



The Corporation of the Township of Tiny  
Public Works Department

Procedure / Policy Name: <b>The Protection and Enhancement of Tree Canopy and Natural Vegetation within the Township of Tiny</b>		Number: <b>PW-06</b>
Effective Date: <b>25/01/2022</b>	Revision Date:	Page: <b>1 of 2</b>

**Purpose:**

The purpose of this policy is to outline measures the Township, and partnering organizations, take to protect and enhance tree canopy and vegetation within the Township of Tiny.

**Background:**

The Provincial Government enacted Bill 68 on May 30<sup>th</sup> 2017, requiring all municipalities to adapt and maintain policies with respect to the protection and enhancement of the tree canopy and natural vegetation within the municipality.

With both the passing of Bill 68 and the Township of Tiny's commitment to promoting environmental responsibility and stewardship, it is necessary to outline measures taken by the Township to ensure the protection of the vast rural forest canopy and that proper protocol is followed by all Township staff when handling such tasks.

**Objectives:**

The following are measures taken by the Township to protect and enhance tree canopy and natural vegetation throughout the Township:

Township of Tiny Official Plan/ Zoning Bylaw

The Township of Tiny Official Plan notes restrictions on land use within the Township that protects environmental areas such as wetlands, woodlands, valleys, areas of natural and scientific interest and others. In addition, the Township's Zoning Bylaw also restricts development on certain zones and encourages tree preservation.

Volunteer Arboretum

Through working with the late Mr. Jack Allan, Monica Allan and volunteer support groups, the Township of Tiny has dedicated certain municipal properties to the development and active planting of native tree species (arboretum). These areas include CBO Park, Wyevale Soccer Pitch and Stotts Park along with various parks/green spaces when we develop or change the property use.

Commemorative Bench and Tree Program

The Commemorative Bench and Tree program allows residents to have either a tree planted or a bench installed within a Township owned property in memory of a loved one. The resident chooses and pays for either the tree or bench and then it is ordered and installed by the Township at the park of the residents choosing. The Township Recreation Department manages these requests.



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County Forest Management / Harvesting Permits

There are approx. 3,400 acres of County Forest within the Township of Tiny that are managed by the County's Forestry Department to ensure the forests are kept healthy and sustainable. The County also tracks tree removal within properties over 1 hectare in size through a harvesting permit program.

Tree Removal by the Township

The Township of Tiny will only remove trees from municipal property on a case-by-case basis if they are diseased or pose as a hazard to general public safety. If possible, the Township will leave the stumps or partial trunks of trees they remove to act as "trap trees" to assist in the erosion and to act as a habitat/ food source for forest animals/insects. If a tree is healthy, but has a few dead branches that pose a hazard, the branches themselves will be removed rather than taking down the entire tree.

SSEA Seedling Programs

The Severn Sound Environmental Association has run an annual seedling distribution program each spring since 2007 with over 126,000 trees/ shrubs being planted within their service area, including more than 27,000 planted by Tiny participants. In addition, the SSEA has facilitated community tree planting and stream rehabilitation planting since the 1990s, with more than 10,000 seedlings planted in the Township through this program since 2008. The Township will continue to support and promote these initiatives.

Community Engagement/ Education

The Township of Tiny runs multiple community engagement/ education sessions throughout the year to promote the protection and enhancement of natural vegetation and tree canopy including: Earth Day, SSEA Seedling Program, Invasive Species Education and Management, Commemorative Bench and Tree Program, Community Gardens and Arboretum sanctioned parks.

Management of Township-Owned Land and Parks

As part of land maintenance/ management, the Township manages beaver population through trapping and relocation to protect municipal lands from flooding, infrastructure impacts, excessive tree removal and property damage. Natural wooded areas are also left to regenerate naturally with no removal of dead fall unless it poses a safety issue for the public.

**Conclusion:**

The Township of Tiny and its staff will continue to follow the objectives noted in this policy to ensure the protection and enhancement of tree canopy and natural vegetation throughout the Township.