

Halton Region Greenlands Securement Strategy Program

Building a Better World

OPPI/CIP Conference

Saturday, October 3, 2009



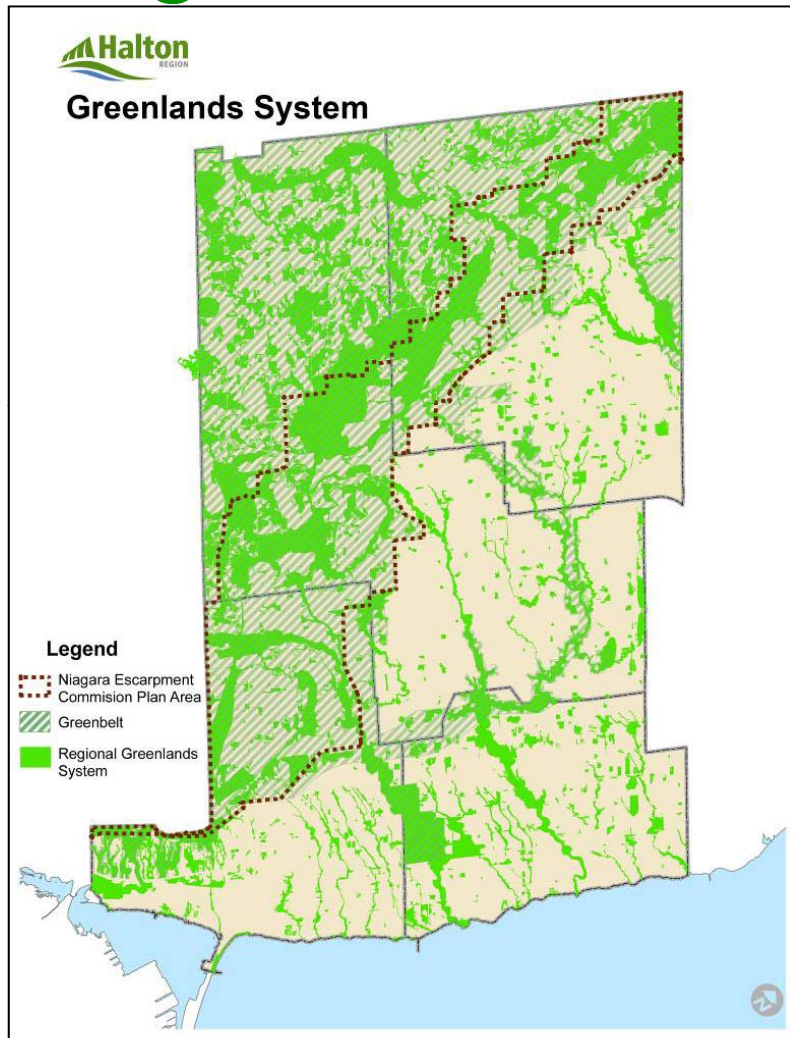
Background

- Concept introduced in 2002 Official Plan Review Directions Report – the Greening of Halton – Smart Growth, Smart Choices
- ROP policies devoted to continuous enhancement of the environmental quality in Halton
- Establishment of Halton Green Fund
- Projects eligible for funding under the Halton Green Fund include:
 - Regional Waterfront Parks
 - Green pilot projects
 - Stewardship programs
 - Land acquisitions under the Land Securement Strategy
- Green Fund subject to approval by resolution of Council or through annual budget

Land Securement Strategy - in Support of the Green Fund

- One component of 4 programs under the Green Fund
- Halton Region Greenlands Securement Program
 - ***Halton Region Greenlands Securement Strategy***
 - ***Halton Region Greenlands Securement Strategy Implementation Guidelines***
 - ***Stewardship Programs***
 - ***Property Tax Incentive Programs (MFTIP, CLTIP, FLTIP)***

