

South Shore Watershed Association (SSWA)

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Inside this issue:

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Buffer Zones | 1 |
| SSWA AGM | 1 |
| By-Law Amendments | 2 |
| DREAM | 2 |
| Tryon | 2 |
| Augustine Cove | 2 |
| WRWG | 2 |
| Pump Project | 2 |

Save the Date!

Come out to SSWA's first
Annual General Meeting!

**Date: Thursday,
April 26, 7-9pm**

**Location: Crapaud
Community Hall**

*Attendees will act as the
final judges for our Photo
Contest!*

2011 SSWA Board of Directors:

Ralph Dawson, Augustine
Cove

Peter Bower, West-
moreland

Dale Mayhew, West-
moreland

Barb Clement, Tryon
River

Myles Lord, Tryon River

Harry Smith, DeSable

Cindy Newson, DeSable

Buffer Zones Benefit Us All

We have all heard the phrase "Buffer Zone" from time to time, especially when talking about siltation or runoff. However, what exactly is a Buffer Zone?

According to the PEI Department of Environment, Labour and Justice, a Buffer Zone is:

"a protected area alongside water-courses and wetlands"

Since 1999, buffer zones have been in place to protect streams, rivers, coastal areas and wetlands. In 2008 the buffer zone regulation was redesigned, and the zone was increased to **15 metres** from the edge of the streambed. In tidal areas, buffer zones begin from the top of the bank. Finally, wetland buffer zones are measured from the edge of wetland vegetation.

In buffer zones, a provincial

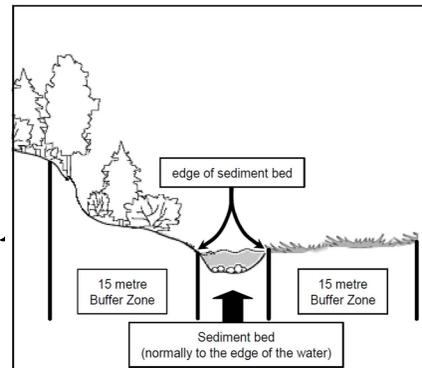
permit is *required* to:

- Disturb ground
- Dump any objects or materials
- Remove soil/rocks
- Build, repair or remove structures
- Operate vehicles
- Cut down live trees and shrubs (pruning is accepted)

Crops and pesticide use are not allowed except under

Looking for a Water-course or Wetland Permit?

Contact the Provincial government at 368-5000 or look on www.gov.pe.ca



PEI's Regulated 15 metre buffer zone

certain conditions; please see www.gov.pe.ca

Buffers protect water quality by slowing the flow of water, and also create habitat for many varieties of birds, mammals, amphibians, and insects. They help keep the water cool for fish, and provide areas for outdoor recreational activities. Please keep our buffer zones healthy and full of wildlife!

SSWA to Host First AGM

With the continuation of two long-standing watershed groups (DREAM and Tryon) and the exciting creation of Augustine Cove and Westmoreland groups, 2011 was a very active year for the newly created South Shore Watershed Association (SSWA).

SSWA is thrilled to host its first Annual General Meeting on Thursday, April 26 at the Crapaud Community Hall. Our list of accomplishments is long, including several kilometers of stream restoration, the emptying of a number of overloaded sediment basins, an extensive estuary enhancement project, community outreach, and a variety of public and executive meetings. And this only scratches the surface!

If you're interested in the 'goings on' in your watershed community, or are seeking to become actively involved in SSWA, join us at our AGM. Attendees will

also be asked to participate in the final judging of our first annual photo contest; there are \$700 of prizes to be given out!

We look forward to seeing you on April 26, and are eager to share our ideas and plans for the upcoming year.

For further information, contact Kellie L at 437-2191 or Kelley Arnold at 628-7522.

See you there!

Amendments to SSWA By-Laws



Lighthouse, Seacow Head

Section 8) Directors—minor change in wording of first sentence of subsection (b) does not change meaning of sentence. Final sentence of subsection (b) is deleted. A new subsection (c) is inserted to provide for the election of Executive Board pp0

Positions by Board.

