



Woking Skating Rink Association Presents

A Sadie Hawkins Day Dinner & Dance

Dinner & Dance

Woking Hall - Feb. 29, 5:30 pm

Prizes for Best Hillbilly costumes &

Prizes for Kids Games

Music By Burnt River Band

Tickets: Adults \$20, Children \$10

Family max \$50

Call 774-2101 or visit Woking Store.

Public Notice

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to Policy No. PW16 the Saddle Hills County road acceptance policy, an application has been made from Sabretooth Energy Ltd to the Saddle Hills County to accept the responsibilities of maintaining 800m of Range Road 91 south off Highway 49 and 1.6 km of Range Road 102 south off TWP 794. Anyone wishing to lodge an appeal against this must do so in writing, stating the reasons for the appeal by 4:30 pm, March 4, 2008. Letters of appeal be addressed to: Matt Moorman, Technical Service Coordinator Box 69, Spirit River, AB T0H 3G0

Open House Westmark Hall

Monday, February 25
7:30 p.m.

Saddle Hills County will be holding an information session relating to the Range Road 80 project.

PUBLIC ENEMY #3 – CANADA THISTLE

Part Three – How Do I Get Rid of It?

So you've scouted your fields and you know what you're dealing with...so now how do you get rid of the thistle? In the next two weeks, we'll cover thistle control methods and how you can implement them to get the greatest success.

Vegetative vs. Seed Reproduction – Canada thistle knows how to survive. In fact, everything it does is geared towards ensuring it makes it to the next growing season bigger and better than ever. To accomplish this, Canada thistle has two methods of reproduction – by seed and through creeping roots called rhizomes. And even though the seed is much more visible and shocking when it's flying through the air like snow in August, reproduction through roots is by far the most important way thistle grows and spreads.

Agronomy – since you're already growing a crop in the field anyway, why not use it to help get rid of your Canada thistle? By using your crop as a weed control method, you'll increase the effectiveness of your other controls, such as tillage and spraying, by outcompeting and weakening the weed.

1. Crop Rotation – Growing the same crop over and over in the same field allows the Canada thistle to adapt to your farming practices. Varying your crop allows you to vary your herbicide choice and timing, tillage timing, seeding date and rate, etc. All of these changes combine to increase effectiveness of control over Canada thistle.

2. Seeding Rate – some crops are more competitive against weeds than others. Barley, for instance, emerges and grows quickly, and can hold its own against most weeds. Crops

like field peas and flax? Not so much. You can help your crops overcome this, though, by making sure you have an adequate crop stand. Studies have consistently shown that crop emergence is lower than most people think. In fact, the Canola Council of Canada is now telling producers that up to 50% of the seeds they plant will never produce plants. Keep this in mind when you're seeding and don't cheap out on your seeding rate. In general, the more crop plants there are in the field, the less room there is for weeds.

3. Seeding Date – When seeding to control Canada thistle, your crop must be growing ahead of the weeds. If you till or spray the young thistle plants, seed immediately after in order to give your crop a head start over the weeds. Once thistle gets ahead of a cereal or forage crop, you're going to lose yield.

4. Crop Fertility – This is by far the most underutilized form of weed control. The key to using fertilizer to your advantage is to always, always soil test. If you don't know what's in your soil for nutrients, it will be impossible for you to accurately gauge what is needed for optimal plant growth. The soil analysis will often have fertilizer recommendations included on it. If not, then see the Alberta Agriculture & Food website, Ropin' the Web, for publications on specific crop needs for fertilizer.

Combining a high seeding rate with early seeding and adequate fertilizer will give your crop the jump it needs to get ahead of the weeds and stay there, as well as ensuring you get maximum yield from your cereal or forage crop. Next week, we'll cover other management practices for controlling Canada thistle, including mowing, grazing, tillage and spraying.

Access to Water



With the recent snow fall it is important to maintain clear access to your dugout for firefighting. If a structure fire occurs on your property firefighters will need to get a vehicle to your dugout in order to pump the volume of water that may be required. Adequate room to turn vehicles around is also essential for firefighting operations. Dial 911 for emergencies.

Savanna Winter Barbecue

Sunday, February 24, 1 pm - 5 pm
At the Savanna Rec Plex

Activities:

Cross Country Skiing, Skating & Visiting
- Sunscreen Optional -

Admission: Free

Donations will be accepted for the Savanna Agricultural Society.

Fitness Program

Woking Community Hall
Monday and Wednesday evenings
7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Men and Women - adult to senior age group
Low impact program with cardiovascular, strength and flexibility exercises.

AG. SERVICE BOARD BREAKFASTS

HUNGRY?

The Saddle Hills County Agricultural Service Board would like to invite all County residents to the 2008 ASB Breakfasts.

| Date | Location |
|---------|--------------------|
| Feb. 27 | Bonanza |
| Feb. 28 | Savanna |
| Feb. 29 | Gordondale |
| Mar. 4 | Blueberry Mountain |
| Mar. 6 | Woking |

The breakfasts will kick off at 9:00am.
We hope to see you there!