

September 2014

M.D. OF WAINWRIGHT HAS AVAILABLE FOR RENT: SKUNK TRAPS PORTABLE CATTLE SCALE

Please call the M.D. of Wainwright Public Works Shop @ 780-842-4024

To report suspicious rodent activity (mice or potential rats), call Rod Gabrielson, M.D. of Wainwright's Municipal Pest Control Officer @ 780-842-7285

Tax Deadline

November 30th www.mdwainwright.ca

Development and Subdivision questions, contact Jim Klasson @ 780-842-4454

RFID CATTLE I.D. TAG READER, 780-842-4454

Have a safe harvest!



The Municipal Agricultural Connection



Partners in Rural Conservation www.mdwainwright.ca



Harvest is hectic! Racing daylight and rain clouds can be seriously stressful! Time means money when yields are at risk. As a result, harvest is the peak season for agriculture-related injuries and fatalities. When you're in a rush, it's tempting to bypass simple safety procedures that might slow you down. But taking the extra time can be a lifesaver.



Cover Your "... Know the job. Swathers, combines and balers can be extremely dangerous. Get the equipment ready. The majority of severe farm tragedies involve machinery. Make sure yours is in good working condition. Be sure pre-season maintenance and repairs are handled several weeks before harvest. Also make sure YOU are in good condition. You take pride in your ability to work long and hard. You're happy to burn the midnight oil in pursuit of a goal - in this case, a suc-

cessful harvest. The reality is that fatigue, drowsiness and illness contribute to field mishaps. To ensure you'll be around to see the last of the grain go into the bin, get plenty of sleep. Take regular breaks. Wear comfortable, closefitting clothing and sturdy, protective shoes. When you do field work, always let someone know where you are and check in regularly.

Little Person Alert Keep children safely away from farm machinery, including grain transportation equipment. Tragedies occur far too easily when children end up in the path of equipment from which the operator's view is restricted.



Big, Mean, Harvesting Machines Know the hazards. Harvesting equipment is designed to

cut, pull and separate things, and it does so very effectively. Unfortunately, it won't discriminate between you and the crop. Get caught in its clutches and



you could be tangled, wrapped, pulled, run over, cut up or worse. Learn about the dangers ahead of time so you can avoid them while you're in the field. When you're working, slow down and think about the potential hazards of each new task before you begin.

How Quick are You? At 1000 RPM, a PTO shaft will entangle at four metres per second. An average measured reaction time on an adult male is about 0.2 seconds. So by the time you react to the pull of the PTO, it has already pulled you or your clothing almost a metre. Guards anyone?



Have used grain bags you need to get rid of? See inside of newsletter for more information for farmers wanting to recycle these used grain bags!

On Friday, August 8, 2014 local Wainwright, Irma, Edgerton and Chauvin rural residents who attended the Municipal Rural Routes Supper graciously opened up their hearts & wallets to directly support the Wainwright and District Food Bank. Total funds raised by the people was \$631.95. Pastor Dan, who is the front man for the local food bank, will be picking up this cash from Aimee Leggett, Assistant Agricultural Fieldman for the M.D. of Wainwright.



Pastor Dan explained that the cash money would be used for purchases of perishable food for the families that use the food bank, such as milk, butter and eggs. He mentioned that the \$631.95 will go a long way for the next few weeks for these items and is greatly appreciated, especially with the “Back to School” rush of kid-specific lunchbox items.



Pastor Dan

Pastor Dan also mentioned that items that they are always in need of are dry/ store bought goods such as breakfast cereal, cans of fruit & vegetables, children lunch items (such as granola

bars, fruit cups, and fun treat packs), pancake mix & syrup, “side-kicks” rice/pasta and “good ol’brown beans”. These items are always accepted. If you have dry goods you would like to share with the Wainwright Food Bank, you can drop it off at any of the local churches; or Wainwright Value Drug-mart, Wainwright Nofrills Grocery or Wainwright Co-op Grocery. If you are wanting to support the Food Bank, volunteer some time or have more questions on how to be involved, please give Pastor Dan a call at 780-842-3033.



