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2012 Report on Living Green

Mississauga is working to become a world-class green city.



The Living Green Master Plan (LGMP) is the City of Mississauga's action plan for doing business and providing services in an environmentally sustainable way. The 49 LGMP actions are grouped under three categories: Set an Example, Encourage Others and Compel Others.

LGMP Background

As Mississauga's first environmental master plan, the Living Green Master Plan (LGMP) is a clear signal that the environment is a priority in Mississauga. The LGMP is a pathway for the City to work towards achieving Mississauga's environmental goals. It also provides residents, community groups and businesses with the information they need to live green. The LGMP was adopted by Mississauga City Council on January 18, 2012 and was developed through extensive consultation with residents, businesses, civic leaders and City staff.

LGMP Vision

Mississauga is a world-class green city. Its innovative approaches to carbon emission reduction have inspired the world. Smog advisories are a thing of past. As a net exporter of clean, renewable energy, Mississauga's energy cost certainty attracts talent and businesses from around the world and ensures economic prosperity.

Mississauga has built a great public transit system. Every neighbourhood has fast, reliable public transit and cycling routes.

Redevelopment and intensification have created energy-efficient, compact, mixed-use developments to accommodate people and businesses. People walk to work, recreation and shopping. People have a strong sense of community and are proud of Mississauga's clean air, land and water. The actions of every resident and business conserve water, reduce waste as well as nurture and support the environment.

Mississauga's rivers and streams teem with fish. New wetlands and natural areas along with a regenerated off-shore waterfront provide habitat for indigenous aquatic species and wildlife.

Mississauga is a healthy place where people choose to live, work and play.

Putting the Plan into Action

The LGMP is an action plan that prioritizes policies and programs into actions to meet the environmental objectives of the Strategic Plan. The LGMP identifies 49 actions for the City and the community to implement over 10 years. The actions are grouped under the following categories:

1) Setting an example

Making a case for sustainability

As a City, we're in a much better position to speak about behavioural changes if we are setting an example of change ourselves. By demonstrating best practices, we can encourage others to take action.

2) Encouraging others

Moving forward together

Encouraging residents, community and business groups to change their behaviour and live green requires the effort and experience of every resource available to the City. Simply stated, the City of Mississauga cannot do it alone. Partnerships ensure we move forward efficiently and collaboratively.

3) Compelling others

A balanced approach

The LGMP also speaks to the role of the City, when needed, to compel others to act. It means using the City's regulatory and statutory powers to raise the minimum level of environmental performance in Mississauga buildings and communities.

Of the 49 actions in the LGMP, 28 actions are well underway and an additional four were completed in 2012.

Delivering on the City's Green Vision

The following stories are a snapshot of the first year's progress of Mississauga's Living Green Master Plan implementation.

Setting an Example

Tomken Fire and Paramedic Station

A new fire and paramedics station on Tomken Road was built to high sustainability standards. The building is 45 per cent more energy efficient than a standard building and has many energy and water efficiency features. A geothermal renewable energy system extracts heat from the ground to provide heating for the building. The sustainable design of the building will lower electricity and natural gas costs and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 75 tonnes per year, which is equivalent to removing 23 cars from the roads.



O'Connor Park

O'Connor Park received the **Mississauga Urban Design Award** of Merit for the following criteria: Community Scale, Living Green, Innovation and Execution. The park design preserved, enlarged and enhanced the site's natural features including a wetland area and an open meadow. The plantings for the park include a variety of native trees, shrubs and wildflowers.

The park's stormwater runoff is directed to a collection system which helps to maintain the water balance to the wetland. In addition, there are specially designed refuge areas for wildlife including a turtle island. Many low impact development features have been installed, including a subsurface infiltration system below the soccer fields, permeable pavement, a bio-swale to capture runoff from the parking lot, and rainwater recycling. Other green features include recycled rubber safety surfacing in the playground and living retaining walls.



Corporate Green Fleet

The City of Mississauga is reducing greenhouse gas emissions from City vehicles through a program called Greening Our Fleet. Since 2006, the City has maximized fuel efficiency of 128 vehicles by matching the right type of vehicle for the required use and replacing vehicles with fuel efficient, hybrid or electric vehicles, when possible. There are now 67 hybrid vehicles and two electric vehicles in the City's vehicle fleet. Greening its fleet results in an increased efficiency of City vehicles and has avoided approximately 300 tonnes of equivalent carbon dioxide. This is equal to taking approximately 60 cars off the roads.

Encouraging Others

Let Your Green Show

Let Your Green Show is an environmental awareness campaign encouraging Mississauga residents to take environmental action. Upon choosing an action, residents get rewarded with a greenback and help turn their neighbourhood green in the Greenest Ward challenge. Launched July 2012 by the City of Mississauga, in partnership with the Region of Peel, over 500 residents participated in the 'eat local and grow local' phase. From growing their own food and planting trees to supporting our local farmers, over 600 environmental actions were completed from July through October 2012. Ward 1 won the first Greenest Ward Award for completing the greatest number of environmental actions.

The second phase will be launched across Peel in March 2013, focussing on actions to encourage residents to use less water along with a new Greenest Ward challenge.





Compelling Others

Transportation Demand Management and Land Development

Mississauga is building the knowledge and capacity to ensure new land development does not contribute to increased traffic congestion. By integrating Transportation Demand Management (TDM) plans into new land development proposals, single occupancy vehicle trips will be minimized and more people will be encouraged to use alternate forms of transportation such as; public transit, carpooling, cycling and walking. The new Sheridan College - Hazel McCallion Campus in downtown Mississauga is implementing a TDM plan. A recent commuter study determined that, in part, due to its central location, 51 per cent of Sheridan College students at the Hazel McCallion campus currently use public transit. The college also provides secure bicycle lock up and shower and change facilities for students, faculty and staff.

Be Green with Knowledge!

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Subscribe to the Mississauga Living Green Blog. Visit **mississauga.ca/livinggreen** for timely news and information to keep you connected to the greening of our city.

Get Involved!

Let Your Green Show! Choose an action, get a reward and help turn your neighbourhood green. Register at **letyourgreenshow.ca**.



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