Regional Greenlands System



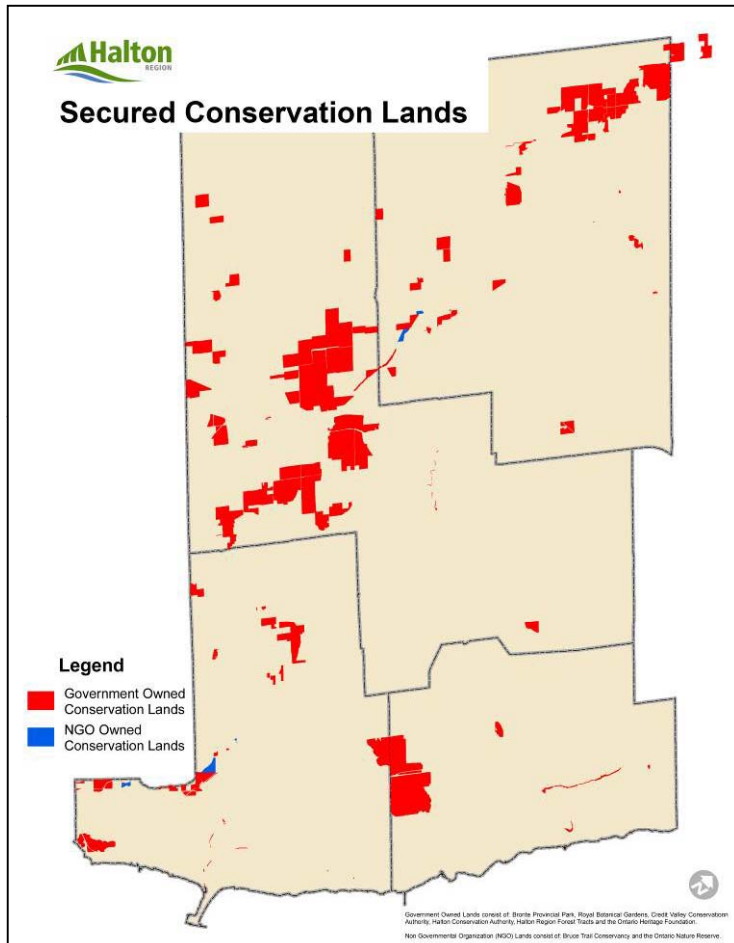
- Region characterized by approx 18,500 ha of natural areas in Regional Greenlands System.

- Criteria for Securement**

Lands within the Regional Greenlands System, including:

- Provincially and Regionally Significant Wetlands;*
- Regulatory Floodplains (and associated valley and stream corridors);*
- Significant Portions of the habitat of endangered and threatened species;*
- Environmentally Sensitive Areas;*
- Provincially and Regionally Significant Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest;*
- Significant Woodlands;*
- Carolinian Canada Sites;*
- Lands within the “Escarpment Natural Area” designation.*

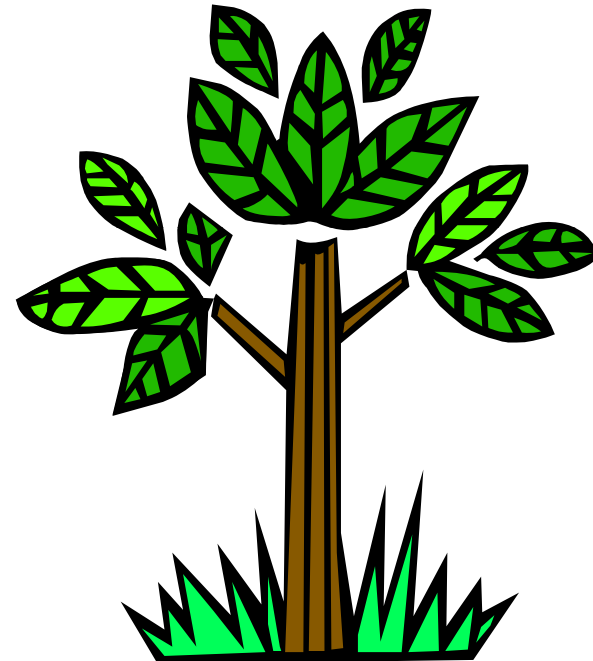
Public Owned Lands



- Currently 4,575 ha (approx 25%) of Greenlands System secured in public ownership by land securement partners

Lands of Interest

- Greenlands System – in danger of losing ecological function.
- Areas that enhance ecological function.
- Essential linkages -connected open space.
- Areas of a strategic nature that enhance environmental quality.



Strategy Key Principles

1. Consider the full suite of land protection and securement tools available.
2. Promote existing incentive programs (Ecogifts).
3. Identify and develop eligibility criteria for securement or acquisition activities.
4. Operate on multi-agency and multi-stakeholder basis and provide a source of leveraged funds that will complement partner agency contributions and/or grants.
5. Full consultation with interested stakeholders.
6. Complement existing land securement activities by partner agencies.

Land Securement Options

- Fee-Simple Donation or Purchase
- Partial Taking Donation or Purchase
- Bequest
- Life Interest Agreement/Leaseback
- Conservation Easement Agreement
- Split Receipt

Benefits of Donating a Conservation Easement Agreement

- Create a conservation legacy by which future landowners have to abide.
- Tax receipt for donated value of conservation agreement.
- Landowner retains ownership of land and continues uses - agreed to by landowner and conservation organization.



Recipients of Donated Land or Easements in Halton

- Credit Valley Conservation (CVC)
- Conservation Halton (CH)
- Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA)
- Area Municipalities (Burlington, Oakville, Halton Hills, Milton)
- Bruce Trail Conservancy (BTC)
- Escarpment Biosphere Conservancy (EBC)
- Head of the Lake Land Trust (HLT)
- Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC)



Indicators and Measures of Program Success

- Acreage of Land Secured (grouped by securement method)
- Acreage of Land Secured (grouped by type of natural feature)
- Total Funding Matched by Halton Partners
- Number of Landowners Contacted for Outreach and Education



Greenlands Securement Program Implementation Process

