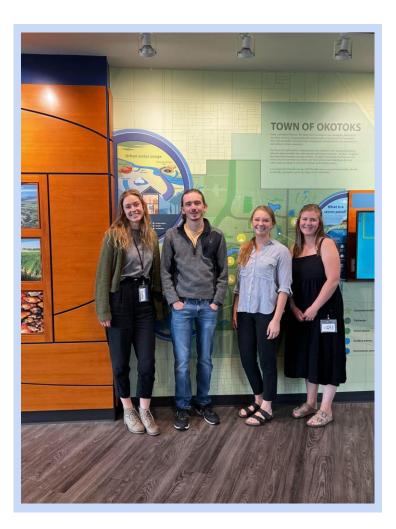
2022 Summer Conservation Education Program





Who are the 2022 Conservation Educators?

The 2022 Educator Team consisted of Abby Murray, Iris George, Josh King, and Taylor Tulissi

Our team has backgrounds in Environmental Sciences, Ecology, Biology, Conservation Sciences, and Education!

Each Educator had a specific task portfolio; Water, Waste, Biodiversity, and Energy





Major 2022 Conservation Educator Objectives



- 1. Visit all 2021/22 new utility accounts/residents
- 2. Deliver Eco Education progams to schools
- 3. Visit May-June High Water Users
- 4. Raise awareness of the Town's Water Conservation Programs
- 5. Host educational webinars, workshops and class visits on sustainability topics
- 6. Host information tables at Town Events



Additional Conservation Educator Tasks





Year Round Conservation Education

September through April programming :

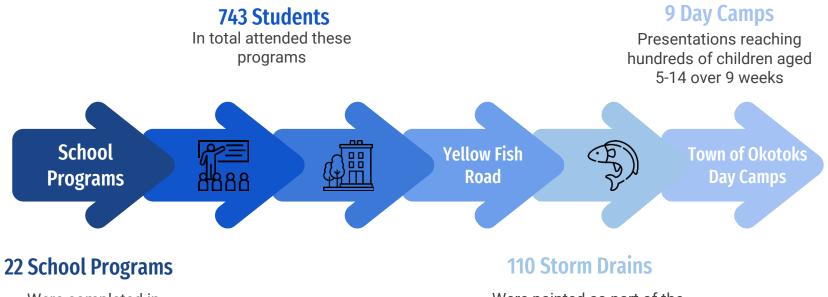
28 Eco Education Programs to school classes and community groups, reaching 700+ children.

Nature Fridays began in March 2022, and has averaged 20 visitors/week in the months following





Summer Eco Education Programs



Were completed in May & June

Were painted as part of the Yellow Fish Road program



Feedback from School Programs

"The hosts were engaging and their passion was contagious"

"The kids loved planting a seed and learning about how they can help the bees. It made it super relevant to their lives and experiences"

"I liked that the activity was educational and involved elements from our nature walk"



Regular Town Events are Back!

Events

- Chamber Trade
 Show
- Children's Festival
- Busker's Fest
- Teddy Bear Hunt
- Canada Day
- Taste of Okotoks
- Chili Fest

Spoke to 2000+ people!

Our Goals

- Educate Residents about Town programs and initiatives
- Promote sustainable living
- Raise public awareness of water conservation strategies
- Education on waste diversion
- Answer resident's questions



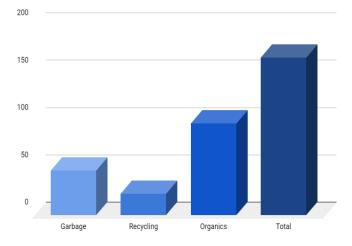




Waste Diversion at Town Events

- New method of Waste Diversion that virtually eliminated contamination in organic and recycling streams!
- A great learning opportunity for the community!

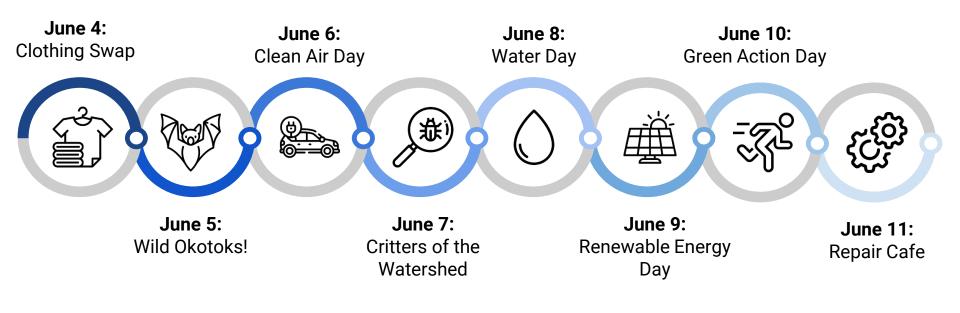




We diverted 167 kg of event waste from the landfill this summer!



