



 **WHEATLAND**  
COUNTY

# CONNECTOR

October 2023



# GOOD FOOD BOX

## Fresh Produce at a fraction of the Cost!

The Good Food Box program was established to encourage healthy eating while making it affordable for individuals and families alike. The program has been in our area since the fall of 2014 and offers fresh fruits and vegetables to its clients.

The program is available to anyone who is interested in taking part; no restrictions to numbers of boxes purchased or eligibility of participants.



**Boxes can be purchased in three different sizes:**  
SMALL which offers 25-30 pounds of food= **\$32**  
MEDIUM which offers 35-40 pounds of food= **\$37**  
LARGE which offers 45-50 pounds of food= **\$42**

Each box contains the basic produce staples: potatoes, carrots, onions, apples and oranges with additional seasonal fruits and vegetables rounding out the weight.

The program is made possible because the Community Kitchens Program of Calgary (with whom we partner) bypasses the retailers and goes directly to importers and produce handlers in the province.

Wheatland FCSS in partnership with Calgary Foundation is **now offering** subsidy for Good Food Boxes to low-income residents of Wheatland County. A one time application completion and proof of income is required. If eligible you will be qualified for one Good Food Box per month until Dec 2023.

For additional information, to apply for subsidy, or to order your box, contact WFCSS at: 403-934-5335, [info@wfcss.org](mailto:info@wfcss.org), or [www.wfcss.org](http://www.wfcss.org)

Participants pre-order, pay and pick up their boxes at Wheatland FCSS, Wheatland Administrative Office at the corner of Range Road 243 and Highway 1.

### 2023 order and delivery dates:

Order before 12:00 PM on:      Pickup between 2- 4PM on:

November 21

December 1

Orders can be placed by calling or emailing WFCSS or on-line at <https://www.wfcss.org/good-food-box.html>

Note: e-transfer must be received two days prior to delivery date.

Payment options: cash or cheque upon pick up, visa, mastercard, or e-transfer to [info@wfcss.org](mailto:info@wfcss.org)



Wheatland

# MEALS ON WHEELS

Frozen Program

Wheatland FCSS has partnered with Calgary Meals on Wheels Frozen Program to provide Wheatland County residents with nutritious and affordable meals. The program is available to anyone in Wheatland County regardless of age, finances or status.

All items are prepared by a Blue Ribbon chef in the most up-to-date facility for safe food production. Recipes are reviewed by a registered dietitian prior to production to ensure meals are balanced and meet dietary standards.

Frozen meal orders are placed bi-weekly. The following week orders are retrieved, sorted and stored at our office until delivery or pick up arrangements have been made.

The menu is extensive and offers a variety of entrees, soups and baked goods for individuals and families. Renal and gluten-free options are also available and we would be glad to give further information should you be interested. E-transfer payments are accepted.

Cost varies by product. Payment is by cheque or cash and is due on pick-up/delivery day.

**For more information or to place an order,** visit <https://www.wfcss.org/meals-on-wheels.html> or contact Wheatland FCSS at 403-934-5335. Order forms can be found online.

WFCSS is pleased to announce the subsidy program is **now available** for the Meals On Wheels for low-income residents in Rockyford, Hussar, Standard and Wheatland County. Contact WFCSS for more information.

\* Please note that group sized options are exempt from the subsidy program. A one time application completion and proof of income is required.

### NEW Order/Pick up Schedule 2023

ORDER	PICK UP
OCTOBER 30	NOVEMBER 7
NOVEMBER 13	NOVEMBER 21
NOVEMBER 27	DECEMBER 5
DECEMBER 11	DECEMBER 19
JANUARY 8	JANUARY 16
JANUARY 22	JANUARY 30
FEBRUARY 5	FEBRUARY 13

\* Please note that any dates highlighted are alternate order days due to statutory holidays. Please have your order in by 3PM.





## COMMUNITY FEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

WFCSS is pleased to announce a new subsidy program available to residents of Hussar, Rockyford, Standard and Wheatland County.

Wheatland County in partnership with Wheatland Wind Project LP and East Strathmore Solar Project/Elemental Energy have created the Community Fee Assistance Program to give families and individuals an affordable option to participate in recreation, arts, libraries, culture programs and activities such as exercise or sports (drop-in or formal). This program will also assist in the cost of travelling to these activities.

For more information on this program please contact WFCSS directly at:  
403-934-5335 - or - [info@wfcss.org](mailto:info@wfcss.org)

To download a subsidy program application, please visit the WFCSS website at [www.wfcss.org](http://www.wfcss.org) or stop by the WFCSS office located inside the Wheatland County Municipal Building.



[wheatlandcounty.ca](http://wheatlandcounty.ca)



[wheatlandwind.com](http://wheatlandwind.com)



[elementalenergy.ca](http://elementalenergy.ca)



[wfcss.org](http://wfcss.org)

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**Ladies Livestock Lessons**  
In partnership with Bunkhouse Bonanza  
**January 19, 2024**  
Cochrane Ranchehouse, Cochrane AB

For more details, visit: [www.RedBowAg.com](http://www.RedBowAg.com)

**RANCHING OPPORTUNITIES**

February 8, 2024- Olds College

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
For more info visit: [www.RedBowAg.com](http://www.RedBowAg.com)

## Wheatland FCSS Lunch and Learn



WFCSS offers monthly Lunch and Learn sessions from September to June. These sessions feature various experts, including speakers and professionals, discussing their areas of expertise. The sessions sometimes include crafts or physical activities and are often based on participant suggestions. Sessions are free to all Wheatland County residents and start promptly at noon at the Wheatland County Municipal building (242006, Rge Rd 243). To register please call 403-934-5335.

