

April 4, 2022 For immediate release

Green Ellsworth and its Partners investing in the Planet with Earth Day/Arbor Day Projects.

The Ellsworth Garden Club will also be busy beginning the week of April 18 planting trees. Along with many others across the country, Mayor Dale Hamilton has proclaimed April 29 Arbor Day in Ellsworth. As weather permits, volunteers from the Ellsworth Garden Club, Downeast Trout Unlimited, Frenchman Bay Conservancy and Green Ellsworth will be planting 80 trees at the new Community Tree Nursery at the Jordan Homestead Preserve on the Bayside Road in Ellsworth.

The project will culminate on Arbor Day with second grade students from the Ellsworth Elementary Middle School planting the last of the trees--one for each participating student. Eventually, the tree farm is expected to accommodate up to 500 trees at any given time. It will create a less expensive and more environmentally friendly mechanism for re-treing the City, and having been grown on locally, the trees will be more successful when transplanted. The nursery is a component of a broader reforestation and urban forestry management effort in the City. To get involved in these tree planting activities contact Jay at 667-8878.

EGC members are also encouraged to get involved in other Green Ellsworth events in April and May. In recognition of Earth Day, Green Ellsworth's Energy and Waste Action Team will be working with the City of Ellsworth to promote Roadside Clean-up activities. On Saturday, April 23 from 10:00AM to 3:00PM at City Hall, volunteers can pick up yellow trash bags and register to clean up specific roadways.

A prize goes to the person who returns by 3:00PM with the strangest piece of trash collected that day. Volunteers should wear safety vests or bright clothing and work on one side of the road at a time facing traffic. The trash collection event runs through May 1. For more information about this event contact 664-0928.

Finally, on May 3 starting at 6:30PM Our Union River Action Team will be hosting a public forum focused on the Union River, its current state within and beyond the City of Ellsworth and various dimensions of its future including water quality, watershed connectivity, public access and conservation, its living history, recreational and economic development. Brief presentations on each of these

topics will lead to break out sessions in which participants will be asked to weigh in on their vision for the river and changes or actions needed to realize their vision.

A decision will be made later in April as to whether COVID circumstances allow for an in-person event or necessitate zoom or blended access. Residents, property owners and other stakeholders in the Union River Watershed are encouraged to attend and may get further information by contacting blackstm@uregina.ca.