What can you bring to the Waste-to-Energy Facility?

ATTENTION MUST BE GIVEN TO YOUR YARD BINS AS WE ARE SEEING TO MUCH MATERIAL BEING SENT TO THE LANDFILL THAT HAS POTENTIAL DISASTROUS CONSEQUENCES. SO PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING CHART TO PROTECT YOUR LANDFILL AND EXTEND ITS LIFE . REMEMBER IT IS IN YOUR COMMUNITY

PRODUCT	REASON THE MATERIAL IS NOT ACCEPTABLE	PROPER HANDLING METHOD
PAINT AND RELATED PRODUCTS	TOXIC MATERIAL	CAN BE BROUGHT TO THE LANDFILL FOR PROPER DISPOSAL AT NO CHARGE
OIL, USED OIL FILTERS AND CONTAINERS	TOXIC MATERIAL	CAN BE TAKEN TO USED OIL DROP OFF - OR CAN BE COLLECTED AND SOLD IN VOLUME
ANTIFREEZE	TOXIC MATERIAL	COLLECTION AND DESPOSAL OF DURING TOXIC ROUND UP
ANY LIQUID LIQUID WASTE	WAINWRIGHT IS A DRY LANDFILL AND CAN NOT ACCEPT THIS MATERIAL	CALL TO DISCUSS ALTERNATIVES
DEAD ANIMALS	HAVE A POTENTIAL BACTERIA ISSUE AND MUST BE HANDLED INDIVIDUALLY	CALL FOR PROPER HANDLING PROCESS
APPLIANCES	CAN BE RECYCLED AND SHOULD NOT BE LANDFILLED	ALL MD RESIDENTS CAN BRING THESE INTO THE LANDFILL FOR RECYCLING AT NO CHARGE
ELECTRONICS	ALL ELECTRONICS HAVE POTENTIAL HEAVY METALS THAT MAY CONTAMINATE THE LANDFILL	CAN BE BROUGHT TO THE LANDFILL FOR HANDLING AT NO CHARGE
FLUORESCENT BULBS AND ENERGY EFFICIENT BULBS	THESE CONTAIN MERCURY WHICH IS A HAZARDOUS WASTE	THESE MAY BE BROUGHT TO THE LANDFILL FOR PROPER DISPOSAL AT NO COST
BATTERIES ALKALINE AND AUTOMOTIVE	HAZARDOUS MATERIALS	CAN BE BROUGHT TO THE LANDFILL FOR PROPER DISPOSAL AT NO CHARGE
ANY AEROSOL CANS	CONTAINS PRESSURIZED CO2 AND ARE CONSIDERED TO BE HAZURDOS	CAN BE BROUGHT TO THE LANDFILL FOR PROPER DISPOSAL AT NO CHARGE
ANY INDUSTRIAL CLEANERS	TOXIC MATERIAL	SHOULD BE HELD AND BROUGHT TO TOXIC ROUND UP
FERTILIZERS AND PESTICIDES	TOXIC MATERIAL	SHOULD BE HELD AND BROUGHT TO TOXIC ROUND UP
TIRES	CAN BE RECYCLED AND SHOULD NOT BE SENT TO THE LANDFILL	CAN BE DROPPED OFF AT THE LANDFILL FOR RECYCLING AT NO CHARGE
ANY CONSTRUCTION OR DEMOLITION DEBRIS	IS NOT CONSIDER PART OF HOUSEHOLD GARBAGE AND FEES MUST APPLY TO COVER THE COST OF LANDFILL SPACE	MUST BE BROUGHT TO THE LANDFILL SO PROPER FEES CAN BE APPLIED
HEAVY METALS SUCH AS AUTO AND TRACTOR PARTS, PROPANE TANKS, METAL SIDING, METAL PAIS	THESE MATERIALS ARE RECYCLABLE AND SHOULD NOT BE LANDFILLED	CAN BE BROUGHT TO THE LANDFILL FOR RECYCLING AT NO CHARGE
NOXIOUS WEEDS	HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO CAUSE OUT BREAKS	CAN BE BROUGHT TO THE LANDFILL FOR INCINERATION AT NO CHARGE

PLEASE CALL 780-842-4051 IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS



With summer flying by, the Battle River Watershed Alliance would like your feedback on what our watershed management priorities should be...

