

Partners



Contact Information

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Notes

Site Sketch

A large, empty rectangular box with a black border, intended for a site sketch.

*"Success is achieved by working directly
with agricultural producers"*

***A shelterbelt program for
landowners in the
Eastern Irrigation District***

PHD History

The Partners in Habitat Development (PHD) program was founded in 1998 with the intent of creating, preserving, and restoring wildlife habitat within southern Alberta.

Over the years, the Partners in Habitat Development program has partnered with many individuals and organizations including agricultural producers, irrigation districts, government organizations, conservation organizations, corporate and private individuals all of whom have donated financial and/or in-kind resources to allow the activities of the program to progress.

Since its formation the PHD program has:

- Planted over 950,000 trees and shrubs
- Provided over 870 acres of grass seed for the establishment of nesting cover
- Provided approximately 175 kilometres of fencing material to protect new and existing habitat from livestock .
- Assisted with the installation of 45 water delivery's to provide water to habitat sites and has been involved in the creation and enhancement of 14 wetland basins.



Habitat

Currently the PHD program works exclusively in the Eastern Irrigation District with the primary focus of establishing new shelterbelts on private land for wildlife habitat and livestock shelter.

The secondary focus of the PHD program is providing fencing materials to landowners planning to fence out existing tree & shrub or wetland habitat to protect it from livestock access.

Additional opportunities such as nesting cover establishment or wetland development may be considered on a case by case basis.



The PHD program will:

- Work with the landowner on site planning and species selection.
- Purchase and plant the seedlings
- Purchase and install mulch material over the seedlings
- Weed and mow the newly established shelterbelt for the first two growing seasons.
- Replant seedlings the second year which did not survive the first growing season.
- Provide fencing materials if needed to prevent livestock access.

Landowner

The PHD program will do this work at no cost to the landowner, but the landowner is responsible for:

- Preparing the site prior to planting.
- Planning for and watering the site regularly after planting is complete.
- If applicable, install fencing prior to planting to prevent livestock access.
- Weeding and mowing the planting site as needed starting in its third growing season.

Deposit

Starting in 2021 the PHD program has adopted a fully refundable performance deposit program for new PHD landowners.

- A deposit of \$500—\$2000 is required to be paid to the PHD program prior to planting.
- The deposit will be paid back to the landowner in two installments. The first half in the fall of the planting year and the second half the following fall.
- The refund amount is based on seedling survival with a full refund issued for end of season seedling survival being above 70%.

