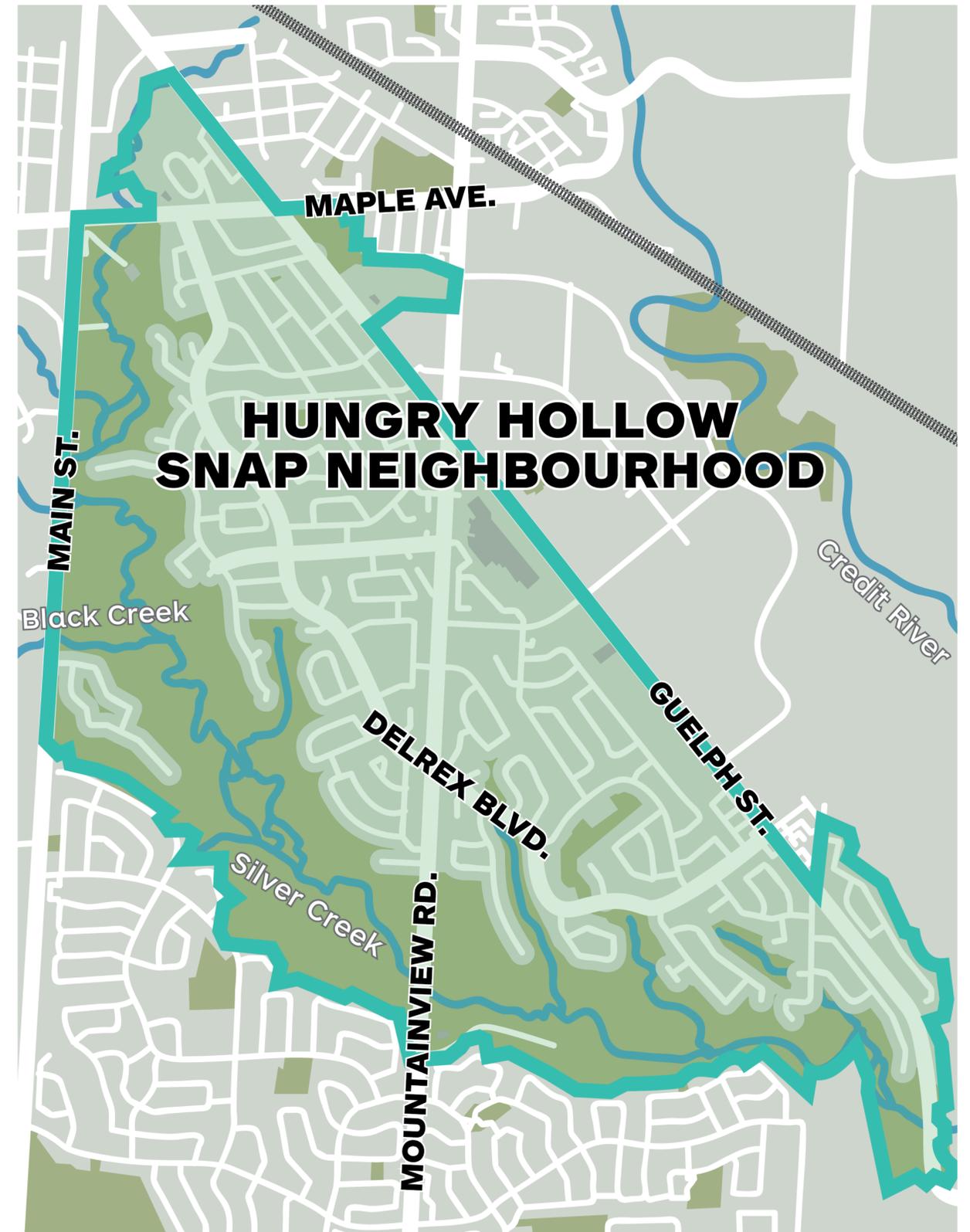


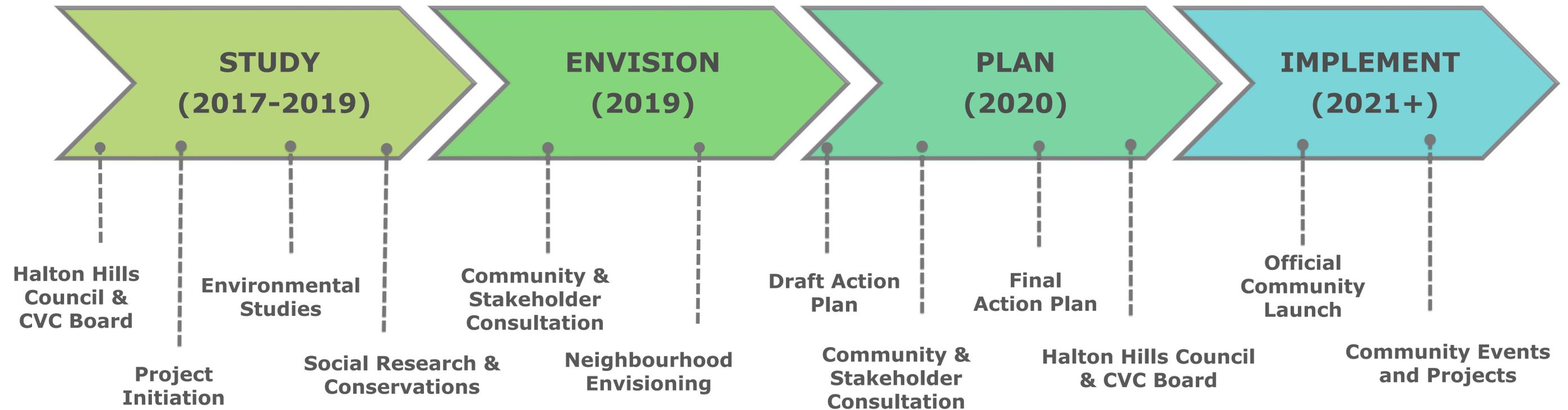
Hungry Hollow SNAP

Credit Valley Conservation and the Town of Halton Hills are working together with local residents and community groups to develop the [Hungry Hollow Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Plan \(SNAP\)](#) for the Delrex neighbourhood and Hungry Hollow ravine.

The goal of the SNAP project is to develop a plan that outlines actions residents and the community can take to protect Hungry Hollow's natural resources, support neighbourhood sustainability and build resiliency to climate change.



Action Planning Process



2017 Hungry Hollow Falls Colours Walk