The Battle River Watershed Alliance has already developed recommendations for drought and non-point source pollution management, and is currently working on recommendations for riparian area management and source water protection. They want your input on what to focus on next! Please go online to fill out our quick survey and share your thoughts. You can also learn more about water protection in your watershed!

<http://battleriverwatershed.ca/watershed-management>

Start watering trees “in”, to prepare them for the upcoming winter...

Nobody likes seeing wads of spent grain bags piling up along county roadsides or blowing around in fields; especially farmers! There is an option for the recycling of used grain bags, that farmers should consider. The Wainwright Waste to Energy Facility accepts used grain bags, however calling the facility before loading and transporting of the these grain bags will insure an easier, faster and more successful processing of the product. Call ahead today, Wainwright Waste-to-Energy Facility 780-842-4051!!



A farmer's used grain bag rolls waiting to be recycled.

WASTE TO ENERGY FACILITY
780-842-4051

Business Hours: Disposal

Monday to Friday

8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Saturday

8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

To facilitate disposal wastes should be sorted into the following categories: Tires, Burnables (lumber), Compostables (leaves etc.) Metals, Clean Concrete, Tree Branches, E-waste (t.v.'s, computers, printers, fax machines, etc); and Used Grain Bags!

HANTAVIRUS
FAQ's



Protect Your Family, Hantavirus:

1. Keep your house clean by washing dishes and cleaning up spilled food immediately after cooking. Store all food, water and garbage in metal or thick plastic containers with tight-fitting lids.
2. Prevent entry into house by securing and closing all holes into your home. Use spring-loaded traps baited with peanut butter and let the traps work for 2-3 days. Place catches from traps in a double sealed plastic bag, then burn.
3. Encourage predators such as cats, which can help control rodents naturally. Cut grass and trim brush within 100 feet of the house plus move woodpiles, gardens and trash cans to the same barrier distance.
4. Always wear rubber gloves during clean-up of infested areas and when handling contaminated laundry. Wash clothes in hot detergent water and dry in a hot dryer or hang to air dry in sunshine. Steam clean or shampoo cloth furniture. If rodents have nested inside furniture, remove and burn it.

Hantavirus infection is a serious, life-threatening illness caused by breathing in the virus. The virus is carried in the airborne particles of rodent urine, droppings or saliva. It does not cause any illness in pets, and it is not passed on from pets to people, or from one person to another.

The best protection against the virus is to prevent all rodents from entering your home or working spaces; and to carefully clean and disinfect where they rodents have been.

Immediately trap any rodents that get into a home, and be careful when handling rodent feces. When disposing of rodents or droppings , disturb them as little as possible. Do not sweep or use a vacuum cleaner which increases dust swirls, instead soak droppings with disinfectant, then place them in a sealed bag and take it to the burning barrel. Wear rubber gloves, and rinse them in disinfectant such as household bleach when finished when handling potentially contaminated material. People exposed to high levels of contamination or in spaces with little ventilation should wear breathing masks.

Symptoms:

If you have the Hantavirus infection you may feel like you have the flu. If any combinations of these symptoms appear, contact a medical facility immediately: Fever (101' - 104'F), Body aches, Chills or Troubled breathing.

...to reduce winter desiccation and drying out, especially of spruce!

