



# CHEYENNE BOTANIC GARDENS

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NEWS RELEASE

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## **Windmill Construction an Education for All Ages**

One mainstay of the sustainability curriculum at the Paul Smith Childrne's Village, an electircity generating turbine, will be set up Friday morning with the help of Laramie County Community College students. The students will gather at the construction site at 9 a.m.

“This partnership with the LCCC Wind Energy Technician Program is the perfect kickoff for a project that will be a great educational resource in the region,” said Cheyenne Botanic Gardens director Shane Smith.

The Paul Smith Children's Village is under construction and set to open this summer. The project was funded by private donations and will be run by the Cheyenne Botanic Gardens under the Cheyenne Department of Parks and Recreation. Suncor Energy provided the funding needed to purchase the wind turbine.

The turbine is a Windspire model made by Mariah Power. It is a 1.2 kW machine that will stand about 30 feet. It is capable of producing more than 2,000 KW-hours of electricity in a year given average windspeeds of 12 miles per hour – which is about Cheyenne's average

The Paul Smith Children's Village will teach sustainability to children and families. This quickly became the theme of the project when it was planned several years ago. For 30 years the

Cheyenne Botaic Gardens has modeled sustainable practices with its solar-heated and powered greenhouse. Laramie County Community College recently added a wind technology curriculum.

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