

| Section Planning for environmental sustainability and resilience | | |
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| Theme | Supporting sustainable development and urban ecosystems | Official plan policy reference |
| Action 1 | Participate in the development of a climate change adaptation and resilience plan to incorporate natural heritage systems and watershed planning as methods of enhancing community resilience | 4.6 (OPA 48) |
| Action 2 | Develop a Natural Asset and Environmental Goods and Services Inventory to work towards integrating green infrastructure into the City’s long-term Asset Management Strategy and to assist with the management and restoration of our natural heritage system | 6A.1 |
| Theme | Restoring Urban Ecosystems to Support Biodiversity and Resilience | |
| Governance | An internal Restoration Implementation Committee (RIC) will provide oversight and support the mobilization of City-led restoration projects, obtain advice and public input through council-appointed committees and coordinate stewardship restoration activities | 6A.2.10.10, 6A.6.4.2, 6A.2.7.5, 6A.2.5.12, 4.3 (OPA 48) |
| Action 3 | Complete a Restoration Strategy to identify threats, set targets and to prioritize and develop management plans for Restoration Areas in the City | 6A.2.10.10, 6A.6.4.2, 6A.2.7.5, 6A.2.5.12, 4.3 (OPA 48) |
| Action 4 | Focus upcoming City-led restoration efforts in areas such as the Silvercreek Stream Corridor (aka. Northwest Channel) and Eastview Pollinator Park and continue to support and collaborate on ongoing annual stewardship planting areas supported by local community groups | 6A.2.10, 6A.6.4.2, 6A.2.7.5, 6A.2.5.12, 4.3 in OPA 48 |
| Action 5 | Identify criteria for prioritization and develop long-term restoration and management plans for City owned/managed natural areas including the Speed and Eramosa River valleys, Preservation Park, Torrance Creek swamp and the Arkell Spring grounds | 6A.2.7.5, 6A.6.4.2, 6A.1.1.19 |
| Section Data and Information Management | | |
| Theme | Data Management and Technology to Improve Efficiencies and Share Knowledge | Official plan policy reference |
| Action 6 | Complete an inventory and examine existing City natural heritage datasets and user processes, understand gaps and user needs, and explore solutions to inform the scope and function of a centralized geospatial natural heritage data management system | 6A.1.1 15/16/17, 6A.6.5 |
| Action 7 | Identify opportunities to build partnerships in environmental and ecological data exchanges to take advantage of third party information and crowd sourcing | 6A.6.5 |

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| Section Watershed Planning to Manage Growth and Infrastructure | | |
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| Theme | Supporting Growth through Watershed Planning | Official plan policy reference |
| Governance | Establish an internal Watershed Working Group (WWG) to provide oversight, lead and coordinate the advancement of watershed planning initiatives and to identify and leverage funding opportunities and manage budget needs | |
| Action 8 | Refine and establish subwatershed boundaries based on current information to improve accuracy | 4.3.1, 4.3.2, 6.4 (OPA 48) |
| Action 9 | Complete a background review to summarize existing information and identify gaps and challenges within existing subwatershed studies, undertake general characterization of streams, creeks and channels where additional information is needed in order to support the framework for undertaking and prioritizing subwatershed studies with partner agencies | 6A.1 & 6A.7 |
| Action 10 | Develop a framework for undertaking and prioritizing subwatershed studies with partner agencies in the context of the Provincial Watershed Planning Guidance Manual and City master plans, related programs and initiatives | |
| Theme | Environmental Monitoring to Support Science-Based Decision Making | |
| Action 11 | Create a City-wide Environmental Monitoring Program to evaluate the effectiveness of its Official Plan policies and supporting guidelines and standards with consideration of the scope and function of the City’s data management system | 6A.6.5 |
| Action 12 | Establish ecological monitoring protocols, methods and indicators to improve our understanding of local plant and wildlife populations, ecosystems and to inform site selection of City wide long-term monitoring stations | 6A.6.5, 6A.3.4, 6A.6.2, 6A.4, |
| Action 13 | Expand and formalize existing weather and rain gauge systems to establish a City wide monitoring network to support the analysis of local climate, hydrology and ecological function | 6A.6.5 |
| Action 14 | Develop a stormwater management monitoring program to assist in improving the City’s hydraulic performance of stormwater management facilities and downstream health of receiving watercourses | 4.3.9,10 & 11 |
| Action 15 | Work with partners to develop a citizen science monitoring program that contributes local knowledge into the City’s long-term monitoring stations | 6A.6 |

