

Naturalization Fall 2026

What We Heard Report Summary: Desrochers

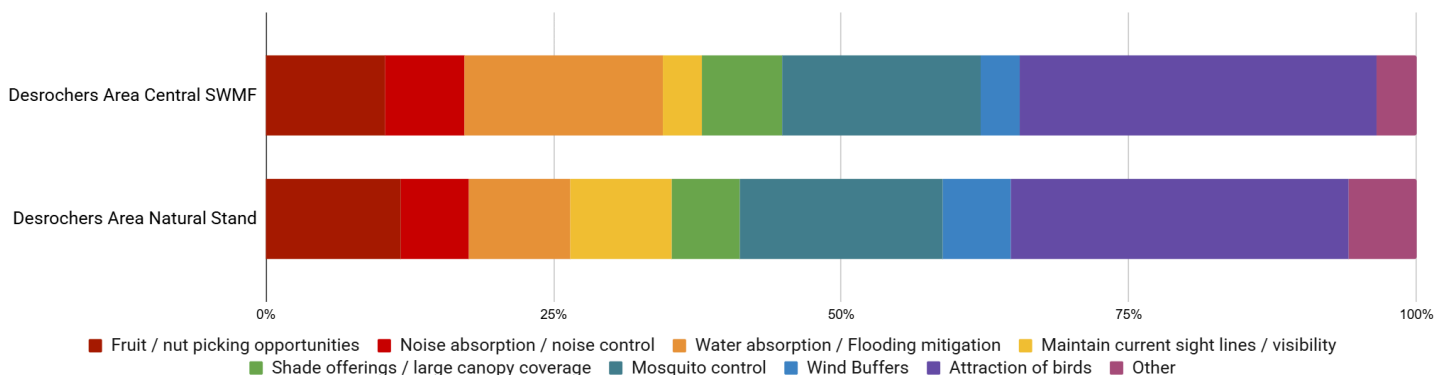
Introduction

The Naturalization Program supports the City's goal to expand our urban forest by planting two million new trees by 2030 and achieve 20% canopy coverage by 2071. This program offers numerous benefits including flood mitigation, increased biodiversity, lower maintenance costs and improved temperature regulation. From March 24 to April 12, 2026 feedback was gathered on two 2026 naturalization planting sites in Desrochers. Fifteen respondents provided 24 contributions on the Engaged Edmonton integrated map survey.

Priorities for Naturalization: Results

Respondents were asked to prioritize a variety of options to help shape new naturalized sites.

What are your top priorities on naturalizing this site?



Three comments were received through the 'Other' option and are summarized below.

- Prioritize planting trees and shrubs that are native to Alberta and the Edmonton region
- Support for the existing grasses and would prefer not planting trees or large bushes

Open-Ended Feedback and Actions

Respondents were asked to share additional information about site conditions and usage. Site-specific feedback is summarized below along with how the City applied insights to inform actions for the upcoming plantings.

Respondent Feedback	City Action
Desrochers Area Central SWMF	
→ High quantity of mosquitoes in the summer	→ New plants will create habitat for dragonflies, which prey on mosquitoes.
Desrochers Area Natural Stand	
→ High quantity of mosquitoes in the summer → There is a coyote den in the area → There is a high level of dampness around the stormwater pond → High winds in the area → Request for shorter trees/ shrubs closer to the road to ease drivers' ability to see pedestrians	→ New plants will create habitat for dragonflies, which prey on mosquitoes. → The City will ensure awareness of coyote homes while planting. → The plant species selected will absorb much of the excess moisture in the area. → Windbreaks with trees and plants will be established. → Planting plans will ensure sightlines are maintained.

Next Steps

The City is finalizing technical plans to deliver sustainable, climate-resilient green spaces by integrating public feedback with ecological requirements, such as soil conditions and utility protection. Plans will reflect community-identified priorities, where feasible, while maintaining the program's long-term sustainability goals. Naturalization planting across the City is scheduled to begin in Fall 2026.

Want to learn more? Please see engaged.edmonton.ca/naturalizationplantingsites for the full What We Heard Report.

The Naturalization Project Team would like to thank everyone who participated in this engagement process.