

# Public Excavation Program Participant Information Sheet

## Edworthy Park, City of Calgary

### Program Contact Information

Public Archaeology Program  
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Faculty of Arts  
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### Program Summary

The University of Calgary Public Archaeology program allows members of the public to get dirty and have hands on experience with archaeological excavation! Participants will excavate alongside archaeologists and students from the University of Calgary in Edworthy Park, at a site with occupations dating to both the Precontact and Historic Periods. Volunteer day includes a site tour and guided excavation.

The program will operate from May 21<sup>st</sup> to June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2026, Monday–Friday, 9:30 AM to 3 PM. There is a maximum of 9 volunteers per day due to equipment and space requirements. Email the Public Archaeology Program at [pubarky@ucalgary.ca](mailto:pubarky@ucalgary.ca) to register or for more information. More information is also available on the website at <https://arky.ucalgary.ca/public-archaeology/>.

### Required Forms

All participants will be required to complete a volunteer registration and liability waiver form in advance of their program day. Registration and waivers are administered through University of Calgary Active Living at: <https://activelivingportal.ucalgary.ca/Program/Archaeology>

The minimum age of participation in the program is 12. Participants under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a responsible adult at all times. Participants under the age of 18 must also have their parent or guardian complete an Informed Consent Form.

All volunteers must participate in a daily on-site safety briefing. Please let the Public Program staff know if you have any medical issues that may affect your participation (for example, severe allergies, etc.) and if there is any assistance you specifically require in case of an incident.

### Directions and Check-In

Volunteers will check in with dig staff at the designated meeting spot in the lower south parking lot in Edworthy Park at 9:30 AM (see map, next page). Transportation to and from the site is the responsibility of program participants. The site is a roughly one kilometer walk from this parking lot. Participants must be physically able to walk this distance and should be prepared with all supplies needed for the day.

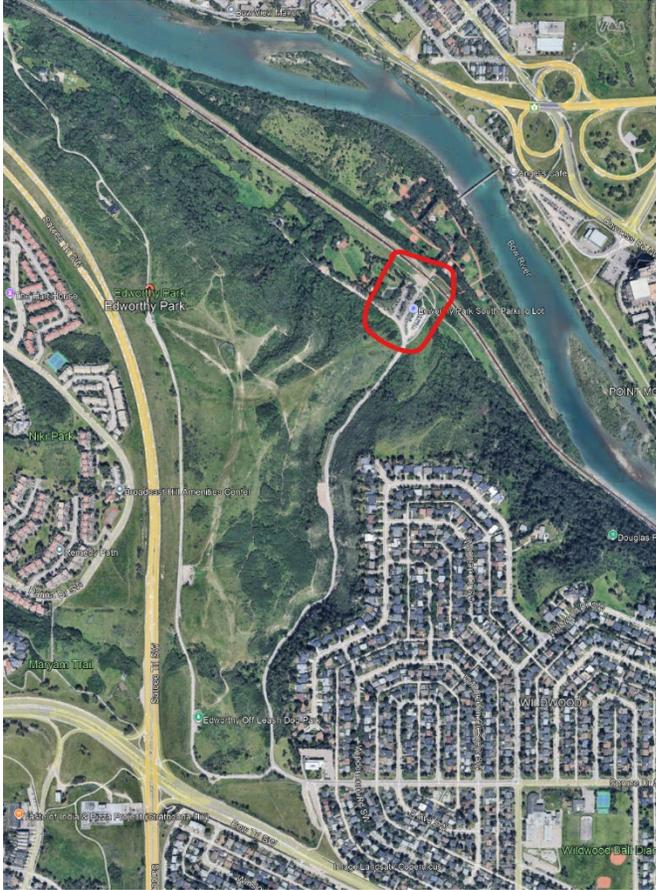


Figure 1. Designated Parking Area Show in Red

## What to Expect

Archaeological excavations require physical activity including kneeling, bending, lifting, screening soil, walking, and carrying heavy objects. Volunteers will be participating in all archaeological excavation activity including digging, screening, recording artifacts, note taking, unit mapping, and drawing excavation profiles. Digging equipment will be provided and volunteers will be trained in archaeological excavation techniques.

## What to Bring

Participants must **bring their own lunch, water and water bottles, sunscreen, bug repellent, hats, work gloves,** and wear weather appropriate clothing. Please check the weather forecast and plan accordingly. For safety reasons, **close-toed shoes** are required to participate in the excavations and pants are recommended. The program will provide all archaeological excavation equipment.

## Facilities

Food is not available at the site and participants are required to bring a lunch, water, and water bottles. A minimum of 3 litres of water is suggested for the day. A washroom is available – the closest washroom is near the parking lot, roughly 1 km from the site.

## Weather and Wildlife

Please be sure to check the weather forecast and bring appropriate clothing. Expect to be working in the sun so bring a hat and sunscreen. Bug repellent is useful as you should expect mosquitoes, ticks, spiders, etc. Expect all weather conditions including rain, snow, wind, sun, heat, sleet, hail, etc. Weather conditions can change quickly so be prepared by bringing appropriate clothing.

In case of heavy rain, all work will be cancelled for the day. If heavy rain is known in advance, the program will contact registered participants via phone and email to notify them of cancellation.

The Public Archaeology Program, the Department of Anthropology and Archaeology, and the University of Calgary are not responsible for cancelled registrations or cancellations as the result of severe weather conditions. In the event of severe weather conditions, the Public Archaeology Program will attempt to contact excavation participants either the night before or early on the day of excavation. Changing weather conditions in the field may require cancellation of the workday while at the site. Participants may re-register for alternative participation dates, but there is no guarantee that there will be other dates available in the excavation program.