

# News Release



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## Say YES to the Environment

AIRDRIE, AB - The City of Airdrie Environmental Advisory Board is encouraging residents to acknowledge the successful environmental initiatives of Airdrie residents under the age of 18 with this year's Youth Environmental Stewardship Award (YES Award).

"It is important to encourage our youth to be environmentally conscious. It is also important to recognize the awareness these youth have with purchasing decisions, practicing the three 'R's', and thinking about ideas to improve our environment," says Theresa Wilcox Kelly, Environmental Services Coordinator, City of Airdrie. "It is incredible to hear about the projects many of our youth are participating in either at school or in service clubs. They deserve the recognition and the YES Award is a great opportunity for our youth to feature their environmental creativity."

The YES Award is given annually and challenges young people to take a proactive approach towards maintaining and enhancing our environment. It can be given to an individual or a group (under 18 years of age). Criteria for the award include projects positively affecting the environment within the past 12 months:

- purchasing decisions
- create public awareness through videos, skits, essays, articles, etc.
- energy efficiency
- recycling, reducing, reusing or composting initiatives
- reduced greenhouse gas emissions
- garbage cleaned-up
- planting a community garden
- enhancing public spaces
- sustainable behaviour or activity
- relating to land, air, water, energy
- protecting wildlife, green spaces etc.

Anyone can apply for the award if they meet the criteria, or residents can nominate someone for the Award by filling out an application available at the Recycling Depot (15 East Lake Hill) or online at [www.airdrie.ca](http://www.airdrie.ca). The full criteria and guidelines are also available from the City of Airdrie web site. **Nomination deadline is March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2010.** The winner will be announced Saturday April 24, 2010, at the Airdrie Home and Garden Show.

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### Contact:

Theresa Wilcox Kelly  
Coordinator, Environmental Services  
City of Airdrie  
(403) 948-0246  
[www.airdrie.ca](http://www.airdrie.ca)