



“OUR COMMUNITY CREEK”

**Hardisty Creek Restoration Project
Hinton, Alberta**

A watershed restoration/ community stewardship initiative

WHAT IS THE HARDISTY CREEK RESTORATION PROJECT ALL ABOUT?

The Hardisty Creek Restoration Project is a community-based initiative that seeks to restore the overall health of Hardisty Creek and foster increased public awareness and education of water and watershed concerns in Alberta. Inspired by UNESCO’s International Year for Fresh Water – 2003, the project involves local schools, community residents and businesses, municipal, provincial and federal government agencies, research institutions and a local watershed group in a collaborative partnership to restore ecological health to Hardisty Creek, and to foster community stewardship for watershed health.

WHY IS THE HARDISTY CREEK RESTORATION PROJECT NEEDED?

Hardisty Creek is a little creek with big challenges. At the outset of the project in 2003, several culverts prevented fish migration from the Athabasca River to upstream areas. In places, streamside forests within the Town of Hinton were disturbed or cleared to the edge of the creek. These changes to the riparian areas, or lands that border the creek, contributed to fish habitat decline. The Hardisty Creek Restoration Project was initiated to address fish passage, fish habitat and riparian health concerns in the Hardisty Creek Watershed.

While restoration of the creek is an important goal of the restoration project, awareness and education regarding water and watershed health is equally necessary. With support from our community and stakeholders, the project is working to bring about a community success story in conservation stewardship and education.

HOW CAN I BECOME INVOLVED IN THE HARDISTY CREEK RESTORATION PROJECT?

We invite all community residents, groups and businesses to join the effort to restore Hardisty Creek to health. There will be opportunities to learn about watershed health, to participate in specific restoration projects, and to share the history and personal stories about our community creek. Come and join us!

**Contact Us: Athabasca Bioregional Society 865-2081 or 816-0654
Foothills Model Forest 865-8383
Town of Hinton 865-6086**