### 2023 Lunch and Learn Topics:

**November 15, 2023**

Healthy Eating

**December 20, 2023**

Christmas Craft with Hope Bridges Society

**January 17, 2024**

Chair Yoga

Sessions begin on September 27, 2023, and then continue on the third Wednesday of each month at noon from October onwards.

For more information on sessions happening in the New Year, please visit our website at [www.wfcss.org](http://www.wfcss.org)





# IN-HOME COOKING

Residents of Hussar, Rockyford, Standard, Strathmore, and Wheatland County who qualify for our In-Home Cooking program can receive affordable meal prep in the comfort of their own home.



Our staff will come prepare a meal plan with your favorite meals, grocery shop for any needed items.



**For more information or to arrange an assessment please call 403-934-5335 or email [info@wfcss.org](mailto:info@wfcss.org)**



**helping rural entrepreneurs grow**

**The best way to succeed as a small business is to connect with the right kind of support.**

**Community Futures Wild Rose offers many resources, a wide variety of business coaching and training services, and flexible business loans.**

**We're here to help!**

[wildrose.albertacf.com](http://wildrose.albertacf.com)

- ✓ Training
- ✓ Guidance
- ✓ Free Resources
- ✓ Financial Support

**Community Futures**   
Wild Rose

**403.934.8888 | [wildroseinfo@albertacf.ca](mailto:wildroseinfo@albertacf.ca)**

Community Futures Wild Rose, Box 2159, Strathmore, AB, T1P 1K2



# Test your Drinking Water

The Alberta government suggests testing your water for bacteria 2 times each year and testing for chemicals and trace metals every 3 years. Alberta Health Services Environmental Public Health (EPH) will only test non-municipal drinking water samples that come from a water supply such as your well water. Water sample bottles with instructions are available at the Wheatland County Administrative office and at many Alberta Health Services facilities.

When testing for bacteria, the sample needs to be as fresh as possible— some drop-off locations have specific days/times when they accept water samples. EPH will not test water samples older than 24 hours. Collect the water sample, keep it cold and immediately take it to the drop-off location.

Source: Water Testing: Testing your drinking water in Alberta

## Drop-off locations around Wheatland County:

### Drumheller Health Centre

Ph: 403-820-6004

Address: 351 9 Street NW

Drop-off Days: Monday before 3:30 PM

*Closed for lunch (12:00 PM - 1:00 PM)*

### Chestermere Community Health Centre

Ph: 403-365-5400 Ext. 1

Address: Suite 104 288 Kinniburgh Boulevard

Drop-off Days: Tuesday before 9:30 AM

### Strathmore Health Centre

Ph: 403-361-7200

Address: 650 Westchester Rd

Drop-off Days: Tuesday before 11:00 AM

### Bassano Health Centre

Ph: 403-641-6100

Address: 608 5 Avenue

Drop-off Days: Monday to Thursday before 1:30 PM

*Drop samples at front reception.*



Source: Environmental Public Health - Water Sample Bottle Pick-up and Drop-off - InformAlberta.ca

# BE HALLOWEEN Safe

Halloween is a fun, and spooky, time of year for kids. Make trick-or-treating safe for your little monsters with a few easy safety tips.



Sparky® is a trademark of the NFPA.

## HALLOWEEN FIRE SAFETY TIPS

- » When choosing a costume, stay away from long trailing fabric. If your child is wearing a mask, make sure the eye holes are large enough so he or she can see out.
- » Provide children with flashlights to carry for lighting or glow sticks as part of their costume.
- » Dried flowers, cornstalks and crepe paper catch fire easily. **Keep all decorations** away from open flames and other heat sources like light bulbs and heaters.
- » Use a battery-operated candle or glow-stick in jack-o-lanterns. If you use a real candle, use extreme caution. Make sure children are watched at all times when candles are lit. When lighting candles inside jack-o-lanterns, use long, fireplace-style matches or a utility lighter. Be sure to place lit pumpkins well away from anything that can burn and far enough out of the way of trick-or-treaters, doorsteps, walkways and yards.
- » Remember to keep exits clear of decorations, so nothing blocks escape routes.
- » Make sure all smoke alarms in the home are working.
- » Tell children to stay away from open flames including jack-o-lanterns with candles in them. Be sure they know how to stop, drop and roll if their clothing catches fire. (Have them practice, stopping immediately, dropping to the ground, covering their face with hands, and rolling over and over to put the flames out.)

If your children are going to **Halloween parties** at others' homes, have them look for ways out of the home and plan how they would get out in an emergency.

### Did you know?



Decorations are the first thing to ignite in roughly **800** reported home fires each year. More than one-third of these fires were started by a candle.



**NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION**  
The leading information and knowledge resource on fire, electrical and related hazards





## Preparing Trees & Shrubs for

# Winter

*Submitted by Toso Bozic, ATTS Group  
ISA Certified Arborist*

For trees and shrubs, winter presents a series of formidable challenges. Harsh conditions, from freezing temperatures to limited sunlight, all can take a toll on health and vitality. In the harsh winter climates of Alberta, trees and shrubs often face various threats that can lead to extensive damage. Biting cold temperatures, dry air, winter sun, the relentless forces of wildlife, salt, deep freezes, heavy snow, and ice, the challenges are plentiful. However, by taking a few proactive measures, you can significantly reduce the potential for damage and ensure the survival and vitality of your trees and shrubs.

### Winter Damage & Prevention

Cold winter damage is a common concern, arising from factors such as a tree's inability to endure extreme cold, dry winds and insufficient snow cover in some regions of Alberta. The weight of heavy snow and ice late in the fall or early spring can also cause damages. Here's how you can minimize the risk:

#### Hardy Species Selection

Alberta falls within Canada's cold hardiness zones 1, 2, 3, and partially zone 4. To safeguard your trees and shrubs from the cold, choose species that are hardy enough to thrive in this climate.

#### Fall Watering

While it may seem counterintuitive, winter drought can occur when trees lose moisture through transpiration but cannot replenish it due to frozen soil. Watering trees prior to the soil freezing is extremely important.

#### Strategic Planting

Consider planting your trees and shrubs in sheltered areas, such as near buildings or in locations already protected by established trees. This positioning shields them from direct exposure to harsh winds.

#### Pruning

Properly pruning your trees reduces the likelihood of branch breakage during heavy snowfall or ice storms.

#### Plastic Tree Guards

Installed plastic guards protect young tree bark from winter sunscald. Many young, thin-barked ornamental and fruit trees suffer from sunscald. This physiological problem of frozen tissue (dead tissue) is caused during the winter near sunset. It mostly occurs on the south or southwest side of the trunk which is also being heated by the sun, thaws and then rapidly refreezes.

### Root Injuries & Protection

Root injuries caused by cold conditions are among the most significant threats to trees and shrubs. Unlike branches, buds, or trunks, roots do not enter dormancy at the same time. Research has shown that roots continue to function and grow during the winter, particularly when soil temperatures are favorable. However, freezing, heaving, and cracking of winter soils can physically harm roots, particularly the fine feeder roots in the upper organic layers. Protecting the roots is of the utmost importance.

#### Deep Watering

One common misconception is that trees do not need water during the winter months. While it's true that trees use less water in winter due to reduced

transpiration (water loss through leaves), they still require hydration to survive. It is very important to ensure your trees have enough water during the winter. Before the ground freezes, provide deep watering for both young and mature trees. Frozen water acts as an excellent insulator, and reduces frost penetration into the root zone. Adequately moist soil retains more heat energy, making it harder for frost to penetrate deeply and harm the roots.

#### Snowfall Benefits

Early snowfall helps keep the soil from freezing, even during brutally cold air temperatures. Additionally, if snow arrives after the soil has already frozen, it acts as a protective blanket, shielding the roots from temperature fluctuations during winter thawing periods in January, February or March.

#### Mulching Magic

Mulching is a key practice to protect roots. It prevents weed growth, shields roots from extreme heat, and retains moisture. Creating a donut-shaped wood chip cover around your tree is a simple yet effective way to conserve moisture and reduce soil freeze.

#### Inspect & Fill Cracks

For newly planted trees, check for cracks in the soil due to planting or dry fall conditions. Filling these cracks prevents cold air from entering the soil. Proper mulching can also serve this purpose.

#### Fertilization

On sandy soils, consider fertilization in the spring or fall. For heavy clay soils, opt for fertilization after the leaves have dropped.

#### Leave the Leaves

Rather than disposing of autumn leaves, leave them on the ground, mulch them, or blend them into the soil. This retention helps preserve nutrients and benefits insects. However, be cautious if you detect leaf diseases (e.g. Leaf spots, bronze leaf disease, etc.), as proper disposal may be necessary to prevent future issues.

### Preventing Wildlife Damage

As winter's harsh conditions push wildlife to seek food sources, young and recently planted trees often become targets for various species. Mice, voles, rabbits, deer, and moose can cause severe damage by gnawing on bark, twigs, branches, and buds. Protect your trees by implementing these strategies:

#### Mesh Wire Protection

Use 1/4-inch mesh wire to safeguard trunk bark against smaller creatures like mice, rabbits, voles, and, to some extent, deer and moose.

#### Plastic Tree Guards

Employ plastic tree guards to deter smaller animals from accessing your trees. Also, plastic guards protect tree bark from sunscald.

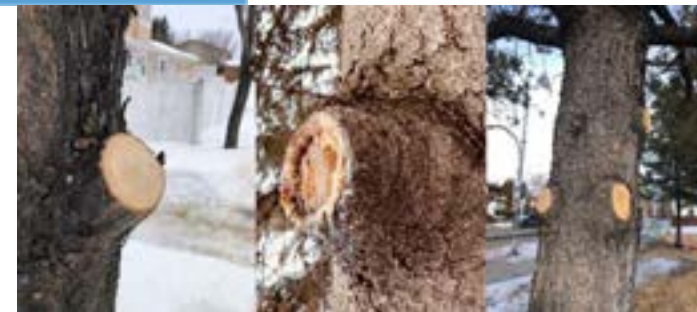
#### Proper Installation

Ensure that mesh wires or plastic tree guards have no gaps between the bottom and the ground, preventing animals from crawling beneath the fencing.

