



# 2018 GREENING STRATEGY ACHIEVEMENTS

The Greening Strategy promotes on the ground action that supports healthy natural environments. It plants the seeds of inspiration for people of all ages to cultivate sustainable communities, now and for the future.

## FORESTRY

1-877-464-9675  
Tty 1-888-512-6228  
accessyork@york.ca

[york.ca/forestry](http://york.ca/forestry)

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YORK REGION FORESTRY  
Healthy Trees, Healthy Communities





ENHANCEMENT AND REHABILITATION

Trees and shrubs produce oxygen, remove pollutants, reduce floods, filter water, improve health, provide shade and offer many more valuable ecosystem services.



101,122 trees were planted through more than **21 partnerships** and many programs including:

- 65,472 Grow Your Legacy program
- 10,971 York Regional property plantings
- 10,166 Green Action Partnership Fund
- 3,094 Adopt-A-Stream Crossing
- 11,419 Other programs

Plantings occurred on both public and private land. Enhancement is accomplished for all habitat types including woodlands, meadows, prairies, wetlands and streams.



Targets

WOODLAND COVER

Current2031 Target

23%25%

CANOPY COVER

Current2031 Target

31%35%

STEWARDSHIP AND EDUCATION

Our greatest gains are when residents are inspired to make a personal commitment to protect and preserve the natural environment.



Residents learned about the importance of the natural environment and the benefits of trees at a variety of events hosted by York Region and partners. These events provide opportunity to further educate residents about protection and enhancement of the natural environment.



Senior specific outdoor education programming was created to teach seniors about the benefits of connecting with nature and to highlight the York Regional Forest.

Programs were developed with funding support from Ontario Senior’s Community Grant and partnerships with York Region Community and Health Services Department and the Oak Ridges Trail Association.



PROTECTION AND PRESERVATION

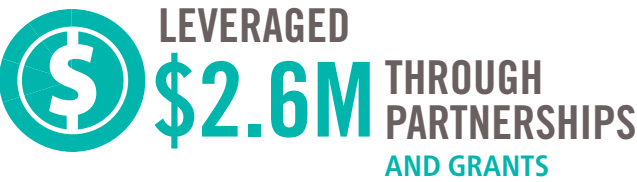
Protection of our Regional Greenland System is fundamental to achieving our canopy and woodland cover targets and an ecologically diverse natural environment.



In 2018, the Region contributed one-third of the funds to protect a property in the Township of King, linking natural areas in the Greenlands System.

Since 2001, this program has protected more than **1,367 hectares** of environmentally significant land.

Through partnership agreements, partners work cooperatively with residents, municipalities and others to encourage environmental land protection and secure individual lands.



Every York Region dollar spent is matched through partnerships.

Agreements with not-for-profit, grassroots, credible organizations, help to achieve a high level of performance and optimize the return on investment across all of the Greening Strategy Action Areas.

LEADERSHIP AND INNOVATION

To support a diverse and healthy ecosystem, York Region shares knowledge, demonstrates leadership and promotes innovation with partners and local municipalities.

Exchanged information, shared accomplishments and continued innovation at **13 Regional forums** and **12 technical presentations** throughout the Region.



In early 2018, the Bill Fisch Forest Stewardship and Education Centre became the **first building in Canada** to receive Living Building Challenge Certification.

The **Green Infrastructure Asset Management Plan** won the Lieutenant Governor Ontario Heritage Award for Excellence in Conservation and the Association of Consulting Engineers - Engineering Excellence Award.



PROGRAM, PARTNERSHIP AND ACHIEVEMENT HISTORY

2001	2002	2005	2007	2010	2012	2013	2015	2016	2017	2018
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Greening Strategy Adopted</li><li>Partnerships and Programs Begin</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Forest Walks and Events</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Significant Woodland Criteria</li><li>Forest Conservation Bylaw Update</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Backyard Tree Planting</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>First York Regional Forest Accessible Trail</li><li>Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Management Plan</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Envirothon Education Competition</li><li>Greening Strategy Refinement</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>One Millionth Tree Planted</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Bill Fisch Forest Stewardship and Education Centre Opens</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>York Region Forest Management Plan</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>State of the Forest Report</li><li>Monarch Friendly Region</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Bill Fisch Forest Stewardship and Education Centre receives full Living Building Challenge Certification</li></ul>

