

# Land Stewardship Centre

*Enabling people and organizations to become better stewards.*

Synergy Alberta 2011



# Who We Are

- Established in 1996
- Not-for-profit, charitable organization
- Governed by a volunteer Board of Directors
- Supported by program advisory committees
- Operated by core staff

# What We Do

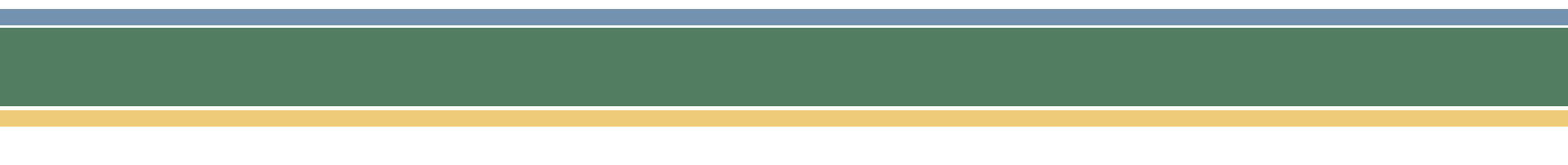
## **We help people:**

- Understand the value of ecological services
- Recognize important stewardship priorities
- Apply key stewardship principles in land and resource use decisions
- Learn from those who provide good stewardship examples

# How We Do It

- Facilitate partnerships
- Provide services, tools and develop resources
- Collaborate to support development of stewardship practices, programs and policies
- Help support provincial and national initiatives
- Work with individuals and organizations responsible for managing land and associated natural resources

# Our Approach

1. Engage – Identify the need
    - Individuals, community groups, partners
  2. Inform – Build the network
    - Partnership development
  3. Enable – Develop the solutions
    - Programs, resources and tools
- 

# **Our Programs**

# Conservation Land Registry

## The need:

- Users want the ability to readily locate conservation interests across the province
- A resource to assist in planning and developmental requirements
- Connect stakeholders in an efficient manner
- Commit to continuous improvement

# Conservation Land Registry

## The solution:

- Automated, on-line account management and search capability
- Personalized account profiles including search history and report generation
- Spatial search reports of registered conservation projects, agreements or other notations
- Continuous improvement with future addition of location maps, project plans and GIS files



# Conservation Land Registry

## The database contains:

- >250,000 records
- Habitat conservation projects
- Fisheries and wildlife interests

## Information collected from:

- Non-profit organizations and agencies
- Natural resource government departments
- Private landowners

# Conservation Land Registry

Welcome back **Dawn Doell** | [Admin](#) | [Dashboard](#) | [Profile](#) | [Help](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Logout](#)



[Organization](#) [Users](#) [Search](#) [Search History](#) [Billing](#)

## CONSERVATION LAND REGISTRY Dashboard

Welcome to the Land Stewardship Centre of Canada (LSCC)  
On-line Conservation Land Registry system.

### Recent Searches

Here's a list of your most recent searches.

Location	Cust. Reference	Ordered By	Price
NW 41 36 4 5	Dawn	clradmin	\$7
SE 36 24 5 4	Test	clradmin	\$7
SW 36 24 5 4	Test	clradmin	\$7
			Cost per search: \$7

### Recent Database Updates

Currently, there are no updates.

### Tips

Currently, there are no tips.

[Contact Us](#)

If you have any questions or require assistance, please contact us  
Email: [dawn@landstewardship.org](mailto:dawn@landstewardship.org) | Phone: (780) 483-1885.

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Learn more about the:  
[Land Stewardship Centre of Canada](#).

# Conservation Easement Registry

## The need:

- A central location for accessing information about conservation easements in Alberta
- A robust, easily accessible, on-line service
- Support for land trusts, government agencies and private landowners
- Assistance in planning, delivering and reporting on the status of conservation easements

# Conservation Easement Registry

## The solution:

- An up-to-date, searchable database of conservation easements in Alberta
- Contains easement locations, registration number, registered organization and contact information
- Database partners will include governments, land trust agencies, private landowners and other agencies operating within Alberta

# Conservation Easement Registry

- Allows for attachments including; sketch plans, air photography and other project-specific data
- Tailored to specific user needs
- Enabled to function and support queries based on known polygons including watersheds and land-use planning regions

