

# Gather Protect Love your ESA

Adopt-an-ESA is a program which partners the City of London with interested community groups, working together to improve the environmental integrity of our Environmentally Significant Areas through stewardship.

Groups of all types and sizes can Adopt-an-ESA

- Service clubs
- School groups
- Hiking groups
- Local businesses
- Faith groups
- Nature enthusiasts
- Neighbourhood associations



London  
CANADA

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Environmentally Significant Areas (ESAs) have beautiful natural features and perform ecological functions that warrant their protection in a natural state. City-owned ESAs have a purpose and function distinct from City parks as governed by the Official Plan. The City, in partnership with the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority (UTRCA), manages our ESA's; Kilally Meadows, Meadowlily Woods, Medway Valley Heritage Forest, Sifton Bog, Warbler Woods, Kains Woods, The Coves and Westminster Ponds / Pond Mills.

Any of our City-owned ESAs are eligible for 'adoption'. As our ESAs are so large, a section of the ESA can be identified.

Stewardship of your adopted ESA can include:

- Litter clean-up along managed trails
- Exotic / Invasive species removal
- Tree and shrub planting
- Observation and reporting of hazards



**Your group agrees to:**

- ▶ Work together with the City in coordinating projects
- ▶ Host a minimum of two stewardship days per year, spring and fall, for at least two years
- ▶ Consider hosting additional events and clean-ups throughout the year
- ▶ Record volunteer hours and activities

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#### The City agrees to:

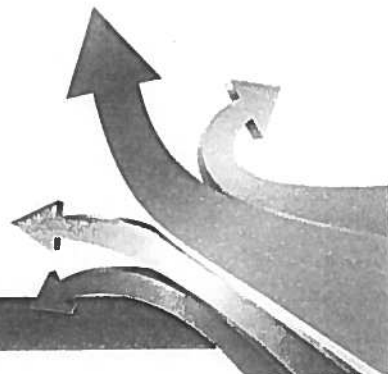
- ▶ Provide the tools you'll need for a successful stewardship day – including garbage bags, gloves, first aid kits, safety equipment, vests and safety information
- ▶ Help with any inquiries, assistance or guidance you may need
- ▶ Erect an Adopt-an-ESA sign with your group's name on it, recognizing your commitment to stewardship of the ESA
- ▶ Supply volunteer agreement, registration & waiver forms
- ▶ Assist with the purchase of trees, shrubs and provide guidance and expertise on ecological restoration
- ▶ Remove filled garbage bags from the ESA after you finish



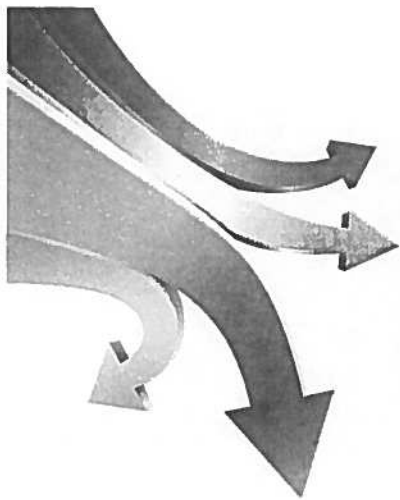
#### The ESA and our whole community benefits

#### Adopting an ESA:

- ▶ strengthens your connection to your neighbourhood and nature
- ▶ brings your group together for a common goal – a great way to team build
- ▶ gives you pride through actively benefiting your community
- ▶ increases the environmental quality and stewardship of our ESAs



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**Did you know?**

Your volunteer and in-kind contributions could qualify for the SPARKS Neighbourhood Matching Fund of \$500 to \$5,000 towards your neighbourhood enhancement project.  
[www.london.ca/neighbourhoods](http://www.london.ca/neighbourhoods)

**Adopt-an-ESA today**

If you have any questions, or to submit your Adopt-an-ESA application:

- ▶ call our Ecologist Planner at: 519-661-2500 ext. 6494
- ▶ e-mail: [lmcdouga@london.ca](mailto:lmcdouga@london.ca)

**Yes! I'd like to Adopt-an-ESA.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

ESA to adopt: \_\_\_\_\_