Environment Week '22



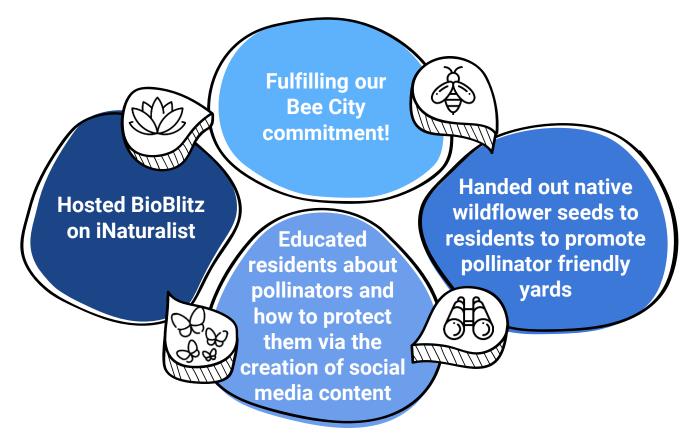


Highlights from Environment Week!





Second Annual Pollinator Week





The BioBlitz!

- We created a iNaturalist project for Pollinator Week to raise awareness for local pollinators
- The BioBlitz was held throughout the week to boost public interest and for residents to individually participate in identifying local species!
- We had 365 observations of 158 different species!



Highlights of Summer '22





5 ARU's Deployed and Collected

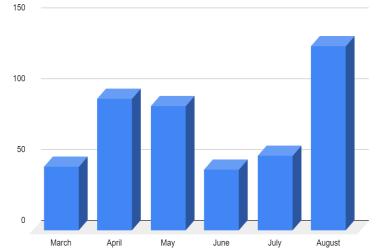
- 18,342 images and 4814 audio recordings
- ARU's are Autonomous Recording Units that help us to gather information about the wildlife within an area of concern





Nature Fridays at the Environmental Education Centre





Average of 20 visitors per week!



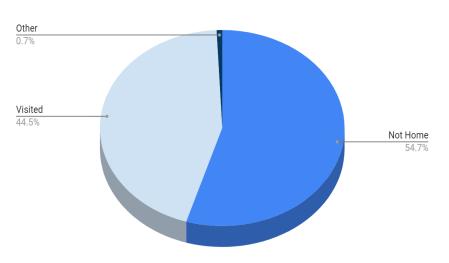
New Resident Visits

Topics discussed with New Residents:

- Outdoor watering schedule
- Water Conservation Rebate Program and Xeriscape Program
- Water Meter Portal
- Waste app/Eco Center

Visit Statistics:

- 1074 total homes visited
- 478 doors answered







High Water Users

Concerning Water Usage:

70+ cubic meters in May and June

Outdoor watering off schedule without a water permit

400 homes + 244 random homes

~150 homes

Visits included educating residents about the Town's water resources and available tools to provide water wise choices.



Partial Watering Ban

- Partial watering ban during the last half of August
- Monitored watering in mornings and evenings
- Left door hangers that outlined the partial watering ban rules
- Approximately 170 door hangers were distributed







Waste Audit

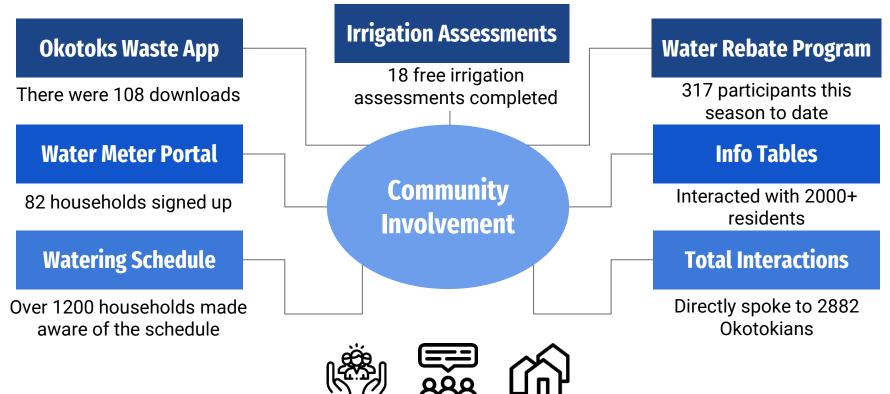
- This audit helped to identify the contamination and common waste
- The data collected will inform future changes in waste signage, as well as staff and public education on waste







2022 Program Impacts





Conclusion

- Direct contact with residents is a very effective way of sharing information
- Offering a friendly face to encourage sustainable actions was well received by residents
- Expand capacity to permanentaly offer programs year round!





Questions?





