The Process

Step One - Initiation

Application for a conservation easement on your property is a voluntary and collaborative partnership. Step one is to meet with a County representative and learn more about the conservation easement program. They will walk you through the basic legal document and help determine the overall conservation objectives. The area proposed for conservation is determined based on an evaluation of the biophysical characteristics of the land.

Step 2 - Negotiation

The landowner will provide a list of activities and uses that have taken place on the proposed easement lands. They will also share their future activities and needs in relation to the land. These activities will be reviewed by the County to be included in the conservation easement agreement. The shared goal is to promote continuing environmental stewardship.

Step 3 - Agreement

The landowner and the County collaboratively create a legal document that meets both needs and shared goal. The County will then prepare a final document. The landowner will provide a plan identifying the conservation easement area via a plan of survey or descriptive plan.

Step 4 - Registration

Once all conditions are met the plans can be registered. Three copies of the agreement are required; one for Alberta Land Titles, one for the landowner's records and one for the County's

Need more information?

Contact us and let's talk about how a conservation easement could work for you.

Find details: www.strathcona.ca/ environment

Contact us

Strathcona County
Planning and Development Services

Main Floor, County Hall 2001 Sherwood Drive Sherwood Park, Alberta T8A 3W7 www.strathcona.ca Phone: 780-464-8414

Office Hours:

Monday to Friday 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

Please note this brochure has no legal status and cannot be used as an official interpretation of the various regulations currently in effect. Users are advised to contact Planning and Development Services for more information. Strathcona County accepts no responsibility for persons relying solely on this information.



Conservation Easements





What is a conservation easement?

Landowners sign a conservation easement agreement with Strathcona County or a qualified organization. This agreement places limits on land use to help conserve natural features on private property. With an easement, the landowner still owns the land and can continue to live on and use it, restrict public access, sell, give or pass the property on to whomever they wish. Easement terms are negotiated around both the needs and desires of the landowner, and the objectives of the conservation easement program.

An easement helps a landowner control future use and development on their land and enlists a conservation organization to help, even after the property changes hands.



Building a conservation partnership

Strathcona County strives to be a model of ecological integrity that conserves our environment and representative ecosystems.

Conservation easements work to enhance our biodiversity which increases the resiliency of our ecosystems. They help safeguard watersheds and wildlife habitat, and maintain the natural landscape by providing residents with clean air, clean water, agricultural products and scenic beauty.

A conservation easement protects the stewardship of your land in perpetuity.

Consider conservation

Have you considered a conservation partnership with Strathcona County?

- Do you have natural areas on your property?
- Do you want to protect these areas for future generations?
- Do you know whether there is already a conservation easement on your property?
- Did you know that there are income tax benefits?

What activities are permitted and benefits?

There are a variety of activities permitted within a conservation easement. These include:

- Trail development
- Picnic site development
- Native vegetation planting

Did you know?

Strathcona County currently has over 100 easements registered, protecting over 1,275 hectares of land.

Create your legacy today and learn how you can be a partner in protecting Strathcona County's natural habitat.