is becoming a mecca for community gardens. This year there are nearly 300 active community gardens between Edmonton and Calgary alone.

A community garden is a group of people coming together to nurture, develop and sustain a growing space in their community. It provides more than just fresh produce and plants for the neighbourhood. It creates a sense of community, neighbourhood improvement and a connection to the environment, especially for that don't have enough room to garden on their own property (**Stevenson, 2015**)



Check out this manual created by Alberta Health Services to assist in the development and sustainment of a community garden.

Alberta Health Services (2019). **Community gardens handbook: How to start and maintain a garden, a guide for community groups in Alberta.**

Find resources on community gardens in your municipality. Here is a sampling of community and municipal government sites:

**Canmore Community Gardening Society**

**City of Edmonton Community Gardens**

**Community Gardens in Calgary**

**City of Leduc Garden Plots**

**Lethbridge Community Garden Network**

**Red Deer Gardening Opportunities**

**St. Albert Community Gardens License**

**Strathcona County Community Garden Program**

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## Spotlighted Organizations

**Sustainable Food Edmonton** is a non-profit charitable organization who initiates and supports projects and programs to encourage the building of community through urban agriculture. They connect communities and kids with their food, how it's produced, and the planet that makes it all possible.

Their vision is to ensure Edmontonians benefit from urban agriculture. Their mission is to initiate and support projects and programs to encourage the building of community through urban agriculture.





CALGARY  
HORTICULTURAL  
SOCIETY

The **Calgary Horticultural Society** is a registered charity dedicated to cultivating Calgary's gardening community. With 4,000 plus members, we are one of the largest and most active gardening organizations. In 2018, the Society celebrates its 110th anniversary. The Society's mandate has a strong focus on gardening education and offers the knowledge and skills to do it well. The Society is driven by the belief that as the gardening community grows, the city's quality of life is enhanced, and so is the environment.

The **Land-use Knowledge Network** is a repository of a wide variety of resources to support your land use and planning research. Take a look at these items...



Resources on the LuKN



Registrations for the next session opens on April 17, 2019

**Market Gardener Masterclass**

The Market Gardener's Masterclass is an online program that combines in-depth video tutorials, detailed standard operating procedures, peer group interactions and a variety of downloadable resources, providing a complete library of methods, techniques and tools to effectively start and run an organic vegetable production on small acreage.

**Land Stewardship Centre: Green Acreages Guide** (primer and workbook)

Land Stewardship Centre (LSC): **The Stewardship Toolbox**



EVENTS

If you have an event that you would like to see included in our monthly newsletter, please email **Linda** with the details.



Upcoming  
EVENTS



April

*Earlybird rates end 5 April*

**2019 MPB Ecology Research Forum**

23-24 April 2019, Edmonton

**Environmental Services Association of Alberta (ESAA):**

**EnvroTech 2019**

23-25 April 2019, Calgary

**2019 MPB Ecology Research Forum**

23-24 April 2019, Edmonton

**Community Planning Association of Alberta (CPAA) 2019**

**Conference: Exploring the Intersection of Planning & Politics**

29 April-1 May, Red Deer

**Tamarack Institute: Principles and Practices of Asset-Based Community Development Webinar**

30 April 2019, online

## May

### **SEDA: Intersections for Growth Conference**

1-2 May, Regina

### **Canadian Water Network: Blue Cities 2019**

7-8 May, Toronto

*Register by May 8*

### **AWES: Best Management Practices on Private Forested Lands Workshop**

11 May, Manning

### **Keepers of the Athabasca (KotA): Tailing Ponds and Impacts on Aquifers**

14-15 May, Fort McMurray

### **Alberta Council for Environmental Education (ACEE): Recharge 2019 Conference: Challenges, Opportunities and Solutions in Environmental and Energy Education**

23-25 May, Canmore

### **Tamarack Institute: ABCD: Healthy Neighbourhoods, Healthy Cities**

28-30 May, Edmonton

### **Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) 2019 Annual Conference and Trade Show**

30 May-2 June, Québec City

## September

### **International Association of Transportation Regulators (IATR) 32nd Annual Conference: Regulatory Roundup**

22-25 September 2019, Calgary

*Save the date*

### **AUMA 2019 Convention and AMSC Trade Show**

25-27 September, Edmonton

## June

*Early bird rates available now*

### **Canada's Oil Sands Innovation Alliance (COSIA): 2019 Oil Sands Innovation Summit**

3-4 June, Calgary

### **3rd Annual VegFest**

15 June, Calgary

## October

*Save the date*

### **Canadian Rural Revitalization Foundation 2019 Sustainable Communities Conference**

1-4 October 2019, St. Johns, NL

*Save the date*

### **Recycling Council of Alberta 2019 Conference: Sea Change**

2-4 October 2019, Jasper

*Save the date*

### **2019 APPI Conference: Celebrate Strength**

6-8 October 2019, Fort McMurray

*Earlybird rates until 14 June*

### **EcoCity World Summit 2019**

7-11 October, Vancouver

*Early bird registration available until 31 May 2019*

### **Environmental Services Association of Alberta (ESAA): RemTech 2019**

16-18 October 2019, Banff

**Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness (CAEH): 2019 National Conference on Ending Homelessness**

4-6 November, 2019, Edmonton

*Save the date*

ALIDP Conference and Trade Show

6-8 November, Calgary

If you have an announcement that you would like to see included in our monthly newsletter, please email [Linda](#) with the details.

