

EFPs and the Alberta Experience

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Alberta Environmental Farm Plan (AEFP) is a non-profit industry driven corporation. AEFP is managed by a board of directors representing Alberta agricultural producers and private and public agriculture sectors.

The AEFP offers a voluntary, confidential self-assessment process to increase awareness of farm practices and environmental sustainability and provide tools for developing and implementing environmental farm plans. Through this program, producers are linked to technical and/or funding sources to assist with implementation. AEFP helps the agriculture industry gain continued customer confidence in the province's farms, farmers, and agricultural products.

How the EFP works in Alberta Getting Started

AEFP offers local workshops throughout Alberta. These local workshops are held over two half-day sessions. Trained facilitators and technical assistants help participants develop action plans and timelines that address the changes they feel are practical and realistic to make on their farm or ranch. The facilitators will also link participants with expert technical assistance to implement those changes. The workshops and EFP manual are provided at no charge to participants.

“After completing the workshop, you end up with an action plan based on your own decisions about what you want to do; it's not decided for you.”

EFP – An Important Management Strategy

Agriculture producers know that the key to ensuring a legacy for their children and grandchildren is by managing for both environmental and economic sustainability. At the same time buyers and consumers are increasingly interested in the food they eat and the environment in which it is produced.

An EFP is an important management strategy for helping producers reduce risk, and improve market access, competitiveness and profitability of their operation. It is also an important tool for proactively responding to environmental issues and society concerns about agriculture's impact on soil, water, air, and biodiversity.

“Environmental farm plans identify risk areas, but also reinforces the good work farmers are already doing.”

EFP – Voluntary and Confidential

An environmental farm plan (EFP) is a voluntary, confidential self-assessment process that producers can use to identify environmental strengths and risks on their farm. Once identified, a plan of action or “My Farm Plan” is developed to address and prioritize those risks.

Developed by producers and other members of the agriculture and environmental industries, the EFP manual and program offers a practical management strategy for any size or type of farm or ranch anywhere in Alberta. The manual covers all aspects of farm operations.

For more information on EFPs in Alberta call toll-free: 1-866-844-2337 or connect by the Internet: www.albertaefp.com.