



Event Calendar

>>Septic Sense - Virtual Workshop

January 14, 2025 6:30 to 9:30 PM

You'll discover what a septic system is, how it functions, its regulations, design and installation process, proper usage, maintenance, and how to troubleshoot common issues.

[Register here](#)

>>Environmental Farm Plan (EFP)

January 16, 2025 at the Vermilion Ag Society Boardroom, 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM

Must pre register by January 10th!

Whether you need to complete an EFP for funding, Agri-Invest, or just for your farm, bring your laptop or tablet and our local Technicians will guide you through the process.

>>Power of Polycultures, Building Farm Resilience and Profitability

with Steve Kenyon - Greener Pastures and Ranching LTD

January 24, 2025 1:30 - 4:00 PM at Blackfoot Hall

Join for an afternoon about building soils, improving carbon, nutrients and water cycling and improving farm productivity.

For more information or to register, contact Cathie at (780)-846-3301 or carychuk@county24.com

>>Agri Visions

February 12 & 13 at the Lloyd Ex

A two-day event featuring a tradeshow, speakers, and seminars offering the latest insights for grain and cattle producers.

For [tickets](#)

What's New

Welcome to the revamped Agriculture and Environment Newsletter!

We're excited to bring you fresh updates every other month, packed with everything you need to know about what the Ag department is up to, seasonal happenings, upcoming events and workshops, pest surveys, pest and disease alerts, and our "Wild Watch" featuring different pests you can watch out for the county.

Plus, we'll showcase local businesses, share success stories, throw in some fun "Farm Fresh" surprises, and so much more!

We encourage your involvement! Check out the details and instructions below!

We're thrilled to have you with us!

FOLLOW US



Pests and Threats



Alberta has been rat-free for more than 70 years, thanks to its efforts in preventing the pest from establishing a permanent population and swiftly responding to any infestations. This success is the result of the dedication and hard work of the Rat Control Program staff. Every Albertan can help by reporting any signs of rats or sightings!

[Find out more](#)



The County of Vermilion River inspects 200 locations a season covering range road 10 to range road 20 every spring and fall. Our Pest Inspector visits areas where animals and/or feed are present, looking for signs of damage such as holes or gnaw marks on grain bags and buildings, as well as droppings, nests, and burrows.

Call **Darin** for more information on all things rats!

+1 (587) 217-4798

Pest Surveys

Pest surveys are crucial for early detection of pest problems, allowing for timely intervention to protect crops and ensure better yields. They provide data that helps inform pest management decisions, allocate resources effectively, and reduce economic losses. Additionally, surveys support environmentally friendly pest control strategies and contribute to long-term, sustainable agriculture.

The data from the surveys is not only used to create forecast maps, but also to inform research priorities and provide samples for use in studies by researchers

[Click here](#) to view the survey maps and learn about the results!

The county of Vermilion River participates in a number of pest surveys during the year! We participate in bertha army worm counts, grasshopper surveys, rat inspections, and clubroot surveys.

FREE Rentals

Gas- powered and hydraulic- powered grain bag rollers

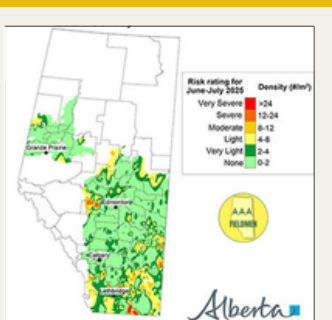
Call **Kendall** in the Ag

department to schedule a pick up of one of the grain- bag rollers!

