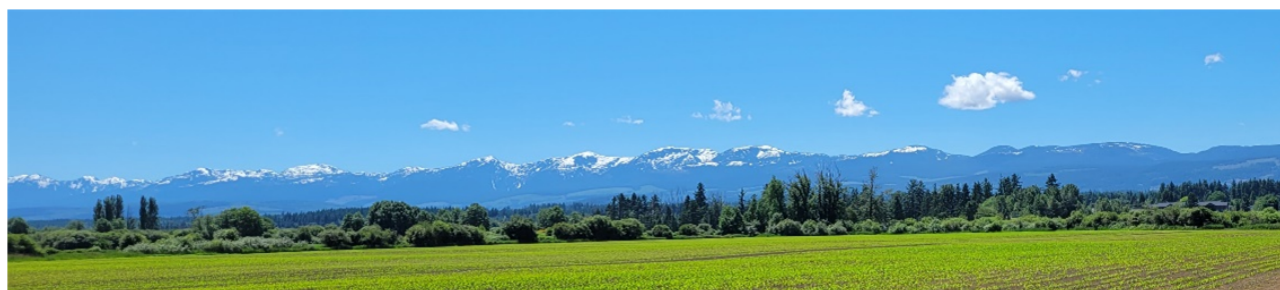




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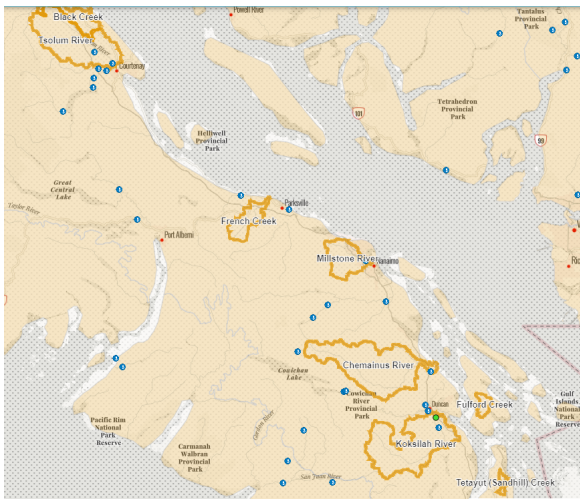


Islands Region - Resources

Looking for Islands-specific agriculture information? Check out the Vancouver Island Regional webpage of AgriServiceBC for Industry contacts, local planning information, soil and nutrient management resources.

[More Info](#)





Is your farm prepared for drought?

As we move into summer, this year is being shaped by drought across our region. The Ministry of Agriculture and Food has updated the [2023 Quick Guide to Drought Resources](#) that provides information and guidance to help producers prepare and manage drought. ...

[Read More](#)



Announcing the Agricultural Water Infrastructure Program!

The Agricultural Water Infrastructure Program will help the sector in adapting to climate change by providing incentives for the sector to invest in water infrastructure for adaptation.

The Agricultural Water Infrastructure (AWI) Program is a three-year, up to \$20M program, with

funding by the Government of BC through the Ministry of Agriculture & Food. The program is delivered by Investment Agriculture Foundation (IAF). Through the program, primary and Indigenous Producers, conservation groups, water purveyors and Indigenous Communities will have access to cost-shared funding to adapt to climate change by investing in water infrastructure. Find out more at [Agricultural Water Infrastructure Program](#) page on the IAF [website!](#)



Extreme Weather Preparedness for Agriculture Program

Extreme Weather Preparedness for Agriculture (EWP) program will remain open until all program funds have been committed.

In order to provide producers with more time and flexibility to complete their applications and projects, the current application intake is extended until all funds for this fiscal year have been committed (note: this means, unlike last year, a second intake of EWP will not be available for...

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Upcoming Islands Events and dates:

July 21st: The Traceability Value Chain Program closes for applications. Until then, there is still time for BC agriculture, food and seafood sector organizations, commercial food hubs and groups of three or more businesses along a supply chain to take advantage of this cost-sharing funding opportunity! Approved projects can receive funding up to 70% of project costs to a maximum of \$75,000 for the adoption of information sharing systems that will enhance agrifood and seafood traceability among supply chain partners. Visit BC [Traceability Funding Programs](#) for details.

Mid-July: Keep an eye out for the program intake opening for the [Beneficial Management Practices Program](#), expected to open in July. The Beneficial Management Practices (BMP) program is an on-farm cost-share incentive program to assist farm and ranch operations to mitigate some of the risks identified in the farm-specific Environmental Farm Plans (EFPs). The goal of the BMP program is to increase adoption of technology and practices to mitigate high-risk activities or emerging challenges.

July 10th, August 14th, September 11th (2nd Monday every month): [Vancouver Island Fibreshed](#) monthly meetings to discuss upcoming projects, fibre production and processing on the Islands.

Where: Online, at 7pm. Contact info@vancouverislandfibreshed.ca for the Zoom link.

July 16th: Soil Sunday - learn about healthy, biologically active soil from three soil scientists at [Sandown Centre for Regenerative Agriculture](#)! Follow along each presentation from three scientists: Charlotte (Pacific Forestry Centre), Brooke (UVic Ecogastronomy Lab), and Matthew (UVic PhD student) and get the chance to ask questions!

