

FISH CREEK PROVINCIAL PARK

Lafarge Meadows

PARK NOTES

Where is Lafarge Meadows?

Lafarge Meadows is a 150 acre area located on the south side of Highway 22x, running parallel to the west bank of the Bow River. The area has a pathway joining the rest of the Park from the boat launch staging area. This new section of land is formally part of Fish Creek Provincial Park and is managed as such.

Transforming a Gravel Pit into a Wetland Landscape



Formally a gravel pit, Lafarge Meadows has been transformed into a wetland landscape. The transition from roughly 25 years of mining to the vision depicted in the picture below will be ongoing with collaboration and partnerships between the Alberta Government, the City of Calgary, Lafarge Canada Inc., industry and the private sector.

Where Does the Water Come From?

Existing and future storm water runoff from the surrounding neighborhoods will fill the engineered wetlands of Lafarge Meadows. First it will fill the pond nearest to Highway 22x and in times when water levels increase the spillover will fill a second, and finally a third engineered pond before eventually draining back into the Bow River.

Wetlands are the Kidneys of our Landscape

Just as our kidneys filter waste from our body, wetlands filter pollutants from water sources. Storm water runoff is contaminated with pollutants. Due to the wetlands relatively stagnant state these pollutants and heavier sediments settle to the bottom of the wetland resulting in cleaner out going water. This process will help maintain a healthy and clean water flow to the Bow River. The wetlands will also house a variety of wildlife, protect fisheries, enhance public access to the river and allow visitors more natural area for picnics, afternoon walks and educational experiences.

For Future Generations

Lafarge Canada Inc. sold a portion of the land to Fish Creek Provincial Park and is reclaiming the rest with the vision of an engineered wetland. It is a vision that encourages the preservation and conservation of the Parks diverse ecosystems for the enjoyment of future generations. It also serves as a model partnership between provincial, municipal and private industry.



A vision of Lafarge Meadows after the transformation.

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