

	Sustainable Okotoks	
	Policy Type:	Purpose Statement
	Number:	PS-A-2.1
	To be Reviewed:	Once per term
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Policy Statement:

Okotoks prioritizes, protects, conserves and restores our environment and creates strong community connections to nature.

1. Natural resources and natural places are preserved and protected.
 - 1.1. Urban and natural spaces are integrated.
 - 1.1.1. The urban forest is managed with industry best practices for resilience.
 - 1.2. Land use maximizes the potential of the natural environment.
 - 1.3. Neighbourhoods have interconnected networks of open spaces that include existing or enhanced natural and conservation areas or are a response to natural features.
 - 1.4. Environmentally sensitive lands are preserved and protected.
 - 1.4.1. Conservation of environmentally sensitive and valuable areas including the Sheep River Valley, wetlands, riparian areas, wildlife corridors and natural vegetation is championed.
 - 1.5. Energy efficiencies and low-carbon environments are created to improve the health of our environment.
 - 1.6. Public lands are maintained and managed using effective environmentally sound land stewardship practices and using various integrated pest management practices to prevent and manage weeds and pests. Weeds are managed within the acceptable threshold levels as set out in Schedule A.
2. Okotoks is recognized locally, regionally, nationally and internationally for its environmental stewardship.
 - 2.1. An environment is fostered where citizens and businesses actively contribute to reducing the ecological footprint.
 - 2.2. Land Use and infrastructure provide the foundations for sustainable growth.
 - 2.2.1. Careful neighbourhood design allows residents to live, work and play in place.
 - 2.2.2. Higher density housing is clustered and located with mixed uses and public transit.
 - 2.3. Infrastructure is designed for resiliency and adaptable to alternative energy sources and servicing.