Where: Sandown Centre for Regenerative Agriculture is located in 1810 Glamorgan Road in North Saanich. Please find more information and register at [eventbrite](#).

July 29th: *One Day* True Potato Seed Intensive: Join Scott Harris as he delves into the lost art of potato breeding in a condensed course format. Ever wonder if you can grow potatoes from seed like other vegetables? Well you can, and this 3 hour course gives you the knowledge on how to produce and grow TPS or True Potato Seed that can remain viable for 50 years. A great avenue for seed security in a changing world. Presented by Farm Folk, City Folk.

Where: 9:00 AM-12:00 PM at the Lohbrunner Community Farm, 1152 Lippincott Rd. in Langford. Course fee is \$50, for more information please [visit the website](#).

July 30th: Participate in restoration at Sandown Centre for Regenerative Agriculture: Join us on the last Sunday of every month for an invasive species pull! Bring a water bottle, sunscreen, hat, and gloves and clippers if available. Snacks included!

Where: Meet at the main gate at 1810 Glamorgan Road in North Saanich at 9:30 am. For more information, [email info@sandowncentre.com](mailto:info@sandowncentre.com).

August 18th – 20th: North Saanich Flavour Trails Festival: On behalf of the District of North Saanich, each August, CRFAIR holds the North Saanich Flavour Trails Festival, a two-day weekend celebration of all North Saanich has to offer including a self guided trail of local producers, food makers, small businesses, artists and more!

Where: North Saanich, August 18th – 20th. Visit [Upcoming events – CRFAIR](#) for updates.

August 20th: Fibrations is an annual free event, a community celebration of fibre artists for enthusiasts, makers, crafters, the general public and everyone in between! One beautiful day, with workshops, more than 60 exhibitors, demonstrations for everyone, hands-on activities for kids, a toonie raffle. Make Fibrations 2023 your August bright spot- we can't wait to see you there!

Where: 10:00 am - 5:00 pm at the Fernwood Community Centre in Victoria. For more information, please visit the website [here](#).

August 27th (Last Sunday of every month): Participate in restoration at Sandown Centre for Regenerative Agriculture: Join us on the last Sunday of every month for an invasive species pull! Bring a water bottle, sunscreen, hat, and gloves and clippers if available. Snacks included!

Where: Meet at the main gate at 1810 Glamorgan Road in North Saanich at 9:30 am. For more information, email info@sandowncentre.com.

September 8th – 10th: Rejuvenating the Sheep Industry Conference: Inter Island Sheep Breeders Association, in partnership with BC Sheep Federation, invite you to a weekend of hands-on workshops, vendors, and guest speakers. Featuring Woody Lane, livestock nutritionist and forage specialist.

Where: Coombs, BC, September 8th – 10th (Friday – Sunday). For more details or to register, please email iisbapresident@gmail.com.

October: Good Food Gathering: The Good Food Summit emphasizes cross sector collaboration, networking, skill building, and highlights the Good Food work happening in the Capital Region. This

annual event brings together food sector actors, leaders and community to engage in meaningful dialogue and learn about local initiatives. You'll hear from community leaders, food system organizations, and connect to co-create solutions to key food system challenges in the Capital Regional District.

Where: Stay tuned for more information at [Upcoming events — CRFAIR](#)

Do you have an agriculture event taking place on Vancouver Island, the Gulf Islands or Powell River that you would like highlighted in the Islands Edition of AgriService BC? Send your request to Megan.Halstead@gov.bc.ca.



Cost-free Regenerative Farming...

The FULLY FUNDED [Regenerative Farming program](#) is designed to engage students in agriculture to address a need in all...

[Read More](#)



A 'Hat Trick' of Field Days!

Comox Valley farmers were treated to three consecutive days of farmer-to-farmer learning in June. Here's what happened:...

[Read More](#)



This is your e-Bulletin!

This newsletter is a regionalized version of the AgriService BC e-Bulletin, prepared by the Regional Agrologists serving the Islands region. You can reach us through [AgriService BC](#), at 1-888-221-7141 or AgriServiceBC@gov.bc.ca. If you're not already subscribed, please click the link below to sign up for these periodic emails with highlights of agricultural news from around Vancouver Island and surrounding islands. Please also forward this newsletter freely around to your farmer community networks!

[Subscribe HERE for VI News!](#)



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AgriService BC is on Facebook!

It is with great pleasure that we announce the [AgriService BC Facebook page!](#)

AgriService BC serves and supports B.C.'s farm & food sector by providing consistent, accurate and timely communications regarding Ministry of Agriculture and Food programs, resources and events. Please help us build our online community by sharing this announcement broadly with your contacts. Direct Link: <https://www.facebook.com/AgriService-BC-103287979487810>

For monthly, provincewide agricultural news such as the latest program openings and events delivered to your inbox, subscribe to the AgriService e-Bulletin. Be sure to add AgriServiceBC@gov.bc.ca to your safe senders list so the email newsletters arrive to your inbox and not the junk.

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Have a question about agriculture or agrifood?

Contact AgriService BC
Phone: 1-888-221-7141
Email: AgriServiceBC@gov.bc.ca

[Contact us!](#)

AgriService BC connects farmers, food processors and new entrants to agricultural services, programs and information that can help them succeed.

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