2019 Delrex Neighbourhood Walk n' Talk



2019 Stakeholder Consultation



2019 Public and Community Consultation

(Photo credit: CVC)

The Neighbourhood

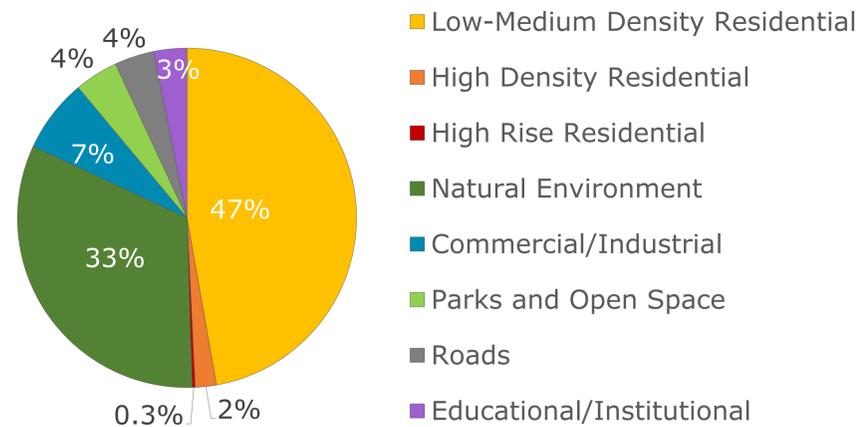
Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Plan (SNAP) brings people together to create a plan for action to retrofit and restore mature neighbourhoods and natural areas for a greener, healthier and climate-ready community.

Profile

Hungry Hollow SNAP is home to nearly 10,000 people living in a mature residential neighbourhood in Halton Hills. Eighty-six percent of homes here are owned and at 56.3 %, the majority of the project neighbourhood is under private ownership.

