



York Region Environmental Alliance extends our best wishes to you at this festive time of year

However you choose to celebrate, please keep the environment in mind as you make your holiday choices. Here are some tips for a Greener Christmas. A healthy environment nurtures the health of people in our communities.

At a Greenbelt event focused on tourism many years ago we asked the then MPP Tony Clement 'what about food?' He answered, 'there isn't going to be a Foodland Ontario'. Local, grassroots initiatives and organizations have thankfully proved him very wrong. Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) and farmers' markets are growing in number annually.

We have the power at a local level to instigate change which has global benefits. Your support of the York Region Environmental Alliance (YREA) will help us to continue our work to advocate for sustainable solutions. Please consider making a donation today. Your support will help YREA's hemp initiative take root.



New format for Greenworks Newsletter

We would like to thank Sylvia Halligan for her dedicated work as a YREA volunteer, who for the last 5 years has compiled our highly acclaimed newsletters. Our format will be changing, but we will still keep you apprised of issues through our bulletins. Past newsletters are archived on our website.



Looking for ways to green your Christmas?

Think Hemp!

Christmas is a time associated with over-indulgence and lots of non recyclable waste but with a little bit of imagination and advanced planning it doesn't have to be this way.

According to Dr Dionne Payn of Hemp Lifestyle Magazine , industrial hemp is one of the most ecologically sustainable crops available. It sequesters large amounts of carbon dioxide as it is growing, grows quickly and can be harvested within ninety days, uses less water than most crops, doesn't need herbicides or pesticides to grow, and can grow anywhere, from the subtropics of Australia to the cool climes of Russia.

Here are five ways that you can use hemp and create less waste, use less energy, and celebrate the festive season in a way that doesn't contribute to the degradation of our planet. Read more...

Ontario's First Greenbelt Expansion to be in Oakville

The Glenorchy Conservation Area in Oakville - 400-hectares of rolling hills, forest, creeks, and wetlands - will be the first official expansion of Ontario's Greenbelt since its creation in 2005. This is an amazing milestone for the Greenbelt!

Also the provincial government has announced that it will create a new designation to allow urban river valleys to be added to the Greenbelt. This means that municipalities like Toronto, Mississauga, Guelph and Brampton, who have all shown interest in growing the Greenbelt, can now move forward. Read more...

Congratulations Gloria Marsh!

Gloria Marsh: York Region Environmental Alliance's Executive Director was recently awarded the Moraine Heroes: Community Champion award for her work. Read More...