

Environmental Action

2022 Environmental Awareness- Related projects

1. Solar Phone Charger
2. Planting Memories
3. Upcycle challenge
4. Christmas tree chipping
5. Annual Christmas tree
6. Where do I fix it? Guide
7. Where do I take it? Guide
8. Composting
 - Neighborhood yard waste bins
 - Curbside composting education
 - Backyard composting research and survey
9. Rummage sale
10. Superfluity Store
11. Repair Café
12. Zero Waste Initiatives
 - Straws optional
 - Block Parties
 - Water bottle refill stations
 - Lunch meetings
13. BYO Bag
14. Wear a Sweater campaign
15. Walk 'n' Roll campaign
16. We Go Bagless
17. Trying To Be Idle Free
18. Trash 2 Treasure
19. Eco Excellence Awards
20. Green Tips
21. Collection Programs by the Heartland Beautification Committee
 - Pens/markers
 - Cigarette butts
22. School related environment initiatives
23. Recycling
24. Stettler Waste Management Authority
 - Battery recycling
 - Toxic Waste
 - Mattresses
 - Take it or leave it
 - Treated Wood
 - Electronics
25. Stettler Board of Trade
 - Shop local promotions
 - Open farm bus tours
 - Taste of the heartland
 - Farmers Market

26. Water conservation/management

27. Other conservation

Attachments:

- Where do I fix it?
- Block Parties -zero waste info
- Recycling for Businesses & Apartments
- Backyard Composting: Getting Started
- Town of Stettler Compost Bin Locations
- 2022 Garbage /Recycling Schedule

Environmental Action/Awareness

General Environmental Action activities

Town of Stettler Town council amended its **mission statement** in 2012 to include social and environmental responsibility. It now reads:

“We will provide a high quality of life for our residents and visitors through leadership and the delivery of effective, efficient and affordable services that are socially and environmentally responsible.”

The **motto** for Environmental Action is:

“No one can do everything. Everyone can do something.”

In 2017, the Heartland Beautification Committee was one of three Emerald Award finalists in the Community Groups: Grassroots award category. The Emerald Awards recognize and celebrate outstanding environmental achievements across all sectors in Alberta.

1. Solar Phone Charger



Wireless phone charging station, powered by the sun, at a picnic table in Stettler’s Downtown Park. It works for all phones with wireless capabilities. This serves to raise awareness of the potential of solar power.



2. Planting Memories

NEW

The Heartland Beautification Committee has partnered with the Stettler Funeral Home and the Town of Stettler to create a "Planting Memories" park where the Funeral Home can host a special spring ceremony for all the families that have lost loved ones. At the ceremony, the families will each plant part of 5 flower containers and the group will plant one tree to add to the park. This ceremony will replace the Funeral Home's traditional balloon release ceremony. Heartland Beautification is paying for the initial trees in the park, the Town is supplying the soil, mulch and in-kind labor, and the Funeral Home will purchase the flowers and tree each year. The Stettler Funeral Home benefits for their annual ceremony and Stettler residents can enjoy the park the entire year. Construction began in May, 2022.



Planting Memories

PFC SFH
PARKVIEW STETTLER
FUNERAL HOME & CREMATORIUM



Town of
Stettler

3. Upcycle Challenge

NEW

To encourage re-use, the HBC invites area residents to make something new out of something old. We choose the top 5 finalists and post them on our Facebook page and invite voting to help us choose the top 3 who win \$100, \$50, and \$25 in Heart of Alberta dollars. For those who wish to sell their items, we sell them in a silent auction at our Trade Show booth or they are sold at Superfluity store. All proceeds go to Superfluity. Since we started this two years ago, we've had about 35 entries.



Old suitcase made into a dog bed



1960's Chevy grill made into shelf lighting



Old radio made into a wine rack

4. Christmas tree chipping

NEW The Heartland Beautification Committee began a Christmas Tree chipping program in 2021. The public was invited to drop their real Christmas trees off at the Stettler Transfer Site or at one of the neighborhood compost bin sites. Town staff chipped the trees for mulch. This year, real Christmas trees were in very short supply in our area so our volume of trees dropped off after Christmas was lower than expected but we certainly plan to continue the program.

5. Annual Christmas Tree

Each year, a coniferous tree that has been donated by a town resident (removal was required anyways) is cut and placed as the winter main street Christmas tree. After its use as a decorated tree, the limbs are chipped, and the base is given to a mill. The rest is given as firewood.