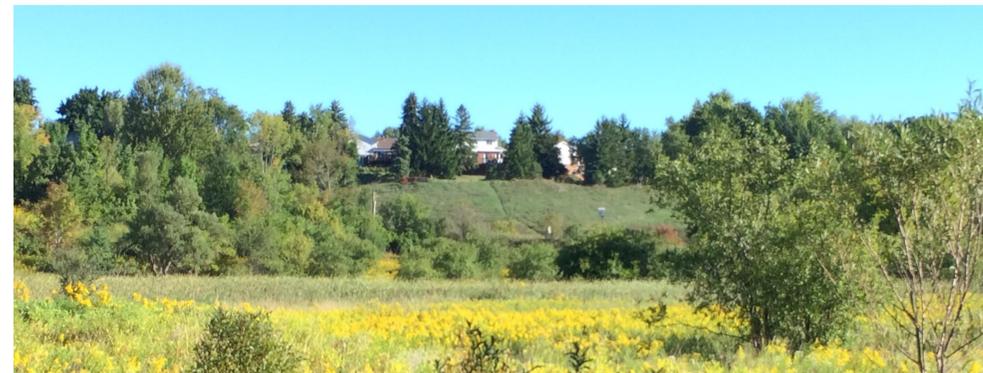
The area (579 hectares) includes schools, parks, places of worship and community centres in the Delrex neighbourhood set atop tablelands of the dramatic Hungry Hollow ravine.

Land-Use Breakdown



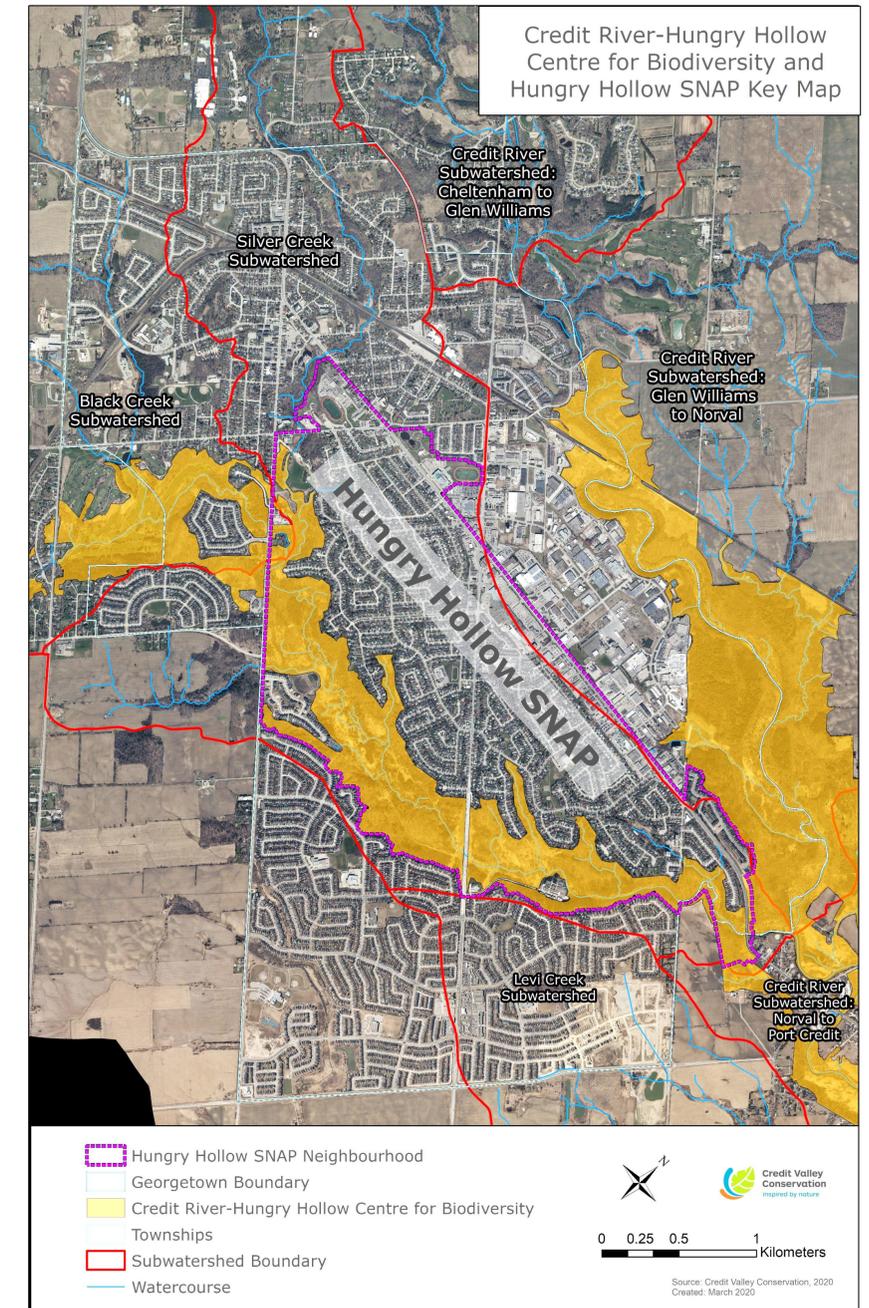
Credit River-Hungry Hollow Centre for Biodiversity (CFB) (See orange area on map, right)

Hungry Hollow Ravine is a local gem that is part of the CFB which is a landscape with a concentration of high-quality natural heritage features such as forests, wetlands and cold-water streams which are collectively important for supporting biodiversity across the Credit River watershed in the long term.



