

## NEW SASKATCHEWAN MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT ANNOUNCED

Battlefords MLA Herb Cox is justifiably enthusiastic about his new role as minister of the environment and minister responsible for SaskWater and the Water Security Agency. Cox replaced Scott Moe who has been shuffled to the Minister Responsible for Advanced Education.

Cox's portfolio includes responsibility for water and water security issues, as well as dealing with the wildfire situation currently affecting the province.



Honorable Minister Herb Cox

Minister Cox knows the importance of protecting our lakes and river from aquatic invasive species. Keeping these species out of our province is very important. It involves educating the public about the danger of these species entering our precious lakes, streams and rivers

Minister Cox plans to continue some of Scott Moe's initiatives including agriculture water management, landfill management, aquatic invasive species monitoring and education, climate change and other issues.

Minister Cox's first challenge will be familiarizing himself with his department's ministerial files. Meeting stakeholders, municipal governments, private-sector and industry will be put on his upcoming agenda. It will be a busy summer for the minister.

## 2015 SAW CONFERENCE A SUCCESS!

The Carrot River Valley Watershed Association was host to this year's Saskatchewan Association of Watersheds Provincial Watershed Conference. The conference was held at the Kerry Vickar Centre in Melfort, Saskatchewan. Over 110 delegates and 20 trade show exhibits participated in the event.

Speakers from across three prairie provinces presented at the conference. Day one focused on agriculture drainage and water management. Speakers such as Dr. John Pomeroy provided research information on the effects of agriculture drainage. While David Zerr, representing the Farm Stewardship Alliance Association provided their perspective on agriculture drainage from an agriculture producer's point of view. Doug Johnson, representing the Water Security Agency, spoke on the new upcoming agriculture water management regulations that will be put in motion this year.

Stark and Marsh Chartered Accountants received the 2015 SAW Provincial Watershed Stewardship Award for their work and commitment to stewardship in the Swift Current Creek Watershed (SCCWS) with the initiation and implementation of Go Green Friday.



Darcy Congdon, Stark and Marsh Chartered Accountants of Swift Current receiving the 2015 SAW Provincial Watershed Award presented by David Sloan, SAW Chair and Arlene Unvoas, Swift Current Creek Watershed Stewards.

In 2009, the first year of the Go Green Friday Program, the organizers realized they had an excess of volunteers and they invited the SCCWS in as a partner to help organize a creek bank clean up. In the second year of the program, one of the Stark & Marsh staff workers suggested that they put on chest waders and go into the creek to clean up garbage that had been thrown into the creek.

Over the years garbage such as; bicycles, various appliances, brake drums and shopping carts have been thrown into the Swift Current Creek. Go Green Friday gave the SCCWS the opportunity to have volunteers assist us in cleaning garbage out of the creek.

The leadership shown by Stark & Marsh has stimulated many other businesses within the City to volunteer employee time and energy towards the stewardship initiatives that take place on Go Green Friday. This event, initiated by Stark & Marsh, has evolved into a wonderful community collaboration that participants look forward to every year.

Day 2 of the conference focussed on the importance of developing partnerships with government and non-government agencies. Ducks Unlimited, Delta Waterfowl, Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation and Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture promoted developing watershed partnerships to implement success projects on the ground. Keynote speaker, Dr. David Sauchyn, was a highlight reflecting on the impacts of climate change.

The conference was two days packed full of information and networking. Next year's conference will be held in the Yorkton, Saskatchewan in the Assiniboine Watershed. Visit our website: [www.saskwatersheds.ca](http://www.saskwatersheds.ca) for upcoming conference information.

### HELP PROTECT OUR LAKES AND RIVERS: STOP THE SPREAD OF AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES

Aquatic invasive species (AIS) threaten aquatic habitats, fisheries and valuable recreational resources. They can spread through water or by attaching to watercraft, related equipment and gear, and aquatic plants.