# Conservation Easement Registry

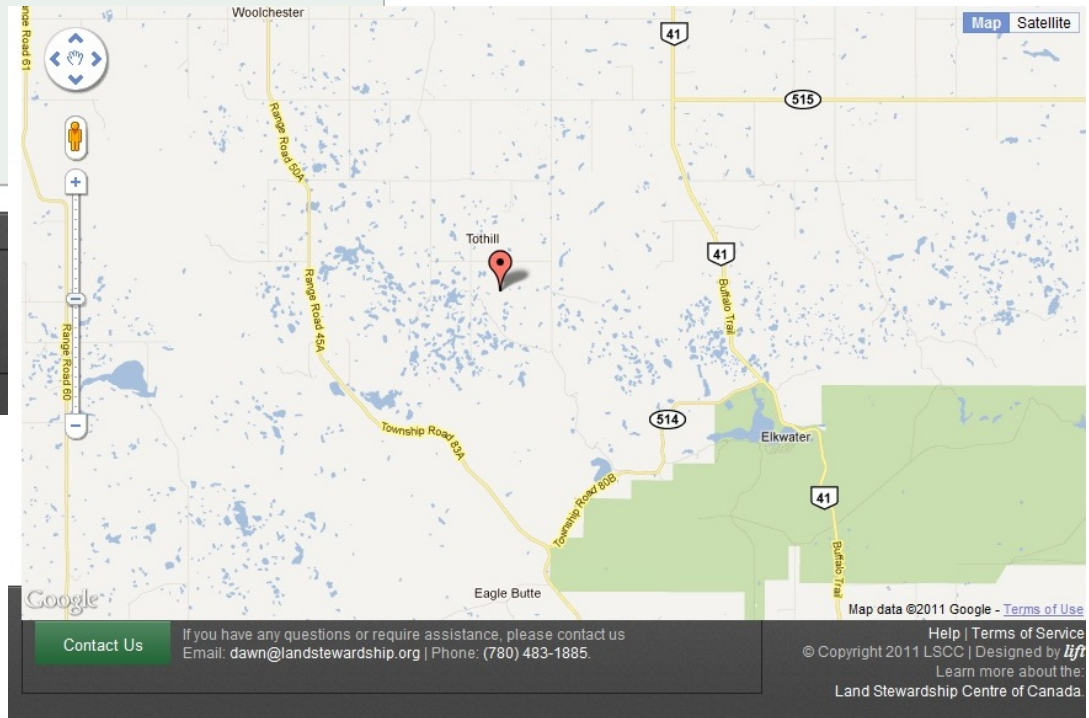
Attachments  
Click to view file (right click to save):  
[attachments/Flaig\\_CE.pdf](#)  
(Other)

Extra Information  
[View on Map](#)

Date of Registration:	Land-use framework
April 1, 2011	South Saskatchewan
Reference:	Municipality
Flaig CE	Cypress
	Watershed
	Milk River

Contact Us

If you have any questions or require assistance, please contact us  
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# Green Communities Guide

## The need:

- Alberta's large urban centers and surrounding communities are growing at an ever increasing rate
- High growth rate is straining existing municipal services, infrastructure and land use
- Putting pressure on natural systems and resources
- Environmental challenges can be addressed by better planning and design

# Green Communities Guide

## The solution:

- A resource to help growing communities plan and implement strategies to:
  - conserve water, protect water quality, preserve agricultural land and protect critical open spaces
- Features design and policy tools
- Provides Alberta examples of work done by municipalities, stewardship groups and developers



# Green Communities Guide

- Offers innovative approaches to managing development
- Identifies the benefits, challenges and costs
- Presents case study examples of design and policy tools
- Provides related resources and links to organizations

# Green Acreages Guide

## The need:

- Significant pressures on agricultural land close to urban centres
- Rural residences represent an increasing proportion of rural landowners
- Often lack knowledge of farming and rural living
- Have a significant impact on natural resources
- Available educational resources are limited

# Green Acreages Guide

## The solution:

- Workbook developed for acreage, hobby farm and recreational property owners
- Coordinates with municipal efforts
- Integrates sustainability into long-term planning
- Improves decision-making and implementation
- Provides suggestions for management options
- Offers additional information and resources

# Green Acreages Guide

## 5 Water

Water resources are some of the most important features of an acreage property. Water is required for all living things, and adequate quality and quantity are crucial to support intended uses on the landscape, whether for human or animal consumption, irrigation or wildlife habitat.

### Hydrological Cycle

The hydrological, or water cycle, describes how water is recycled in nature. Water vapour contained in clouds falls as rain or snow, and then flows into rivers, lakes and oceans. Water returns to the air through evaporation from surface water and transpiration from plant leaves. Some of the water that falls as rain or snow is absorbed by the ground and percolates down through the layers to become part of the ground water flow. This water can seep to the surface in places where there are depressions in the land or the water table is high and becomes part of the surface flow again. The Earth's water is constantly circulating from the surface, up into the atmosphere and back down again.