6. Where do I fix it? Guide

[Where do I fix it?](#)

HBC created a comprehensive reference list of where to get items fixed instead of disposing of them. This list is updated yearly and is handed out at the Trade Show as well as available online on the Town of Stettler website (paper copy attached).

7. Where do I take it? Guide

[Where do I take it?](#)

HBC created a comprehensive reference list of where to recycle or responsibly dispose of items. This list is posted as a searchable directory on the Town of Stettler website. The current list contains over 600 items and is maintained and updated as needed.

8. Composting

Neighborhood composting

There are 7 compost bin sites (see map attached) set up in various, easily accessible areas around town, with others projected to be added in the future. Stettler residents have taken advantage of the program and the bins are emptied approximately twice per week. Some locations have 6+ bins at the site, and are filled up very rapidly. Approximately 6-10 tons of compostable yard waste are collected per week. Signage at each collection site directs those leaving compostable materials to not leave plastic bags, branches, etc. The material is then transported to the Stettler Transfer site where the piles are turned regularly over a 3-year period. Prior to use, the compost is sifted, to remove any undesirable debris. Yard waste is no longer picked up with curbside garbage and put in the landfill. The end product is used in town parks and homeowners are welcome to use it as well.

Many homeowners have also taken it upon themselves to compost meal leftovers, coffee grinds, and other biodegradable items and use them for their own gardens and lawns.

Compost pile at transfer station



Neighborhood compost bin

Curbside Composting Project

Since mid-late 2013, the Heartland Beautification Committee has been investigating the potential for adding compostable materials to the existing curbside recycling pickup program, with the hope of having something ready in the future. A survey for residents was prepared to assess the interest and willingness of having compostable materials picked up at residences. At the same time, they researched different options for pickup and potential savings and issues. The company that contracts the pickup of recyclables and garbage in town was consulted, breaking down different costs for residents, depending on pickup options. A proposal was presented to Town of Stettler Council, but it was determined to not be acceptable (price, acceptability by residents, etc.) and was rejected by council at that time. This year, HBC is working on another proposal for curbside composting.

Backyard Composting

The HBC has been running a backyard composting awareness program since 2012 and has also arranged for compost bins to be built on order by students from the Building Construction program at Wm. E. Hay Stettler Secondary Campus. Compost bins are available in 2 sizes – 1 cubic metre and 0.7 cubic metres and were initially available in 2 types of wood (untreated spruce and cedar). Orders are taken from Trade Show visitors.

A "Backyard Composting - Getting Started" brochure was created and promoted in the Town of Stettler and Stettler Board of Trade newsletters and websites. It is handed out at the Trade Show and at the Annual Plant Swap / Spring Plant Exchange. It is also available from the town office and on the town website. It is also placed at Composting Sites around town. (see attached) [Backyard Composting](#)

9. Rummage Sale

The IODE Annual Rummage Sale involves the collection of a huge amount of garage sale-type items, which are sorted and displayed in the curling rink and adjacent Ag Society Agriplex and then sold over the course of a week-end. The proceeds go towards funding community programs.

Frontenac Chapter IODE Rummage Sale is set to run Sept. 20th and 21st

Hugely popular sale held at the Curling Rink and the Agri-plex

MARK WEBER / Aug. 28, 2019 12:30 p.m. / COMMUNITY / LOCAL NEWS / NEWS



Vivian Lowther stands in the Stettler Curling Rink amongst all the donations collected so far for the annual Frontenac Chapter IODE Rummage Sale which is set to run Sept. 20th and 21st. Mark Weber/Stettler Independent

10. Superfluity

A local "store" which takes in donated used clothing and other items, sorts and organizes them (all work is done by volunteers) and then sells them to the public. All proceeds go to funding local community programs. In some cases, they creatively use donated items/materials, to create other items for sale (e.g., Christmas decorations are made by volunteers).

11. Repair Café

Repair Café was first organized for September 2016 (on the weekend of the Rummage Sale), where experts were on hand to assist people with fixing their household items and clothing, rather than dispose of them. People both reduce landfill disposal and learn skills. In 2017, two Repair Café events were carried out. 100's of items have been repaired at the events so far. To reduce strain on volunteer experts, we are scaling back to one event per year, however additional categories have been added.



Get free help repairing items!

