



Ag. Advantage Monthly

Combining Agricultural Production with Environmental Stewardship

Growing Forward 2

Availability of Growing Forward 2 programs is constantly changing. Sign up for program announcements or join the emailing list at:

www.growingforward.alberta.ca

OR call 310-FARM (3276)

for program specific information

Water Well Decommissioning Program



In an effort to enhance our water quality, reduce risk of contaminating underground water reserves and prevent serious accidents, Kneehill County Agriculture Service Board will be continuing with the water well decommissioning program through 2015.

Abandoned wells allow for direct access to the aquifer through rusting casings and missing caps. These well access points are where vermin, above ground minerals, nutrients, animal waste, pesticides and chemicals can directly access and contaminate the aquifers and watershed. There are a number of methods for decommissioning a well which can be completed by a local licensed water well drilling company.

Currently a maximum **\$300** per well is being offered to aid in water well decommissioning costs while funds last. It is operated on a first come, first serve bases with projects subject to the approval of the ASB staff.

Solar Off-Site Livestock Watering Trial System

This system is being offered as part of the Kneehill County Agriculture Service Board's commitment to clean water, environmental sustainability, and improved livestock practices. For



only \$150 per

week producers can use this system to assess the values off-site watering with their own herd and pasture.

Watering livestock away from water sources has many benefits including:

- water source protection and, thus, longer water source life
- improved herd health
- increased livestock production, in some situations
- better pasture utilization
- riparian protection and, thus, a more environmentally friendly livestock industry

To read more on benefits and how to set up a off site pasture waterer visit: [www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/\\$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/agdex11857](http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/agdex11857)

This trial system includes portable watering tank, hose, solar panel, battery, floating pump. A portable electric fencing system also available with waterer if needed.

For more information on the above programs please contact Fallon Sherlock at:

Office Phone: (403) 443-5541 or Toll Free: 1-866-443-5541

Email: fallon.sherlock@kneehillcounty.com