

Fall 2023 Issue 5



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We have embedded the URL/link into the image associated with the topic area. So, to open these links please hover over the images in the left-hand column.



Qualified Persons Resources webpage

For all the up-to-date Agricultural Water Management forms and, procedures, and links to previous QP Newsletters and webinar recording please go to the WSA's Qualified Resources Persons Webpage. Remember: This webpage is password protected, to ensure that only QPs can access this information. If you've forgotten the password, please reach out to Heather Davies (heather.davies@wsask.ca) and she will provide it to you.

•	Updates and Revisions
Drainage Works Application and Approval Form	We have not made any revisions to the Drainage Application since April 2023. However, we encourage you to continue to please download and use the most recent version of the Drainage Works Application and Approval Form, whenever you start a new drainage project. This form can be found in the Forms for QPs section of the WSA's Qualified Persons Webpage.
QP Refresher Course	WSA is working with Southeast College to develop a QP Refresher Course that we will require QPs who have not taken the Intro QP Training Course offered by Southeast College (i.e., QPs who took the Introductory QP Training course prior to January 2021) to take. The purpose of this refresher course is to reinforce and update QP's knowledge and skills relating to the drainage approval process. This information is intended to ensure that all QPs are up to date with the current drainage approval process and procedures. Once we have developed the refresher course, we will be giving QPs two months to complete it.
Potential In-person workshop for active Qualified Persons	WSA is looking into hosting an In-Person workshop for active QPs in 2024 The purpose of the workshop would be to help address/solve challenges that you may be facing when doing QP work. We hope to highlight current topics related to the technical work that QPs do, as well as discussing ways to be better communicators and/or ways to better manage the business-related components of the work that you do. I will be providing more information as soon as I can share it.

Webinars	QP Webinars
Last QP Webinar was hosted on November	On November 27, 2023, between 11am and 11:30am, I shared a lot of the updates within this newsletter with attendees.
27, 2023	If you couldn't attend the November 27 th QP webinar, no worries, it was recorded, and a link is now posted on the QP Webinars webpage.
Next webinar	The next QP Webinar will be on Monday, December 18, 2023. During this webinar WSA will be hosting an online Feedback Session to hear from attendees about your concerns and experiences with the Qualified Persons Program and the Drainage Approval Process and how WSA can better support you. We will be using Mentimeter so the feedback you provide will be anonymous.
	Note: We will continue to deliver monthly QP Webinars on the third Monday of every month, between 11am and 11:30am (unless otherwise posted) until the end of May 2024.
<u>Previous Webinars</u>	We have now hosted ten QP Webinars. To watch a recording of any of our previously recorded QP Webinars please go to the QP Webinars webpage.
	Upcoming Courses/
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Southeast College	Introductory Qualified Persons Training Course We are integrating the ADAM into the Introductory Qualified Persons Training Course The Introductory QP Training course now consists of six half-day sessions offered over a three-week period or in a one-week intensive course. The course will continue to include introductory concepts that are important to ensure QPs have the appropriate skills and knowledge necessary to assist in the continued growth and resiliency of the agricultural sector. However, learners will now also learn about how to use WSA's ADAM (Agricultural Drainage Application Mapping) software to map wetlands and drainage works within the Intro QP training Course. The new ADAM will have both asynchronous and virtual components, and it will also give attendees the chance to use

Introduction to the new facilitator of the Intro QP Training Course

Southeast College is in the process of hiring Avens Dawson as the new facilitator for the Intro QP Training Course.





Avens Dawson is a Professional Agrologist, with a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science and a Master of Engineering in Environmental Systems Engineering. Her background includes source water protection planning and a variety of environmental reporting to federal and provincial governments. "I'm excited to dive deep into drainage! Water is a particular passion of mine and I look forward to playing a role in ensuring we're all working towards drainage compliance with a common background understanding."

