

UPDATE

Summer 2018



City of London


A leader in Habitat and Pollinator Protection, Enhancement and Creation initiatives


- ✈ **NeighbourGood London** programs including **TreeMe** and the **Neighbourhood Decision Making** program, empower residents to plant trees, shrubs and pollinator gardens. The City has funded over half a million dollars in pollinator habitat projects since 2015 through these programs.
- ✈ London's urban forest is a key element in provision of habitat and food for pollinators. The **Tree Planting Strategy** is on track and fully funded to plant 20,000 trees from 2016 to 2019 and outlines the long term plan to increase London's tree canopy cover from 24% to 34%.
- ✈ The City's **Adopt-a-Park, Adopt-a-Street, Adopt an ESA** and **Adopt-a-Pond** programs engage communities to plant trees, shrubs and gardens that include milkweed on City property.
- ✈ About 10% of the City (inside the Urban Growth Boundary) is publicly owned parkland, and over 60% of that area or about 1,400 hectares (3,500 acres) is managed as naturalized, non-mowed areas. This area increases every year.
- ✈ **The Urban Agriculture Strategy** is one of the many related plans, policies, and strategies for pollinator protection in London and includes a section on Urban Pollinators.
- ✈ **London Community Gardens** - 17 community gardens on City property with a simple process for residents to start a new one.
- ✈ **Active & Green Communities** program promotes environmental awareness and stewardship on private property through community engagement.
- ✈ The Council approved **London Invasive Plant Management Strategy** improves the ecological integrity of our natural areas and restoration plantings improve the diversity of native species for pollinators.
- ✈ London City By-laws permit naturalizations, perennial gardens and wildflower gardens on private property including planting of pollinator species such as milkweed.




Photo by Wendy Hansuld, Friends of Medway Creek, Adopt an ESA



 The City of London was recognized with the **Lee Symmes Municipal Award by Ontario Nature**. The Award recognizes municipalities that demonstrate community leadership and exceptional achievement in planning or implementing programs that protect and regenerate the natural environment within a community. Ontario Nature commended the City of London for ensuring a natural legacy for future generations.

 Many government agencies, Conservation Authorities and others are leading additional pollinator habitat initiatives in London, primarily on private property. Groups like **Pollinative** whose “mission is to restore, replant and preserve natural “Pollinative Pathways” to ensure the survival of bee, insect and bird populations.” has provided over 700 acres of pollinator habitat on private property in London since 2016.



 **The Growing Naturally Program** helps residents reduce their environmental footprint and provides resources for a healthier environment for pollinators and our watersheds.



For more information on habitat and pollinator protection initiatives and opportunities, please contact:

NeighbourGood London

519-661-5336

neighbourgood@london.ca

www.neighbourgoodlondon.ca

City Planning

Ecologist, Linda McDougall

519-661-2489 ext. 6494

lmcdoug@london.ca

