

2024 GREENING STRATEGY ACHIEVEMENTS

York Region's Greening Strategy puts into action the Region's commitment to a healthier, more resilient natural environment.



ENHANCEMENT AND REHABILITATION

Planting trees, shrubs and pollinator plants, restoring streams and wetlands, and establishing new forests, hedgerows and meadows ensure a sustainable environment for future generations.

 **PLANTED**
123,823 TREES AND SHRUBS
EXCEEDED TARGET OF 70,000 PLANTINGS

123,823 trees and shrubs were planted through more than **20 partnerships**:

- 33,764 Grow Your Legacy
- 511 Backyard Trees
- 5,310 Ontario Streams Program
- 4,185 Green Action Partnership Fund
- 67,417 Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund
- 12,636 Other Programs

Plantings occurred on both public and private land in a variety of habitats.

 **50 HECTARES**
OF WOODLAND COVER CREATED IN 2024

TARGETS

WOODLAND COVER		CANOPY COVER	
2021*	2051 Target	2021*	2051 Target
23.6%	25%	33.4%	40%

*Woodland and Canopy cover is assessed every five years.

COMMUNITY STEWARDSHIP AND EDUCATION

Inspiring stewardship and action through education and facilitating connections with nature is one of our strongest tools.

 **159 OUTREACH EVENTS**
ENGAGED RESIDENTS

Residents reconnected with nature and learned about the natural environment through a variety of events hosted by York Region and partners. These events were delivered through in-person and digital media.

 **16,752 RESIDENTS PARTICIPATED**
IN GREENING STRATEGY SUPPORTED PROGRAMS

100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF YRF CELEBRATED –



York Region Forest Walks and Events celebrated the York Regional Forest with historical education and open houses to explore the Bill Fisch Forest Stewardship and Education Centre.

ENVIRONMENTAL LAND PROTECTION AND PRESERVATION

A healthy, extensive and connected natural heritage system is essential for biodiversity, and public green spaces are important amenities that provide recreation opportunities and support the physical and mental well-being of residents.

 **1,628 HECTARES**
OF ENVIRONMENTALLY SIGNIFICANT LAND PROTECTED

111 Hectares of land protected this year, expanding the York Regional Forest in East Gwillimbury and Georgina.

 **ESTIMATED 30 MILLION TREES TOTAL IN YORK REGION**

INNOVATION AND KNOWLEDGE

York Region remains a leader in the protection and promotion of natural environment through its policies, programs and use of innovative strategies.

Exchanged information, shared accomplishments, and continued innovation at **17 Regional Forums** and **6 technical presentations** throughout the Region.

\$2,443,432 LEVERAGED TOWARDS GREENING STRATEGY PROJECTS



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