



Our greenlands *Legacy*

Greenlands Securement Program

As part of our commitment to preserve the natural environment, the Greenlands Securement Program was created to provide conservation groups in the Region of Peel with resources to protect, restore and enhance the rich natural heritage of our communities.

Funding from the program has helped our Conservation Partners acquire, protect and steward over 420 hectares of vulnerable greenspace in the Regional Greenlands System since 2005.

protect restore enhance

A culture of conservation

Situated in the Greater Toronto Area, and stretching from Lake Ontario in the south, to the Oak Ridges Moraine and Niagara Escarpment in the north, the Region of Peel is a diverse mix of urban, suburban, rural, agricultural and natural landscapes.

The Credit River, Humber River, Etobicoke Creek, Mimico Creek, and their tributaries form the major watersheds, creating an abundance of ground and surface water resources. The interconnections between human activities and natural areas and the subsequent impacts on ecosystems can be addressed at a regional level with a long-term, sustainable vision.



Wild blue flag iris

Natural heritage features, water resources and beautiful greenspace areas are protected, preserved and enhanced through planning policies in the Region of Peel Official Plan and the Official Plans of the City of Brampton, Town of Caledon, and the City of Mississauga.

Greenlands securement

The Region of Peel Official Plan identifies greenlands securement as the protection of natural heritage features and functions through land acquisition tools and methods. Land acquisition is supported by planning policy, stewardship, and monitoring.

To protect significant natural heritage lands forever, the most effective tools involve acquiring an interest in title to the lands through land donations, conservation easements, and in some cases, purchases.

Natural heritage features & areas

These natural communities in the Peel Greenlands System are the foundation of our environmental legacy.

- Wetlands
- Fish and wildlife habitat
- Valleylands
- Woodlands
- Habitats of species at risk
- Niagara Escarpment
- Oak Ridges Moraine
- Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest
- Environmentally Significant Areas



Monarch butterfly (species at risk)
on common milkweed

Conservation highlights

420 hectares of significant forest, wetland and valleyland have been protected under the Region of Peel Greenlands Securement Program since 2005, including these featured partner projects:



View of the Credit River from the walking trail at Upper Credit CA

Upper Credit Conservation Area

Located within the Provincially Significant Orangeville Wetland Complex and Melville Marshes Environmentally Significant Area, this public natural area features a beautiful expanse of the Credit River with meadow trails ideal for hiking, birdwatching, and photography. This protected green corridor connects larger tracts of land and water, ensuring the long-term sustainability of a healthy ecosystem. The land was secured through a combination of land donation, land purchase, and conservation easements between 2005 and 2010.

Caledon, 162 hectares

Public access: Yes

Conservation Partner: Credit Valley Conservation

Bolton Camp

Located on the Oak Ridges Moraine, this tract of forest and open areas creates important greenspace connectivity along Cold Creek West and the Main Humber River providing protected habitat to bird, amphibian and plant species. The land was secured through a combination of land donation, land purchase, and conservation easement. Toronto and Region Conservation Authority purchased the property in 2011 and is redeveloping the site from its previous use as an overnight summer camp to a community cultural hub. The future site will host year-round indoor/outdoor public programming and education initiatives.

Bolton, 140 hectares

Public access: Not at present

Conservation Partners: Toronto and Region Conservation Authority and Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust (easement holder)



Former campground cabins still stand among mature trees at Bolton Camp



White water lily on Orchard Pond at Ken Whillans RMA

Ken Whillans Resource Management Area

Located on highway 10, this resource management area features ponds and access to the Credit River and the popular Caledon Trailway. The reserve offers a great scenic view of the Niagara Escarpment's Devils Pulpit. The site is used for educational training purposes and provides recreational opportunities to the public for fishing and hiking. In 2011, CVC purchased a 20-hectare property with funding from Peel Region to further expand the protected lands of this reserve.

Caledon, 88 hectares

Public access: Yes

Conservation Partner: Credit Valley Conservation

Community engagement

Our Greenlands Securement Program initiatives have worked to increase landowner outreach and education about land conservation in Peel communities. By working together, we hope to share the environmental message with the public that protection of greenspace is a priority.

Through the Greenlands Securement Program, the Region of Peel works with our conservation partners to support projects and ensure our greenlands legacy is protected for current and future generations.



Contact us

For more information about the Greenlands Securement Program

Region of Peel, Regional
Planning & Growth Management
905 791 7800 ext 4083
planninginfo@peelregion.ca
peelregion.ca

Visitors at the Upper Credit Conservation Area in Caledon during a public educational event

Greenlands partners

The Greenlands Securement Program is a success thanks to our conservation partners

