



Sustainable Works!

Public Works Partnering with Our Communities



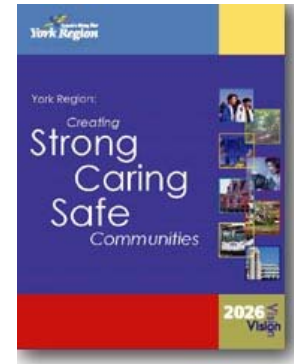
Presentation to Regional Council
March 26, 2009



Erin Mahoney, Commissioner
Environmental Services

Kathleen Llewellyn-Thomas, Commissioner
Transportation Services

Overview



Vision 2026

“York Region: Creating Strong, Caring and Safe Communities”

Enhanced Environment, Heritage and Culture

In 2026, York Region residents will continue to value and embrace the Region's unique natural heritage (land, air, water) and cultural heritage (sites and buildings important to our history, faiths and cultures).

Infrastructure for a Growing Region

In 2026, York Region will have effective, efficient and environmentally sensitive transportation, waste management and water systems.



Water



Solid Waste



Wastewater



Transit



Roads



Forestry



An Investment in Sustainability

LEVEL OF EFFORT IN SUSTAINABLE WORKS EVENTS

Approximately 700 people involved

At an approximate cost of \$500,000 for all events

Resourced through various programs and initiatives in Environmental Services and Transportation Services

BENEFITS

Supporting the overall objectives of Vision 2026

**Enhanced Environment, Heritage and Culture
Infrastructure for a Growing Region**

Promote environmental sustainability through public works



Water



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Water Efficient Gardening Seminars & Workshops

To educate residents about water efficient plants and local plant materials

14 Locations throughout York Region

- garden centres, libraries, community halls

March, April, May, June 2009

Available for all residents of York Region



April						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
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2009						

May						
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2009						



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Ontario Envirothon



In partnership with York Environmental Stewardship (YES)

Annual Environmental High School Competition

- Students compete in 24 events with other GTA schools learning about forests, soils, wildlife, aquatic ecosystems and the human impact on nature.
- Winning team represents Ontario at the North American Envirothon Championships.



Hollidge Tract in the York Regional Forest

April 9 and 16, 2009



High school students across York Region



Water



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Spring Forest Festival

Kick-off to Earth Week

- Tree planting, interactive displays and wagon rides.

Eldred King Tract in the York Regional Forest

April 18, 2009

Available to all
Regional residents



April						
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2009



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Earth Week

April 20-24, 2009



Canada's Earth Day - April 22, 2009

Environmental Education and Awareness

Students from an elementary school take part in various interactive activities:

- In-school presentations by transit and forestry staff
- Tree planting and interactive sessions



Participating schools across York Region

Elementary school students in York Region



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2009



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YO Youth On Board



Youth On Board Earth Week

Promoting Youth to use Transit

- Students visit transit displays in cafeteria.
- Pick up a button and environmental facts about transit.
- Students encouraged to wear button for next month.
- Anyone spotted wearing button win an instant environmental prize.

Participating schools across York Region

April 20 through 24, 2009

High school students in York Region

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2009



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Adopt-A-Stream Crossing Program

10 sites along Regional Roads

Throughout April and May 2009

Planting of native trees and shrubs along streams at road crossings

Promotes environmental education and awareness

Local schools – 8 schools and community groups



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or

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York Region

Compost Awareness Week

Composting Seminars and sale of composters during National Compost Awareness Week

Waste Management Centre, East Gwillimbury

May 2, 2009

Available to all residents of York Region



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2009

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Grand Opening Tom Taylor Trail Extension



Grand Opening of Tom Taylor Tract

Extension of the Tom Taylor Trail (Nokiidaa) South of Mulock Drive including an underpass.

Newmarket

Date to be determined

Available to all York Region residents



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Forestry


York Region



Green Up, Clean Up

Green up, Clean up Day

Public litter clean up in the forest.

