



How We Green

How do we green?

In November 2019, the County confirmed its commitment to combat climate change by joining many municipalities in Ontario to declare a climate emergency. The County recognizes that impacts of a changing climate result in more intense storms and volatility of weather patterns, creating a greater risk to property and life due to increased natural hazards such as flooding.

The County must look at the following objectives to reduce the impacts of climate change:

- Prioritizing intensification in built-up areas.
- Creating communities where people can live, work and play.
- Determining how to limit consumption of agricultural lands while maintaining a financially viable agricultural sector by permitting a diversity of agricultural and related uses.
- Determining how natural areas should be protected.
- Developing stormwater management solutions that maximize vegetation to absorb water at its source, to reduce flooding from extreme weather events.
- Protecting life and property by directing development away from hazardous areas.
- Building communities that conserve water and energy.
- Developing strategies to improve air quality and protect drinking water.

Reducing the impacts
of climate change



Did you know?

The County of Brant is committed to building a sustainable, carbon neutral municipality by 2050 and has taken measurable steps towards accomplishing this goal. These first steps include solar installations, LED lighting retrofits, sustainable building designs and long-term energy planning.

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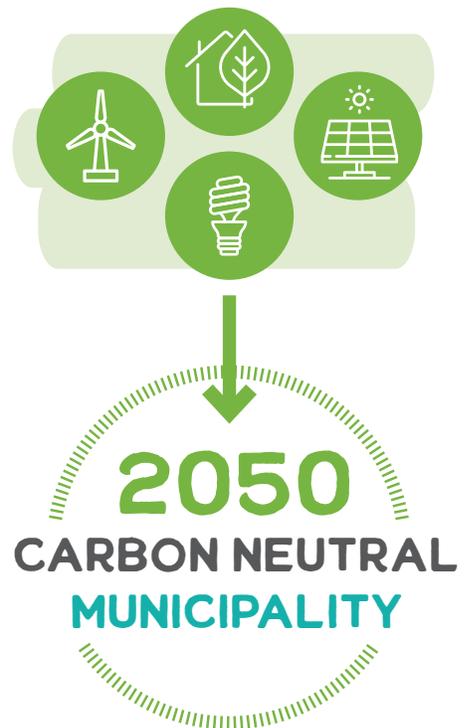
What do I need to know?

The impacts of climate change present a more urgent need to implement policies that focus on resilience, greenspace protection and renewable energy.

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A public green space system can also be used to encourage sustainable measures such as urban agriculture, rooftop gardens, communal courtyards, public parks and connections for modes of active transportation such as walking and biking. It can encourage equitable and safe access to natural features, such as rivers and wetlands, by preserving the features and using spaces to educate the public on natural resilience to climate change.

The new Official Plan will form an important part of the County's plan to combat climate change. The County can build on current initiatives to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and strengthen our resilience to the impacts of climate change.



How can I get involved?

Engage with us! Tell us what you think.

- What initiatives or ideas do you have to make the County more resilient to climate change?
- What about your neighbourhood?
- How can the County of Brant work to make its important rivers and water resources available for benefits like recreation and education opportunities, while protecting our residents from the potential negative impacts of flooding?
- If you could plan the perfect public green space, what would it offer?
- Should that County of Brant offer incentives for new developments to promote carbon-neutrality and other green initiatives?

Visit www.brant.ca/NewOfficialPlan for details on the New Official Plan process.

Sign up for Official Plan update e-mails, attend virtual town hall sessions and submit your questions and feedback anytime to officialplan@brant.ca