Hungry Hollow Ravine – a collection of natural assets

The Hungry Hollow SNAP neighbourhood is interconnected with the Hungry Hollow ravine valleylands. The natural areas and trail system are highly valued for their natural beauty and outdoor recreation opportunities. Silver Creek and portions of Black Creek flow through the deep valleylands, eventually connecting to the Credit River.



(Photo credit and image source: CVC)

Social Research & Community Consultations

Socio-demographic research was conducted using census and market segmentations data to create a community profile.

Over 110 residents, 30+ staff, members of Council and representatives from community groups were engaged at 4 events.

A community survey was completed by 115 respondents identifying neighbourhood values and ideas for improvements.



Residents and community leaders discussing ideas and local issues at various Hungry Hollow SNAP events.



Residents on a walk through Hungry Hollow Ravine led by CVC.

Consultation Findings

Lifestyle

Residents live slower-paced, suburban lives keeping active, enjoying the outdoors, maintaining their homes and visiting near-by amenities.

Values

Residents value small town living, mature trees and serene settings, access to nature, active living, quiet/calmness and opportunities to get involved locally.

Concerns

Residents are concerned about loss of trees, impact of invasive species and pollution on forests and creeks, beautification/revitalization of public spaces, accessibility for all and climate change.

(Photo credit: CVC)

Top Local Opportunities

1. Protect and enhance natural areas through invasive species management
2. Protect sensitive natural habitats from human disturbances
3. Upgrade stormwater management infrastructure
4. Enhance urban forest and canopy cover distribution
5. Increase ecological value and functionality of neighbourhood parks and streetscapes
6. Address local intensification and traffic and accessibility for all



Invasive species abundant in natural areas and private yards.

Human disturbance of natural areas (e.g. dumping of yard waste).

Increased demand on aging infrastructure due to development and increase stormwater runoff.

Aging trees, invasive pests and severe storms threaten the urban forests and canopy cover.

Photos from Hungry Hollow SNAP neighbourhood illustrating local concerns.

Neighbourhood Vision

The Hungry Hollow SNAP area is a healthy, climate change-ready neighbourhood with resilient, biodiverse natural spaces and green infrastructure championed by caring, connected community members.

5 Goals

1. Thriving Hungry Hollow, Silver Creek and Black Creek
2. Vibrant Parks and Open Spaces
3. Connected Streets and Infrastructure
4. Resilient Homes and Businesses
5. Strong Schools and Community

40 Proposed Actions

Draft Concept Map



Note: this map is for illustrative purposes only.

GOAL 1 - THRIVING HUNGRY HOLLOW, SILVER CREEK AND BLACK CREEK

Hungry Hollow Interpretive Trail Concept

Storyboards and self-guided activities for visitors to highlight valuable natural assets and wildlife within Hungry Hollow Ravine and the work underway to restore and protect them.



For illustrative purposes only. Further analysis and work to be done to implement projects.

Beloved valleylands that support active lifestyles, community well-being and nature appreciation while sustaining flourishing natural habitats, vital freshwater creeks and invaluable native biodiversity.

Proposed Actions



Conduct restoration activities and plantings to improve the ecological integrity of Hungry Hollow.



Implement invasive species and pests management projects for priority species throughout Hungry Hollow.



Reduce/eliminate unsanctioned trails where necessary to preserve ecological integrity.



Conduct riparian plantings and stream restoration to improve aquatic habitat and reduce erosion in Cedarvale Park and select areas in Hungry Hollow.



Implement projects to mitigate erosion on steep valley slopes (e.g. managing runoff flowing in from the top of the valley).



Install a series of interpretative signs and self-guided activities at Hungry Hollow trail heads and along trails and Silver Creek.



Host variety of events within Hungry Hollow for community, schools and corporate groups to foster a sense of ownership/connection, grow partnerships and increase on-the-ground action.



Continue work on connecting Hungry Hollow Trail to Cedarvale Park while avoiding impacts to sensitive natural areas.

