



**GREENING
THE HILL**
Our Community
Our Future

Environment Strategy 2018/19 Accomplishments

Richmond Hill's Environment Strategy, *Greening the Hill: Our Community, Our Future*, was approved by Council in 2014. Based on community and stakeholder consultation, Greening the Hill outlines Richmond Hill's vision and plan to become a more environmentally sustainable community. This leaflet provides highlights from implementation of the Environment Strategy in 2018 and 2019.



Resilient
RICHMOND HILL

Engaging a
Resilient
Richmond
Hill

In 2019, the City launched its Resilient Richmond Hill campaign to create awareness of engagement activities for the community on climate change, its local impacts and opportunities for action.

- The insight gained will shape the City's Community Energy and Emissions Plan and its recommendations to minimize the impacts of climate change.
- One of the successes of this campaign was drawing 250 attendees to the film screening event held at the Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts in November.



**Pollinator
Power!**

In 2018, Richmond Hill was recognized as a Bee City by Bee City Canada for our efforts to create habitat and protect pollinators.

- To further protect our pollinators, the City worked with community groups to establish a new collective garden at Phyllis Rawlinson Park in 2019.
- A local artist painted a mural near the garden to showcase the beauty and importance of pollinators.



**Protecting
Pipes and
Preventing
Spills**

In 2018, the City established a monitoring program to detect violations of our Sewer Use By-law when dangerous substances are poured down sanitary drains.

- The information gathered through this program helps the City identify maintenance opportunities to protect City infrastructure.
- It also helps the City prevent hazardous spills from entering our land and water.





Lighting the Way to Energy Savings

The 2014 - 2018 Corporate Energy Plan (CEP), which informs energy management and conservation efforts over a five-year period, resulted in energy cost avoidances of \$660,000/year and GHG emission reductions of 370 tonnes/year.

- The City won the Living City Energy Efficiency Award from the Mayor's Megawatt Challenge in 2017, 2018 and 2019.
- Throughout 2018, the City also finished converting 13,000 street, park and parking lot lights to LED lights, which reduced energy costs by \$650,000/year and cut emissions by 300 tonnes/year.



Putting Waste in the Right Place

Richmond Hill is making it easier for residents to put their waste in its proper place.

- In 2019, the City approved Waste Development Standards and updated its Waste By-Law to ensure residents in new condominiums and apartments have convenient access to recycling and organics programs.
- To further encourage waste diversion, the City provided outreach and education to residents of over 100 of these properties.
- The City also introduced electronic waste collection at the 2019 Healthy Yards event, where over 14,350 lbs. of e-waste was collected and diverted!



Rehabilitating Beaver Creek Pond

Construction of the revitalized stormwater pond at East Beaver Creek and Highway 7 (Pond 28-1) is nearing completion.

- The newly improved pond has been designed to benefit the local environment and increase resiliency by providing flood protection, reducing erosion and improving water quality.
- The City continues to improve resiliency to flooding through upgrades to its stormwater pond network each year.



Watch for these environmental projects in 2020!

- **Community Energy & Emissions Plan**
- **Environmental Scorecard development**
- **South Richvale Greenway enhancement**
- **Sustainability Metrics update**



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