

UPDATE – Nose Hill Park NOVEMBER 2006

Starting the first week of November (weather dependant), Parks will begin environmental cleanup and restoration activities on Nose Hill Park. Planned activities will serve to improve the overall health of native vegetation communities within the park and increase user safety in the gravel pit, while enhancing the overall aesthetic value of Nose Hill. Details on planned activities are described below.

ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP ACTIVITIES

Cleanup - Gravel Pit

Parks crews will be leading an environmental cleanup of the concrete, asphalt and metallic debris that remains from former gravel pit operations. Cleanup activities will be focused on removing larger debris and stockpiles of materials (see photos 1 and 2). If time and weather permits, crews will scout for and remove smaller debris and stockpiles from the gravel pit.

Demolition - Old 14th Street Access Road

Crews will begin demolition of the old asphalt road that is situated near the 14th Street Parking lot (see attached map). Demolition of this access road was identified in the Nose Hill Trail & Pathway. The former road will be restored to native grassland in the spring, using soils excavated during trail & pathway construction or from current stockpiles in the gravel pit.

Tree Pruning - Current 14th Street Emergency Access

In order to provide safe access for emergency and construction vehicles, some trees along the current 14th Street emergency access road will be pruned (see attached map). Pruning is required to provide safe clearance for vehicles, and to prevent damage to both the trees and vehicles.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION ACTIVITIES

Caragana Removal

This fall, Parks crews will begin efforts to remove Caragana from Nose Hill Park. Caragana is hardy non-native shrub, which was introduced to Nose Hill by the lands previous owners, most likely to provide a shelterbelt around agricultural areas. Caragana is an aggressive shrub species, once established in natural areas the shrub flourishes and takes over (out-competes) important and sensitive native grassland and shrub communities.

Planned Activities:

Parks will be removing Caragana from two key areas, which are each located in close proximity to the Brisebois Drive entrance (see Map 2 for locations).

Since Caragana reproduces from both seed and root suckers, a two step process will be undertaken to remove the species from the Park.

- Step 1:** Physical removal of the above ground woody plant material (to remove seed source). Removal activities will first begin in Area 1 (see Map 2).
- Step 2:** Grinding and chemical treatment of stumps (to destroy root system and prevent future suckering)

Parks will take extra efforts to recycle suitable above ground woody material. Suitable material will be chipped on-site, and will be used by Parks in future gardening and landscape activities.

For more information on this project, please visit the website at www.calgary.ca/parks

PLEASE CONTACT THE CITY OF CALGARY AT 3-1-1 IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS.