## **Summer on the Land 2022**

Each summer students monitor Legacy's conservation properties. They record their findings, take photographs and write reports on the state of the lands Legacy is responsible for stewarding. Here they share some of their experiences.

## Nova Van Soest Second-Year Summer Staff

I had another great summer working for Legacy. I was able to gain a greater understanding of the environmental work that land trusts do as well as the importance of land conservation.

I learned many valuable skills such as GPS operating, plant identification, wildlife awareness and teamwork. I enjoyed speaking with landowners and having the opportunity to walk some beautiful properties.

It was great to see how many people are involved with this organization and who all have the common goal of protecting Alberta's native land.

## Sarah Clermont First-Year Summer Staff

I had a very enjoyable summer working for Legacy Land Trust Society and learning what it's like to work for a land trust. My coworkers were great to work with, and I've learned a lot throughout this seasonal position. I was able to apply the recent knowledge I've gained from my schooling this past year out in the field which was rewarding.

We had an informative bear safety training day prior to monitoring, and we had the opportunity to take a workshop with Alberta Riparian Habitat Management Society (Cows and Fish) learning how to conduct Riparian Health Assessments.

We attended events, went on a guided boreal forest walk and visited various landowners. We were able to monitor all 11 conservation easements affiliated with Legacy, as well as monitoring land that had a management plan set in place.







We conducted field work throughout a vast range in beautiful landscapes—from the boreal forest to knob-and-kettle landscape formed from the last glaciation 10,000 years ago to native grassland. We saw a lot of different wildlife, and I saw a lot of different wild orchids.

My positive experience working for Legacy is one that I will never forget.

## Nicole Kumbuehl First-Year Summer Staff

Working for Legacy this year was a great experience for me, as I had never done any work like this before.

I got to see the benefits land conservation has on the environment, and learned plant identification, GPS locating, and wildlife awareness. Not only did I learn lots but I got to do it while walking many gorgeous landscapes and properties.







Stories & Photos By Nova, Sarah & Nicole