

# LEAVE IT TO BEAVERS

**Project Update No. 3**

**October 26, 2012**

**ANN & SANDY CROSS CONSERVATION AREA,  
CALGARY SCIENCE SCHOOL, COWS AND FISH, & THE MIISTAKIS INSTITUTE**

## Project Description

We are pleased to share our third reintroduction project update. As you may know, the beaver reintroduction project at the Ann & Sandy Cross Conservation Area (ASCCA) is a multi-year collaborative partnership project with the goal of re-establishing healthy beaver populations in the Pine Creek watershed.

### WHY REINTRODUCE BEAVER?

This project will demonstrate how beavers play an important role in ecosystem health through the provision of healthy wetlands which also serve to hold high quality water in upper watershed

areas for groundwater recharge and surface run-off— a role that is critical in water-stressed regions like southern Alberta.

### WHAT'S NEW?

The ASCCA has been busy preparing the area for beaver reintroduction. Calgary Science School grade 8 students made their fall visits which entailed water monitoring, capturing photo points and wildlife observations. Grade 7 students made their first visit to the ASCCA in mid-October. Also, we are pleased to announce that we have received generous project support from the State Farm Youth Advisory Board.



## Mission Accomplished!

Thanks to the help of the Alberta Institute for Wildlife Conservation, a beaver family has been relocated to Goodwin Pond at the ASCCA. An adult female and male and their two kits were released a couple of weeks ago. The beavers came to the ASCCA from a site in Airdrie.

Since their arrival at Goodwin Pond, the beavers have used all

of the denning materials that volunteers had collected for them, and they have established a den. Also, staff & volunteers helped build and place an incredible beaver viewing platform overlooking the pond. To view a video of beavers at the ASCCA, please visit: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P9NCn5KuF9I&sns=em>

### This project is a partnership between:

- The Ann & Sandy Cross Conservation Area
- The Calgary Science School
- Cows and Fish
- The Miistakis Institute

### We would like to acknowledge our generous funders:

- Alberta Conservation Association
- Alberta Ecotrust
- Land Stewardship Centre
- State Farm Youth Advisory Board
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