You can now register for the upcoming Intro QP Training Course dates

You can now register for the Intro QP Training course by clicking on the following link:

https://www.southeastcollege.org/courses/introductoryqualified-persons-training/ for the following training sessions:

- January 9, 11, 16, 18, 23 and 25, 2024 Tuesday and Thursday afternoons
- January 30, February 1, 6, 8, 13, and 15, 2024 Tuesday and Thursday evenings
- February 26, 27, 28, 29, March 1, 2024 Monday to Friday full days (with Friday afternoon off!)
- March 5, 7, 12, 14, 19, 21, 2024 Tuesday and Thursday mornings
- April 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 2024 Monday to Friday full days (with Friday afternoon off!)

April 16, 18, 23, 25, 30, May 2, 2024 - Tuesday and Thursday mornings



The Art of Influential Communication Course — This course is designed to help QPs gain the skills they need to communicate more effectively with agricultural producers.

This course is 100 per cent online and allows you to learn on your own schedule. Please click on this Link to register for this communication course.





We are continuing to deliver our online AgH2Onward workshops that we recommend QPs take. These workshops remind QPs about and introduce farmers, ranchers, RM Administrators, and C&D and Watershed Board members to Saskatchewan's Agricultural Water Management Strategy, the process and benefits of drainage approvals, and techniques to best manage water on their land. The information in these workshops is intended to help attendees better understand the terminology WSA uses, the information WSA needs QPs to collect, and include in the drainage application, as well as the mitigation requirements WSA requires drainage applicants to incorporate into their drainage projects. So, please consider taking in a session, it will be worth your time.

We are in the process of developing this course as an asynchronous course. However, we are also looking to offer this as a virtual 2.5-hour workshop in January 2024, if there is enough interest. So, if you are interested in taking this course, please let me know and I'll send you the link to the asynchronous AgH2Onward course, which will likely be available at the end of December 2023, or I can add your name to the list of people who would like to attend a virtual AgH2Onward course, which, as I indicated earlier, will be in January.

To learn more please go to the AgH2Onward webpage.

	Job opportunities
Are you Looking for QP Related Contract Work?	WSA is looking for people who want to provide QP related services for drainage projects. Please contact Dwayne Siba (dwayne.siba@wsask.ca), Supervisor of Approvals South, or Trenton Spence (trenton.spence@wsask.ca), Supervisor of Approvals North, to learn more about these opportunities.
WSA's Current Job Postings	WSA's Current Job Postings Did you know that the Water Security Agency is often looking for staff. To see our current job postings please go to our webpage at: https://www.wsask.ca/about/careers/current-job-postings/
Saskatchewan Conservation and Development Association is building a shortlist of QPs to provide support services	The Saskatchewan Conservation and Development Association (SCDA) is building a shortlist of Qualified Persons (QPs) to provide support services on a contract basis to the SCDA Compliance Task Force (CTF). The individuals/teams/companies will assist its members in bringing new and existing drainage works into compliance with the Government of Saskatchewan's Agricultural Water Management Strategy (AWMS). Applicants should provide a cover letter and resume outlining their qualifications and experience specifically related to the AWMS and attaining drainage approvals. The SCDA office is located in Saskatoon; however, QPs are needed in all areas of the province; please indicate your preferred location of work in your cover letter. Email: info@scda.ca
Flood Inspectors	Do you have survey, water resource management and flood management experience? If so, WSA is looking for Flood Inspectors to help facilitate our flood-related programs! Please reach out to Breanna Gardner (breanna.gardner@wsask.ca) for more information.
X	Follow us on X! Please click on the X icon to go to the Water Security Agency's X account.
	Watch our videos on YouTube Please click on the YouTube icon to go to the Water Security Agency's YouTube Channel.
f	Connect with us on Facebook Please click on the Facebook icon to go to the Water Security Agency's Facebook Page



Feedback

We strive to provide you with the information you need to know as a QP to work with agricultural producers, C&Ds, Watershed Associations, and Rural Municipalities to bring their drainage works into compliance. Your feedback is an integral part of the improvement process, which is why we would be grateful if you could fill out this short <u>survey</u>. The survey is expected to take no more than five minutes to answer. We really appreciate you taking the time to share your feedback. Please <u>click here</u> to get started.



You're receiving this newsletter because you are either an active QP or you have taken the Introductory Qualified Persons Training Course during the past 18 months. If you would like to unsubscribe from:

- this newsletter, <u>please click here</u>; or
- all emails about the Qualified Persons Program, please click here.