

## 1.0 Welcome to the Environmental Stewardship Toolkit



**Figure 1:** As closely as possible, leave only the footprints of nature when we finish our exploration programs.  
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**The Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada (PDAC)** welcomes you to our **Excellence in Environmental Stewardship (EES)** e-toolkit. The development of the EES e-toolkit was based on the principles set out in the following **Mission Statement**:

The EES e-toolkit program will promote the advancement of environmental stewardship in the exploration stage of mineral development worldwide. It will provide rapid access to the most up-to-date information, in the most accessible multimedia formats, for the purpose of encouraging the implementation of sound environmental management practices by the exploration community, its contractors, and subcontractors.

**Exploration practitioners are the primary audience for EES e-toolkit** and the content is written for, and directed to, them. In addition to providing guidance for exploration personnel, e-toolkit will also educate other stakeholders about current mineral industry good practices and promote a better understanding of responsible environmental stewardship in exploration.

The e-toolkit lets exploration professionals, and other interested individuals, zero in on relevant industry and environmental practices. You can explore these on-line or print the PDF version of selected practices for your reference.

**The e-toolkit Web site is organized by issues (e.g., Planning Needs, Land Disturbance, and Site Management).** When you are designing your exploration program by activities (**e.g., Land Acquisition, and Surveys**), you can go straight to the relevant issue to find the practice guidelines for that activity. Because of the content in any one activity is similar, or identical, to that of other activities each issue is organized as a "stand alone" section, to avoid duplications of effort and waste of resources.

**There are up to five sublevels of information in this site**, so a brief examination of the **Table of Contents** does not reveal the extent of the detail available to you. In general, the level of detail in any particular section increases the further down in the sublevels you go. The "upper" levels are designed to give more general information, and the "lower" levels to supply more specific detail. A **Site Map** is also included on the Web site to assist you in navigation.