#### Large Fencing

Erect larger fences to ward off deer or moose. Complement this with repellents when necessary.

### Fall Pruning



In the fall, after the leaves have dropped, consider pruning to remove dead, diseased, or damaged branches. Dispose of any infected branches or burn them. Utilize proper pruning techniques, such as the three-way cut method, to avoid harming the branch collar. However, it is best to avoid pruning during this time if it's not necessary, as it can introduce additional stress to the tree.

Preparing trees for winter in Alberta is a crucial aspect of tree care that ensures their health and resilience during the challenging cold months. By selecting the right tree species, providing adequate water in fall, protecting roots using mulch, deterring wildlife and pests, and avoiding salt damage, you can set your trees and shrubs to thrive and greet the spring with vitality.

For more information contact the  
Agriculture and Environment Department at  
**Ph: 403-934-3321**  
**Email: [agandenv@wheatlandcounty.ca](mailto:agandenv@wheatlandcounty.ca)**





# 2023 AGRICULTURE FUNDING

## Wheatland County Programs

[www.wheatlandcounty.ca](http://www.wheatlandcounty.ca)  
Email: [agandenv@wheatlandcounty.ca](mailto:agandenv@wheatlandcounty.ca)

### Wheatland Agricultural Stewardship Program

This program provides financial assistance to farmers and ranchers in Wheatland County who are completing projects that contribute to the following: clean air, clean water, soil protection, promote biodiversity and any other ecosystem services. Example: buffer strips, grassed waterways, livestock watering systems, hawk posts, ecobuffers, tree planting projects and pollinator projects. Projects are also eligible for annual payments through the ALUS Wheatland program.

- 50% of project costs to a maximum of \$5000

### Safe Water Wells Action Program

This program provides financial assistance to County landowners who are protecting groundwater quality in Wheatland County.

- Professionally decommission un-used or abandoned water wells: 75% up to \$2500 per well
- Removal of well pits and installation of pitless adapter: 75% up to \$3500 per well

### Shelterbelt & Ecobuffer Program

This program supports landowners planting trees and shrubs in the County. Wheatland County landowners may receive up to \$2000 per year for the following.

- \$2.50 per seedling (1-2yr old) to a maximum of \$1000
- \$500 for Drip Irrigation Supplies
- \$500 Mulch (fibre, wood, plastic etc.)
- Farm projects are also eligible for annual payments through the ALUS Wheatland program.

### Wheatland Watershed Restoration and Resiliency Program

The purpose of this program is to improve and restore the riparian function and watershed resiliency of the watersheds in Wheatland County by assisting producers with the costs associated riparian management.

- Livestock Off-Site Watering Systems: 80% up to \$10,000 per system
- Streambank Fencing: \$12/m up to \$15,000
- Livestock Creek Crossing: up to \$30,000

### ALUS Wheatland

ALUS Wheatland is a community-led, farmer-delivered program for producers that pays for management and maintenance of ecosystem services on marginal farmland in Wheatland County. Annual, market value, per/acre funding for conservation projects is available.

Land Use Type	ALUS Annual Payment
Cropland (including hayland)	\$65.00/ Acre
Permanent Wetland	\$20.00/Acre
Pasture	\$40.00 Acre
Grazing Management Project	\$20.00/Acre
High Value Project < 3 acres (i.e. Ecobuffer)	\$300/Acre
Note: When land continues in production (i.e. grazing, haying) the payment is reduced by 50%	

### The Environmental Farm Plan (EFP)

An EFP is a voluntary, whole farm, self-assessment tool that helps producers identify their environmental risks and develop a plan to mitigate identified risks. A valid EFP is a requirement of many funding programs.

Technical assistance is also provided to any producer who wishes to complete an Environmental Farm Plan in Wheatland County.

Register to complete your EFP at

[www.albertaefp.com](http://www.albertaefp.com)

## Sustainable Canada Agriculture Partnership (SCAP)

Learn more about this federal-provincial initiative  
[www.alberta.ca/sustainable-cap.aspx](http://www.alberta.ca/sustainable-cap.aspx)  
Toll free: 310-FARM (3276)

*\* To be eligible for SCAP and OFCAF an applicant must generate at least \$25,000 worth of farm commodities annually.*

### Water Program

#### On-Farm Irrigation Stream

Projects: Low-pressure center pivot systems; subsurface/surface drip irrigation systems; sprinkler, pump and control panel upgrades, VRT equipment.

- 25% up to \$30,000

#### On-Farm Water Supply Stream

Projects: New wells, dugouts, spring developments, dams, cisterns, well abandonment, well pit conversions, wetland assessments.

- 25% up to \$15,000

### On-Farm Value Added Program

Helps primary producers grow sales, expand production capacity, explore market opportunities and create jobs in Alberta. To be eligible, an applicant must be adding value past harvest or slaughter of agricultural products.

Eligible activities include; processing capacity expansion, food safety improvement, new product and process development, market development and access.

