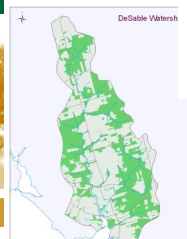




DESABLE WATERSHED NEWSLETTER



Check Us Out on Facebook and www.sswa.ca

Mail us:
P O Box 123
Crapaud PE
COA 1J0

Spring Public Meeting

Meeting

Thurs., May 2, 2013

at 7:00 pm

Kelly's Cross Community Center.

Contacts:

Darrin Dunsford
Emily Gorman
Jon Hutchinson
Cindy Newson 658-2387
Harry Smith 658-2907
Sharon Zannier

Photo Contest Winners!

Come to the Public Meeting to see the **2013 winning entries** and other wonderful shots of the watershed and its natural aspects. Winners will soon see their prizes in the mail. Time for everyone to start taking potential winner shots in the **2014 Photo Contest**, showcasing DeSable Watershed. Just click and keep a record of where and when for entry purposes. Local prize winning photos are eligible to win regional cash prizes too! Click now, click often and proudly participate.

GREAT INFORMATVE SPEAKERS, WHAT'S NEW IN '13

In 2012: DREAM ratified the DeSable watershed management plan in May, at one of three public meetings it held. Guest speakers at each of these meetings gave talks that could not been more engaging. Ron Arvidson spoke about the many birds in the area, aided by slides, helping us recognize so many more species. Ron again hosted *Bird DeSable* in May. Also in May, Kellie Lockhart spoke about salmon and trout in our streams and offered practical solutions how fishers, landowners and the public at large can help Brook Trout, which are now at a competitive disadvantage. *As an extension of that talk, DREAM and SSWA are installing signage at LH Pond to provide information on trout species and tips to reduce fish mortality after release.* In November, Island Nature Trust's Shannon Mader gave a very interesting talk on PEI's migratory shore birds. Volunteer Day occurred at Linden Hill Pond, with a theme of habitat enhancement for land, sea and air animals. Bird houses were assembled on site and given away, brush piles were gathered with explanation of their role for small animals and shelter rafts were built on site to cool pond waters and provide predation shelter. As with other years, there was stream enhancement, tree planting and CAMP estuary monitoring. A major stream crossing at Green Rd. was entirely remodeled by T.I.R. Linden Hill Pond was re-dredged and much ground re-surfaced.



Photo: Judy Dunsford

2012 Winning entry of DeSable Watershed, Image of DeSable River by Judy Dunsford. 2013 Winners will be on display at May Public Meeting

Upcoming dates you will want to know:

Upcoming dates you will want to know:

May 2/13 Public Meeting at Kelly's Cross Community Center, featuring Jackie Waddell, of Island Nature Trust, speaking on PEI invasive species. All are welcome. Door prize and refreshments.

May 11/13 *Bird DeSable*: Join Ron Arvidson in this wonderful annual event. Details, Pg 2

June 1/13, 9 am–noon Volunteer Day / Eric's Day at Linden Hill Pond (Details Pg 2)...

DREAM Membership

Family Memberships now available at \$15.00. Starting this year, all memberships are from January to December. Thank you so much for your continued support !

IF MAIL BOXES GO, WHAT HAPPENS TO THIS LETTER?

As individual mailboxes are disappearing due to Canada Post rural delivery changes, our volunteer delivery to homes is also reducing, area by area. DREAM is evaluating how to get DeSable Watershed Newsletter affordably & efficiently to those who want to remain informed on local happenings. **If you or someone you know would like to receive this newsletter by either Canada Post or email, please let DREAM know by phone call, email or post.** If there is demand, we will try to meet it. Your email won't be shared or used for any communication you do not wish. See pg 2

SUMMER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

As in past years, students will be employed this summer doing watershed enhancement and public information activities. If you would like to do this, are aged between 16 to 29 and will be returning to high school or post-secondary studies full time this year, please complete the *Student Employment Application* in order to register with the Employment Development Agency, Jobs For Youth Program. Applications are available online or can be obtained at EDA offices or any Access PEI location. Although it is not required, dropping a resume off to DREAM is encouraged.

BANNERS & BLOGS

Curious what watershed summer staff do in a certain area ? This summer, when you see a watershed banner displayed along a roadside, either in this watershed or another in the South Shore, it means that some sort of watershed work is under way by staff in the immediate area. You are welcome to stop in ask our staff some questions, perhaps even lend a hand if you'd like. Or, if you go to www.sswa.ca you will find an online **web log** of the work that is being done, written and frequently updated by the young adults doing the work. This will be the second year a work blog will be available online.

Bird DeSable May 11/12

Looking for Species-at-Risk - Barn Swallows and Bobolink, Saturday, May 11 @ 9:00 AM. Meet at the Blue Goose Restaurant in DeSable to explore the hay fields and barns in and around the DeSable Watershed. Birding great Spring tradition!

Volunteer Day at L.H. Pond

This year it is "Eric's Day", so chosen by DREAM membership to recognize the late Eric Rieber's contributions to this watershed and to this public park area. A tree planting for Eric will take place. Come to work, or to recall, or just to say "Hi".

ONCE IN 25 YEAR STORMS?

On March 14, 35 mm of rain arrived in a 6 hour period added to significant snowmelt. The "once in a great while" storm events are occurring more frequently and are expected to occur even more so. Island infrastructure will have to be adapted. Homeowners will also have to take steps. Some things to look at: are roofing systems and gutter/downspouts working as they should? Quite a few are upgrading yard drainage and some are installing underground piping to remove roof and yard runoff many more meters away from foundations and septic areas. Don't forget to think about adding rain barrels in summer. More are looking at improving basement drainage and sump pumps. Everyone should evaluate how they are storing poisons, solvents and chemicals so that they are properly stored from youngsters, accidental spillage, storm waters and even broken pipes.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND OUR FORESTS

In the next 50 to 100 years, many experts are predicting Island forest composition will dramatically change. The Acadian Forest of PEI is a blending of the southern range of the sub-Arctic, Boreal (conifer) Forest or Taiga and northern limit of the Northern Hardwood Forest. This is the typical forest of New England. The climate in decades to come is expected to be like Pennsylvania's or northern Kentucky's. If so, common species like White spruce and some other evergreens, white birch and sugar maple will decline a great deal and other species will increase. In the next *Newsletter* we will look at the trees on PEI benefitting from climate change. In the meantime, **plant a tree or three to restore diversity.**

Info Online:

One of the best resources to understanding PEI's unique water concerns is **Water on PEI; Understanding the Resource, Knowing the Issues**, a 40 page booklet that is now out of print but has just been made available at: www.gov.pe.ca/photos/original/elj_waterpei_rp.pdf A link for it will soon also be available on www.sswa.ca. Check out this recently revamped website, with lots new 4U2C, including **Englewood's** recent Smelt expedition **video**.

DREAM INC.
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JOIN DREAM OR GET NEWSLETTERS: CLIP & MAIL

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