



Environmental Farm Plan Workshop

January 27th, Lakedell Community Center

Hosted by the Pigeon Lake Watershed Association

To Register please call Robbin Nikiforuk at the County of Wetaskiwin at 780-352-3321 ext.270, toll free 1-800-664-4125 or at Leduc County at 780-955-3555 ext 3287, toll free at 1-800-379-9052

What are the benefits of completing an Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) for my farm/ranch?

Completing an EFP can help improve farm productivity, protect soil and water quality, enhance biodiversity, improve marketability, sustain land productivity and reduce the need for agricultural inputs.

More than 8,300 Alberta producers have completed an EFP. They've made significant on-farm improvements and built a more sustainable future for themselves and the agricultural industry.

An EFP is a valuable farm management tool because it provides a measuring stick for continuous farm improvement year after year.

Will there be EFP workshops this winter?

EFP workshops will be available again this winter for producers in the County of Wetaskiwin and Leduc County

In fact, the EFP process has been streamlined from two workshops down to one which should be more convenient for producers. The one EFP workshop will generally run from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm with lunch provided.

How do I register for an EFP workshop and who has more information about EFPs?

I will be your direct and local contact for EFPs into the future. Please call me to register to for the next EFP workshop or to ask any questions about EFP.

General EFP information is available at www.AlbertaEFP.com or by calling 1-866-844-2337.

When and where will the EFP workshops be held?

When there are enough producers in our county/MD interested in a workshop (we will need at least 8 producers to sign up with me) we will go ahead and schedule one in our county.

If necessary, we may work with a neighbor county (s) and host one workshop together to look after the producers who have signed up.

What do I need to get ready and bring along for the EFP workshop?

Once you register for a local workshop I will contact you about collecting some basic information about your farm such as soils reports, depth to aquifer and other distances to water sources. I will also provide you some resource information.

Is there an electronic version of the EFP workbook?

Producers participating in the EFP process for the first time will now receive a workbook binder as well as a CD. The CD provides added convenience and ease of use for those producers comfortable working with computers.

I've started my EFP workbook last year – what should I do now?

If you've already started working on your own EFP I encourage you to take some time this winter to complete your Farm Plan (which is the action plan). It's a great management tool to increase your knowledge of the environmental situation for your farm.

If you would like some assistance to complete your EFP Farm Plan, I am available for that – please contact me. We could spend a few moments to get your EFP back on track.

I've already completed my Farm Plan – what do I do now?

Once you have completed your Farm Plan you are invited to submit it to me for a review. I will work with other EFP representatives in the area to conduct a technical review of your Farm Plan.

When the review of your Farm Plan is finished we will provide a Certificate of Completion for your records.

A reviewed Farm Plan is the starting point for continuous improvement on your farm and it provides a measuring stick for future progress.

What happened to that separate funding program that was available to help producers make environmental improvement on their farm or ranch?

The federal and provincial governments jointly offered the Canada-Alberta Farm Stewardship Program (CAFSP) which provided cost-share funding to help producers address some of the environmental risks identified in their EFP Farm Plan. This funding program was available to producers who had a reviewed Farm Plan.

The CAFSP was oversubscribed by August, 2008 which means there is no more money available for Alberta farmers and ranchers through this program.

We are not aware of any new sources of environmental funding assistance for Alberta producers.