



Urban Forest Strategic Plan 2011 (updated 2016)

(The City's approved plan for the Urban Forest of Peterborough)

Our Vision Statement

The City of Peterborough recognizes and values the environmental, social, cultural and economic contribution of the urban forest to our community.

To safeguard the many benefits provided by trees, the City is committed to managing the urban forest by promoting community stewardship and strategic practice to preserve, renew and enhance this essential resource.

The Urban Forest Strategic Plan contains 8 Strategic Objectives -

Strategic Objective	Actions completed to date
1. To maintain and enhance a sustainable urban forest in the City of Peterborough.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake tree inventory • Identify planting opportunities • Improve planting practices
2. To maximize the benefits of the urban forest for the well-being of the community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve street design to create space for large-stature trees • Suggested canopy cover increase from 29 to 35% of City land area • Introduce appropriate tree replacement ratios
3. To formalize and enhance the City's accountability as a steward, manager, regulator and promoter of the urban forest.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved data management systems • Improved management practices • Improved staff training
4. To recognize and manage the urban forest as a key element of the City's green Infrastructure.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognize City trees as green assets and add to the City's Asset Management Register • Quantify the environmental benefits of City trees • Revise Right-of-Way cross sections to create spaces for trees
5. To preserve and protect the health of the urban forest and prevent unnecessary damage or removal.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development and refinement of canopy conservation by-laws • Protect and preserve the best City ash trees through the Emerald Ash Borer Management Program • Improve tree retention practices • Implement tree risk assessment program for staff
6. To identify and recognize significant valuable trees based on historic, aesthetic, cultural, social and ecological criteria.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnership with Peterborough GreenUp to identify significant trees • Heritage tree training for staff • Heritage Tree Policy drafted
7. To create a regulatory framework that includes ongoing monitoring and assessment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Input on natural heritage policies in the new Official Plan • Develop a model to determine replanting requirements • Combine photography and LiDAR to benchmark monitor canopy change
8. To increase community awareness of the benefit of trees, encourage community involvement and create a shared responsibility for the stewardship of the urban forest.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase public engagement through social media platforms • Make tree data publicly available