

3 City Of Burlington Environmental Issues

1) Climate Change

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Climate Action Plan recommends seven key program areas to reduce the use of fossil fuels in the community of Burlington and meet the goal to become a net carbon neutral community. The program areas relate to:

1. Low carbon new buildings
2. Deep energy retrofits of existing buildings
3. Renewable energy
4. Electric mobility and equipment
5. Integrated mobility
6. Waste reduction
7. Industrial processes

Other? Reduce GHG, toxic and biohazard emissions from lawn mowers, leaf blowers

2) Environmental Toxification

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Limited Awareness
No Action Plans
No Lens

Burlington residents must have a "Right to Know" about local air, water and soil toxification problems, including contamination sources, exposure levels and remediation efforts

Encourage less toxic landscaping practices, such as electric, hand powered, no fertilizer, native species

Other issues include road salt, industrial emissions/effluent, illegal dumping, old dumpsites...

3) Biodiversity Crisis

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Limited Awareness
No Action Plans
No Lens

Halton has 48 Species at Risk

Future generations have a right to their natural inheritance

Protection of environmental services including air/water purification, food production (pollination) and pest control

Incentives to increase local biodiversity
Disincentives to discourage cultivation and trafficking of invasive species

Initial Recommendations

Leaf Clean Up should refocus on flood prevention

- Keep streets and storm sewers clear of debris,
- Punitive measures for moving debris (including leaves) onto streets
- Residents must bag or compost their leaves

Tree Bylaw should encourage invasive species removal

- General permit for licensed contractors to remove invasive species for profit on city and private property
- Market for invasive tree species include lumber, firewood, wood chips...
- Forestry managed program – training/certification in invasive species identification and removal protocols

Urban Farmer Program to reduce GHG emissions

- Trained/Certified Urban farmer has exclusive rights to an urban district (reduce transportation costs), modelled after the Ontario registered trapline program, property owner share cropping or food bank donation, weekend farmer's market on city properties (schools, community centers...)

Chris Ferrelle

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Janice Fortin