You can help stop the spread by remembering to practice: **CLEAN, DRAIN, DRY**

Before returning home from out of province, coming to visit or moving between waters within the province – please follow these important steps to help protect Saskatchewan waters.

**CLEAN** and inspect the watercraft, trailer, equipment and all gear that made contact with the water. Remove all visible plants, animals and mud. Scrub/scrape grainy surfaces that feel like sandpaper, as this could be

## Stop Aquatic Invasive Species

Zebra mussels



Zebra mussels on boat prop



### CLEAN + DRAIN + DRY YOUR BOAT

The Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment and SaskPower are working to raise awareness and protect Saskatchewan waterways from harmful aquatic invasive species, including zebra and quagga mussels.

Aquatic invasive species (AIS) are non-native animals or plants that can be spread through water or by attaching to watercraft, trailers and related equipment.

## S A W R E P O R T

Summer 2015

young mussels too small to see.

Wash, scrub or rinse using high pressure, hot tap water preferably 50oC (120 oF) – away from storm drains, ditches and waterways.

Inspect the watercraft, trailer and vehicle.

**DRAIN** all on-board water from the motor, live well, bilge, and ballast tanks. Flush with hot tap water away from storm drains, ditches and waterways. Then leave plugs out during transport and storage.

**DRY** your watercraft, equipment and all related gear completely, preferably for at least five days while leaving compartments open to dry.

And remember to **DISPOSE** of all unwanted bait in the trash. Never release leftover leeches or crayfish, aquarium pets, plants or water into our lakes, rivers or wetlands.

The 11 watershed groups across the province, along with the Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment and the Provincial Association of Resort Communities will be implementing an aquatic invasive monitoring program on lakes, streams and rivers in their local watersheds throughout the summer.

For more information on Aquatic Invasive Species visit: <http://www.environment.gov.sk.ca/invasivespecies>

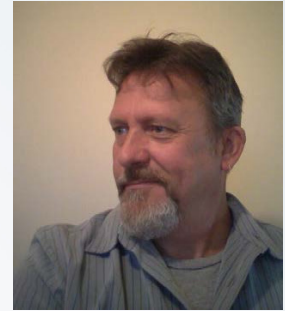
### LOWER SOURIS & SOUTH SASKATCHEWAN RIVER WATERSHED STEWARDS WELCOME NEW WATERSHED MANAGERS

The Lower Souris Watershed Committee would like to welcome Kelly Liddle as their new Watershed Manager. He is responsible for coordinating programs, brand management, public relations and education.

Prior to joining the Lower Souris Watershed Committee, he worked in the Information Technologies, Manufacturing and Construction Industries.

Kelly's greatest strengths are his creativity, drive and leadership/management experience. He thrives on challenges, particularly those that

affect the environment and the local economy. He is a strong advocate of the buy local, support your local producer agenda, and concentrates his efforts in support of this theory. Kelly was previously a technology/business instructor at the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology and operated his own IT consulting firm for twelve years before moving to southeast Saskatchewan. He has also done volunteer work for the Carnduff Agriculture Society.



South Saskatchewan River Watersheds are pleased to welcome Lloyd Saul as their new Watershed Manager.

Lloyd Saul is originally from Semans, Saskatchewan where his still owns a farming operation. He possesses a Bachelor of Science degree in ecology and 15 years of agricultural and environmental work experience. He has successfully delivered and managed agricultural and environmental programs while employed by Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food, Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment, District #43 ADD board and as an environmental consultant. He is very proud of successfully delivering the District # 43 Used Oil Collection project and the Saskatchewan Black Fly Abatement program (South and North Saskatchewan Rivers).

He has served on numerous non profit and environmental organizations including Nature Saskatchewan, Rotary, Optimists, Nature Canada, Saskatchewan Environmental Society, Saskatchewan Prairie Conservation Action Plan, Grassland National Park Advisory committee and the Saskatchewan Environmental Industry and Managers Association.

