

Ag & Environmental Services Newsletter

June 2023



PLAY CLEAN GO

PlayCleanGo is a campaign designated to the prevention of the spread of invasive species by changing public and worker behaviors at risk of spreading invasive species on land and in water, while still encouraging the enjoyment of the outdoors.

The PlayCleanGo website features many activities with specific instructions to help prevent the spread of invasive species. During your next adventure, PlayCleanGo encourages you to follow 5 simple tips to help prevent the spread of local invasive species:

1. Clean your shoes, clothes, packs, and pets before and after exploring and stay on designated trails.
2. Clean your horse's hooves and feed them weed-free certified hay before your adventure.
3. Clean, Drain, and Dry your watercraft and angling equipment to Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers!
4. Don't Move Firewood! Buy it where you burn it, buy certified heat-treated firewood, or gather on site when permitted.
5. Before traveling to new areas, inspect and clean your trailers, off-road vehicles, and recreational vehicles with water or compressed air to remove mud, plant parts, and hidden pests.

WEED WARRIORS

Every Wednesday morning, 9:00AM-12:00PM, throughout June, July, and August

We are seeking *volunteers* of all ages to help us in the removal (hand pulling) of invasive plants in Crowsnest Pass. *No experience is needed, and drop-ins are welcome.* Please bring friends, family, water, and a snack. Dress appropriately for the weather conditions. We will provide gloves.

June dates and locations:

June 7: Drum Creek – Hillcrest Miners Playground/Coal and Coke Park, 22818-9 Ave, Hillcrest

June 14: Gold Creek – “Big Rock” 152 St, Frank

June 21: Crowsnest River (Frank) – Frank Picnic Shelter (parking area between Blairmore and Frank), Crowsnest Highway, Frank

June 28: Crowsnest River (Blairmore) – Blairmore Riverfront Park & Picnic Area, 22 Ave, Blairmore





HIGHLY PATHOGENIC AVIAN INFLUENZA

HPAI Surge Expected in Alberta this Spring

HPAI cases are expected to increase this spring as a result of large numbers of migratory birds carrying the virus returning to Alberta. This virus spreads through feces and is most susceptible to domestic chickens and turkeys. All suspected and confirmed cases must be reported.

Some signs of infection include loss of appetite, drop in egg production, swelling of skin under eyes, purplish coloring of wattles and combs, coughing and sneezing, diarrhea, and lack of coordination or ability to walk.

To prevent infection in your flock, limit visitors allowed near the flock, avoid other premises with poultry, create an isolation coop to observe sick birds, have dedicated footwear for accessing your coop, wash and sanitize hands before attending coop, and predator proof your coop.

If you suspect your flock has HPAI call

780-427-3448 (Between 8:15 am and 4:30 pm) or

1-800-524-0051

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Crowsnest Pass



NOXIOUS WEED OF THE MONTH *DAME'S ROCKET*

Pink-purple-white 4 petaled flowers; hairy, lance shaped leaves that wrap around stem, shallow slender root.



PROHIBITED NOXIOUS WEED OF THE MONTH *ORANGE HAWKWEED*

Vibrant orange-red flowers, hairy leaves at base of plant, black bristly hairs along stem, milky latex juice in stem when broken.

