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AC-CT News

DREAM News

TRWC News

WRWG News

More 2013 Photo Winners

### Public Meeting

Talk with Martha  
Howatt

+

TRWC AGM

Date: Monday, Feb.  
10, 7:00 pm

Locat: South Shore  
United Church

## Setting Plans

At this time of year, watershed boards all over the province are sitting down, drinking much coffee and going through annual rites of watershed planning for the coming year and beyond. Staff and volunteers feverishly type away on proposals, permit applications and management plans, with occasional glances at the calendar, because application deadlines are looming. One of the reasons for this article is to let you in on this, with the encouragement that if you have a watershed project in mind for this year, it may very well still be possible to address. If it cannot be addressed this year, then it may be reviewed for the longer-term. So, if you have a project or a concern, please talk to your local watershed representatives or contact SSWA staff at [sswa@sswa.ca](mailto:sswa@sswa.ca).

Some watersheds have ratified management plans. Others are working on them. These are key goals for specific watersheds, as determined by communities within them. Even when plans are established, they have to be reviewed and updated. There are usually listed strategies to reach goals, and task sets to reach milestones in the strategies. Periodically, the strategy or tasks are re-worked. It sounds more complex than it is, but it is a feedback-based system. You are part of that feedback and input, if you want to be.

Among the things that an association like SSWA is concerned with is what outcomes or products best serve communities. Further, what functions are best dealt with at the local level and what should be effectively borne by SSWA or other group combinations? This is an active discussion. For example, last fall, DREAM and SSWA cooperated to provide household water information from Morley Foy along with DREAM's AGM.

Similarly, **Tryon River Watershed Cooperative** is being assisted with its **Annual General Meeting on Monday, February 10, 2014** with a talk by AC-CT's **Martha Howatt**. Martha is a certified seed collector and will be **giving a short chat on collecting, storing and growing native tree and shrub seeds** (more on TRWC AGM on page 2).

What better symbol for environmental planning than collecting the seed of, then choosing the best spot for and planting a native tree !



### Photo Contest 2014

New "Old"  
Category

2013 Grand Prize, &  
Tryon First Prize  
Winner by Donna  
Butler.

Right, Seven Mile  
Bay Winner, by Jen Croken.

More winning images on Page 2



### 2013-2014 SSWA Board of Directors:

Martha Howatt,  
Augustine Cove

Peter Bower, West-  
moreland

Dina Blot, Westmoreland

Barb Clement, Tryon  
River

Harry Smith, DeSable

Emily Gorman, DeSable

Enter the new SSWA Photo contest by March 31 ! The contest features **cash prizes** and the opportunity for one watershed winner to also obtain the 2014 grand prize. *Take images that feature or show interaction with our beautiful natural environment*, in one or more of five watersheds from Seven Mile Bay to DeSable, Albany to Inkerman to Maplewood. Keep note of the image locations and keep clicking. Email up to 5 jpg files, with image locations, name and phone number to [sswa@sswa.ca](mailto:sswa@sswa.ca). But first, review new rules on [www.sswa.ca](http://www.sswa.ca), posted Feb 10. SSWA would like to share images more. Note: we cannot accept mailed prints or return images. **New category for 2014: Cherished Older Images, 50 years old or more**, relating to water, land use, native species or forest. Much has changed on PEI *in living memory* but the record is thinning of the time when many water mills operated, all but a few roads were clay, Island farming families were in the thousands and horse labour was common. Do you have shots of when bays were deep, mud and ice were hauled and clams were plentiful? All winners from the last 2 years' competitions are at [www.sswa.ca](http://www.sswa.ca), under the SSWA Tab. For many more fantastic photos of our South Shore area, check out each watershed's Tab . The really great thing about a photo contest is everyone wins in sharing beauty.

### Tryon River Watershed Cooperative (TRWC)

At the upcoming General Meeting and Talk and with other meetings, we welcome community interest and attendance. At this meeting we would like to have suggestions from area residents as to what work they would like to see carried out this coming season. Kellie Lockhart, the SSWA Watershed Manager, will be explaining the work accomplished by SSWA this past year and will identify the work locations on prepared maps. Coffee, drinks and a snack will be served, with time for open discussion.