- Up to \$50,000

## On-Farm Climate Action Fund

OFCAF provides financial support to producers to accelerate their adoption and implementation of on-farm Beneficial Management Practices (BMPs) to lower Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions, support production efficiency, sustainability and resiliency on their farm operations. Activity categories include:

- Improved nitrogen management,
- Increased adoption of cover cropping
- Expanding the adoption of rotational grazing
- 85% up to \$75,000

*\* must work with a Professional Agrologist (PAg) or Certified Crop Advisor (CCA) to develop a BMP Action Plan*

[rdar.ca/ofcaf/](http://rdar.ca/ofcaf/)



### Farm Technology Program

- Valid Environmental Farm Plan required.

#### Farm Technology Stream

This program supports the adoption of innovative technology that minimizes agricultural waste and optimizes farm efficiency.

- 50% up to \$48,000

#### Farm Security Stream

Supports producers in their efforts to secure business assets by encouraging adoption of best management practices in farm security.

- 50% up to \$2000

### Efficient Grain Handling Program

- Valid Environmental Farm Plan required.

Assists primary producers with reducing overall energy use on farm. This program supports the purchase of grain handling system components that significantly improve energy efficiency over standard practice.

- 50% up to \$100,000

### Resilient Agriculture Landscape Program (RALP)

- Valid Environmental Farm Plan required
- Check website for specific intake dates

#### Pasture Management Projects

Projects: Riparian area management, rotational grazing, adding legumes to existing forage stands, targeted grazing for invasive plant bio-control.

#### Cropland Conversion Projects

Projects: Annual cropland conversion to native or tame forages, strips/grass waterways/salinity, and inter-cropping.

#### Tree Establishment Projects

Projects: Shelterbelts, eco-buffers, and establishment of pollinator strips.

#### Wetland Projects

Projects: Wetland restoration and construction of new wetlands

### Funding

- Includes 3 year per-acre Ecological Goods and Services payment as well as project establishment costs.
- Up to \$150,000 (primary producers)  
Up to \$300,000 (grazing reserve associations, operators of community pasture, indigenous applicants)





**Trouble finding a job? We can help.**

The Skills for Success Program will help unemployed or underemployed Albertans from the greater Strathmore area improve their skills in the following areas:

- Reading
- Writing
- Numeracy
- Digital
- Problem-solving
- Communication
- Collaboration
- Adaptability
- Creativity
- Innovation

Using art-based learning, participants will engage in structured lessons to learn the Skills for Success and to move closer to the work force.

The program will include 5 weeks of skill-building in the classroom, followed by 7 weeks of applying the new skills to develop public art projects in the Strathmore community. Working on a public art project will allow participants to build their community networks and further their employability skills while receiving career advising and employment support from Prospect.

A new group of participants will begin every 12 weeks. Scheduling will be flexible and modified to meet the needs of participants within each group.

### What Does Prospect Do?

Prospect is an employment organization that focuses on people. Recognized as one of Alberta's most innovative not-for-profits, Prospect has decades of experience in creating employment services for unemployed and underemployed Albertans through skill development, guided supports, and career, employment and information services.

### Interested?

For more information, please contact the Skills for Success Team Lead, Shantelle Vermeylen directly at **587-600-7863** or visit **[www.prospectnow.ca/skillsforsuccess](http://www.prospectnow.ca/skillsforsuccess)**

To learn more about other employment supports offered by Prospect, please call **1-877-483-2562** or visit **[prospectnow.ca](http://prospectnow.ca)**



The Province of Alberta is working in partnership with the Government of Canada to provide employment support programs and services.



# ASB Environmental Stewardship AWARDS

Do you know someone who cares about their environmental footprint, or goes above and beyond to benefit our Wheatland County landscape in some way?

**Nominate them for an Award!**

## Community Stewardship Award

This award recognizes a Wheatland County community member or group that has made an outstanding contribution to environmental sustainability in the municipality. All Wheatland County residents or community groups are eligible for this award.

## Youth Stewardship Award

This award will be given to an individual or group of individuals under the age of eighteen who have shown leadership or strong interest in environmental stewardship. Wheatland County residents, community groups, and school groups are eligible for this award.

## J. Laslo Legacy Award

This award will be given to an agricultural producer in Wheatland County who has shown leadership in the implementation of beneficial management practices. The winner is dedicated to reducing the environmental impacts of their operation, and has an interest in promoting positive efforts to others in the industry.

Award recipients will have their name added to a plaque displayed at the County office, and they will receive a \$250 cash prize!

