

## Get Involved!

- ◆ Enjoy and protect the property: access the land by foot only, stay on the trails and leave no trace.
- ◆ Volunteer for EALT. Visit [www.ealt.ca/volunteer/](http://www.ealt.ca/volunteer/) or email [info@ealt.ca](mailto:info@ealt.ca) to get started.
- ◆ Educate yourself about invasive weeds and eradicate them on your property to reduce their spread to other areas.
- ◆ Support EALT in other ways; learn how at [www.ealt.ca/donate/](http://www.ealt.ca/donate/).

To learn more about how you can make a difference, visit [www.ealt.ca/get-involved/](http://www.ealt.ca/get-involved/).



Willow planting volunteers

Support has been provided by Canon's Take Root Program, presented by Evergreen

**Canon**  
Because It Counts

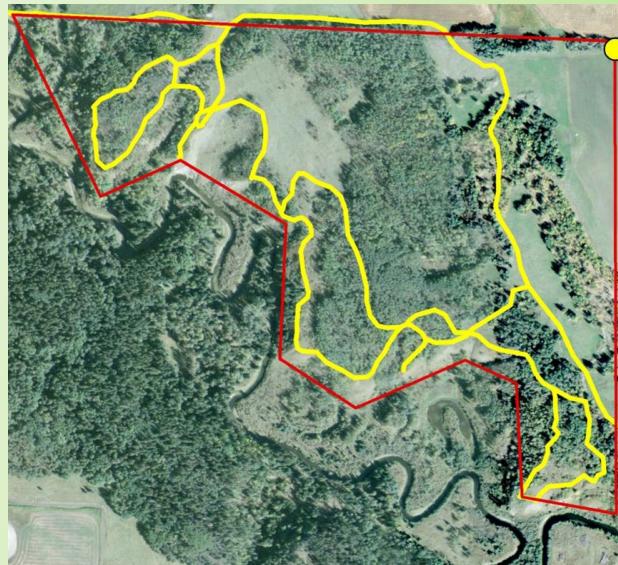


## Directions from Hwy 13\*

Travelling on Hwy 13, turn north on to RR 231A. Travel approximately 3 km to the junction of RR 231A and RR 231; public access is located on the west of this junction.

\*Hwy 13 runs east west between Wetaskiwin and Camrose

## Trail Map



Edmonton and Area Land Trust

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# Pipestone Creek Conservation Lands



Protecting our land,  
preserving our legacy.



*Gaillardia, native Alberta wild flower*

## Background

The Edmonton and Area Land Trust (EALT) is a non-profit organization dedicated to conserving the region's natural areas through securing properties and community stewardship. We work towards creating an Edmonton region where natural area systems and their wildlife are valued and protected, preserved for future generations, and play a key role in the social, economic, and environmental lives of our residents and communities.

In 2012, EALT secured Pipestone Creek Conservation Lands - a unique area bordering a creek, which includes an ox bow lake. Its riparian area, woodlands, and grasslands are home to unique species of plants as well as deer, great blue heron, cedar waxwings, hermit thrush, and waterfowl. By preserving this property, the creek and riparian area can safely function as a corridor for wildlife movement. Protecting the creek will also help create a healthy watershed, and in turn, healthy water for our communities nearby.

## Stewardship

Many people believe that natural areas look after themselves, but in fact they require stewardship. EALT starts by creating an inventory of the species and state of the land, and then develops a Conservation Management Plan. This plan serves as a road map for the future of the property. Efforts such as habitat restoration, removing invasive weeds, and monitoring, are required ongoing to steward the natural area.

For example, several decades ago, top soil was cleared from portions of the Pipestone Creek property for gravel mining operations. To help restore the degraded woodland, EALT partnered with The Carbon Farmer to plant over 20,000 native tree saplings. Native willows were also planted on a portion of the creek bank to help stabilize the slope.



*Common tansy by Peggy Reimchem*

Upon inventorying species of Pipestone Creek, EALT found a number of established noxious weeds. These weeds spread quickly and choke out natural vegetation, reducing the quality of habitat for wildlife to nest and forage. EALT is required by Alberta law to remove noxious weeds, just like any landowner. EALT volunteers worked together to pull common tansy, a yellow button flower, which had spread into a riparian area. The Carbon Farmer also funded the removal of over five tonnes of Canada thistle in 2013 alone.

## Visitors Welcome

Hikers, photographers, wildlife watchers, cross country skiers, snow shoers and any other low impact recreationists are welcome to enjoy the Pipestone Creek Conservation Lands. This property offers a series of trails that lead to a plethora of scenic lookout points. While you enjoy the scenery keep an eye out for movement, as you may be lucky enough to spot one of the many wild animals that live here. The trail system can be accessed from the NE corner of the property via a walk through opening in the fence.

Off-highway vehicles (OHV) are not allowed on the property. In the summer, OHVs contribute to the spread of invasive weeds that EALT volunteers have spent hundreds of hours removing. In the winter, the trails are not groomed and touring the property on a snowmobile can damage our thousands of newly planted tree and willow saplings. The property is also unsafe for OHVs as there are several sink holes with sudden drops of up to 7 feet.



*Access point of Pipestone Creek property*