This Saturday
1- 5 PM
Rec Centre

12. Zero waste initiatives



ZEROWASTE

Straws Optional

Over the past 4 years, the Heartland Beautification Committee has developed a Straws Optional awareness program. We designed small tent signs for restaurant tables and distributed them to all restaurants. We experienced excellent business buy-in with most local restaurants displaying “Straws Optional” posters and the tent signs on tables. The pandemic paused this program and now most restaurants are choosing paper straws rather than single-use plastic without any further promotion. Straws are also part of the Federal Government’s proposed single-use plastics ban.

In 2022, we gave out reusable collapsible straws as a promotion at our Trade Show booth.



Zero-Waste Block Parties

The Town of Stettler website contains information for hosting a block party according to Town policy. In that information is a poster encouraging Block Party organizers to go “Zero-Waste”. (see attached)



Water bottle refill stations

NEW

In 2022, in an effort to reducing single-use water bottles, the Heartland Beautification Committee began installing outside taps where residents can fill water bottles. The first two are slated for installation at the Stettler Sports Park and the Spray Park, both high-use areas.

Zero-Waste lunch meetings

The Heartland Beautification Committee has a monthly lunch meeting at which real plates, cutlery, etc. are always used, to serve as an example to the community.

Water Bottle Refill Station



Refill. Reuse.

Sponsored by the Heartland Beautification Committee

13. BYO Bag

The mayor proclaimed a week in March of 2012 to be "Bring Your Own Bag Week" to launch this initiative. This was promoted in the Stettler Independent newspaper with a photo of the Mayor, Heartland Beautification Committee members, and representatives from all 4 Stettler schools. At the time, Stettler Elementary students did the art work on 200 "Did you BYO BAG?" posters that 111 stores/businesses agreed to display inside and/or outside their buildings prior to and following the campaign. Initially, promotion was on the exterior signs and through the radio, as well as town, county and Board of Trade websites.

Since 2012, most stores have kept the reminder signs in place and signs have been replaced/refreshed annually. A number of stores have done campaigns to reduce bag use on their own, using the BYO Bag signage. In 2016, the HBC designed and had printed several permanent signs that were put up outside the entrances of Sobey's and Sean's No Frills, reminding customers to bring in their reusable shopping bags. Sean's No Frills, Sobey's, ID Apparel, Walmart and TD Bank have donated hundreds (500+ annually) of re-usable shopping bags that are given out at the Heartland Beautification booth at the annual Trade Show each year. BYO Bag sticky pads are distributed at the trade show and various events throughout the year. "Got Yours?" BYO Bag signage is put at participating businesses over the course of the year. Many different businesses have participated.

Re-useable produce bags

NEW

To reduce the reliance on plastic produce bags, volunteers have been encouraging residents to use a variety of other, re-usable options, such as orange bags, cloths bags, etc. A group of volunteers used sheer fabric from Superfluity, as well as fabric purchased with a local donation, to sew 400 re-usable fabric produce bags. These were given away at the 2022 local Trade show.





Are your
REUSABLE BAGS
still in the car?



ONE reusable bag
saves HUNDREDS
of disposable bags.

Sponsored by the Heartland Beautification Committee



TODAY



Sponsored by the
Heartland Beautification Committee

BAG EVENT

Wear a sweater campaign

Poster in store

14. *Wear a sweater campaign*

To promote energy conservation, the Heartland Beautification Committee started a "Wear a Sweater" awareness campaign to encourage people to warm themselves rather than the entire house or vehicle. We partnered with local clothing stores who have been happy to display our poster on their doors and near their sweater racks.

Wear a SWEATER



Chilly?
Reach for a sweater, not the thermostat.
Warm yourself, not your entire house.
Wearing a sweater allows you to keep your house 3 degrees cooler.
Sponsored by the Heartland Beautification Committee.