### Nomination Information

Submit nominations by **January 1st, 2024**

Contact the Wheatland Agriculture & Environment Department:

**Ph: 403-361-2000**

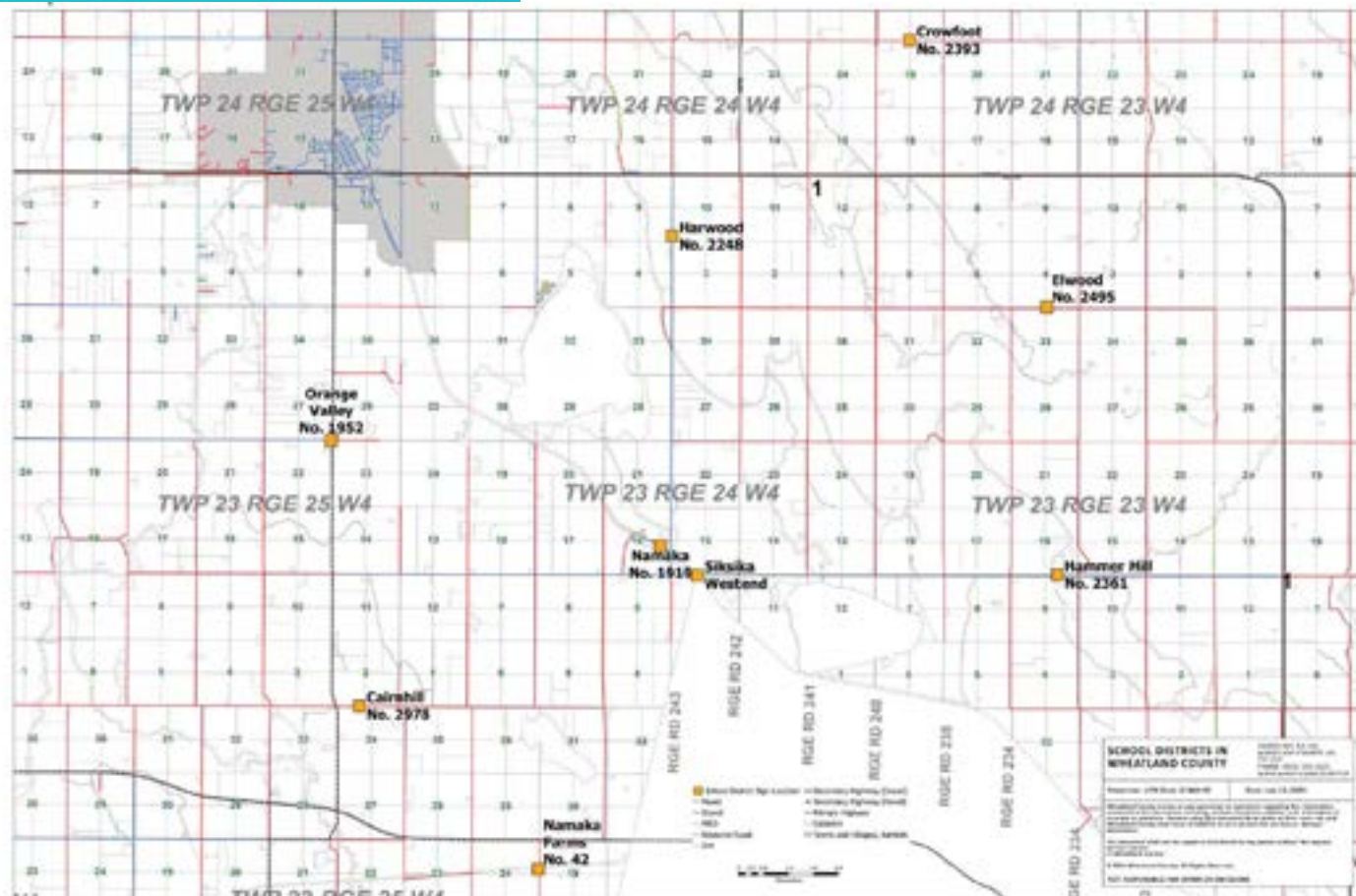
**Email: [AgandEnv@wheatlandcounty.ca](mailto:AgandEnv@wheatlandcounty.ca)**

**For more information**

[wheatlandcounty.ca/documents/environmentalstewardshipawards.ca](http://wheatlandcounty.ca/documents/environmentalstewardshipawards.ca)







## Namaka School District Signs

Wheatland County is delighted to announce the successful installation of signs commemorating historic school sites within its borders. The Namaka School Districts' sign placements were executed by the Namaka Historical Committee. These signs mark the approximate locations of the school houses. Each sign features details such as the school district name, years of operation, and legal land description, offering a meaningful glimpse into the educational history of the area.

The map above displays the locations of all Namaka School District signs that have been installed.

**Make sure to visit these locations  
when you're in the area!**



# SECURING SUCCESS: FUNDING & GRAZING STRATEGIES FOR YOUR OPERATION

Join FFGA at one of 5 workshops on local funding opportunities. At these workshops, producers will have a chance to network with experts from the programs and other local organizations. In the afternoon choose to work hands on with experts and technicians in 1 of 3 breakout sessions; Environmental Farm Plans, RALP Funding Support, or How to Build your Grazing Plan.

**OCTOBER 24, 2023 - HERITAGE ACRES MUSEUM, PINCHER CREEK**

**NOVEMBER 8, 2023 - HIGHWOOD CENTRE, HIGH RIVER**

**NOVEMBER 21, 2023 - HERITAGE CENTRE, CREMONA**

**JANUARY 10, 2024 - ACME COMMUNITY CENTRE, ACME**

**JANUARY 30, 2024 - PATRICIA COMMUNITY HALL, PATRICIA**

**9:00am - 4:00pm**

**COST (LUNCH INCLUDED):**

**FFGA MEMBER \$25 / NON-MEMBER \$30**

**[www.foothillsforage.com/securingsuccess](http://www.foothillsforage.com/securingsuccess)**



Agriculture and  
Agri-Food Canada

Agriculture et  
Agroalimentaire Canada



## BE PREPARED

Seasonal changes are a good reminder to prepare your property for colder temperatures. Prevent future damage and reduce costs by protecting your home with these tips:

- **Keep drainage clear:** Clear gutters and eavestroughs of debris and point downspouts away from your home.
- **Check heat sources:** Ensure your furnace and any other heat sources are working properly.
- **Minimize drafts:** Inspect seals around your windows, skylights, and doors. Repair if needed.
- **Insulate pipes:** Wrap exposed pipes with insulation sleeves or wrapping.

