

Natural Heritage and Environmental Management

Highlights of Proposed Changes:

- Environmental management policies added
- Support a culture of stewardship amongst the City and its citizens

1. Natural Heritage

- Natural Heritage System includes:
 - Landscape Level Systems
 - Core Environmental Features (Provincially or Regionally significant)
 - Locally Significant Natural Areas (described in policy – not mapped)
 - Fish Habitat (Federal & Provincial requirements)
 - Natural Features Linkages
- Development or alteration generally not permitted in Core Environmental Features
- Environmental Impact Statement required to support development or site alteration proposals within or contiguous to the Natural Heritage System
- Locating new infrastructure within Natural Heritage System is discouraged
- Buffers for Core Environmental Features (minimum 10 metres) should come into public ownership and not be counted as parkland dedication
- Uses within buffers are limited to low impact uses - recreational trails and stormwater facilities within buffers will require acceptance of an Environmental Impact Statement
- Preservation and restoration of indigenous vegetative cover is a priority
- Development or site alteration is not permitted within fish habitat

2. Environmental Management

- Master Environmental Servicing Plans integrate infrastructure requirements with environmental assessment planning principles
- Master Environmental Servicing Plans must be completed prior to large new areas of development
- Stormwater management strives to maintain natural hydrologic cycle, prevent increased risk of flooding, erosion and protect water quality
- Encourage protection, restoration, wise management and expansion of urban forest for environmental, social, cultural heritage and economic benefits

- Restrictions on development and site alteration in the floodplain:
 - One Zone Policies
 - Two Zone Policies
 - Galt City Centre Special Policy Area
- Source water protection areas identified in Regional Plan with policies and shown on Map 15 as:
 - Wellhead Protection Sensitivity Areas
 - High Microbial Risk Management Zone
 - Surface Water Intake Protection Zone
 (Policies and map may be subject to change once Source Water Protection Plans prepared)
- Development directed away from Natural Hazard zones (Grand River Conservation Authority regulations.)
- Encourage restoration and enhancement of shorelines with appropriate indigenous vegetation
- Minimum setback of 6 metres from steep slope (determined by Grand River Conservation Authority)
- Development in high water table / groundwater discharge are guided by approved hydrogeological report
- Development of contaminated sites requires appropriate level of environmental site assessment and remediation
- Noise and vibration studies may be required for development and expansions of a sensitive use or a stationary source of noise
- The City will endeavour to reduce light pollution, while maintaining public safety



Produced by the City of Cambridge Planning Services Department
 For more information contact:
 Planning Services
 City of Cambridge
 50 Dickson Street, 3rd Floor, P.O. Box 669
 Cambridge, ON N1R 5W8

 Tel: 519-740-4650 ext. 4574 or 4575
 Fax: 519-622-6184
 Email: planning@cambridge.ca