



MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF GREENVIEW No. 16

MEDIA RELEASE

August 14, 2017

Greenview Partners with Community on Common Tansy Clean Up Greenview, Alberta

On August 14, 2017 Greenview partnered with dedicated volunteers to respond to an overgrowth of Common Tansy along the Smoky River. Several of the groups involved participated in last year's tansy control project at the same location. The Grande Prairie River Rats, 7 Generations Energy and Canadian Natural Resources Limited are returning volunteers. This year the Alberta Invasive Species Council also joined in the efforts.

Greenview Agricultural Services became aware of the Common Tansy problem on the Smoky River during a routine inspection in 2015. The first common tansy clean up took place in 2016. Last year's work was postponed to late summer due to changing water levels. Greenview is targeting an earlier start date in 2017 to reach the plants before they begin to seed and spread.

Along with the control efforts, Greenview's goal is to bring awareness that Common Tansy is spreading along the Smoky River between municipalities in our region. With increased awareness of the plant and its potential harmful effects, Greenview hopes to start moving control efforts to the source of the infestation. It is anticipated that the Common Tansy problem will need to be addressed over multiple growing seasons. Due to its location along the water, the tansy is being controlled through manual labour by digging out the plants one by one and burning the plants to minimize opportunity for the seeds to spread. This labour intensive process relies on the help of many hands.

Reeve Dale Gervais acknowledged the importance of the volunteers: "We want to extend our heartfelt appreciation to the Grande Prairie River Rats, 7 Generations Energy, Canadian Natural and the Alberta Invasive Species Council for being part of the Common Tansy control project. A project of this magnitude wouldn't be possible without the dedicated work of many people and we are so pleased that these community focused organizations and businesses were able to join us again this year."

Due to Common Tansy's invasive nature and tendency for seeds to spread with spring runoff, this plant has the potential to infest and outcompete native vegetation anywhere downstream. Watersheds that could potentially be impacted include the Peace River, Slave River, Great Slave Lake and beyond. By being proactive now, Greenview hopes to save large areas of native vegetation along the water's edge.

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