Want to be more prepared? The Government of Alberta developed the Be Prepared program to help. Visit [alberta.ca/BePrepared](http://alberta.ca/BePrepared) to learn more.

## JOIN OUR TEAM!

Are you wanting to give back or become more involved in your community?  
Wheatland County Fire Services is recruiting volunteer firefighters!

### Minimum requirements:

• 18 years of age • Valid class 5 drivers licence • No criminal record • Good physical health



If you're interested or have questions, please call or email Mark Romaniuk, Deputy Regional Fire Chief at 403-361-2165 or [mark.romaniuk@wheatlandcounty.ca](mailto:mark.romaniuk@wheatlandcounty.ca)

# SHELTERBELT & ECO-BUFFER

## Seedling Program



Wheatland County Agriculture & Environment Department [agandenv@wheatlandcounty.ca](mailto:agandenv@wheatlandcounty.ca) Ph: 403-361-2000

This program supports landowners planting trees and shrubs throughout the County. There are many benefits of planting trees and shrubs which include:

- Improved building energy efficiency
- Adds aesthetic value to yard and landscape
- Provides wildlife and pollinator habitat
- Decreases soil erosion and crop damage
- Reduces standing water
- Snow capture for drift management and improved moisture retention.

We recommend attending a shelterbelt/ eco-buffer workshop or webinar before starting you project.

### What is a shelterbelt ?

Means a row or rows of plantings made up of trees and/or shrubs that are positioned in such a manner as to provide shelter from the wind, snow, and to protect soil from erosion.

### What is an Eco-buffer ?

Eco-Buffers are plantings of perennial species (i.e. trees, shrubs, and/or herbaceous plants) designed to mimic a natural forest habitat that provides specific ecosystem services.

### Planting & Maintenance

Mulching and watering (for a minimum of 3 years), planting as early as possible in the spring or late fall, and excluding livestock from the area are essential factors for successful establishment of trees and shrubs.

### Additional Funding & Support

- Additional funding may be available through the Wheatland Agricultural Stewardship and ALUS programs for projects on agricultural land. For more information about these programs and support with eco-buffer design contact [Sarah.Schumacher@wheatlandcounty.ca](mailto:Sarah.Schumacher@wheatlandcounty.ca) or Ph:403-333-6943.
- Visit the Agroforestry & Woodlot Extension Society [awes-ab.ca](http://awes-ab.ca) for factsheets on tree planting in Alberta.
- Wheatland County has a tree planter available to rent for \$50/day. Contact [agandenv@wheatlandcounty.ca](mailto:agandenv@wheatlandcounty.ca)

## Program Guidelines

Program opens November 1st

- THIS PROGRAM IS NOT RETROACTIVE.
- Receipts must be dated after November 1st
- Applicants may receive up to \$3000 per year for the following
  - \$5 per tree to a maximum of \$2000
  - \$500 for Drip Irrigation supplies
  - \$500 Mulch (fibre, wood, plastic etc.)
- GST and shipping costs are not eligible
- Planting must occur on land within Wheatland County.
- Wheatland County ratepayers are eligible for funding for personal, residential or farm use. Commercial or industrial businesses are not eligible. **Plants or materials purchased through the program may not be used for commercial resale.**
- Applications will be approved by the Agriculture and Environment Department on a first-come, first-served basis.
- The Applicant is responsible for all costs associated with projects over and above the funding maximum, as well as for ongoing project maintenance.
- The intention of the Applicant is to permanently maintain the Project on the land.
- **Planting projects must be compliant with the Wheatland County Land Use Bylaw setbacks.** " no shrub, tree, shelterbelt or any other obstruction shall be erected or placed within:
  - i. 15.24 m (50.0 ft) from the nearest limit of a public road rights-of-way.
  - ii. 22.86 m (75.0 ft) from an intersection of two or more road rights-of-way."
- For provincial highways, the minimum setback is 60 m (200 ft) from the centerline of the road or 30 m (100 ft) from the right-of-way, whichever is greater.
- The Applicant will be reimbursed when the Project is complete and invoices have been submitted.
- Receipts are due by June 30th
- Applicants must submit photos of the finished Project by July 31st. A site inspection may be requested.
- **Non-eligible Tree Species:** Autumn Olive, Russian Olive, Common Barberry, Common Buckthorn, and Saltcedar.
- **Tree Species not recommended:** Caragana



# County Coats

2023 Exchange Program

This FREE program runs from September to January

**WFCSS is now accepting donations of gently used coats, boots and winter accessories!**

**Please book an appointment to: Swap or Shop**

Donations can be dropped off at the WFCSS office located in the Wheatland County Municipal Operations Building on HWY 1 (242006 Range Road 243)

**Ph: 403-934-5335**  
**www.wfcss.org**

**Donate or Trade-in!**

Looking for a gently used coat? Check out WFCSS' website to view their current inventory  
[www.wfcss.org](http://www.wfcss.org)



## Save the Edges!

The benefits of leaving public roadside ditches and right-of-ways intact.