This Issue generously supported by the PEI Wildlife Conservation Fund



### Augustine Cove- Cape Traverse Group (AC-CT)

Augustine Cove-Cape Traverse is having a quiet winter, enjoying some of these one dozen interesting sites: <http://cwf-fcf.org/en/discover-wildlife/flora-fauna/flora/>, <http://peiwatershedalliance.org/web>, [http://www.birdlist.org/nam/canada/prince\\_edward\\_island/prince\\_edward\\_island.htm](http://www.birdlist.org/nam/canada/prince_edward_island/prince_edward_island.htm), <http://www.ducks.ca/what-we-do/nps/>, <http://www.islandnaturetrust.ca/>, <http://bbemadotnet.wordpress.com/>, [macphailwoods.org/nursery](http://macphailwoods.org/nursery), [www.dontfrackpei.com](http://www.dontfrackpei.com), <http://ontariotrees.com/mondaygarden/article.php?id=134> [http://on-line-seminars.com/index.php?p=1\\_2\\_Natives-versus-Cultivars](http://on-line-seminars.com/index.php?p=1_2_Natives-versus-Cultivars), <http://canadiantreetours.org/>, <http://www.grangettosgardenclub.com/articles/lawn-landscape/rainwater-harvesting.html>

### Westmoreland River Watershed Group (WRWG)

Our Westmoreland board has been busy this winter working on our project plan for 2014 and our longer-term management plan. First, we looked back at the work accomplished in 2013, including much clean-up of the Westmoreland River east branch by the summer staff, including tackling stretches of the river completely blocked by alders, and planting of tree saplings. We also surveyed the river from canoe -- a wonderful way to see this beautiful river - and gave a well-received presentation on our watershed, past and present, at the South Shore Villa.

We will build on all this effort in 2014 with ongoing tree and shrub planting to stabilize stream banks and provide shelter for wildlife; completing stream restoration on the east branch and its tributaries; assessing and starting work on stream restoration along the west branch; distributing a "Water for Health" educational brochure this spring; and developing several other outreach projects. We warmly invite individuals and businesses to support our watershed enhancement work by becoming members and joining in activities. For more information, contact Daphne Davey, Membership and Communications Coordinator, 902-730-2052.

Check out [www.sswa.ca](http://www.sswa.ca) for wonderful photos, aerial maps of active watersheds, contest rules, tips, fun facts...

2013 1st place winners. Great sunsets. Vibrant images. From left to right, the Westmoreland River, DeSable, Augustine Cove -Cape Traverse Watersheds



Ron Arvidson



Liz Farrar



Gord Ives

### DeSable River Enhancement & Activity Management (DREAM)

DREAM decided this time its space in Tidings reflect information relevant to the current public discussion of lifting the moratorium on **high capacity water extraction**. According to USGS and Environment Canada, the following have occurred from over-withdrawal in aquifers: 1) Change in habitat: base flow to streams decreases or stops, resulting in loss of life of those streams, and plant productivity diminishes in formerly high water table areas; 2) Increased costs to well owners sharing an aquifer from: drilling deeper wells to obtain water, and paying higher ongoing energy charges to operate pumps lifting higher; 3) Underground flow/ pressure changes predispose: salt water incursion (with unknown effects of rising sea levels) and aquifer compression, resulting in degrees of permanent loss of an aquifer's ability to recharge. From those familiar with the "day to day" of agricultural irrigation, the energy supply for high capacity pumps should be considered with potential affects on tourism, pollution, noise levels for local residents, and ongoing capital costs. Elsewhere, pump power is supplied by large onsite diesel engines.

In November, 2013 The PEI Watershed Alliance held a Water Extraction Workshop, with informative presentations exploring aspects and policy. Much of this is at [http://peiwatershedalliance.org/web/?page\\_id=5#waterextraction](http://peiwatershedalliance.org/web/?page_id=5#waterextraction)

I would like to: a) support watershed group work in my community by being a member of: (please circle *one* of the following): AC-CT, DREAM, TRWC, or WRWG. Each single annual membership fee is \$ 10.00 x \_\_\_ (✓) b) and /or make a donation to SSWA in the following amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_, for a total amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your cheque payable to South Shore Watershed Association and mail it and information below to the address at right. SSWA is a registered charitable organization. Tax receipts for donation will be issued to the address you provide below with your cheque.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ P. Code \_\_\_\_\_

Please Mail to:  
SSWA  
PO Box 123  
Crapaud, PE  
C0A1J0

Thank You