

Swale Education & Communications Activities and Partnerships

Swale Education & Communications Activities			
Activity	Lead	Details	Delivery
Resident Information	City of Saskatoon, Saskatoon Land and Meewasin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Signage is placed on back of lot fences facing into the Northeast Swale with information about the area. Education materials are sent to residents. 	Signage is posted as houses are built. Information is updated as necessary.
Northeast Swale –Tours	Meewasin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tours are provided to school students and residents. Tours focus on education about the area and the value of the Swale. 	Ongoing delivery. Reaches approx. 500 people per year.
Northeast Swale Tours - Tourism	Meewasin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tours are provided to groups visiting Saskatoon, such as corporate groups, conferences and tourists. Tours focus on education about the area and the value of the Swale. 	A recently established program that intends ongoing delivery.
Communications	Meewasin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communications materials have been circulated to highlight the benefits of the Northeast Swale, the local habitat, and threats to the area. Meewasin's Northeast Swale Webpage 	Ongoing delivery through a variety of methods including social media, web, Meewasin newsletter, and media visits.
Communications Campaign	City of Saskatoon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A communications campaign focused on the Green Infrastructure Strategy including 35 #yxeGreenStrategy posts with an intended audience of residents and natural area users. Further education campaigns included a tour of the Northeast Swale for the Saskatchewan Institute of Professional Planners. City's Northeast Swale webpage 	2018-2019 Green Infrastructure Strategy engagement campaign reached approximately 700 residents.
Digitization of Materials	Meewasin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meewasin has recently been working on digitizing their educational resources and programming. 	In development for launch in 2021.
Media Coverage	Meewasin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meewasin has participated in 45 media opportunities between 2012 and 2018, including articles, op eds, letters to the editor, and interviews.¹ 	Ongoing.
Citizen Science		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Since 2016 Meewasin has led 4 bioblitzes in the Northeast Swale and 3 in the Small Swale. 	
Volunteer Programs	Meewasin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Various volunteer groups assist with resource management activities in the Northeast Swale, such as BioBlitz ecological monitoring, invasive species 	Ongoing delivery. Engages approx. 200 volunteers per year.

¹ Source: Comprehending Swale Ecosystems.

<https://artsandscience.usask.ca/news/articles/3737/> Nature needs space New USask report makes recommendations_t

		management, site clean-ups, and other forms of ecological monitoring.	
Road Signage	City of Saskatoon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Road signs have been placed on the North Commuter Parkway when entering the Northeast Swale 	

The City's Swale Partnerships	
Partner	Details
Meewasin Valley Authority	The City and Meewasin have formalized their partnership through the City-Meewasin Master Agreement and the establishment of the Education, Experiences and Engagement Sub-Committee of the Meewasin-City Steering Committee.
Northeast Swale Working Group	The Northeast Swale Working Group was established to assess, prioritize, and direct discussions regarding issues that have been raised relating to the Northeast Swale. Representatives include the Meewasin Valley Authority, The University of Saskatchewan, City Council, the Northeast Swale Watchers, and City of Saskatoon Administration.
Swale Research Partnership	The Swale Research Partnership was coordinated as a part of the Memorandum of Understanding between the City and the University of Saskatchewan. The City has received a final study which included identification of education gaps and opportunities.
University of Saskatchewan	Partnership for Natural Capital Asset Valuation project. Resulted in Master's thesis paper: The Meewasin NorthEast Swale: Using Natural Capital Asset Valuation to Value Saskatoon's Natural Resources
Wild About Saskatoon	Hosts the annual "NatureCity Festival" which often involves facilitating events at the Swales. The City at various times has funded the NatureCity Festival, including in 2020 through the Environmental Cash Grant, and previously had a representative on their steering committee.
Saskatoon Wildlife Federation	In August 2020, the City entered into an agreement to sell the former Saskatoon Police Service Firing Range for \$1 to the Saskatoon Wildlife Federation. Once re-located and updated, the building will be home to a multi-cultural interpretive centre focusing on the historical and future importance of native areas such as the North-East Swale.