Section 11) Financial statement and surplus funds— Subsections (c) through (e) are deleted in their entirety. Existing subsections (f) and (g) are renumbered as (c) and (d) to preserve sequential

subsection numbering. The deleted subsections are in conflict with provincial requirement that any unspent funds be forfeited back to provincial agency at end of fiscal year. You can view full by-laws at www.sswa.ca

DID YOU KNOW? Seacow Lighthouse was filmed in the *Road to Avonlea* series!

DeSable River Enhancement and Activity Management (DREAM)

What's on the agenda for DREAM in 2012? Stream restoration is at the top of the work plan, where enhancement will continue from mid-DeSable river downstream. Riparian Zone planting and alder patch cuts will take place by seasonal employees. DREAM plans to continue to partner with DFO via the Community Aquatic Monitoring Program (CAMP), where community members and employees help conduct research into estuary water and habitat quality. Continuation of the management plan will also take place. Linden Hill Pond has been slowly filling in with silt since its excavation in 2008; a plan is being developed to dredge the pond, as well as begin the process of transforming the area into a basic park and public area. Visit DREAM's Facebook Page to see updates and photos!

Tryon River Watershed Cooperative

Tryon River is busy organizing their projects and activities, and have an exciting season ahead of them. The watershed group is planning to install interpretive signage throughout their area, with emphasis on their successful 2011 estuary restoration project. The nesting box monitoring program will continue, and the group will revisit the estuary for monitoring and project continuation. The sediment basin at County Line road will be assessed, and non-native trees will be replaced in partnership with Island Nature Trust. Craig's Pond bypass structure will be repaired, tree planting and alder patch-cutting will also take place within the watershed boundaries.

If you're interested in joining Tryon River Watershed Coop, contact Kellie Lockhart or Barb Clement!

Augustine Cove Watershed Group

Augustine Cove has hit the ground running in 2012! With two very capable and motivated members at the helm, the watershed committee hosted its first public meeting on Tuesday, March 20 at the home of Ralph Dawson. The purpose of this meeting was to better gauge the issues in the Augustine Cove-Cape Traverse watersheds, and allow the residents to voice their opinions on what they feel could be done to address these problems. Summer activities will include (but are not limited to) stream restoration, tree planting, restoration at Webster's Pond, nesting boxes, and extensive community outreach. Please contact Ralph Dawson or Dona Waddell if you are interested in becoming a member of the Augustine Cove Watershed Group!

Interested in an outdoor summer job?

Send a resume/cover letter to sswa@sswa.ca!

Want to Become a Member of SSWA?

Please make \$10 cheque payable to South Shore Watershed Association (SSWA):

PO Box 123

Crapaud, PE C0A 1J0

Include Your Name, Phone Number, Address, Postal Code and email (optional).

Let us know if you have interest in having plantings on your property.

Westmoreland River Watershed Group

Westmoreland group had a public meeting on February 26, with a presentation on "Watershed Planning" by Sean Ledgerwood, Watershed Specialist with the Department of Environment, Labour and Justice. Westmoreland is preparing for a busy spring and summer season with a variety of projects planned. WRWG's work will include garnering landowner permission, Collette Rd sediment diversion structure, continued restoration along the West branch of the river, sediment trap dredging at Sherren's Pond, public education and volunteer days, and tree planting. Reminder that WRWG's AGM is on April 10, at 7pm at Victoria Hall!

SSWA Anticipates Funding for Sediment Pump Project

SSWA is awaiting word on its application to EcoAction Community Funding. This project, if approved, will determine a diaphragm pump's effectiveness in removing sediment from several sites within SSWA's boundaries; this is in comparison with heavy equipment (e.g.

excavators), which are often costly and can result in environmental disturbance. Please watch for updates!

Please contact Kellie Lockhart, Project Coordinator, if you would like more information on this pending project.

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