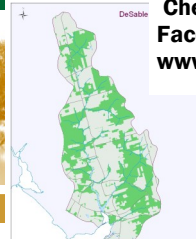




DESABLE WATERSHED NEWSLETTER



Check Us Out on Facebook and www.sswa.ca/3.html

Mail us:
P O Box 123
Crapaud PE
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Public

Meeting

Thurs., May 17, 2012

at 7:00 pm

Kelly's Cross Community Center.

Contacts:

- Ron Arvidson 658-2566**
- Darrin Dunsford 658-2103**
- Norah Gorman 658-2535**
- Cindy Newson 658-2387**
- Harry Smith 658-2907**
- Sharon Zannier 658-2151**

Photo Contest 2012

A Reminder for everyone to start taking potential winners in the 2012 Photo Contest. **show-casing DeSable Watershed.** Just click and keep a record of where and when for entry purposes. Click now, click often and proudly show off areas in DeSable, Hampton, South Melville, Green and Appin Roads, Kelly's Cross, and Maplewood.

Banner Image at left, : Wood Duck pair; by B S Thurner Hof, Gnu free doc licence v. 1.2. Last image courtesy Ron Arvidson; CAMP image thanks Kelly Arnold. Right: NPS

Here's a part **survey** we sent to households that helps focus for planning: What is your opinion and vision for this watershed?
 1. What are the most important issues in this watershed?
 2. What should DREAM be doing? It's role?
 3. Bearing in mind your answer to # 1 (issues), supposing there were adequate resources to address those issues, what kind of watershed do you see in 5 years?

BEING A FRIEND TO FISH AND FOWL

This May and June some of us will be paying a little more attention to those who share the watershed with us. For example, you are invited to a **public meeting on May 17**, at Kelly's Cross, when the invited guest speaker will explain about the South Shore's two resident trout species and outline recent UPEI research implications for native brook trout. At this meeting a revised draft of the DeSable River Management Plan will be outlined and hopefully it will be accepted by resident vote (also see article below). There will be an outline of planned summer work strategies and an opportunity to share your views. Annual memberships will be gratefully accepted.

Sunday, May 20, 2012 the public is welcome to join in the annual event, **Bird DeSable** (please see page 2 for details), when Ron Arvidson will guide us to see the watershed in a new way. It begins at 8:00 am, at the Blue Goose.

On **June 2, 9:00 am to Noon, there will be a Volunteer Day** (the first of two planned) at Linden Hill Pond, where the public is invited to an educational activity session **to help create shelter at the Pond area for trout, and for small land animals, wood ducks and tree swallows**, as well as generally refurbish the pond area for the season. Learn about the shelters, about these beautiful birds, why these species are being encouraged to set up at the Pond, where the best locations for houses are, and maybe even take a prefabricated house home with you. Of course there will be beverages and snacks afterward, so come say Hi !

Speaking of a new way to see your watershed, you are also welcome to join with **CAMP Program at DeSable estuary**, where for 5 years now, scientific measures continue to be taken by staff and volunteers to monitor environmental conditions and trends. Contact Cindy for more information.

On page 2 of this issue, see some of the ongoing efforts DREAM and partners in the community have made over recent years to **improve local fish habitat.**



1. Brook Trout and 2. Rainbow Trout are in our streams. Which one is at a disadvantage locally ?

Your Watershed Management Plan to go to Vote

Why should you be interested in a watershed management plan? Because you have say in how things are to be done in your watershed and your environment. It's all about authorship.

The current draft plan results after years of public meetings, one-on-one sessions and a survey sent out in 2010 (see left), then research, consultations, report reviews, and more.

At the meeting on May 17 the Management Plan will be put to a vote. Copies of *River of Sand; Sustainability and Renewal in the DeSable Watershed* will be available at the meeting. However, advance review is possible online by going to www.sswa.ca, and clicking on the DeSable River tab, and selecting from the column to the right. Print copies may also be obtained by calling Cindy at 658-2387.

PARTNER EFFORTS TO HELP TROUT HABITAT

Habitat improvement for fish and other wildlife is one of the key goals DREAM operates under. It works together with public and private interests since 2006, doing work directly to improve fish habitat from stream headwaters to outlets. It is not possible in this space to list everything, but here is an overview of work steadily in progress:

Stream/ buffer zone restoration (in blue)

Trained personnel clear barriers to passage, help stabilize sediment from leaving banks to cover spawning areas or choke channels, deepen areas, aerate water and add or re-introduce native trees & shrubs.

Linden Hill Bypass Pond catches many tons of sediment from entering the River, and provides a deeper grow-out area for a trout population isolated by a hung culvert. Electrofished trout from the River were added to the Pond in 2010. It is to be re-excavated in 2012 and fish shelter/shade structures are to be added in June.

Hung Culverts and Bridges prevent normal migration from occurring. In 2007-08 DREAM evaluated all 27 public crossings and catalogued the majority of private stream crossing constructions in the watershed, ranked them in priority for actions. It submitted the 2nd such report any PEI watershed group has completed to Transportation and Public Works. Since 2008, this report has formed the basis for ongoing annual address of problem hung crossings, with major changes made by TPW/TIR at Bells Creek and DeSable River crossings. Culvert reinstallation at Greens Brook is slated for 2012. DREAM monitors and maintains rock terrace structures, ongoing, at less elevated culverts.

Clay Roadway Siltation is a big problem here that suffocates fish, eggs and aquatic food sources, and chokes channels. Since '08 TPW/TIR has worked with DREAM to address clay road runoff and slow other storm runoff.



Bird DeSable 2012

Sunday, May 20, 2012
8:00am until 12:00pm

This is an Annual Event created by D.R.E.A.M. Inc.

Last year we were able to see a Eastern Kingbird, Osprey and Rose-breasted Grosbeak to name a few. Each year we are able to locate new species!



Osprey on Green Road

The group will meet at the former Blue Goose Restaurant. From there, we will car pool up the South Melville Road and explore intersecting segments of the DeSable River.

Those wishing to car pool from Charlottetown will be leaving the Indigo parking lot at 7:30 sharp!

DREAM INC.
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JOIN DREAM INC. PLEASE CLIP & MAIL NOW TO

I want to: A) be a member of DREAM Inc. Enclosed is my annual membership fee \$ 10.00
B) donate the following amount to this worthy cause \$ _____ = Total\$ _____
C) donate my time by volunteering for _____

I would like to be invited to join DREAM_PEI online group (my e-mail is below) _____ (✓)

I may be interested in having plantings on my property, and would like to know more _____ (✓)

Name _____ Phone No. _____ or _____

Mailing Address _____ Postal Code _____

If you prefer, e-mail address: _____

(✓) RECEIPTS
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Please make cheque payable to
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Activity Management
Inc.

Thank You