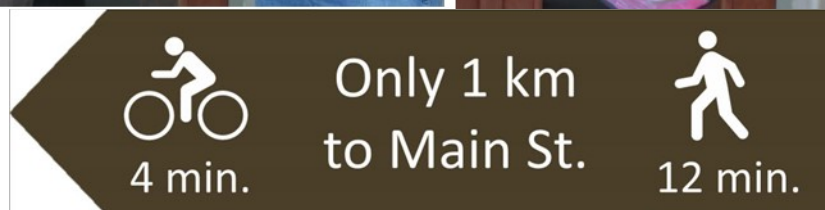
15. Walk 'n' Roll campaign

For several years, the HBC (and other community partners – e.g. Stettler Wellness Network, Stettler Traffic Safety Committee) have worked to increase biking/walking through a series of awareness campaigns and initiatives, as well as increased signage, to encourage residents to make use of walking/biking paths and reduce vehicle use. Walk 'n Roll was implemented during the summer of 2014, with signs indicating distance to walk or bike to major facilities or landmarks in the community installed at key junctions on the walking/biking pathways. 4 more signs were added in 2015. Walk 'n Roll month was declared first in August 2014. Residents, businesses, organizations and other groups were able to register themselves during Walk 'n Roll month. Over 50 groups registered with at least 1 participant in August 2014. Participants could put a "We are Walk 'n Roll Participants" sign in their business window. A discount was offered to attendees of other events if they arrived on foot or bicycle. Additionally, people that walk or bike to events such as the Trade Show and Summer Concerts in the Park (Wednesdays), were entered in special draws for prizes. HBC members randomly walk/bike around town giving out prizes to those that are walk/bike commuting and "bike helmet coupon tickets" (for local hardware store) to those without helmets. In 2016, an *Arrive by Bicycle* campaign was organized, where residents that biked to one of 9 participating businesses in the month of June could make purchases for a discount.



In 2017, Walk n' Roll was taken to a new level with a challenge issued to the Town of Ponoka, AB. From May to August, residents in participating communities are invited/encouraged to register all of their walk and roll trips weekly (or daily or monthly) via a Google document. An active social media campaign reports weekly and monthly totals. Businesses with counterparts in the other community are encouraged to issue challenges, and town councils have a challenge set out. The winning community at the end of the summer wins bragging rights. Thousands of trips have been recorded by each community each year.

In 2022, Stettler, Rocky Mountain House and Wainwright are participating. Since 2017, Stettler has been the winner, except for 2021 when Wainwright won. We are glad to see a healthy, fun challenge that goes back and forth.



16. We go bagless

The HBC developed on a "Go Bagless" promotional campaign, which encourages residents to "leave grass clippings on the lawn". It launched in Summer 2016. There are currently 9 signs on lawns plus one in use by a local lawn-care company.

17. Trying to be idle free

- ◆ 2013 the HBC undertook an anti-idling or idling reduction awareness campaign. Clearview School Division (public) reviewed its bus idling policies to see if there were ways that it could safely reduce idling (in the cold climate).
- ◆ Student members in Eco Clubs at the Stettler Middle School and Christ King School undertook a survey of vehicle idling in front of the Middle School and the Catholic Schools over three dates in December (during the pre-afternoon dismissal hours). They counted vehicles, measured idling time for each and determined if a person was present in the vehicle.
- ◆ The campaign produced & installed 1 each of 4 Idle-Free signs at the 4 schools (SES, SMS, Wm E Hay, Christ King Catholic).

Slogans for the Idle-Free signs were:

Stettler Elementary School - "Kids Breathe Here, Please Turn off the Key"

Stettler Middle School - "Be Idle-Free, Please Turn off the Key"

Wm. E. Hay "Idling is Fuelish, Please Turn it off"

Christ King School - "Spare our Air, Please Turn it off"

- ◆ created and handed out 250 "Trying to Be Idle Free" stickers, talking to idling drivers and handed out info sheets.
- ◆ put up posters at the schools and provided information to school newsletters to go out to parents.
- ◆ Sean's No Frills, Sobey's, Stettler Mall, and Canadian Tire gave enthusiastic permission for large "Trying to Be Idle-Free" signs to be posted in their parking lots.
- ◆ Additional signs were printed and are posted in Town Public Works yard, as well as at several local businesses with large fleets.
- ◆ Atco worked with HBC to develop a Driver Checklist to reduce idling. The checklist has been added to all of their fleet vehicles.



18. Trash 2 Treasure weekends

This allows residents to give away unwanted items for free to anyone that wants them. Using either “Free” signs or T2T logo sheets (from the TOS website or cut off from flyers in the mail out), any giveaway items are placed on the front lawns over 2 days of a weekend.



Trash 2 Treasure Days will be held in Stettler over the Mother's Day weekend of May 12 and 13. (Landon Chambers/Black Press)

Trash 2 Treasure Days happening in Stettler this weekend

Residents invited to leave usable items on their front lawns for others to take on May 12 & 13

19. Eco Excellence Awards

In 2013, the first annual Recycling Excellence Awards (now renamed Eco Excellence Awards) were developed, implemented and awarded at the Communities in Bloom Judges Dinner and then again at the fall Stettler Board of Trade Community Excellence Awards Dinner. These awards are meant to recognize outstanding programs or habits that exemplify one or more of the 3 R's: reducing resource consumption, re-using rather than buying new, and/or recycling as much as possible. Community members are invited to nominate individuals, households, businesses, and non-profit groups/organizations, with winners selected from three classes (individual, business, non-profit).

