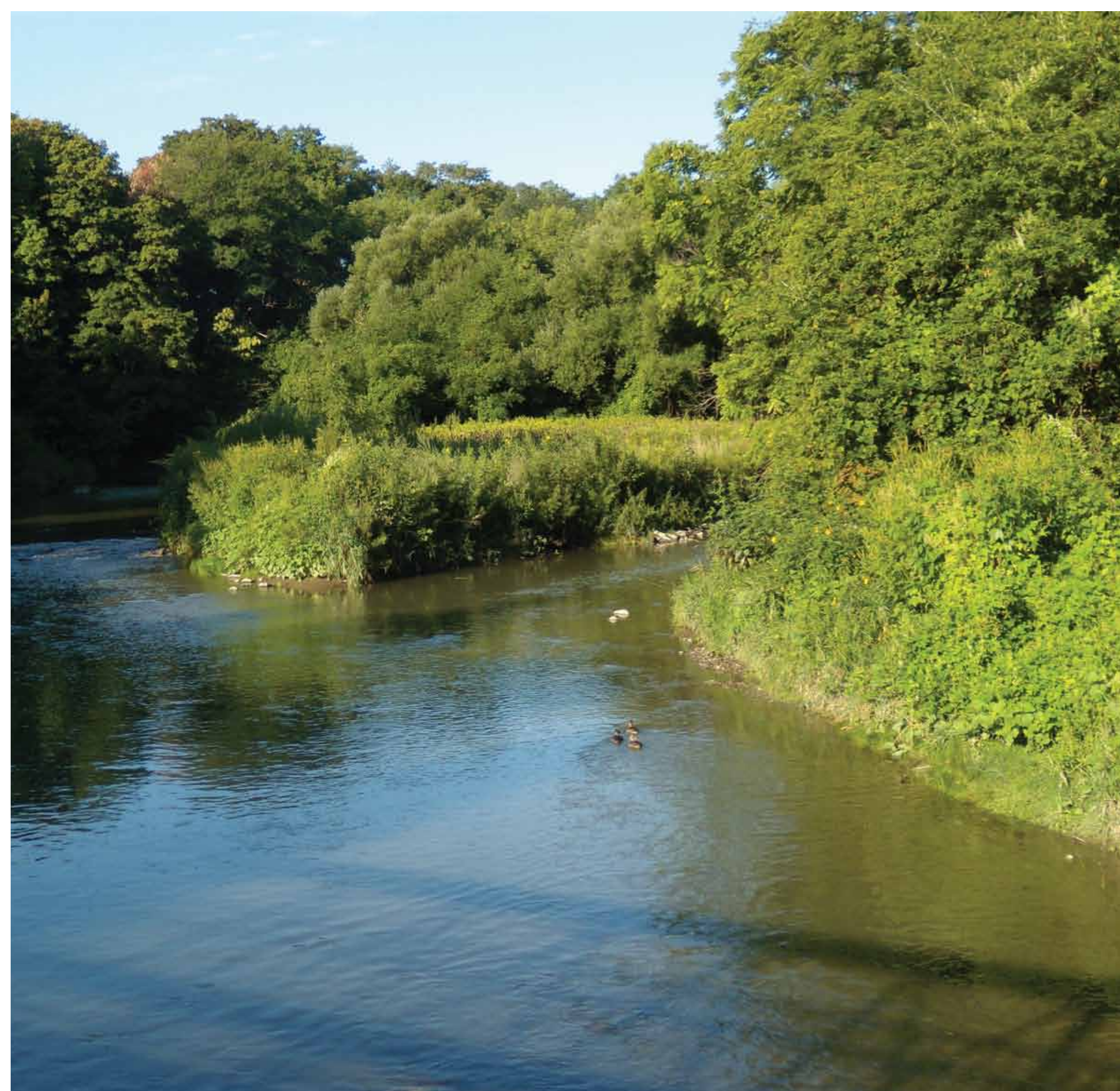




DRAFT NATURAL HERITAGE SYSTEM (NHS) TARGETS

Target Type	Current Status	Recommended Target
NHS Size	9.5% of the City (2737 ha)	12% to 14% of the City (3511 to 4096 ha)
NHS Linkage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. 62% of watercourses have vegetation for at least 30 m on either side b. XX% (TBD) of Significant Natural Areas are linked through the NHS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. 75% of watercourses have vegetation for at least 30 m on either side b. XX% (TBD) of Significant Natural Areas to be linked through the NHS or other components of the Green System
NHS Quality	Conservation Plans have only been completed for a few Significant Natural Areas	Conservation Plans to be completed and implemented for all Significant Natural Areas



The target range of 12% to 14% NHS cover is ambitious, but achievable for Mississauga. Between 1996 and 2012 the NHS had net gains of 49.76 ha (3.1. ha/yr). The 481 ha identified through this Strategy, if added would increase the NHS cover to 11%. Assuming the 481 ha is added,

- to achieve 12% cover, net gains of about 15 ha/yr will be required over the next 20 years, and
- to achieve 14% cover, net gains of about 46 ha/yr will be required over the next 20 years

Going forward, additional incremental expansions are anticipated through:

- annual Natural Areas updates
- updates to the Residential Woodlands (to capture areas where canopy cover has matured since the original mapping was done)
- the expansion of Special Management Areas along watercourses as opportunities arise, and
- other opportunities to be determined (e.g., possible habitat creation projects)