



Sustainable Agriculture

In the South Okanagan-Similkameen



Unique Opportunities *On Agricultural Land*

The South Okanagan-Similkameen is a unique and diverse landscape - with exceptional agriculture, recreation, rural living, and stunning natural areas.

We are also a hotspot for nature. Many rare species and sensitive ecosystems also call this place home.

By working together, we can take care of this special place and continue to enjoy all the benefits from nature - Now, and for the future.



Biodiversity

Biodiversity: short for *biological diversity* – the variety of life in all its forms. We can see biodiversity in the variety of different plants and animals in our communities.

What is SOSCP?

The South Okanagan Similkameen Conservation Program (SOSCP) is a partnership of groups that have come together to conserve our unique environment.

SOSCP aims for “a healthy environment that sustains the diversity of indigenous plants and animals while enriching people’s lives.”

Contact SOSCP

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What is Sustainable Agriculture?

What if we could ensure the continued production of food and agricultural products, and the functioning of healthy ecosystems over time, so that we can rely on the benefits of both now, and in the future?

Sustainable agriculture is based on using environmentally-friendly farming practices and renewable resources, minimizing waste, enhancing natural **biodiversity**, and encouraging knowledge-sharing in the farming community.

Would you like to make a difference by implementing sustainable agricultural practices in your business?

How Can We Help You?

Contact SOSCP about the **Sustainable Agriculture Program**:

- ◆ Expert Environmental Advice
- ◆ Links to Resources, Materials and Funding Opportunities
- ◆ Free, On-farm, Confidential Assessments and Extension Services
- ◆ Workshops, Events and Networking Opportunities

Let Us Connect You

1. The **Okanagan Similkameen Stewardship Society (OSSS)** helps landowners to care for and restore important wildlife habitat on private land. Contact: info@osstewardship.ca to learn more.
2. The **Environmental Farm Plan (EFP)** provides recommended beneficial practices to help you improve your operation. Phone: 1-866-522-3447 to connect with a qualified planning advisor.
3. The **Species at Risk on Agricultural Lands (SARPAL)** program is a voluntary stewardship initiative to help recover and protect species at risk on farmland. Contact: SARPAL@cattleman.bc.ca.
4. The **Okanagan and Similkameen Invasive Species Society (OASISS)** helps landowners to identify and manage invasive species on private lands. Contact: oasiss@shaw.ca or visit oasiss.ca and oiso.ca to learn more.
5. **Farmland-Riparian Interface Stewardship Program (FRISP)** is designed to assist producers in their efforts to protect and enhance water quality, riparian vegetation, and fish habitat. Contact: FRISP@cattleman.bc.ca.
6. **Farmland Advantage** is a research and development project that works with farmers to protect and conserve critical, natural values in BC. Contact: info@farmlandadvantage.com.