



NATURAL RESOURCES: GOALS, STRATEGIES, AND ACTIONS

Goal 1	Wellesley's natural assets are protected and enhanced to deliver the highest ecosystem services.
Goal 2	Nature-based solutions are prioritized to enhance the Town's resilience.
Strategy: Enhance and protect the existing tree canopy.	
Action	Develop a program to maintain and improve the tree canopy.
Action	Augment existing free tree distribution program to prioritize locations/communities vulnerable to extreme heat impacts and tree species adapted to heat and drought.
Action	Explore establishment of a Town tree nursery.
Action	Strengthen the Tree Preservation Bylaw and community education about the Bylaw.
Strategy: Advance the smart and efficient use of water by all community members.	
Action	Identify and implement the most effective programs for residential, commercial, and institutional sector water conservation.
Action	Regulate outdoor water usage.
Strategy: Enhance educational and engagement programs that promote and protect the benefits of Wellesley's natural resources.	
Action	Lead by example with municipal adoption of sustainable landscaping best practices and use of electric landscaping equipment.
Action	Provide educational programming for residents, businesses, and institutions to promote the protection of biodiversity and electrification of landscaping equipment.
Action	Develop a professional landscaper database and encourage landscapers to participate in sustainable landscaping education programs.
Action	Mobilize volunteers to support community agriculture.
Strategy: Minimize stormwater run-off.	
Action	Explore and pursue opportunities via bylaw changes and Town approval processes to minimize impervious surfaces throughout town.
Action	Seek Town Meeting approval for a stormwater utility in line with federal requirements.
Action	Streamline the application and permitting process for removal of impervious surfaces and introduction of low impact development.
Action	Use nature-based solutions to minimize stormwater on municipal land.
Strategy: Prioritize the role of wetlands in enhancing Wellesley's resilience to climate change.	
Action	Identify opportunities to protect, create, expand, and connect wetlands.
Action	Include climate resilience in wetlands regulations.