

Exciting News for Oak Lake!

The Souris River Watershed District hosted its annual Water Festival on September 24 at Cherry Point, bringing Grade 5/6 students and community members together for a day of fun, hands-on science, and stewardship. From critter dipping and water safety to learning about aquifers, carnivorous plants, and riparian health, participants explored how water shapes our environment. A shared lunch, interactive stations, and teamwork made the event both educational and memorable—celebrating water, conservation, and community.



Animal of the Week:

Red Fox

The red fox (*Vulpes vulpes*) is one of the most iconic mammals in the Souris River Watershed District. Adaptable and intelligent, they thrive in prairies, forests, farms, and even towns—controlling rodents and adding a splash of color to the landscape. Protect habitat, secure waste, and enjoy Manitoba's foxes from a distance!

Meet the SRWD Board: Henry Murkin, Provincial Appointee & Wetlands Conservation Champion!



We're proud to spotlight Henry Murkin in our "Meet the Board" series! A leader in wetland research and former Ducks Unlimited Canada Director of Conservation, Henry has guided SRWD since 2017. Now living along the Souris River, he values working locally to support conservation, communities, and a thriving watershed.



Place of the Month: Sweet Grass Meadow

Sweet Grass Meadow near Boissevain is a rare remnant of native prairie, home to sweet grass (*Hierochloe odorata*)—a plant vital to soil, wildlife, and Indigenous culture. 🌿 Protected through stewardship and prescribed burns, this meadow preserves biodiversity and heritage. Respect the trail and help keep it thriving!



Showcasing Conservation and Community Leadership at SRWD

At the Souris River Watershed District, every meeting brings new opportunities to learn and advocate for our communities.

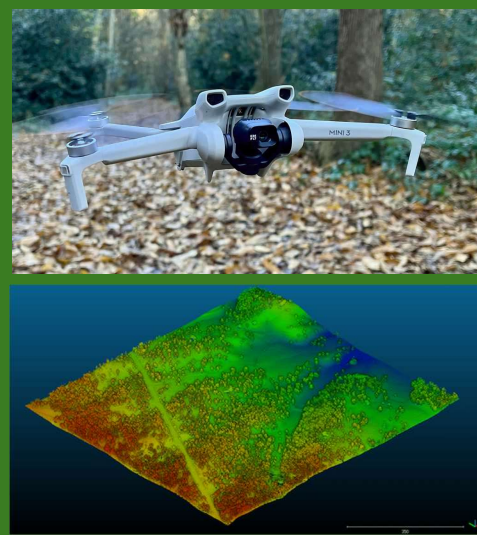
Board members Scott Phillips and Joe Goodwill, along with General Manager Dean Brooker, Program Coordinator Scott Hainsworth, and Mayor of the Municipality of Souris-Glenwood Duane Davison, recently welcomed Minister of Environment and Climate Change Mike Moyes to tour local projects at Plum Creek, Oak Lake Beach, Cherry Point Park, Sifton Park, the Souris River, and the Souris Golf Course—showcasing both the beauty of the region and the passionate teamwork behind watershed conservation.



The visit highlighted collaboration in rural economic reconciliation and the importance of protecting natural spaces.

Did you know?

At the Souris River Watershed District, drones help us capture high-resolution photos and videos of wetlands, riparian zones, and upland habitats. Each flight can collect 1,000+ images, which we process in ArcGIS Pro to build detailed orthomosaic maps. By combining drone imagery with provincial LiDAR data, we reveal elevation, contours, and hidden features to better understand water flow and habitat change. This powerful technology guides restoration efforts, monitors ecosystem health, and supports a thriving watershed for both wildlife and communities.



 srwd.com

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