Various tracts of York Regional forest

May 9, 2009

Available to all
York Region residents



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Trees Ontario - York Region 50 Million Trees Partnership Volunteer Planting Day

York Regional Forest – new
property acquisition (2008)
Whitchurch Stouffville

Kicked off by the Minister of
Natural Resources

May 9, 2009

Available to all
York Region residents



**TREES
ONTARIO**

Planting tomorrow's forests

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In partnership with TRCA
A one day family event to explore new
and emerging environmental
and sustainability programs
Focusing on the themes of:

- water conservation
- waste reduction
- green energy
- revolution in transportation
- local foods/agriculture
- backyard greening
- habitat conservation



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Bruce's Mill Conservation Area, Stouffville

May 9, 2009

Available to residents and families throughout GTA



Member of Conservation Ontario



Water



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11th Annual York Children's Water Festival

Educate kids about water and the environment using over 50 interactive displays, games and activities

In partnership with TRCA

May 11 – 15, 2009

Bruce's Mill Conservation Area

Available to 5,000 Grade 4 students from York Region annually



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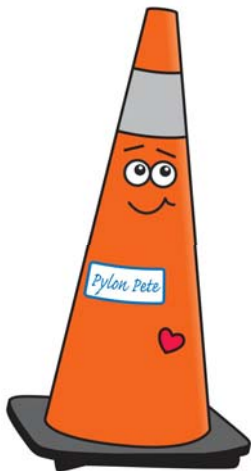
Transit



Roads



Forestry



National Public Works Week

Celebrated throughout North America with two objectives:

1. To raise public awareness of Public Works and the services we provide.

This is accomplished through:

- Hosting a “Family Fun Day-Open House” providing tours and activities – Saturday, May 23, 2009
- School tours of facilities for Grade 5 students – all week
- Contest for schools to participate and win prizes – all week



May 23, 2009

Activities/Refreshments - Bales Drive Operations Centre,
East Gwillimbury

Tours - Waste Management Centre,
East Gwillimbury
YRT/Viva North Mtce. Facility,
Newmarket



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Available to all York Region residents
and their families



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Wastewater



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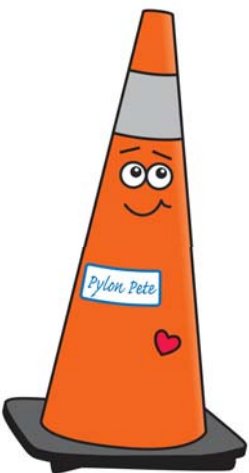


Roads



Forestry


York Region



National Public Works Week

2. To celebrate the men and women who provide Public Works' services.

May 20, 2009 – Municipal Challenge Day involving:

- Municipal politicians and the Regional Chair clash in a friendly truck-driving competition. The winner retains the cup in their municipality for the year.
- A Regional staff team participates in a multi-faceted challenge with our local municipalities. The winning team takes home the coveted 'Miller' cup.



May 22, 2009 – 'Staff Appreciation Day'

- Morning visits from senior staff with coffee and donuts
- Recognition luncheon including awards ceremony



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2009						

Available to Transportation Services and Environmental Services staffs



Water



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Wastewater



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Forestry


York Region



Rain Barrel Sales Event

Educate about water efficiency and conservation

Three locations in York Region (to be confirmed)

In partnership with local municipalities

May 30, 2009

Available to all York Region residents



Water



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Wastewater



Transit



Roads



Forestry


York Region

And throughout the rest of the year...

Forestry hosts internal and external 'Planting Events' – April to June

Reuse Event – June 6, Vaughan Community Environmental Centre

YRT/Viva Customer Appreciation Days – June and December

Forestry Events – Once per month June to December

YRT/Viva Bus Rodeo – June 14

Forestry Hosts Nature's Classroom – 2-3 times a month June to December

YRT/Viva High School and College Orientation Events – August

Forestry hosts Adopt-A-Stream – September, October and November

Waste Reduction Week – October 18 – 24, Waste Management Centre

Environment First Symposium – Date and location to be confirmed



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