## NEWS

**Governments of Canada and Alberta reach 10-year housing agreement**

*Families, Indigenous communities and vulnerable Canadians in need of an affordable place to call home can count on long-term funding for community housing in Alberta thanks to an agreement signed today by the federal and provincial governments.*

15 March 2019, Government of Alberta

**Dene Tha' First Nation on course for clean water**

*In a historic partnership with the Dene Tha' First Nation, the Alberta government is bringing safe and reliable drinking water to the nation.*

14 March 2019, Government of Alberta

**Deerfoot Trail upgrades to create jobs, cut commute**

*The Government of Alberta is expanding Deerfoot Trail to create jobs, ease congestion and reduce commute times.*

14 March 2019, Government of Alberta

**New Red Deer homeless shelter**

*New support services in Red Deer mean the community's most vulnerable will have a safe, warm place to sleep.*

14 March 2019, Government of Alberta

**Check out the RMA's "Rural Alberta: Where It All Starts" Website**

*As part of an ongoing effort to highlight the importance of rural Alberta during the next provincial election, the RMA has developed a new website that will host a number of tools and resources for RMA members, candidates for provincial office, political parties, stakeholders, and the public.*

13 March 2019, RMA

**On the world stage, Canadian oil majors promote a carbon tax**

*Executives from a pair of Canadian oilsands companies extolled the virtues of a carbon tax on one of the largest*

*stages for the global energy sector.*

13 March 2019, Kyle Bakx, CBC News

**Protecting southern Alberta from future flooding**

*Now, more than ever, communities need help adapting to the frequent and intensifying weather events caused by climate change.*

13 March 2019, Government of Alberta

**Edmonton's first tiny home village would serve homeless military veterans**

*Edmonton's first village of tiny homes could be ready with a year to give military veterans experiencing homelessness a place to rebuild their lives.*

12 March 2019, Paige Parsons, Edmonton Journal

**Clean tech innovation cuts emissions, creates jobs**

*Alberta's Climate Leadership Plan is helping major industries reduce emissions and create jobs while cutting costs and becoming more competitive.*

12 March 2019, Government of Alberta

**Valley Line West, Metro Line Northwest LRT expansions get \$1-billion federal cash injection**

*The federal government stepped up its commitment to transit in Edmonton Monday announcing more than \$1-billion to help fund Edmonton's Valley Line West and Metro Line Northwest LRT expansions.*

11 March 2019, Dylan Short, Edmonton Journal

**Alberta government pumps money into water projects**

*Alberta officials recently announced Red Deer and Central Alberta will receive project funding to improve water quality.*

8 March 2019, Journal of Commerce News

**Getting people moving in Fort Saskatchewan**

*Families and businesses in Fort Saskatchewan will see*

critical transportation projects get underway this year.

8 March 2019, Government of Alberta

**Notley government commits nearly \$90M in funding for Terwillegar Expressway, public transit in Edmonton**

Public transit in Edmonton, and what many see as much-needed improvements to a major thoroughfare in the city, are the latest recipients of funding by the Alberta government.

7 March 2019, Phil Heidenreich, Global News

**Cracking open the carbon tax: A look at where the money has been spent**

The carbon tax has pulled in more than \$2 billion since it was introduced two years ago to fund local green projects in every corner of Alberta, but it remains the most pummelled punching bag in provincial politics.

7 March 2019, Emma Graney & Janet French, Edmonton Journal

**Canada's largest solar farm one step closer in Rocky View County**

Rocky View County is hoping to get into the renewable energy game with plans to build the country's largest solar farm project.

5 March 2019, Ryan Rumbolt, Calgary Herald

**West Calgary Ring Road construction to start**

Contracts have been signed for two segments of the West Calgary Ring Road project and construction will begin this spring.

5 March 2019, Government of Alberta

**Investing in the future of Lois Hole park**

A new management plan for Lois Hole Centennial Provincial Park will guide future recreation opportunities and infrastructure, while preserving its ecological value.

5 March 2019, Government of Alberta

**Alberta invests in critical water projects**

The province is investing in new water system improvements to provide the City of Red Deer and central Alberta with clean, safe water.

4 March 2019, Government of Alberta

**Local farm family recognized for protecting area wetlands**

It was announced recently that Alana and Justin Schamber would be receiving the OTIS Award for Business from the Battle River Watershed Alliance.

21 February 2019, Christina Max, The Wetaskiwin Times



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