



For immediate release.

Schedule Set for Soil Carbon Challenge Tour



Continuing the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization 2015 International Year of Soils (IYS) celebration in Alberta, the Agricultural Research and Extension Council of Alberta (ARECA) has released the schedule for the Soil Carbon Challenge tour with Peter Donovan. Peter will be touring in his school bus to six locations in Alberta, conducting soil carbon workshops. Peter establishes baseline measurements for soil carbon in dedicated plots from Mexico to Canada, Vermont to California as part of the [Soil Carbon Challenge](#). He wants to help people move from a problem-solving orientation around carbon cycling, soils, water, and climate, to a creative one.

“Peter Donovan will conduct workshops on soil carbon and will set baselines for quantifying how land managers can transform atmospheric carbon into water-holding, fertility-enhancing soil organic matter (SOM) to improve soil health” said Dr. Yamily Zavala, Crop and Soil researcher for Chinook Applied Research Association (CARA) at Oyen. “Participants will learn how to measure soil attributes and document the changes under their own management strategies.”



Workshops will be held at the following locations:

Peace Country Beef and Forage Association	(PCBFA)	Fairview	June 15
North Peace Applied Research Association	(NPARA)	Manning	June 17
Mackenzie Applied Research Association	(MARA)	Fort Vermilion	June 20
Gateway Research Organization	(GRO)	Westlock	June 25
Lakeland Applied Research Association	(LARA)	Bonnyville	June 27
Chinook Applied Research Association	(CARA)	Oyen	June 30

For more information about Peter Donovan visit www.soilcarboncoalition.org

The IYS 2015 aims to increase awareness and understanding of the importance of soil for food security and essential ecosystem functions. ARECA and 9 member associations are observing IYS through a number of events and activities culminating in the Western Canada Conference on Soil Health in Edmonton, December 8-10, 2015.

The Agricultural Research and Extension Council of Alberta (ARECA) is a provincial association of nine not-for-profit producer groups dedicated to enhancing the sustainability and profitability of agriculture in Alberta. Visit www.areca.ab.ca for additional information.

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