



COUNCIL POLICY C-ES03

Environmental Policy

Prepared By: Environmental Services

Council Approval Date: May 24, 2011

Effective Date: May 24, 2011

Council Resolution No.: 162-11

References: Procedures C-ES03-P1
Municipal Development Plan
Municipal Government Act
Canada Environmental Protection Act 1999
*Alberta Environmental Protection and
Enhancement Act 2000*

Previous Revision Date: New (C-PD04)

LAS Review Date: October 31, 2014

Function: Planning and Development

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish planning and leadership regarding environmental stewardship, sustainability, protection and enhancement within Parkland County. The policy intends to protect the natural environment, people and property from degradation and hazardous conditions.

POLICY STATEMENT

The County shall encourage development that is designed to minimize air, water and soil degradation, reduce resource consumption, reduce waste generation, and protect natural systems that support life.

DEFINITIONS

1. "Environment" means the components of the Earth, and includes: (a) land, water and air, including all layers of the atmosphere, (b) all organic and inorganic matter and living organisms, and (c) the interacting natural systems that include components referred to in (a) and (b);
2. "Environmental Management" means management and control of the environment and natural resources systems in such a way so as to ensure the sustainability of development efforts over a long-term basis.
3. "May" means discretionary compliance or a choice in applying policy.
4. "Shall" means mandatory compliance.

SCOPE

This policy applies to the residents and businesses of Parkland County.

MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES

The General Manager of Development Services is responsible for the development, implementation, and monitoring, of this policy.

STANDARDS***GUIDING PRINCIPLES***

1. Current and future protection of the environment should be recognized as essential to the integrity of ecosystems, health, economic activity and wellbeing.
2. Integration of environmental protection and economic decisions shall be factored into County and public action.
3. Public awareness and understanding of intergenerational equality shall be recognized to minimize negative environmental impacts on future generations.
4. Implementation of emerging technology, and/or environmental protection standards shall be encouraged by the County.
5. Public participation in a Parkland County “Environmental Advisory Committee” as residents, businesses, and stakeholders shall have the opportunity to participate in decision making and be empowered to develop community based environmental programs and initiatives.

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION OF ENVIRONMENT

6. The County shall work with local residents, groups, or community associations to address ongoing maintenance and stewardship of the environment.
7. The County shall develop an ongoing protection information campaign for the purpose of all environment components and the appropriate use and management of the components within the County.

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

8. Protect environmentally significant areas as identified by the County’s Environmental Conservation Plan and/or any subsequent statutory documents.
9. Reduce the impact of development on the natural environment to the greatest extent possible.
10. Secure Environmental Reserve dedications, and/or any other available provisions, to protect environmentally significant lands and other conservation areas.