In the inaugural year, 7 groups, businesses, and individuals were nominated. In the spirit of the award, it is more about public recognition than a material award. Winners and nominees have been posted on the Town of Stettler website and are included in all promotions. The awards are repeated annually, with multiple nominations in each category. In 2015, a new category was added to recognize individuals that prevent waste through long-term use of an item (Item Longevity Award). 2022 represents the 9th year of the awards. The Business category was moved to be a sponsored award for the Stettler Board of Trade Community Excellence Awards Dinner in October.

20. Green Tips

The HBC has initiated and maintained an extensive “Green Awareness” campaign, partnered with the Stettler Independent newspaper, the Stettler Board of Trade, the Town of Stettler monthly water bill newsletter and stettlerlocal.com. Each week, “Green Tips” outline various environmentally-friendly activities and behaviors, such as water conservation, mowing, composting, idling, single use plastic bag usage, waste reduction, etc.

GREEN TIP OF THE WEEK

"Take old meds to your pharmacy"

Return your old medications (prescription and over-the-counter) to your Stettler pharmacy for responsible disposal. Throwing them in the garbage or down the toilet allows their chemicals to leech into our soils and poison our rivers and lakes.

No one can do everything. Everyone can do something.
Sponsored by the Heartland Beautification Committee



GREEN TIP OF THE WEEK

"Delay for pollinators..."

Clean up your yard and garden only after it's consistently 10 degrees. Many pollinators winter in old leaves and hollow stems. Cleaning too early means this year's butterflies, wild bees, and other pollinators get destroyed.

No one can do everything. Everyone can do something.
Sponsored by the Heartland Beautification Committee



21. Collection Programs by Heartland Beautification Committee

Pens/Markers

In addition to the cigarette butt recycling initiative, other “collection-type” initiatives have been successfully implemented in Stettler. A **household battery recycling program** has been running for several years (see Stettler Waste Management Authority below). Recently, a **Pen/Marker recycling program** was implemented, to encourage people to recycle their spent pens/markers. There are 8 collection sites in Stettler, with 4000 pens/markers recycled each year.



Cigarette Butts

To help deal with cigarette butt littering, the Heartland Beautification Committee installed “Butt Stop” receptacles in various public locations, being mindful of the No Smoking bylaw regulations regarding their proximity to business entrances. We recycle the collected butts through the Terracycle program: <http://www.terracycle.ca/en-CA/brigades/cigarette-waste-brigade.html>. About 30,000 butts are collected for recycling each year.



22. School Environment-related programs

The recycling program in the school teaches children the importance of our ecological footprint. They recycle juice boxes, paper, cardboard and pens/markers. The Stettler Elementary School and Christ King Catholic School have both received Stettler's Eco Excellence Award for their efforts over **DECADES** to reduce their waste.

In the past, litterless lunch days were planned. Through these and general societal awareness, there has been a definite shift to reusable containers and litterless lunch days are no longer required.

All schools and school groups are encouraged to log their walks and rolls for Walk n' Roll each spring and summer.

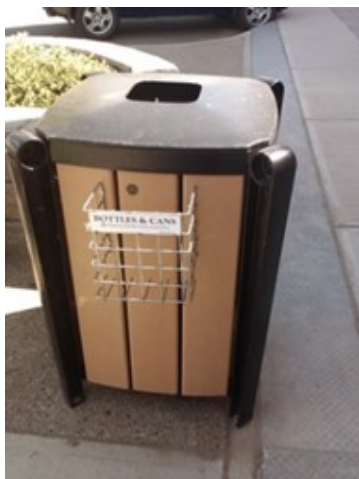
On **Arbor Day** in April, all grade one students receive a tree to plant

23. Recycling

In 2009, Stettler implemented a bi-weekly laneway green box recycling pickup program, following a recycling study initiated by HBC's Recycling Committee. The first laneway (residential) recycling bins were delivered free of charge to Stettler residents. A monthly fee is charged along with waste collection charges. We offer information to any business or apartment interested in starting a recycling program. (see attached)

Recyclables are picked up every second Wednesday, on a rotating basis by neighborhood. Residents can recycle cardboard, paper, metal and plastics without sorting. Handouts are put into town water bills to inform residents and businesses what they can do with the items they would like to recycle. Town Councilors have visited the recycling companies sorting site to observe and report back those recyclables are being handled according to expectations.