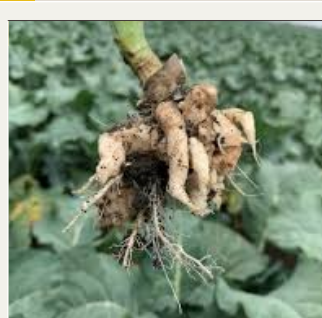
(780) 846-2244 or

kleuschen@county24.com

Please note that we do not transport your rolled grain bags to the Vermilion Waste Transfer Site. Our services is limited to providing rental equipment only.



grasshopper survey results



clubroot



bertha armyworm



bertha army worm bait box

Wild Watch

Common Tansy

Tanacetum vulgare



Weed Control Act Designation- Noxious (must control weed) This plant is a perennial that is native to Europe and was brought to Canada as a medicinal and ornamental plant. Common Tansy is mildly toxic to humans and wildlife if consumed.

Habitat- widespread across Alberta in disturbed areas, crop and pasture land, grassland, aquatic and urban areas

Identification- Yellow- orange, button-like flower heads in dense clusters of 20-100 at stem ends. Leaves fern like, alternate, deeply divided with toothed edges. This plant has a strong odor. Stem is purple-red, woody and can grow up to 180 cm tall.

Has woody, creeping roots and can produce up to 50,000 seeds per plant!

Control- Reproduce by seed and creeping roots. Cutting, mowing and herbicide to control.

ALUS & RALP

Are you a farmer or rancher with marginal land or sensitive ecology?

ALUS helps with

- establishing wetlands
- native prairie
- pollinator habitat

and other projects!

OR

Are you preparing for your farms future? Consider a 2025 project with

RALP!

- Rotational Grazing
- Grass Waterways
- Intercropping
- Pollinator Habitat
- Wetlands

and other projects!

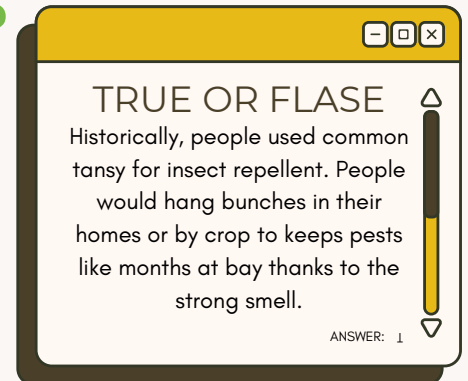
Are you considering applying for the **RALP** or interested in the **ALUS** Program? ALUS offers flexible timelines and local support to guide you through the process. RALP will open for new applications on February 1, and with high demand expected, it's important to prepare in advance. Reach out to **Chris** for assistance in determining which program suits your needs and to get help with the application process.

T: (780)-853-7844

E: celder@county24.com

ALUS

VERMILION RIVER



For more information about [RALP](#) or [ALUS](#)

Rooted Right Here...

Janna Hay is the owner of **Mutts N Scruffs**, a business she started in Lloydminster in 2018. She has always loved working with animals and has enjoyed having a variety of pets in her home, so it made perfect sense for her to make a career out of doing something she truly loves.

At first, she offered in-home pet sitting services in Lloydminster, but she quickly realized she needed to hire a few people to help keep up with the demand. She was very fortunate to meet some fantastic women who helped her build her business.

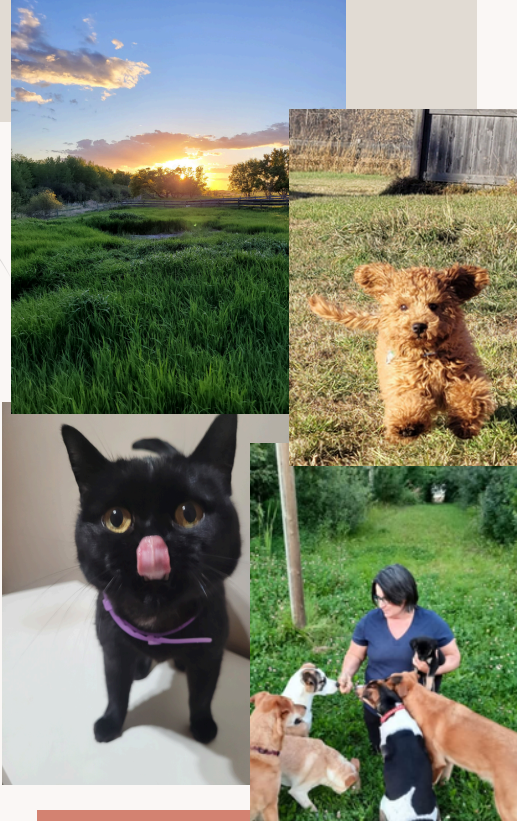
In 2021, Janna moved to the Marwayne area and decided to add dog and cat boarding to her services, which has been wonderful. It gave her the opportunity to be at home on a regular basis, while still working with animals.

