

Climate Action Sheet



I DO BOTH

Greening Our City • A Natural, Local, and Essential Solution

Planting a tree • Preserving a ditch • Creating a garden

These simple actions are at the heart of climate solutions and of our collective well-being.

In Beaconsfield, our majestic urban forest is a true gem, but it is under pressure.

We all have a role to play in strengthening our city's resilience, cooling our neighbourhoods and reducing the risks associated with flooding and heatwaves.

Why Does It Make a Difference?

Trees, soil, ditches, and gardens play a crucial role:

- Cool the air by 1 to 8°C (yes, that's a big difference!)
- Absorb rainwater, helping to reduce sewer backups and flooding
- Filter the air, capture CO₂ and reduce noise
- Support biodiversity: birds, pollinators, and beneficial insects

As heatwaves become more frequent, every tree becomes an ally for our health.

The Situation in Beaconsfield

- Tree canopy cover across the city has declined by nearly 6% between 2017 and 2021
- Many mature trees, planted in the 1950s, are reaching the end of their natural lifespan
- The emerald ash borer, an invasive insect, has destroyed a large number of trees
- Flooding and sewer backups were recorded in 2017, 2019, and 2024

This is why the City invests over \$400,000 each year to maintain public trees and adapt infrastructure to today's climate realities.

What You Can Do, Starting Now

- Maintain existing trees, even imperfect ones: mature trees capture more CO₂ than young saplings
- Request a free tree to plant in front of your property (within 7 metres of the street): arbre_trees@beaconsfield.ca
- Take advantage of subsidies of up to 75% to plant a tree on private property: grame.org/ensemble-on-verdit
 - Choose climate-adapted species, such as red maple, butternut, or ginkgo
- Replace asphalt with permeable surfaces: pavers, mulch, gravel
- Create a rain garden: beautiful, easy to maintain and environmentally beneficial
- Join the [Beaconsfield Garden Club](#) or attend a library talk on sustainable gardening

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To Go Further

Climate Challenges

- **For Families:** Challenge your children - which plant will grow the fastest?
- **For Seniors:** Create a mini container garden on your balcony or near your entrance.
- **For Seniors:** Special neighbourhood challenge: Organize a seed and seedling swap with your neighbours.

Helpful Tools

- Read the guide [The Value of Our Unique Natural Assets](#)
- Around mid-May, pick up free compost or wood chips at Public Works - check municipal channels for dates and details

**Our urban forest defines the character of our community.
We must act now to slow the decline of our urban canopy.**

Let's work together to recognize the importance of this natural asset for the resilience of our community.



In Summary

More greenery = fewer GHGs, less stress, more shade and greater resilience.

Planting a tree or creating a garden means acting for today AND for tomorrow.

And here in Beaconsfield, it's accessible to everyone, thanks to the resources available.