



Corporate Environmental  
ACTION PLAN (CEAP)

# **CORPORATE ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION PLAN (CEAP)**

## **Progress Report 2011**





## AIR Goal – Improve air quality by reducing emissions and developing a Climate Change Adaptation Plan.

**Objective** Reduce the Town's vehicle emissions & support the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by town staff & at town facilities.

### Actions

- Held Clean Air Commute to work week event which encouraged staff to reduce their Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions by carpooling, taking transit, biking or walking to work (Action 2.1.2)



## FIRE (Energy) Goal – Reduce the Town's overall energy consumption through energy efficiency measures and the use of renewable energy sources.

**Objective** Increase energy efficiency by changing behaviour and retrofitting town facilities/infrastructure.


### Actions

- Promoted and participated in WWF's Earth Hour 2011; achieving a Town-wide reduction in electricity consumption of 14.3% (Action 2.2.2)
- Produced Town Hall facility display energy certificate to profile the building's environmental performance (Action 2.2.2)
- Investigated acquiring LAS Energy Planning Tool to assist in the creation of an Energy Management Plan (Action 2.2.1)
- Completed energy management retrofits on the Aurora Community Centre and Town Hall (Action 2.2.3)
- Developing Facility Plaques highlighting energy management retrofits (Action 2.2.2)
- Developing Building Automation System Network to decrease energy usage at Town facilities (Action 2.2.1)

**Objective** Reduce facilities energy demands, optimize passive solar gains and make use of renewable, on-site generation and district energy options including solar, wind, water, biomass, and geothermal energy.

### Actions

- Applied for a Feed-in Tariff contract for the 250 kW Solar PV Project on the Stronach Aurora Recreation Complex (SARC) (Action 2.2.5)
- Issued Request for Proposal for the 250 kW Solar PV Project on the SARC (Action 2.2.5)
- The preparation of a new Official Plan that contains several new policies dedicated to the protection and enhancement of the natural environment such as green building and design, alternative and renewable energy, waste management and solid and hazardous waste processing (Actions 2.2.4 and 2.2.5)



## EARTH (Land) Goal – Plan and manage Aurora's ecology by protecting wildlife habitat, promoting alternate modes of transportation and utilizing sustainable land use planning.

**Objective** Protect, preserve, enhance, limit, conserve and/or extend wildlife and wildlife habitat in Aurora.

### Actions

- The approval of a 170 acre Wildlife Park in northeast Aurora, which serves to protect wildlife habitat and link wildlife corridors (Action 2.3.2)
- Boardwalk created at St. John's Sideroad to enhance wildlife viewing and appreciation by residents and visitors (Action 2.3.4)
- Initiated drafting of updated Landscape Standards (Action 2.3.3)

**Objective** Improve and enhance the Town's existing green spaces through research on best practices and implementation on a local scale.

### Actions

- Nokiidaa Trail construction completed with several environmental construction features/techniques incorporated to keep disruption of wildlife to a minimum. Examples include the use of helical piers to cross the marsh area and the construction of a turtle nesting site, snake habernaculum and nesting boxes (Action 2.3.4)
- Completed construction of engineered habitat for swallow nesting beside an existing pond at Atkinson Park (Action 2.3.4)
- Completed the installation of 3 swan nesting platforms in existing storm water management ponds (Action 2.3.4)
- Reduced mown turf grass at Optimist Park, Summit Park, and the Leisure Complex by 15% as a pilot project (Action 2.3.3)

**Objective** Implement sustainable land use planning with a view to securing the health and well-being of Aurora.

### Actions

- Developed Trails Master Plan (Action 2.3.8)

**Objective** Implement sustainable construction practices to reduce waste, incorporate sustainable design and reclaim or recycle materials.

### Actions

- Implemented biodegradable and green cleaning & disposable products in facilities (Action 2.3.10)

**Objective** Promote alternate modes of transportation in order to improve the quality of life of Aurora's residents.

### Actions

- Encouraged employees to actively commute to work by raising awareness of alternative modes of transportation and providing supporting information (in collaboration with Smart Commute Central York) (Action 2.3.11)

**Objective** Reduce corporate waste going to landfill disposal.

### Actions

- Initiated Green Bin project for Town Hall, Seniors Centre and Library (Actions 2.3.14 and 2.3.15)
- Initiated the development of a green procurement policy for the Town (2.3.16)
- Conducted an education & awareness program for staff during Earth Week (Action 2.3.14)
- Held electronic waste (E-Waste) drop-off event for the community (Action 2.3.14)



## WATER Goal – Reduce corporate water consumption; and utilize stormwater management technologies to improve control of stormwater quantity as well as enhance stormwater quality.

**Objective** Enhance the functioning of the current stormwater management facility inventory within the Town of Aurora and reduce the uncontrolled stormwater areas with respect to both quality and quantity.

### Actions

- Rebuilt Stormwater Management Pond at McClellan Way and Bathurst Street as an engineered wetland to improve water quality (partially funded by Environment Canada from the Lake Simcoe Clean-Up Fund) (Action 2.4.3)
- Installed innovative permeable paving surface (consisting of recycled glass) at the Sheppard's Bush parking lot (Action 2.4.3)

# UPCOMING CEAP INITIATIVES

Prepare an Energy Management and Conservation Communications Plan that increases staff awareness of energy management and conservation programs (Action 2.2.2)

Potential development of a microFIT ground-mounted Solar PV tracking system at the Town Hall (Action 2.2.5)

Implementation of 250 kW Solar PV system on the SARC rooftop (in collaboration with a solar project developer) (Action 2.2.5)

Begin implementation of green purchasing policy and staff awareness campaign (Action 2.3.16)

Establish GHG reduction targets for the Corporation (Action 2.1.5)

Research and begin development of a Climate Change Adaptation Plan in partnership with other York Regional municipalities (Action 2.1.4)



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## FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

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Download the Corporate Environmental Action Plan at <http://www.aurora.ca/CEAP>



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