### Watersheds

A watershed is a geographic area in which water runs off the land and drains into a given stream, river, lake or wetland. Watersheds can also be known as water basins or drainage basins. Alberta is divided into seven major watersheds: the Hay, Peace, Athabasca, Beaver, North Saskatchewan, South Saskatchewan and Milk River basins. Watersheds are made up of upland, wetland and riparian areas. Uplands are the dry land surrounding a wetland, made up of grasslands, fields and forests. Healthy uplands have a variety of vegetation. The riparian zone is the strip of vegetation between the upland and the water body. Riparian areas function as filters to help prevent pollutants from entering a water body. Wetlands can be permanent (with water always present), seasonal (with water present only during particular seasons like spring) or temporary.

### ✓ Surface water

Surface water exists as open bodies of water on the surface of the land. It includes all the water in lakes, rivers, wetlands, streams, ponds, ditches and dugouts. Surface water is a very important resource for people, plants and animals. It provides a source of drinking water not only for animals but also for many communities that draw their water directly from nearby rivers. Surface waters provide important habitat for many species of fish, birds, mammals, reptiles and amphibians. The area around a surface water body is often very productive and diverse. Lakes and rivers also provide recreational opportunities for people who enjoy boating, swimming and fishing.

### ✓ Groundwater

Groundwater begins as rain and snow that soaks into the ground. It exists in the small spaces between particles of soil, sand, gravel and rock. In the top layers of soil, the unsaturated zone, these spaces contain both air and water. This is the zone of soil where plant roots grow and take up water. Deeper in the soil, in the saturated zone, all the spaces between the particles of soil, sand, gravel or rock are filled with water. Groundwater and surface water are both part of the water cycle and affect each other. The slow percolation from surface water bodies adds to groundwater, and in low-lying areas groundwater will seep to the surface and add to the flow of rivers, springs and creeks. This can be especially important in periods of drought when surface water levels are low.

Water | 1

### Create a Property Map

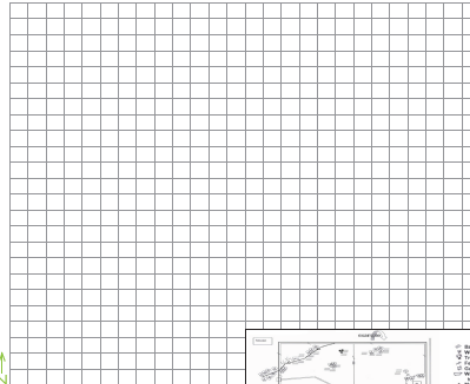
A property map is a visual representation of your property that lays out dimensions and locations of various features. It allows you to create an image of your property, and can help you visualize the state of the property and what you want to achieve. It is easier to set goals and develop a management plan if you know what you have on your property and where things are located relative to other features.

### ✓ Items to include on the property map

Use the information from the property assessment to create your property map. Include topographic features such as ravines, slopes, bluffs, and other areas where elevation changes occur. Use topographical information to help you understand water flow, erosion, and sediment movement, all of which can affect the quality of drinking water. Also include features on neighbouring properties that may affect your acreage such as drainage ditches, points of access, or sensitive habitat.

### Property Map

Sketch an outline of your property including all buildings and facilities. Indicate locations of neighbouring buildings and facilities close to your property.



Property Assessment and Goal Setting | 4

### Property Inventory: Buildings and Facilities

#### What buildings do you have on your property?

Building	Yes	No	Location	Footprint
House	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Garage	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Barn	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Stable	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Shed	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Other (below space)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

#### What facilities do you have on your property?

Facility	Yes	No	Location	Dimensions
Garden	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Lawn	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Corral	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Fence 1 (specify type)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Fence 2 (specify type)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Driveway	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Trails or Paths	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Other (below space)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

#### What utilities do you have on your property?

Utility	Yes	No	Location	Description
Well #1 Purpose	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Used <input type="checkbox"/> Unused Recommended pumping rate:
Well #2 Purpose	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Used <input type="checkbox"/> Unused Recommended pumping rate:
Water Lines	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Household <input type="checkbox"/> Irrigation <input type="checkbox"/> Other
Septic System	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Size: _____ Depth: _____
Sewer Lines	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Size: _____ Depth: _____
Power Lines	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Above ground <input type="checkbox"/> Below ground
Phone Lines	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Above ground <input type="checkbox"/> Below ground
Cable Lines	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Above ground <input type="checkbox"/> Below ground
Gas Pipelines #1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Above ground <input type="checkbox"/> Below ground
Gas Pipelines #2	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Above ground <input type="checkbox"/> Below ground
Oil Pipelines #1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Above ground <input type="checkbox"/> Below ground
Oil Pipelines #2	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Above ground <input type="checkbox"/> Below ground

