



# MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF GREENVIEW No. 16

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 19, 2016

### **Volunteers do battle with potentially toxic weeds**

A group of 29 volunteers is being commended for their efforts in protecting the Smoky River from an invasive species.

On Wednesday, Sept. 14, representatives from the MD of Greenview, Canadian Natural Resources Limited, Seven Generations Energy and the River Rats Boat Club worked together to successfully remove approximately 3,000 lbs. of Common Tansy (*Tanacetum vulgare*) from an island of Crown property located approximately 8 KM north of the Smoky River Bridge. This equates to approximately 67 full garbage bags.

“If left alone, Common Tansy has the ability to spread rapidly and choke out native plant species, thereby challenging eco systems,” said Sean Allen, Greenview’s Agricultural Supervisor Trainee.

Common Tansy originates from Europe and when brought over to western regions in the 1600s, its natural predators were left behind. The plant does not provide any forage value to livestock or wildlife. When consumed in large quantities, Common Tansy may be toxic.

With each plant capable of producing thousands of seeds, this month’s exercise has stopped millions of seeds from floating down river and infesting other areas of the watershed.

“Greenview is extremely grateful for the support we’ve received from the River Rats Boat Club and our industry partners to move this initiative forward,” commented Greenview Reeve Dale Gervais.

“Their hard work and commitment in reducing the spread of Common Tansy in the MD will help keep our landscape beautiful for everyone to enjoy.”

For more information, please see the attached Common Tansy Fact Sheet produced by the [Alberta Invasive Species Council](#).

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*Arlen Hogg, Chad Finnebraaten, Kevin Coulombe and Don Hare work together to uproot a mass of Common Tansy along the banks of the Smoky River. More than 3,000 lbs. of the invasive weed was harvested and destroyed during an exercise held Sept. 14 that involved the MD of Greenview, Canadian Natural Resources Limited, Seven Generations Energy and the River Rats Boat Club. Photo courtesy of the Municipal District of Greenview No. 16.*



*(At Right) Approximately 3,000 pounds (or 67 full garbage bags) of Common Tansy was found and destroyed on a small island of Crown land, located 8 KM north of the Smoky River Bridge, during an exercise held Sept. 14. Photo courtesy of the Municipal District of Greenview No. 16.*