According to the recycling contractor, Stettler recyclables are recognizable upon arrival in the sorting facility, due to their clean nature. Stettler has responded overwhelmingly to the recycling program, greatly reducing the number of recyclables in the waste stream. It is not unusual to see multiple containers at a single residence.



Bottle and can recycling baskets were added to the side of garbage cans. Some of the new garbage bins that are being added are twinned, with one bin being a blue recyclables bin. (See Community Appearance)

Commercial businesses are encouraged to sign up for private recycling pickup (many have) and local schools have added a series of recycling programs.

Concrete that is leftover from construction sites and highway maintenance gets collected and crushed into gravel, used in Town projects, such as sidewalk replacement, street repairs, etc.

Every three years, the recycled concrete and asphalt removed from road reconstruction is crushed into a re-usable granular product that the Town uses to stabilize trench excavations in lieu of crushed gravel. The budget for this project is \$150,000 each time it is completed.



24. Stettler Waste Management Authority

This group is made up of representatives from both town and county and other municipalities within the area. They are concerned with the running of the local waste transfer stations and undertake initiatives related to waste management in the area. The Stettler Waste Management Authority (SWMA) has implemented a number of recycling projects in recent years, which has led to a significant decrease in landfilled waste and improved recycling and waste handling. SWMA added a Recycling Representative to their Board in 2013. In their 2015 Strategic Plan, SWMA identified as a top priority to increase diversion from our landfills by fostering and encouraging "Reduce, Re-Use, Recycle". The Recycling representative (Grace Fix) was a finalist in the Earth Day "Hometown Heroes" Program.

Battery Recycling

SWMA started a battery recycling program in October 2012 for all types of household batteries. There are convenient collection sites at grocery stores, schools, the library, government offices as well as the Stettler Transfer site.

Toxic Waste collection

The Stettler Transfer Station added a new building to deal with specific problem waste materials. The "Stettler Eco Centre" building was completed in September 2013. The facility allows year round recycling or collection for responsible disposal of:

1. Fluorescent tubes and compact fluorescent bulbs (CFBs) are recycled using a fluorescent "***Bulb-Eater***", which was purchased with a TD Friends of the Environment Fund grant (\$6442.52). The machine allows the safe collection and disposal of the hazardous materials in the CFBs. **We are collecting about 10,000 bulbs/year**
2. Inkjet and laser toner cartridges (recycle) – **collecting 500lbs/year**

- 3. Cell phones (recycle)
- 4. Household Hazardous Waste – any item that displays these warning symbols



Recycling containers are present at all Transfer Stations. Additionally, magnetic signage has been placed on the current recycling bins to encourage people to recycle and to sort their recycling appropriately, to facilitate handling of it.

Mattress recycling

Started in January 2018, with six community groups donating towards the purchase of a Seacan for dry storage of the mattresses. We now recycle about 1100 mattresses per year.

Take it or leave it building

This building provides a year-round location to bring giveaway items (such as furniture) for people to come and take, rather than placing them in the landfill. Reusable items collected by the town during spring lane cleanup are taken to this location rather than the landfill.



Bulb eater machine



Treated wood



Treated wood is now collected in bins at the Transfer Site and transported to landfill for responsible disposal. Previously, it was put in our burn pits.



Treated Wood bin
Painted/varnished wood
Plywood
Particle board
Breakdown large items, if possible

Electronics

All electronics taken to the transfer site are picked up by a registered processor, T.V.'s, computers & accessories are disassembled and sorted into categories (plastics, wires, glass, etc.) and sent to designated re-processing plants in North America. In 2021, Stettler was chosen as a pilot municipality in a 2 year trial of "Expanded Electronics Recycling" which accepts almost anything with a cord.



25. Board of Trade

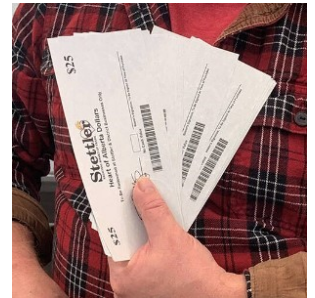
Shop Local promotions

Reduces transportation and benefits the local economy. The Stettler Regional Board of Trade encourages shopping local through its exceptional **Think Local, Shop Stettler** campaign. There are promotions and events showcasing what Stettler businesses have to offer while providing the opportunity to have fun and win simply for shopping local.