Free Infographic @ [pfcalgary.ca](http://pfcalgary.ca)



### Did you know?

Intact natural public roadside ditches and right-of-ways:

- Provide thousands of acres of habitat for many grassland-dependant mammals and birds, including pheasants and grey partridge.
- Sustain pollinators like butterflies, moths, flies, beetles, bees and wasps.
- Sustain other species that prey on agricultural pests.
- Filter excess nutrients like phosphorous and nitrogen preventing them from entering rivers and lakes or ground water systems.
- Collect sediment and minimize overland flooding, by storing, slowing and absorbing excess water protecting roads, culverts and agricultural fields.
- Retain thousands of tons of carbon from entering the atmosphere when left intact.



One side of the public roadside ditch has been cultivated while the other side has been left natural.

For more information contact:  
Perry McCormick • 1 (403) 995-9960 ext. 102 • [perry@pfcalgary.ca](mailto:perry@pfcalgary.ca)



Online

## COMPASS for The Caregiver

Care giving can be a stressful, isolating, and overwhelming experience.

The **COMPASS for the Caregiver** program helps caregivers balance their own well-being with the challenges of care giving. Join our trained facilitators as they walk us through a 4-week virtual course. Sessions will run:

Friday, November 17	9:30 am to 11:30 am
Friday, November 24	9:30 am to 11:30 am
Friday, December 1	9:30 am to 11:30 am
Friday, December 8	9:30 am to 11:30 am

If you are a resident of Strathmore, Wheatland County, Hussar, Rockyford, or Standard please contact Joanne Simpson at 403-361-7277 or Crystal Gaudet at 403-934-5335 for more information and to register. Wheatland FCSS will absorb the cost of registration for local residents.

Residents living outside of the above municipalities will pay \$55 for registration fee and manual.



## WHAT DO YOU NEED HELP WITH?

Whether you're just starting out, trying to expand your business, or looking for some guidance on how to sell your company, Community Futures is here for you every step of the way.

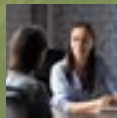


### Starting a Business

Let our team of experienced advisors help you get started.



**Growing a Business**  
Our team is here to ensure you have the resources & financing you need to succeed.



### Buying a Business

We can help with business planning, strategy, or securing financing.



## Digital Economy Program

The Digital Economy Program (DEP) is designed to help entrepreneurs take their businesses online.

Our Digital Service Squads will guide businesses through:

- digital transformation and/or
- launching and managing their online stores.

Small business can apply to participate in one or both programs, free of charge.



## Building our region, One Idea at a Time

Whether you need help writing your business plan, securing financing, or exploring your online marketing opportunities, our business specialists can help.

We've been helping small business owners in the Wild Rose region for over 30 years. We're business owners too - and we know what it takes - so call and book an appointment today!

**Get one-on-one support with our experienced local business specialists**

## OUR SERVICES

1. Small business support and guidance.
2. Flexible financial support to start and grow your business.
3. Small business skills and training for rural entrepreneurs.



## ABOUT US

Staffed by seasoned business professionals, and guided by a volunteer Board of Directors, we're more than just a business lender.

With over 30 years of experience helping rural entrepreneurs grow and thrive as small business owners, we understand where you are now, and where you want to go in the future.



Ready for the next steps? Let's chat.

### Phone

403.934.8888

### Website

[www.wildrose.albertacf.com](http://www.wildrose.albertacf.com)

### Email

[wildroseinfo@albertacf.com](mailto:wildroseinfo@albertacf.com)

### Office

101, 331 3rd Ave.  
Strathmore, Alberta



[www.wildrose.albertacf.com](http://www.wildrose.albertacf.com)



# Rosebud Theatre & School of the Arts

## Fall 2023 Program

### All IS CALM: The Christmas Truce of 1914

by Peter Rothstein

The Rosebud Theatre invites you to embrace the holiday spirit with "All is Calm: The Christmas Truce of 1914" at the Rosebud Opera House. This production runs from November 3 to December 23!

Immerse yourself in the remarkable true story of the 1914 Christmas truce, a night of camaraderie, music, and peace, narrated through the words and songs of the men who lived it.

For more information, visit the Rosebud Theatre website or call 1-800-267-7553.

### Rosebud Theatre

[www.rosebudtheatre.com](http://www.rosebudtheatre.com)

## ALL is CALM: The Christmas Truce of 1914

By Peter Rothstein

Vocal Arrangements by  
Erick Lichte & Timothy C. Takach



Music Overcoming Conflict

**November 3 - December 23**

1-800-267-7553  
[RosebudTheatre.com](http://RosebudTheatre.com)





Wheatland County  
242006 Range Road 243  
Wheatland County, AB T1P 2C4

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[wheatlandcounty.ca](http://wheatlandcounty.ca)  
[@wheatlandcounty](https://www.instagram.com/wheatlandcounty)