



Become an
Agricultural
Advocate

*Learn More about Local
Farmland Issues.*

As an ALR landowner
consider land lease options
to local farmers to preserve
our precious farmland and
get a property tax credit!

www.bcassessment.ca/public/Pages/ClassifyingFarmLand.aspx

Check out the Pemberton
Farmer's Institute and
consider becoming a
member.

www.pembertonfarmers.com.

*Know agriculture policy and speak up
for farms.*



What is the
Agricultural Land
Reserve (A.L.R)?

You cannot have farmers
without farmland! In BC, only
3% of our provincial land base
is suitable for agriculture.
Preserving agricultural land
creates self-sufficiency.

To achieve higher levels of food
independence in BC, it
requires the protection of a
secure farmland base.
Agricultural land also provides
local, ecological and economic
services.

Protecting farmland protects
our future.



Pemberton
Rural Life

Living
Next To
A Farm

Rural Living in
the Pemberton
ALR

(Agricultural Land Reserve)

Being Neighbourly. Farmers work seven days a week, dawn to dusk and sometimes later. If you are planning a backyard event in the middle of the growing season, talk with your farmer neighbour, and be respectful of boundaries and late night impacts. Farmers have families and animals to consider, certain times of the season may be critically sensitive for the farm, and may come into conflict with backyard events. Consider their livelihood, respect their schedule and work towards a compromise. Meet with the farmer before you have a problem to establish good rapport and a culture of open communication. Farmer's are a great resource for learning more about the local land issues and a valuable resource for folks who are new to the valley.

The Farming Environment; Sights, Sounds, Smells. Take a deep breath and savour the peace and beauty that is the Pemberton Valley, but understand that farming is sometimes a 24-hr-a-day business that does create noise, dust and odors. Irrigation, animals, cultivation, harvesting, fans, and more may be unforeseen factors of living rurally, but they are something that you will learn to deal with, similar to noise, smells and garbage in the city environment.

Buy Local. Whenever possible, support your local food growers! Pemberton produce is available throughout the Sea to Sky corridor and beyond. You can find it at the local Farmer's Markets, farm stands, local restaurants, and grocery stores. When shopping, look for place of origin, and ask for further information. You may find your food is grown closer than you think. Shopping locally helps keep small business growing. It feeds directly into the community, and helps create a more secure and vibrant local economy. For more on where to find farm fresh local food, go to www.pembertonfarmers.com.

Learn About Seed Potatoes. Potatoes grown in Pemberton are sold throughout North America and are responsible for feeding many people. The unique weather and geography makes Pemberton Seed potatoes in high demand. The Pemberton Valley was established as a Seed Control Area by BC Legislation in 1949. Under this Seed Control Area Act, the planting of potatoes is restricted to varieties that are produced only from the Pemberton Valley. These potatoes are inspected by the CFIA to meet rigorous standards for seed potatoes under the Act. Pemberton seed potatoes are available at the Pemberton women's Institute Annual Plant Sale (held in May), from local nurseries, and local growers. Further information available at www.bcseedpotatoes.com

Give a Thumbs up for Farm Traffic. Tractors move slowly! If you get behind a tractor on the road, be patient. Wait for them to pull over, or pass with extreme caution. Animals may move along roads at times to pasture alternate fields, be aware that the next corner could have a couple dozen head of cattle across your path. For cyclists, please cycle in single file. The meadows road is a beautiful road for riding, but its limited shoulder and busy traffic, seven days of the week, can create some serious consequences if cyclists are not aware, or practicing single-file. Please be responsible when sharing the roads.

Know that our Farmers use Responsible Pest Practices. In recent years, farmers are using fewer and safer pesticides. The typical homeowner uses more chemicals to clean their home and keep their lawn green than the average farmer, on a per acre land base. Many Pemberton farmer's have a rotation system for their fields, which helps break pest/disease lifecycles, and means a field will only see seed potatoes one in 4-5 years, but may be used for hay, grain, or summer pasture.

Know the Local Intruders! Invasive species are non-native species and are considered "invasive" due to the negative impact ecologically, socially and economically to our area. Farmers need to control weeds in order to avoid their financial implications of reduced yield, increased pest pressure, and livestock poisonings. Help farmers through familiarization, and control of the most problematic weeds. For information go to Sea to Sky Invasives www.ssis.info/blog.