Heart of Alberta Dollars

The Stettler Board of Trade produces "Heart of Alberta Dollars" that may be purchased and used at almost all local businesses. Many residents buy these "dollars" to give as gifts so the recipient can buy anything locally.



Scavengeranza



Consumers make a purchase at any participating **Think Local, Shop Stettler** business and have the business complete the customer's entry form. The customer takes the entry to the Stettler Trade Show for a chance to enter the WIN'd Tunnel (a machine that keeps paper money blowing around in a container). Participants can win as much money as they can grab in the air.



Cash Mob



Consumers meet at the Stettler Board of Trade office to learn the secret location for the Cash Mob that day. Participants then go to the business location and are encouraged to spend at least \$20 at that business. Participants are entered into a prize draw.

Search for Snowy



Who needs Waldo? Stettlerites Search for Snowy! Find Snowy as he moves around at participating business and enter a draw to win one of 30 prize packages.



Love our Local

NEW

Prior to Valentines Day, consumers post why they love a particular local business, tagging them on the Stettler Board of Trade Facebook page. Each tag is entered into a draw for one of 3 - \$50 Heart of Alberta Dollar prizes.



Christmas in July

NEW

Get a Christmas in July postcard at a participating business. Make a purchase at two **Think Local, Shop Stettler** businesses and enter the postcard in a draw for \$250 Heart of Alberta Dollars.



Open Farm Bus Tours and Taste of the Heartland

Residents tour the farms of several local food producers and then enjoy a long-table meal on Main Street using all locally-produced food prepared by local chefs. <https://youtu.be/UieKgIWY5Sg>

Local chefs whip up gourmet fare for 'Taste of the Heartland'

Four local chefs displayed their culinary skills at the long-table dinner.

MOUSH SARA JOHN / Aug. 21, 2017 9:57 p.m. / COMMUNITY / LOCAL NEWS / NEWS

The architects behind the extraordinary meal that was served at Stettler's 'Taste of the Heartland,' a long-table dinner on Saturday evening, Aug. 19 as part of Open Farm Days, were four local chefs – Brenda Brinson of Stettler, Rieley Kay of Lacombe, Jimin John of Stettler, and Lutz Kintzel of Red Deer.

The appetizer, Prairie Caprese Salad and the salad, which comprised of spinach and saskatoon berries were made by Rieley Kay, who runs Cilantro and Chive. Kay has worked in a variety of kitchens and restaurants in order to discover his true passion. After gaining a lot of experience and being mentored widely in various culinary environments, Kay became the Sous Chef at Wolf Creek Golf Resort. In 2009, he started his own catering business, Cilantro Catering, which has now morphed into Lacombe's Cilantro and Chive.

The soup, Zesty Gazpacho, was made by Brenda Brinson of Brenda's Cozy Cafe. Brinson is a household name, owning Brenda's Country Catering, and has been a part of Stettler's catering landscape for a long time.

Jimin John, who is the head chef at the Otherside and the Delburne Bistro made the entre, which was roasted herbed beef tenderloin with border cross whiskey sauce. John fell in love with cooking in his mom's kitchen and has travelled the world, following his passion. He has been in Italy for some years, honing his skills, before he moved to central Alberta.

The dessert of brownies and creme puffs was made by Lutz Kintzel, who has worked at the Hotel Berlin, one of Berlin's finest hotels alongside some of Europe's best chefs, as well as resorts throughout Switzerland. Kintzel has worked in Le Beaujolais in Banff, Panorama Mountain Resort, Canadian Club, among other local hotels in Alberta. Having been the owner-operator of Chef's Dining Room in Rocky Mountain House, Kintzel is focused on his next new adventure, which might be a local catering business out of Red Deer.



Farmers' Market

The Stettler District Agricultural Society organizes the weekly Stettler Farmers Market. Vendors offer home-made, homegrown and specialty shopping items every Tuesday in the Stettler Agriplex.



26. Water Conservation/Water Management

Stettler's Water Treatment Plant is a regional plant that supplies water to the town and surrounding communities (essentially to the Saskatchewan border). 40% of the water produced serves regional customers. In 2012, the plant completed a \$21 million upgrade to improve the treatment process from a traditional sand filter system to a membrane filter system. This included a switch from chlorine to chloramines. Chloramines provide a safe, stable disinfection of the water when distributing water long distances. This switch was completed in May 2011. Also included in the plant upgrades was the construction of the raw water reservoir. The raw water reservoir provides an emergency supply of water and a more consistent quality of water. As the river water undergoes seasonal quality changes, the raw water ponds enable the plant to stop drawing from the river and treat water directly from the outdoor reservoir, helping to reduce chemical used during the treatment process.

