



AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT DIRECTOR'S REPORT

AUGUST 20, 2019 PREPARED BY: CATHIE ERICHSEN ARYCHUK

AGRICULTURE SERVICE BOARD (ASB) ACT

- The Regional Agriculture Service Board (ASB) Conference will be in Wainwright on October 31, 2019. Host Municipality recommended that Municipalities extend an invitation to this Conference to their MLA's.

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

- The County of Vermilion River has applied to the Alberta Ag Plastic Recycling Pilot Project to become a regional recycling site. CleanFarms hopes to have agreements in place with about 20 regional sites and begin collection by October 1, 2019. They anticipate further sites coming on-board in 2020 and 2021.
- A significant challenge to local grain bag recycling is the availability of equipment to properly roll grain bags. The County has the opportunity to purchase a second bag roller using the ASB-Environmental Stream grant, if desired.

ENVIRONMENT

- The RFP for the County of Vermilion River Wetland Inventory and Historic Loss Assessment was reviewed by Alberta Environment and Parks to determine if it would qualify for spending under the County's Wetland Restoration Funds. AEP determined that the inventory does not meet AEP's obligation to restore wetland area within the County, so declined the use of the County's Wetland Restoration Funds for this project.

COMING EVENTS

- *August 27/19* *Wetland Explorer Day, Vermilion Provincial Park*
- *August 28/19* *Wetland Explorer Day, Lindsay Evans Park*
- *October 31/19* *NE Regional ASB Conference, Wainwright*
- *November 9/19* *BMO Farm Family Awards Ceremony, Edmonton*
- *3rd week January/20* *Provincial ASB Conference "ASB's 75th Anniversary", Banff*