Clean and repair storm outfalls draining stormwater into Silver Creek and other water bodies.



Redside Dace
(*endangered*)



Snapping Turtle
(*special concern*)

Did You Know

Hungry Hollow Ravine is local hidden gem providing vital ecological services, is home to several rare species and is within the Credit River-Hungry Hollow Centre for Biodiversity (CFB), protected Greenbelt area, Environmentally Significant Area, Area of Natural and Scientific Interest and includes a Provincially Significant Wetland complex.



(Photo credit and image source: CVC)

Goal 2 - VIBRANT PARKS AND OPEN SPACES

Neighbourhood Park Revitalization Concept



View of Cedarvale Park for illustrative purposes only. Further analysis and work to be done to implement projects.

Install storyboards along trails to highlight beloved trees and wildlife.

Plant shade trees near playground and pathways to keep families cool during play.

Plant blooming gardens to showcase the use of native plants and provide food and habitat for birds and pollinators.

Restore and protect Silver Creek by increasing stream buffer to slow down storm runoff, improve water quality and protect aquatic habitat.



Neighbourhood Eco-Parks Concept

Parks and open spaces such as Joseph Gibbons, Dominion Gardens and Delrex parkette are spaces to implement local solutions for adapting to climate change and to bring people together, boost health & well-being, restore natural systems and build neighbourhood character.

(Photo credit and image source: CVC)

A network of multi-use parks and open spaces that link and restore natural systems where neighbours and families gather together to play, learn, and enjoy time outdoors.

Proposed Actions



Plant a diversity of tree species to increase urban forest canopy cover and provide shade for comfort around seating areas, playgrounds, pathways and parking lots.



Increase seating and lighting for comfort, safety and accessibility in parks to support range of uses for all. Add waste bins where needed.



Install public gardens to create beauty, support biodiversity, and demonstrate use of native/water efficient plants.



Install community gardens to increase local food production, add educational space for local schools and gathering space for local residents.



Install green stormwater features (e.g. rain garden, bioswales) to manage stormwater on-site in parks.



Naturalize unused areas such as those adjacent to valleyland and residential areas to increase biodiversity, strengthen natural buffers and increase connectivity.



Establish no-mow and/or low-mow zones in parks and implement restoration plans for these areas.

Goal 3 – CONNECTED STREETS AND INFRASTRUCTURE



For illustrative purposes only. Further analysis and work to be done to implement projects.

Guelph Street Gateway Enhancement Concept

Collaborate with businesses and community members to re-imagine and enhance streetscape, grow the urban forest for shade and biodiversity, incorporate green stormwater infrastructure and support active transportation.



Road Right-of-Way: Stormwater Infrastructure Retrofits

Local roads with extended grassy curbsides and medians (such as Sargent Road) present opportunities for green stormwater retrofits (e.g. bioswales). Such retrofits can feature beautiful plants while helping to slow down, filter and collect stormwater, in turn reducing demands on local storm sewers and creeks.

(Photo credit and image source: CVC)

A network of beautiful streets and sustainable public infrastructure that connects community amenities and facilitates safe and active transportation for all.

Proposed Actions



Increase tree planting and stewardship to increase tree cover and add shade and cooling along sidewalks and pathways.



Identify future road projects (resurfacing, watermain repairs) and determine potential for green stormwater infrastructure projects and streetscape beautification.



Design and implement green stormwater infrastructure on underused medians (such as Sargent Road) and underused greenspaces adjacent to roads (such as Fagan Drive, Delrex Boulevard).



Implement an educational campaign to unhide stormwater (e.g. where does the water go).



Reduce use of road salt and pilot salt-alternative treatments for roads and sidewalks.



Conduct a series of walking and cycling audits with residents to identify opportunities to increase safety, comfort, wayfinding, walkability and cycling for all ages and abilities.



Revitalize Guelph Street as a gateway to the neighbourhood by beautifying and increasing human comfort through a collaborative design approach. Increase tree planting for shade/cooling, add sustainable landscaping and install signage celebrating neighbourhood.

Goal 4 – RESILIENT HOMES AND BUSINESSES



Conceptual illustration of homes with sustainable landscaping and green retrofits.

Climate-ready residences and workplaces that are connected to healthy natural spaces and contribute to a sustainable, resilient and green neighbourhood.

Proposed Actions



Increase offerings of native trees, shrubs and perennials to residents and businesses to support planting on private properties.



Inform and educate residents and businesses about Town's free street tree replacement service.



