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Markham
Life.
An Official Publication of the City of Markham

Environmental Benefits Statement

Markham Life is produced using environmentally safe practices in an effort to save trees, conserve water and energy, and reduce our carbon footprint. It has been printed on 25% post consumer waste recycled paper, using only vegetable based inks.



Wood Use

30 tons less
(209 fewer trees)



Wastewater

252,902 gallons less
(1 fewer swimming pool)



Energy

484 million BTU's less
(5 fewer homes/year)



Solid Waste

38,217 pounds less
(1 fewer garbage truck/year)



Greenhouse Gases

104, 872 lbs CO₂
(10 fewer cars/year)

Environmental impact estimates were made using the Environmental Defense Paper Calculator. For more information, visit www.papercalculator.org. The Paper Calculator is based on research done by the Paper Task Force, a peer-reviewed study of the lifecycle environment impacts of paper production and disposal. The underlying data is updated regularly. Figures used in this statement represent pro-rated paper usage based on four issues of Markham Life (Annual Consumption).

Markham's EAB Management Plan on Track

The planned removal of 6,000 additional dead and hazardous City ash trees, along with 4,000 stumps, was completed in December 2014. An additional 500 trees that had declined rapidly since the last health assessment were also removed by year end.

Markham is also undertaking an inventory of all City trees to help determine maintenance and replanting needs to preserve and increase our tree canopy over time. This inventory is the largest undertaken, in-house, by a Canadian municipality. Markham inventoried about 80,000 trees in 2014 and expects to have the remainder done by summer 2015.

Once completed, the inventory of all City trees will support Markham's diverse replanting plan. The objective is to improve the makeup of the City's urban forest, which will help limit the impact of future threats of invasive insects and diseases. The inventory has already helped identify tree care issues that may not have otherwise been visible.

Markham's strong and diverse replanting program will begin in full force this year. The plan is to plant at least 6,000 trees; 3,000 in the spring and 3,000 in the fall. Using the most current research available, City arborists will ensure a variety of trees are planted on boulevards, where they will have the best chance to thrive.

At the same time, we will continue to treat ash trees that may benefit from our treatment program. These trees are identified by green tags with barcodes on them.

What you can do to help

- Remove dead and dying ash trees on your private property as soon as possible. They can become a hazard quickly and can be more costly to remove if action is delayed.
- Help offset the loss of ash trees in our community by planting other kinds of trees on your private property. Trees provide important environmental and health benefits.



- Care for your trees. Water them during periods of drought and do not damage their roots. A little extra care will go a long way.

We need to be patient with our urban forest and do what we can to support its regrowth. To learn more about Markham's EAB Management Plan and the resources available to you, such as LEAF's Backyard Tree Planting Program, visit markham.ca.

Markham's Flood Control Program

In the summer of 2015, residents will see a \$47 Stormwater Fee on their tax bills. This Fee will be applied to all residential properties. Combined with money received from the federal Gas Tax Fund, the Fee will provide financial support for Markham's stormwater flood remediation projects as part of the Markham Flood Control Program. The Stormwater Fee will also be applied to non-residential properties in 2016.

The Flood Control Program is a long-term, city-wide initiative to help protect public and private property and make critical infrastructure more resilient to climate change. It includes:

- Undertaking flood control engineering projects to improving the capacity of the existing system to handle stormwater run off

- Upgrading drainage systems to better withstand potential effects of climate change, such as more extreme storms

In addition to flood remediation projects under the program, the City is taking steps to manage stormwater by:

- developing innovative design requirements for new developments to reduce stormwater runoff;
- working with surrounding municipalities and the conservation authority on area-wide flood reduction plans;
- working with the conservation authority on demonstration projects so established communities can become more environmentally friendly and ready for climate change; and
- encouraging property owners to reduce paving and hard surfaces, like parking areas and driveways, where practical. Hard surfaces do not allow water to soak into the ground, increasing run off that can overload City drainage systems and affect natural watercourses.

For more additional information about Markham's Flood Control Program and the new stormwater fee, visit Major City Projects at markham.ca, email customerservice@markham.ca or call us at 905-477-5530.

