

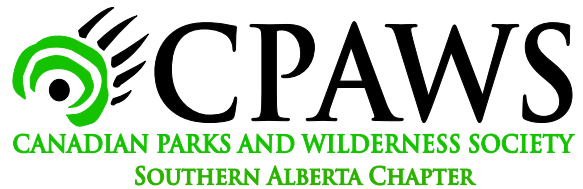
Here is how some groups have already **made a difference!**

Be sure you let us know what you do!

One school went **Busking for Bears** and raised and donated \$400! • **Letters** to politicians and newspapers • **Teddy Bear Raffle** – raised and donated \$900! • A group of Grade 8's raised awareness and **demanding more crossing structures for wolves** in the Bow Valley. It worked! The federal government has built them.

You're well on your way to making a difference. Keep at it, keep us informed and most importantly celebrate your actions and achievements!

www.actionchallenge.ca



Thinking about **Alberta Tomorrow**

Alberta Sustainable Land-use Project – Look at past and present landscape imagery, learn about land-use and changes through the student and teacher oriented online modeling/resource website <http://beta.albertatomorrow.ca>. See changes that have taken place, set goals and create your own online projects to ensure a sustainable future for Alberta.

Our campaigns

Castle Wilderness – Right now we are working to conserve this important ecosystem on the Eastern Slopes of the Rocky Mountain. If you visit this area, pledge to be a responsible user or perhaps write letters to encourage the government to make it a park.

Species At Risk – Raising the awareness of the challenges facing species at risk, such as Grizzly Bears, in our Southern Alberta environment.

Other CPAWS campaigns – Visit www.cpaws-southernalberta.org




Ideas for a Great Environmental Action Project





For more ideas or information:
Education@cpaws.org
or
cpaws-southernalberta.org

It is possible for everyone to **make a difference!**

Here are some smaller, but important, actions that you and your group can take to make a real change.


 **Posters** – Make educational posters and hang them up to help others become aware of and understand the issues.


 **Recycling and Waste Reduction**– Make a plan or promise (such as litterless lunches) to commit to recycling and reducing waste, keep track of your progress and how much your waste is reduced.


 **Ecological Footprint** – Calculate your or your groups' ecological footprint. Try to improve and re-calculate a few months later. Use the calculator at www.mec.ca/Apps/ecoCalc/ecoCalc.jsp




GO WILD! Take action with some bigger projects.

 **Teach Others** – Develop and deliver presentations and displays to teach others in your school or community about your topic and actions they can take to help. Try to organize an event for Earth Day, April 22.


 **Personal Pledge** – Create a personal/group pledge. Check out the David Suzuki's Action Challenge ideas at www.davidsuzuki.org/kids, or have fun creating your own (eg. Family pledge to obey speed limits in parks). See how many people you can get to sign on to your pledge!


 **Eco-management** – Send a team to participate in your community's river clean-up, find out who needs help with some conservation work, embark on your own school-yard or community clean-up.


 **Design a Website or Make a Video** – The more people hear or learn about your issue, the more likely that things will change. Be creative!!!

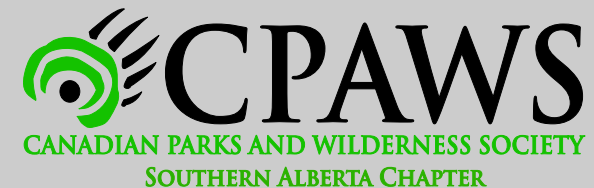
 **Newsletter** – Create a quarterly eco-newsletter with tips, facts and news about your issue.



 **Letter-writing Campaign** – Politicians and decision-makers need to know that people support actions to conserve and protect the environment. Organize a letter-writing bee to get as many written as possible. Don't forget to write to your local papers – they'll publish your letters and lots of people will read them.

 **Start a Petition** – Collect signatures of people who support your cause and present the petition to your local (or provincial) politicians.

 **Fundraise** – Pick an environmental cause or organization and brainstorm ways to raise money for them.



Action Awards

CPAWS would really like to hear about the action you are taking to conserve and protect our local environment! Please fill out the following form and submit it to CPAWS Southern Alberta Chapter prior to **May 22** and you will be entered to win an Action Award and class party!

Your Name: _____

Phone # : _____ **Email :** _____

School or Group (if applicable): _____

of Participants in Project: _____ **Grade:** _____

Type of Action Project: _____

Short Description of Action Project: _____

Please send to:

Education@cpaws.org

Fax: 403-232-6988

88 Canada Olympic Road S.W., Calgary, AB T3B 5R5



Letter-writing Tips

Keep the following tips in mind as you write your letter:

- state your purpose for writing
- make a very specific request
- tell them about what you've been studying, mention any outdoor field trips, and state how you feel about the issue
- if you have made any commitments to lessen your environmental impact, consider mentioning them
- check to make sure that the person you're sending the letter to the right person. Ask yourself if the letter should be copied to anyone else.
- if possible type your letter, using a business letter format - however a neatly hand-written letter can be just as effective.
- be honest: include only necessary and truthful facts
- be concise, brief, and organized. It would be nice if your letter fits onto one page
- be courteous: there is no harm in being polite
- ask for a reply
- check your letter before sending it: edit, revise, check for spelling and grammar
- keep a copy for your records
- SEND a copy to CPAWS to be entered to win an Action Award!



Letter-writing Campaign

Here is a list of some politicians, decision-makers and media that you might be interested in writing to about your environmental issue or cause.

Premier Jim Prentice

Office of the Premier
Room 307, Legislature Building
10800-97 Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6

The Honourable Kyle Fawcett

Minister of Environment & Sustainable Resource Development
Room 420, Legislature Building
10800 - 97 Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6

Prime Minister Stephen Harper

Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

The Honourable Leona Aglukkaq

Minister of the Environment
Les Terrasses de la Chaudière
10 Wellington Street, 28th Floor
Gatineau, Quebec
K1A 0H3

The Calgary Herald

P.O. Box 2400, Station M
Calgary, AB T2P 0W8
submit@calgaryherald.com

The Calgary Sun

2615 12th Street N.E.
Calgary, AB T2E 7W9
cal-news@sunmedia.ca

CBC Calgary

cbc.ca/calgary/contact/
calgarynewstips@cbc.ca