Property Assessment and Goal Setting | 2

# Alberta Stewardship Network

## The need:

- Community-based stewardship groups are developing and implementing local initiatives
- Typically volunteer-driven, independent and resource-limited
- Require better access to funding, technical and scientific information
- Want assistance in recruiting, training and retaining volunteers

# Alberta Stewardship Network

## The solution:

- Modeled after other national and international programs
- Established in 2004 to address the needs of the stewardship community
- Supported by an Advisory Committee

# Alberta Stewardship Network

## Efforts focused on:

- Engagement and outreach
- Enhancing project funding opportunities
- Improving access to online information & resources

# Alberta Stewardship Network

## Initiatives and projects include:

- Stewardship Needs Assessment
- Grassroots News – Inspiring Alberta’s Stewards
- Alberta Stewardship Directory
- Online Resources for Stewards
- Awareness to Action
- Stewards in Motion



# Watershed Stewardship Grants

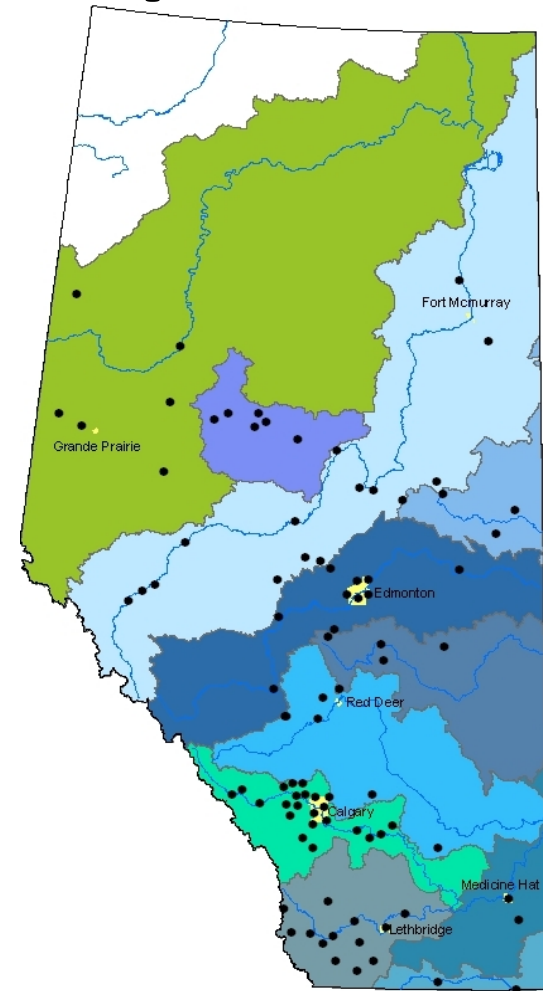
## The need:

- Lack of project funding for watershed stewardship groups
- Support *Water for Life Strategy* at a community level:
  - Safe, secure drinking water
  - Healthy aquatic ecosystems
  - Reliable, quality water supplies

# Watershed Stewardship Grants

## The solution:

- Established in 2006
- > \$1.1 million allocated
- 180+ individual projects
- > 100 individual groups
- Approximately 4:1 project leveraging
- More than 30,000 individuals engaged



# Watershed Stewardship Grant

## Grassroots projects focus on:

- Awareness and understanding of local issues
- Demonstrating various management options
- Building membership and organizational capacity
- Measuring and reporting on various indicators
- Developing management plans
- Implementing physical, on-the-ground activities

# Other Projects

## Transfer of Development Credits Pilot

- Municipal planning tool that helps reconcile development and conservation activities
- Generally adopted in areas with rapid growth, land conversion and loss of valued landscapes
- Goals to test design and implementation strategies
- Ongoing consultation with landowners, developers and government administration

# Other Projects

## **Stewardship Centre for British Columbia**

- Stewardship Series
- Green Shores
- Green Bylaws Toolkit

## **Stewardship Network of Ontario**

- Advancing traditional stewardship indicators
- Incorporation of emerging indicators

# Other Projects

## **Additional National Stewardship Initiatives**

- National Stewardship Conference (2009)
- *A Stewardship Roadmap for Canada* (2009)
- *An Ecological Recovery Plan for Canada* (2010)
- On-line stewardship organizational directory
- On-going support for provincial and regional initiatives

# Other Projects

## **Institute for Land Use Innovation (U of A)**

- Recently established; land use innovation and research of ecological goods and services (ES)
- Alberta ES program database development (25 years)
  - Past program evaluations (internal/external)
  - Lessons learned
  - Future evaluations
  - Development of advice on future ES programs

**Enabling people and organizations  
to become better stewards.**



# Get in Touch

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