Implement an urban forest celebration campaign and highlight benefits of trees.



Support residents in taking action on their property through public events/incentives/resources about trees, invasive species, chemical use, downspouts and gardening waste in natural areas.



Promote efficient use of potable water/water conservation and use of alternate water sources for non-potable purposes. Increase offerings of rain barrels to support rainwater harvest/redirection.



Connect residents with programs and resources on food gardening, backyard composting and energy conservation/retrofits.



Inform/educate commercial/industrial/multi-residential property owners and managers on best practices for sustainable landscaping, green stormwater infrastructure, pollution prevention and energy conservation/retrofits.



Install lot-level green stormwater infrastructure at select residential, commercial, industrial, multi-residential sites to demonstrate best practices and promote further neighbourhood action.

Sustainable landscaping and green retrofits

are ways to enhance natural biodiversity, build the urban forest and protect water quality. Working together with experts, residents and businesses can beautify and upgrade their properties while taking climate action and contributing towards a more sustainable neighbourhood.



Conceptual landscape plan for a business property with greening options.

(Photo credit and image source: CVC)

Goal 5 – STRONG SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITY

Delrex Greenway Concept

A network of gardens, forests and transformative community spaces for neighbours to gather, connect with each other and support active lifestyles.

Schools, churches and community centres as hotspots for local learning, climate action and enhancing biodiversity.



Neighbourhood Community Spaces

Schools

Georgetown District High School
Harrison Public School
Centennial Public School
George Kennedy Public School
Christ the King Catholic High School
Holy Cross Catholic Elementary School
St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Elementary School
Gary Allen High School

Churches

St. George Anglican Church
Maple Avenue Baptist Church
St. Andrews United Church
Immanuel Lutheran Church
The Salvation Army Church

Community Centres

Hillsview Active Living Centre
Cedarvale Community Centre

Spotlight: Harrison Public School is home to a picturesque **Community Circle** – an outdoor gathering space with food gardens for students surrounded by blooming native trees, shrubs and wildflowers selected for local birds and pollinators.

(Photo credit and image source: CVC)

Community hubs that showcase climate resiliency and enhance biodiversity, support local learning and social connectivity across all generations, and foster well-informed, engaged citizens.

Proposed Actions



Plant and steward trees on school grounds to increase shade to keep children cool during physical activities.



Install habitat gardens, food gardens and outdoor classrooms to support environmental education, skills development and provide space for outdoor learning and demonstration.



Install green stormwater infrastructure such rain gardens to retrofit school and church grounds and manage stormwater.



Provide guidance and support to schools and school boards on retrofitting and enhancing school grounds.



Deliver in-class and outdoor workshops and activities about Hungry Hollow and Silver Creek, climate change and local environmental issues.



Promote and celebrate active and safe school travel planning and support implementation of active transportation.



Provide hands-on educational, volunteer and leadership opportunities for youth, families, and seniors through existing programs/partnerships with schools, churches and Hillsview Active Living Centre.



Connect places of worship with existing programs that provide guidance and support for tree planting, sustainable landscaping, green stormwater infrastructure, and energy conservation/retrofit.



Organize and empower residents to form volunteer groups or support existing groups (e.g. neighbourhood association, Hungry Hollow stewardship group, etc.) that advocate for local issues, form connections and plan local events and projects.

Provide your feedback on the vision, goals and proposed actions for your neighbourhood.

Visit letstalkhaltonhills.ca/hungry-hollow-snap to complete the online survey by June 15, 2020.

For questions, send email to snap@cvc.ca

Be Part of Neighbourhood Action

Several projects and events have taken place in Hungry Hollow Ravine and the Delrex neighbourhood to restore natural spaces, manage invasive species, create natural habitat, and plant trees to grow the urban forest.

Work has been dependent on contributions made by local partners, youth, corporate and community groups, volunteers and staff, including by the members of the Hungry Hollow Collaborative.

Select highlights include:

- 1,285 native trees and shrubs planted by 1,175 youth since 2010
- 2,191 native trees planted by stewardship volunteers since 2010
- 300 trees planted in public parks

If you are interested in taking action or have an idea for a project, we would love to hear from you! Email us at snap@cvc.ca.

[Click here to sign-up for the Neighbourhood News](#) – electronic newsletter featuring community news, events and Hungry Hollow SNAP project updates.



2019 - Youth volunteers planted native trees and shrubs in Hungry Hollow Ravine.

(Photo credit : CVC)