In March of 2024, Janna made the choice to no longer offer pet services in Lloydminster, wanting to fully focus on pet boarding services in the Marwayne area. The ladies who worked with her in Lloydminster were each able to open their own pet care businesses in Lloydminster and are continuing to grow, which put her mind and heart at ease, knowing that customers in the Lloydminster area still had reliable, loving people to continue caring for their pets.

As someone who always enjoyed living in the city of Edmonton and thought she would one day return to the hustle and bustle, Janna now knows she was completely wrong. She loves every day at her acreage, having a coffee or two while watching the sunrise, wandering through fields with her son and a few dogs—her own or the ones just staying while their people are away. She enjoys the sunsets as much as the sunrises, sometimes more. Sitting around the fire in the evenings, watching and hearing wildlife, the stars, and northern lights will continue to amaze her each time she's lucky enough to experience it.

The way dogs are so happy to return makes Janna smile every time. Hearing how excited they are when they realize they are coming to visit is the best compliment she can receive. Cats a little less excited to come stay, but helping them get settled in and seeing them relax and become more comfortable in a new environment is very rewarding.

Janna knows she will continue to care for animals long past her retirement years and looks forward to it. She is incredibly thankful for all of her customers and their fantastic pets.



Want to Be Featured?

Got a great photo you'd like to see on our cover?

Have a funny joke or a question we can answer?

Maybe a heartwarming success story to share, or a local business you want to spotlight?

Send it all our way at

sustainableagriculture@county24.com

for a chance to be featured in our next newsletter!

Join the fun and be a part of the bulletin!



www.muttsnscruffs.ca

(780) 871-4552

muttsnscruffs@gmail.com

Farm Fresh Feast Coffee Cake Cookies

Streusel

- 1/2 cup all purpose flour
- 1/3 cup brown sugar
- 2 tsp. cinnamon
- pinch salt
- 5 Tbsp. butter, unsalted

Cookie Dough

- 1 1/4 cup all purpose flour
- 3/4 cup cake flour
- 1 tsp. cornstarch
- 1 tsp. cinnamon
- 1/2 tsp. baking soda
- 1/2 tsp. baking powder
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 8 Tbsp. cold butter, unsalted,
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 1/4 cup granulated sugar
- 1 tsp. vanilla extract
- 1 large egg
- 1 large egg yolk



Icing

- 2 Tbsp. unsalted butter, melted
- 3 Tbsp. heavy cream or milk
- 1 cup powdered sugar
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- pinch salt

Instructions

1. Preheat oven to 400°F and line two baking sheets with parchment paper
2. Prepare streusel in a medium bowl. Mix all ingredients together then work butter in until small clumps form then refrigerate.
3. For cookie dough - combine dry ingredients together
4. Cream butter and sugar together with an electric mixer for 1-2 minutes
5. Add egg, egg yolk, and vanilla to butter and sugar mixture and blend together until mixed
6. Gradually add in dry ingredients to wet and mix until all is incorporated
7. Scoop and roll cookie dough into ~8 large balls or 22-24 smaller cookies
8. Make an indent in each cookie and spoon ~1 Tbsp of streusel filling in each
9. Bake for ~8 - 11 minutes or until edges are golden
10. Whisk icing ingredients together, once cookies are cooled drizzle icing over the top
11. ENJOY



[RECIPE LINK](#)