In 2015, the water reservoir was sealed with a custom fit high density polyethylene liner at a cost of \$175,000. The liner was chosen in lieu of complete replacement as the reservoir was structurally sound, however had leakage from the floor. At the same time a mixer was added inside the reservoir to help keep the water circulating, thereby reducing stagnation and increasing water turnover in the reservoir. Using this innovative technology has extended the life of the existing reservoir by 25+ years. In 2018, the exterior was insulated and clad to improve its appearance, but more importantly, the insulation helps keep the water temperature steady, which is important in summer months to maintain chlorine levels.



Filtration / Treatment systems in

Stettler's waste water treatment ponds consist of a traditional lagoon system and also include 160 acres of wetlands. These man-made riparian areas are home to many different waterfowl. During 2011, volunteers planted 300 trees to help reforest this area. The Town of Stettler received a grant to construct an additional storage cell at the Sewage Lagoons. This was anticipated to increase storage to a population of 12,000. A second phase of construction included installing aeration piping into the first treatment cells.

The purpose of aeration is to get better treatment as well as reduce the odors produced from the lagoons. As the lagoons are located NW of the town, and prevailing winds are from the NW, this will provide a better quality of life for residents. The estimated cost of the new storage lagoon and the aeration system was \$1.4 million. After several years delay due to weather (flooding, etc.), the sewage lagoons were remediated in 2015 and were commissioned September 2015.

Storm water management/ canal program system – the Red Willow creek runs to the Battle River collecting all of Stettler's storm water. Numerous storm retention ponds throughout Stettler provide extra flood control in the case of major rainfall and runoff. The creek is occasionally dredged and the water level is kept at 18 inches to keep bull rushes from slowing water flow. Because of flat land throughout the Town, all of the new subdivisions include storm retention ponds that contain water elements, water plants, etc.

Sanitary System- Sump Pumps-Town's Residents are reminded that Bylaw #1102 PROHIBITS the discharge of surface and ground water into the sanitary system via weeping tile, roof drains or sump pumps. Water must be discharged on the ground outside the building and within the property. To help prevent flooding of homes, residents should contact a plumber to ensure that they are in compliance.



Raw water reservoirs



Arial view of waste water treatment

27. Other Conservation

Some businesses have taken the initiative to conserve and reduce consumption of resources.

- ◆ Walmart store has implemented a reduced lighting program during summer months, to save energy.
- ◆ **ATCO Electric Regional Service Centre** was built (2013) to reduce building energy requirements through high efficiency HVAC systems and motion lighting systems. The parking lots and roof captures all rain water, which is reused in the primary wash bays of the centre. A green roof was planted over the conference rooms, which captures moisture and conserves energy. The large gravel and paved areas are off-set by the planting of hundreds of trees and shrubs.



- ◆ Burmac Mechanical installed solar panels onto their office building. This has resulted in a 15% reduction in their grid electrical consumption. The present panels alone run the air conditioning and the rest of the time their electricity goes into Burmac's general system. They were the 2015 business recipient of the Recycling Excellence Award.
- ◆ The Stettler Hotel features an LED Neon sign, which represented lower energy costs over regular neon, as well as an attractive look.
- ◆ Stettler Recreation Centre installed LED lighting in 2018 in most of the building as well as on both ice surfaces and installed a low emissivity ceiling to improve insulation and light reflection and refraction on the ice surface

- ◆ LED Lighting installed at West Stettler Park (which replaced the initial solar lighting as it was not bright enough)
- ◆ Solar Lighting installed at Stettler Skate Park in 2014
- ◆ High efficiency plant was installed in 2017 at Stettler Recreation Centre with an energy savings of a minimum of 21.9% less power usage per month. Use of ammonia went from 1350lbs down to 90lbs, which in case of catastrophic failure, will decrease the amount emitted into the environment. They also switched to an adiabatic fluid cooler instead of an evaporative condenser which mitigates the wastage of water.
- ◆ Stettler Community Hall received dimmable LED lighting in 2019 to replace fluorescents
- ◆ Roof top units at the Rec Centre and Community Hall were recently upgraded (previous units were 25-30 years old)
- ◆ 2 energy efficient boilers were installed at the Rec Centre in 2015 and 2018