



DRAFT VISION AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES

VISION

The City, private and public stakeholders, and members of the community are working together to protect, enhance, restore, expand and connect Mississauga's Natural Heritage System and urban forest so that native biodiversity and the ecosystem services essential for a healthy community are sustained for present and future generations.

This diagram conceptually illustrates the overlap between the Natural Heritage System and the urban forest, as well as their overlap with other components of the City's Green System, and the central importance of the City's Green System within Mississauga as a whole.



GUIDING PRINCIPLES

1. First conserve - then enhance, restore and expand
2. Maximize native biodiversity
3. Recognize and build on past and current successes
4. Learn from our past and from others
5. View the natural heritage system and urban forest holistically within the City's broader Green System
6. Understand the value of the City's Green System, and the essential ecological services it provides
7. Make stewardship on public and private lands part of daily living
8. Integrate climate change considerations in natural heritage and urban forest planning
9. Actively pursue opportunities to protect, enhance, restore, expand, connect and support the Natural Heritage System (NHS) and urban forest
10. Track the state of the NHS and urban forest performance
11. Practice adaptive management of the NHS and urban forest
12. Recognize the full value of Natural Areas and the urban forest as part of City planning and budget prioritization