



**Science Outreach – Athabasca
presents...
Winter Water Quality in the
Athabasca River: From
Jasper to Lake Athabasca**



Speaker: Jana Tondu, M.Sc., P. Biology
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Alberta Environment and Parks

Date: November 18, 2015

Place: Athabasca University Governing Council Chambers

Time: 7:00 to 8:30 PM

Water is not only a resource, it's a life source. Alberta Environment and Parks (EP) is committed to ensuring Albertans have good water quality, healthy ecosystems, and a sustainable supply of water resources as part of the Water for Life strategy. Integral to this commitment is the collection of scientific data to understand the condition of aquatic ecosystems, including spatial patterns and temporal trends, and the influence of human activities on watershed health. Beginning in Jasper, EP staff followed a parcel of water down the entire length of the Athabasca River (roughly 1,400 km). Water samples were collected at approximate time of water travel to evaluate how the cumulative contribution of point-source pollution (effluent discharge) affects water quality in the Athabasca River. Eighty sites were sampled along the length of the river including: the mainstem (Athabasca River), major tributaries, and municipal and industrial effluent that is directly released into the Athabasca River. The project occurred during the winter months of 2015 to capture critical low flow periods where dilution and assimilative capacity is at its lowest. Results illustrate the spatial trends of water quality along the length of the Athabasca River, and how water quality is influenced by both point-source effluent discharges and tributaries.

Admission is free. Door Prizes! Refreshments will be available for this presentation.

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