Alfalfa AUTOTOXICITY



Reseeding alfalfa following alfalfa is not a recommended practice due to the effects of autotoxicity, seedling diseases and insect pests that can build up in the old stand. Alfalfa autotoxicity occurs when established alfalfa plants produce toxins (medicarpin) which reduce establishment and growth of new alfalfa plants. Autotoxicity can occur when alfalfa is reseeded into an old alfalfa field rather than being rotated, or when alfalfa is seeded into an existing alfalfa stand to thicken it.

Germination & Root Growth

While seed germination and plant density are reduced by alfalfa autotoxicity, root growth is even more severe. Roots are swollen, curled, discoloured, and lack root hairs. Mature plants appear to be more "branch-rooted", rather than "tap-rooted". The effects on root growth can significantly impact yields.

Factors Affecting Autotoxicity

Responses to alfalfa autotoxicity are variable, depending on many factors. The water soluble autotoxicity chemicals are more concentrated in leaves and stems than in the roots. Removing top growth before plowing, and tillage can help reduce the autotoxicity effect. Higher temperatures break down the toxic compound more rapidly, while rains can move them from the root zone. Autotoxicity may initially be more severe on light soils, but lasts longer on heavier soils.

Poor Establishment

The concept of alfalfa autotoxicity is generally accepted. However, there is some disagreement on what minimum period of time is required between killing the old stand (either by plowing or glyphosate application) and reseeded. Time is required for the toxins to degrade or move out of the root zone. Research has shown that while an interval of only 2 or 3 weeks is required to eliminate the adverse effects on germination and plants per square foot, the potential effects on root development and forage yields can persist much longer.

Reduced Yields

Impacts on root growth have significant effects on yield. Studies have shown that yields are reduced when alfalfa is seeded after alfalfa, regardless of the waiting period. This yield reduction appears to persist every year for the life of the stand. Stands affected by autotoxicity appear to regrow slower after each cutting. Even when alfalfa was killed in the fall and reseeded in the spring, yields were reduced when compared to alfalfa following corn. At the farm level, yield reductions from autotoxicity can be more difficult to recognize than plant density, and are often attributed to other causes. For maximum yield, if the alfalfa is two or more years old, an intervening year of an alternate crop is required before reseeded to alfalfa.

Reseeding New Seeding Failures

The toxins are not present the first year in new seedings, so seeding failures or new seeds that were winterkilled can be reseeded without an autotoxicity effect. This would include a summer seeding after an unsuccessful spring seeding, or a spring seeding after an unsuccessful summer seeding.

Thickening Old Stands

It is not recommended that interseeding be done to thicken an established alfalfa stand, as this is rarely successful. New seedlings often germinate, look acceptable initially, and then die out over the summer. Research shows the area of autotoxicity influence is a 16 inch radius from established plants. This means that a field with plant density of less than 0.2 plants per square foot (almost nonexistent) would be required before interseeding could avoid autotoxicity. A stand with greater than 1.3 plants per square foot will have excessive zone overlapping and a high risk of failure. In an emergency situation, thin spots can be interseeded with red clover instead. Of course, interseeding a stand that is less than one year old is acceptable, because there is no alfalfa autotoxicity effect. (more information at foragebeef.ca)



Alfalfa seed head

Garlic Planting Tips:



Garlic growing is easy, however weeding is important, garlic does not like competition. Watering and not watering, harvesting on time and curing properly are all important to producing bulbs with good keeping qualities. Garlic will grow under a wide variety of soil conditions. It prefers free draining loam with lots of organic matter. In Alberta, most varieties of garlic, do best when planted in the fall (before freeze-up). The timing of fall planting should be such that the roots have a chance to develop and the tops do not reach the surface before winter. Shortly before planting break the bulbs apart into cloves. This is called "Cracking". The cloves are attached to the basal plate, the plate that the roots grow from. When you crack the bulb each clove should break away cleanly, leaving an intact "footprint" on the basal plate. Push one clove into the ground, 2.5", repeat, then mulch on top to protect greens from freezing and regulate moisture and soil temperature. The following spring, monitor soil moisture, watering regularly until the last few weeks before harvest (August), then do not water. (Overwatering results in poor keeping qualities.)