| Section Natural Heritage and Biodiversity Conservation | | |
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| Theme | Understanding and Enhancing our Biodiversity | Official plan policy reference |
| Action 16 | Produce a status of the Natural Heritage System Report that measures the effectiveness of our current natural heritage policies to inform the next Official Plan update | 6A.6.5; 6A.1.1.1 |
| Action 17 | Establish biodiversity indicators and targets to assist in assessing the health and integrity of the natural heritage system on an on-going basis and to identify areas of high diversity and/or sensitivity within the natural heritage system | 6A.6.5 |
| Action 18 | Become a “Bee City” in partnership with Pollination Guelph | 6A.6.4 |
| Action 19 | Create a pollinator strategy to assist in identifying targets and developing recommendations to protect, maintain and enhance pollinator habitat. | 6A.2.9, 6A.3.4, 6A.6.4 |
| Action 20 | Update the City’s locally significant species lists and create a regular review process supported by a technical review committee of species and taxonomic experts | 6A.3.4.6 |
| Theme | Supporting Long-Term Conservation of Natural Heritage Lands | |
| Action 21 | Develop a strategy to consider alternative means to protect the Natural Heritage System by establishing roles, responsibilities and practices in land conservation to be implemented when opportunities for securement arise | 6A.1.1.18/19 6A.6.3 |
| Theme | Plant and Wildlife Habitat Management in the Urban Setting | |
| Action 22 | Create a comprehensive invasive species strategy to assist with the process and practices used to manage invasive species and develop implementation tools to support private development, City capital projects and operational procedures | 6A.6.1 |
| Action 23 | Develop a healthy landscapes program for institutional, commercial and industrial properties to facilitate enhancement, restoration and water conservation opportunities | 6A.5, 6A.6.3 |
| Action 24 | Develop a program to support native plant propagation and seed collection to use in City maintenance and operations | 6A.6.3 |

| Section Fostering Community Support, Raising Awareness & Engagement | | |
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| Theme | Education, Outreach and Stewardship | Official plan policy reference |
| Action 25 | Establish an adopt-a-space program to formalize and facilitate community and neighbourhood based engagement and stewardship of our natural spaces | 6A.6, |
| Action 26 | Continue to grow and improve the City’s EnviroGuide as a web based platform to share information about the City’s natural spaces and programs | |
| Action 27 | Explore opportunities and develop methods to expand City-led education and outreach initiatives about natural spaces such as signage, interactive maps and online tools, resident letters, nature walks, and pop up events to promote community stewardship and ecosystem health awareness | |
| Action 28 | Explore the development of an urban wildlife and ecology speaker series for the public in partnership with local organisations and academic institutions | |
| Action 29 | Explore the development of educational programs with local partners including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A program or kit regarding on urban wildlife and ecology for primary schools in partnership with local organizations and school boards • A voluntary stewardship program for high school students to participate in City stewardship and environmental management • A conservation day camp program to support environmental and outdoor education opportunities in the City • A wildlife collision awareness and reduction program in partnership with groups such as the Guelph Humane Society and Guelph Police Service | |
| Action 30 | Showcase City environmental initiatives and successes, and to foster learning experiences, collaboration and partnerships among environmental professionals | |
| Theme | Engagement models for supporting implementation | |
| Action 31 | Review and update existing City Council appointed committee terms of references for the Environmental Advisory Committee and River Systems Advisory Committee and develop recommendations to support NHAP implementation | 6A.7, 6A.6 |

| Section Continuous Improvements in Institutional Processes and Practices | | |
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| Theme | Streamlining Processes through Technical Manuals, Guidelines and Standards | Official plan policy reference |
| Action 32 | Develop a series of ecological technical guidelines and standards to support mitigation and enhancement of the City’s Natural Heritage System such as: road ecology guidelines, bird strike guidelines, wildlife sensitive mitigation & construction protocols, stormwater management planting guidelines | 6.4 (OPA 48), 6A.4, 6A.7 |
| Action 33 | Develop an Environmental Implementation Report (EIR) guideline to assist with development review processes including subdivision registration, vacant land condominiums and site plans, and also including a review the City’s demarcation policy related to natural areas and open space | 6A.7 |
| Action 34 | Develop local low impact development standards for stormwater management to assist development and capital projects in integrating alternative designs for supporting water quality and quantity protection consistent with the forthcoming MOECC LID companion document to the Stormwater management manual | 4.3.1, 4.3.2, 6.4 (OPA 48) |
| Action 35 | Develop an offsetting guideline to support the City’s Natural Area policies such as Habitat for (locally) Significant Species | 6A.3 |
| Action 36 | Examine best practices in soil health and management in partnership with academic institutions and develop guidelines | 4.3 (OPA 48), 6A.2.10; 6A.6.4.2, 6A.2.7.5, 6A.2.5.12, 6A.7.2, 6A.7.3 |
| Theme | Improving Operational Procedures | |
| Action 37 | Develop procedures, eligibility criteria and protocol for allocating the City’s Tree Compensation Funds to support the urban forest and natural heritage system goals and objectives | 6A.5.4, 6A.7 |
| Action 38 | Review and update the City’s park naturalization policy in the context of the City’s current natural heritage, urban forest and parks and recreation objectives | 6A.5, 6A.6.3 |
| Action 39 | Create an operations protocol based on the City’s existing wildlife refuge practice for stormwater pond clean outs | 4.3.1, 4.3.2 (OPA 48) |
| Action 40 | Ensure alignment between the City’s existing by-laws, policies and programs relating to “naturalized gardens” through a coordinated review | 6A.2.9, 6A.3.4, 6A.6.4, |