

Agenda for the 43rd Conservation Districts Conference

December 10-12, 2018, Brandon Keystone Centre



Manitoba
Conservation Districts
Association

Monday, December 10th

Registration & Trade Show Opens

12:00 pm, Corridor & MNP Hall

Get signed in and check out our trade show: chat with the organizations working on the front lines of conservation and agriculture in Manitoba.

Introductions

1:15 pm, Amphitheatre

Keynote: Designing Conservation Around People

1:30 pm, Amphitheatre

Josh Donlan, with experience working in over a dozen countries, will share insights on how to design environmental programs around the people at the heart of them.

Networking Break (Everyone) / Conservation District Program 101 (New Members Only)

3:00 pm, MNP Hall / Amphitheatre

Newly appointed conservation district board members are invited to remain in the amphitheatre as staff from Manitoba Sustainable Development will share background information on the Conservation Districts Program. Everyone else is encouraged to visit the trade show!

Manitoba's Conservation Trust: New Opportunities for Conservation

3:30 pm, Amphitheatre

Tim Sopuck, CEO of the Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation, will speak about the new Conservation Trust and the opportunities it will present for conservation in Manitoba.

Charting MCDA's Future (Members Only) / Trade Show (Everyone)

4:15 pm, Amphitheatre

This open discussion session will give board and staff members from all districts a forum to discuss and shape the direction of MCDA. Non-members are encouraged to revisit the trade show at this time.

Annual General Meeting (Members Only) / Trade Show (Everyone)

5:15 pm, Amphitheatre

Three members from each district may attend the MCDA AGM. Everyone else is invited to revisit the trade show at this time and connect with the organizations working on the front lines of conservation and agriculture in Manitoba.

Managers' Meeting (Managers Only)

5:30 pm, Star Viewing Lounge

Breakin' the Ice

7:00 pm, Great Western Roadhouse Bar & Grill (at CanadInns, connected to Keystone Centre)

Connect with the people working on front lines of conservation and agriculture in Manitoba. Take in some live music, visit with old friends, and make new ones.

Tuesday, December 11th

Registration & Trade Show Reopens

8:00 am, Corridor/MNP Hall

Chat with organizations working on the front lines of conservation and agriculture in Manitoba.

Building Soil Health with Canada's Outstanding Young Farmers

8:30 am, Amphitheatre

Hear from Tannis and Derek Axten, a Saskatchewan farm family that has taken the leap into regenerative agriculture, cutting input costs and improving soil and water health in the process.

Networking Break

9:45 am, MNP Hall

Grab a coffee and check out the innovative groups at the trade show.

Success Stories from Manitoba's Conservation Districts (Part I)

10:15 am, Amphitheatre

Find out what three of Manitoba's conservation districts have been up to over the past year, and what they've learned along the way.

Jodi Goerzen (SRRCD) - Hydro Dynamic Decision-Making in the Southeast

Colin Gluting (CCCD) - Partnering with Rural Municipalities to improve infrastructure

Shawn Sexsmith (KCD) - Changing Landscapes

Drainage Licensing in Saskatchewan

11:30 am, Amphitheatre

Hear from Bryan Osborne and Doug Johnson on the efforts of the Water Security Agency to streamline and improve Saskatchewan's drainage approval process while mitigating downstream impacts of these drainage works.

Lunch

12:15 pm, UCT Pavilion

Amendments to The Water Rights Act: An update on potential new drainage regulations

1:30 pm, Amphitheatre

Hear from Andrea McLean of Manitoba Sustainable Development about the changes coming to drainage regulations in Manitoba, including a new streamlined approach for authorizations and no net loss of wetland benefits.

Operation Pollinator in Western Canada

2:15 pm, Amphitheatre

Hear from Paul Hoekstra, the Stewardship and Policy Manager with Syngenta, about Operation Pollinator. This program provides farmers with a practical way to increase and improve biodiversity on their farm. The results from the first year of monitoring data, along with feedback from the participants, will be discussed.

Networking Break

2:45 pm, MNP Hall

Grab a coffee and check out the trade show.

Partnering with First Nations on Watershed Resilience

3:15 pm, Amphitheatre

David Scott has worked for many years to preserve the history, culture, and traditional values of Swan Lake First Nation. David will discuss the political, legal, and historical context that shapes opportunities for First Nations and conservation districts to work together.

Conservation Districts will get a chance to share their experiences working with First Nations and discuss how to strengthen existing partnerships and create new ones.

Success Stories from Manitoba's Conservation Districts (Part II)

4:35 pm, Amphitheatre

Mark Lowdon is the founder and President of AAE Tech Services Inc., and is an aquatic biologist with over 15 years of experience working in Manitoba and across Canada. He has worked on fish passage design, environmental monitoring and impact assessments, habitat suitability assessments, watershed inventories, riparian restoration, and more. Mark will describe his experience working with a number of conservation districts throughout Manitoba.

Closing Remarks

5:20 pm, Amphitheatre

Trade Show Concludes

5:45 pm, MNP Hall

Get your networking in before the trade show closes!

Conservation Districts Awards Banquet

6:00 pm, UCT Pavilion

Enjoy good food and celebrate the people working hard to protect our watersheds.

Wednesday, December 12th (Members Only)

Session with Sustainable Development

8:30 am – 11:00 am, Amphitheatre

Manitoba Sustainable Development will provide an update on collective efforts to modernize the Manitoba Conservation Districts Program.

Closing Remarks

11:00 am, Amphitheatre

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Thank you for making our conference possible!

~ Watershed Stewards ~



~ River Stewards ~



~ Stream Stewards ~

