

The landscape of Southern Ontario has in recent times been subjected to unprecedented pressure from development. This occurs at a time when the effects of global warming and pollution weigh more and more on the minds of Ontarians.

Preserving as large an area as possible of undisturbed, structurally and biologically diverse urban forest provides valuable environmental and ecological functions — including filtration of particulate matter from smog, carbon dioxide sequestering, carbon storage and pollutant removal. These functions along with psychological and aesthetic benefits contribute to improved human health. Preserving urban forest cover yields energy savings by reducing heating and cooling requirements for buildings which in turn further reduces CO₂ emissions*. Urban forests also provide bird and wildlife habitat functions and opportunities for nature interpretation

Tree preservation is a tool in land use planning through which municipalities in coordination with private-sector consultants, such as Landscape Architects, Registered Consulting Arborists, Urban Foresters and Planners can retain some of the existing tree cover in new developments. Municipalities are increasingly recognizing that lost forest cover has not been satisfactorily replaced. Accordingly, municipalities such as Toronto, Markham and New Tecumseth have enacted tree compensation standards to be applied to new developments. A range of professionals responsible for the preparation and implementation of tree preservation plans are now required to provide tree-loss totals and corresponding compensation estimates.

Planning reforms with respect to tree preservation have been suggested in the past but never came into effect. It is now up to local citizens to connect with their local jurisdictions in moving forward with appropriate reforms.

The conference will explore how tree preservation is accommodated in land use planning. It will shed light on advancing the status quo in the context of relentless pressure from development. Learn how crucial environmental concerns — such as the loss of biodiversity values, global warming, increasing demands on fresh water and food supplies and the effects of pollution within our sprawling cities — may be addressed, at least in part, by the preservation of vital urban forest ecosystems.



Attend the 2009 OUFC conference to discover what is being accomplished in tree preservation in urban Ontario today. Learn where the tree preservation fits within land use planning and how it is being implemented.

See how tree preservation is the result of work of many disciplines at varying scales — from the macro levels of education and planning, through to landscape architectural design, to municipal review and finally the micro scale of arboriculture itself.

Find out what the impediments to tree preservation are, and how we can overcome them to preserve a thriving urban forest system for the future.

2009 CONFERENCE AND ANNUAL MEETING

TREE PRESERVATION AND THE PLANNING PROCESS

MOVING AHEAD

Thursday, November 12, 2009
The Arboretum, University of Guelph
Guelph, Ontario

**New
this
year!**

**Come to the conference
kick-off *Pub Night!*
Wednesday evening,
November 11**

*Canadian greenhouse gas emissions are up 18% since 1990
Data source: Greenhouse Gas Division, National Indicators and Reporting office, Environment Canada



