

MD OF RANCHLAND AG BULLETIN

News, updates, and information for our community.



WILDFIRE SEASON

The wildfire season in Alberta typically runs from March 1 to October 31. Wildfire hazards are typically highest in spring after the snow melts and before trees and plants begin growing, as there is a lot of dry fuel from leaves, needles and twigs. The spring also brings an increase to outdoor activities and most wildfires are human caused; in 2023 over 60% of wildfires in Alberta were started by humans. We all play an important role in preventing wildfires; abandoned campfires, off highway vehicle exhaust, and agricultural burning are common causes of fires. Be sure to properly extinguish campfires before leaving them unattended; "soak it, stir it, soak it again".

Starting March 1st, fire permits are required for burning (other than campfires) in the Forest Protection Area. This means all fires within the boundaries of the M.D. of Ranchland will require a permit. Fire permits can be obtained by contacting the Calgary Forest Area office at 403-297-8800. Once you have your fire permit you must contact Foothills Dispatch at 1-888-808-3722 to notify them when you are burning, the legal land description of burn site and your fire permit number. Permits help focus firefighting resources where they are needed most so when smoke is reported wildfire officers can check their system to determine if it is a wildfire or a permitted burn.

If interested in discussing further, please contact Erika at ag3@ranchland66.com or 403-646-3131.

GRANT TO APPLY FOR

<https://www.alberta.ca/resilient-agricultural-landscape-program>

Resilient Agricultural Landscape Program

A program under the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership that aims to promote beneficial management practices for ecological goods and services, especially increased carbon sequestration and enhanced climate resilience. Eligible applicants include primary producers, groups such as Grazing Reserve Associations and approved Indigenous applicants; a current Environmental Farm Plan is required.

Year 2 intake is scheduled from February 1, 2024 - November 30, 2024.

If interested, contact Erika at 403-646-3131 or ag3@ranchland66.com.

WEED TO WATCH

Downy Brome

Bromus tectorum

ID characteristics: Pale green and becomes purple tinged at maturity. Erect and slightly hairy stems, 10-70 cm tall. Inflorescence is a drooping, one-sided panicle containing 5-8 florets. Leaves 4-16cm long, auricles may be absent, sheaths are closed near top.



Source: <https://abinvasives.ca/fact-sheet/brome-downy/>



Foothills Forage & Grazing Association 2024 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

March 21, 2024 - Heritage Inn, High River

Registration at 11:30
Lunch at 11:45
AGM Business Meeting
Keynote Address from Chris Koch

Cost:
FFGA Member: \$25
Non-Member: \$30

*Please note, you must be a member in good standing to vote during the Business Meeting. Membership can be purchased online at: www.foothillsforage.com/membership or at the door (Cash or Cheque only) *

Are you interested in joining the Foothills Forage & Grazing Association Board of Directors? Email managers@foothillsforage.com or contact a FFGA Director for more details!

**Feturing Keynote Speaker
CHRIS KOCH**

Chris Koch is a local motivational speaker and actively working in agriculture, despite being born without arms and legs, Chris grew up like any other small-town kid. Today he inspires his audiences to continually challenge themselves and build the life they dream of.



Visit: <https://www.foothillsforage.com/2024-agm>

Please register before March 15, 2024



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<https://mdranchland.ca/>

If you would like to contribute to this bulletin by writing an article, submitting a photo to be featured, recommending an organization, noxious weed, or grant, or any other suggestions, please send an email to ag2@ranchland66.com with the subject line "Bulletin". Thanks for reading and I look forward to your feedback!

ORGANIZATION HIGHLIGHT

Foothills Forage and Grazing Association

<https://www.foothillsforage.com/>

FFGA is a non-profit, producer-driven group based in south central Alberta. The association focuses on addressing issues, generating ideas, and fostering innovations for forage and livestock producers. FFGA facilitates collaboration among producers by exploring profitable and regenerative approaches to forage and livestock production. FFGA's mission is to provide practical information and effective production strategies to producers through demonstration projects, events, workshops, hands-on experiences, and networking.

