



Foothills County ASB Update



Check this out:

Alberta Conservation Association

The Alberta Conservation Association (ACA) has encouraged Albertans to enjoy the outdoors since 1997. They work to conserve fish, wildlife and habitat resources through research, land management and education. The ACA supports healthy ecosystems and sustainable outdoor recreation, helping ensure Alberta's natural resources are protected for future generations.

Alberta Conservation Association - ACA



Dutch Elm Disease

Alberta is considered to be free of Dutch elm disease (DED) although in Edmonton there have isolated cases. DED can be a devastating fungal disease that affects all species of elms trees (*ulmus* genus) found in Alberta. The fungus, *Ophiostoma ulmi* and *Ophiostoma nova ulmi* interferes with the elm trees water conducting system leading to death within one to two seasons. This pathogen is primarily spread from elm trees through 3 beetles: smaller European elm bark beetle (*Scolytus multistriatus*), banded elm bark beetle (*Scolytus schevyrewi*) and native elm bark beetle (*Hylurgopinus rufipes*). The DED pathogens and the European and native elm bark beetles are a pest under the Agricultural pests Act meaning that counties and landowners have the responsibility to control them. Symptoms of DED start as leaves suddenly wilting, drooping or curling on one or more branch. Flagging, where the leaves turn yellow then brown but stay on the tree. Peeling back the bark will reveal dark brown or red streaks instead of a healthy cream color. The affected branch will die as the disease rapidly advances and spreads through the trees. There are two other disease that have similar symptoms so a sample must be sent to the Alberta Plant Health Lab to confirm the presence of DED.

If you believe an elm tree has DED, report it to the STOPPED hotline 1-877-837-ELMS (3567) or reach out to your municipality.

References

Dutch Elm Disease | Alberta.ca

Invasive Species Highlight-Wild Boar

In the 1980s and 90's Wild Boars were introduced into Alberta from Europe and Asia as livestock. Many escaped their enclosure and thrived as a feral species. As of December 1st, 2025, wild boar is now a pest under the Agricultural Pests Act and the Pest and Nuisance Control Regulation. The wild boar is one of the most damaging invasive species in North America devastating crops, altering ecosystems and predate on livestock and wildlife. They can also be a host for 39 different diseases that can be transferred to livestock, wildlife and humans. Wild boars have coarse gray to brown hair and weigh between 45-150kg. Their tails are straight with a bushy tip, and they have thick necks and large canine teeth or tusks. Look for signs of trampled or destroyed crops, boar droppings, hair on barbwire, digging or rolling around and tracks and trails from groups. For more information: Squeal on Pigs! - Wild Boar Control in North America



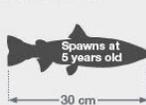
ASB Rentals

From cattle scale to tree planter, ASB has it all available for you to rent. To see a complete list of rentals available, check out our website: ASB Rental Brochure-2023.pdf

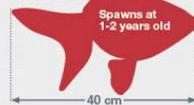
GOLDFISH (CARASSIUS AURATUS)



Bull Trout
Native to Alberta



Goldfish
Native to Asia



Goldfish in the wild:

- ↑ increase water cloudiness, blocking light
- ↓ reduce native plants that produce oxygen
- ↑ increase the growth rate of blue-green algae
- ☠ carry exotic diseases and parasites

Average number of eggs laid by a single female in a spawning period



- What to do with unwanted goldfish?
- Donate to a friend or school
 - Return them to the pet store



Don't flush your fish!
Goldfish carry diseases that could harm native fish
Bury them instead



100+ LOCATIONS
across Alberta where goldfish have been **illegally dumped**

45,000

Number of goldfish removed in 2017 from storm water ponds in St. Albert



Help us protect Alberta's waters by never releasing aquarium water, plants and animals into the environment.

Alberta

Growing Greenhouses Program

The growing greenhouses program is a three-year initiative funded by the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership (SCAP). The goal of this program is to enhance the province's ability to produce fresh produce year-round by supporting the expansion and building of greenhouses and vertical farms that operate year-round. Projects that modernize infrastructure, improve efficiency and expand commercial-scale food production can apply. For more information go to: Growing Greenhouses Program | Alberta.ca

Environmental Farm Plan

An Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) is an opportunity to assess areas of strength and potential environmental risks on a farming operation. It is voluntary and free, and it considers the farming operation. The EFP program offers all of this in an easy to use, flexible, online format. The EFP began in 2003 and has been delivered by the Agricultural Research and Extension Council of Alberta (ARECA) since 2013.

Agricultural Service Board Scholarship

We would like to extend a congratulations to Ava Scheerhoorn and Alexander Hastings for being selected for 2025. Foothills County wishes you success as you continue your studies.



The Agricultural Service Board awards two \$2,500 Scholarships every year. If you are a resident of Foothills County and are pursuing studies related to agriculture, we encourage you to apply. Applications are accepted until August 31, 2026. Applications must include:

- Proof of enrolment in post-secondary education in an acceptable field of study
- Academic standings
- Leadership in their school or community
- Submission of a 500-word essay detailing why you are studying for and, pursuing a career in Agriculture
- Please include mailing address, email address and phone number on all applications

For more information go to: Agricultural Scholarship | Foothills County