

# **BIRD FRIENDLY**

## City of Guelph

### **APPLICATION FOR CONSIDERATION**

**CITY REPRESENTED:** City of Guelph

**DATE OF SUBMISSION:** June 7, 2022



**BIRD FRIENDLY**  
**CITY**

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# MANDATORY CRITERIA

# MANDATORY CRITERIA

## M-1 – ESTABLISHMENT OF BIRD TEAM

### DESCRIPTION

Establish a Bird City Team (standing committee) to drive the project forward. Try to ensure that your team represents different perspectives and has a liaison with the municipality.

### SCORING INDICATORS

Provide a list of the bird team members, affiliations and contact information.

## HOW CRITERIA IS MET

City of Guelph

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Criteria Complete or Undertaken to Complete?	
Confirmed by Scoring Committee as having met Standard?	

# MANDATORY CRITERIA

## M-2: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES, LAND AND INCLUSION

<b>DESCRIPTION</b> Provide evidence you have determined in which indigenous traditional territory(ies) your municipality occurs and that you are encouraging the participation and perspective of the local Indigenous community in the initiative.	<b>SCORING INDICATORS</b> Provide the name of the relevant Indigenous Nation(s) and report on the outcome of an invitation to participate in the initiative.
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### HOW CRITERIA IS MET

The land Guelph is situated on was originally home to the Attawandaron peoples of the Iroquois Nation and the Huron-Wendat. It is the Ancestral and Treaty Land of the Michizaagiig of the Ojibwe, Aanishinaeebek Nation now known as the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, with whom the Crown signed the Between the Lakes Treaty in 1792. These lands are also part of the traditional hunting grounds of the Haudenosaunee. Guelph is home to many Indigenous, Inuit, Métis and mixed ancestry people to this day.

Invitations to participate in Guelph becoming a Bird Friendly City were sent to the following Indigenous Nations on March 22, 2022:

Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation;  
Six Nations of the Grand River;  
Haudenosaunee Confederacy; and  
Grand River Métis Council.

Responses have not been received from any of the Indigenous Nations to date.

Criteria Complete or Undertaken to Complete?	
Confirmed by Scoring Committee as having met Standard?	

# MANDATORY CRITERIA

## M-3: FORMAL MUNICIPAL SUPPORT

<b>DESCRIPTION</b> Pass a council resolution nominating/ supporting your municipality's efforts to be a Bird Friendly City OR a letter of support from a high ranking city official	<b>SCORING INDICATORS</b> Willingness to pass council resolution within the first year of certification OR a letter of support for the certification program from a high ranking city official (mayor, CEO, etc).
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### HOW CRITERIA IS MET

A Staff Report on Guelph's certification as a Bird Friendly City was taken to City Council's Committee of the Whole on June 7, 2022 for endorsement.

The Staff Report and resolution of support are provided in Appendix A.

Criteria Complete or Undertaken to Complete?	
Confirmed by Scoring Committee as having met Standard?	

# MANDATORY CRITERIA

## M-4: ANNUAL REPORT

<b>DESCRIPTION</b> Once your municipality has been accorded Bird City Status, the Bird Team must provide an annual report card on activities related to your Bird City status.	<b>SCORING INDICATORS</b> Provide Annual Report card (calendar year) by February 1.
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### HOW CRITERIA IS MET

Guelph's Bird Team is committed to providing an annual report card on activities related to Guelph's Bird City status. Through the City of Guelph's Planning Department, Environmental Planning staff will provide an Annual Report card by way of an Information Report to Council by February 1st of each calendar year.

Criteria Complete or Undertaken to Complete?	
Confirmed by Scoring Committee as having met Standard?	

# MANDATORY CRITERIA

## M-5: CITY WEBSITE

<b>DESCRIPTION</b> Include information about Bird Friendly City on the City website somewhere it can be easily found.	<b>SCORING INDICATORS</b> Provide link and proof of posting.
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### HOW CRITERIA IS MET

A link to Nature Canada's Bird Friendly City Certification Program will be provided on the City of Guelph website on the [Natural Heritage Action Plan](#) page, similar to the link provided to the Bee City Certification Program. The link will be posted to the website once the City of Guelph receives confirmation of designation.

A link to Nature Canada's Bird Friendly City Certification Program and the City of Guelph website will also be provided on Bird Safe Guelph's website.

Criteria Complete or Undertaken to Complete?	Yes
Confirmed by Scoring Committee as having met Standard?	



# MANDATORY CRITERIA

## M-6: RENEWAL

### DESCRIPTION

Complete a renewal application as required every 2 years to keep your status as "active."

### SCORING INDICATORS

Renewals are up to date.  
There will be a one-year grace period for a renewal to occur.

## HOW CRITERIA IS MET

The of Guelph and Guelph's Bird Team are committed to renewing our Bird Friendly City certification every two years to maintain our status as "active".

Criteria Complete or Undertaken to Complete?	Yes
Confirmed by Scoring Committee as having met Standard?	

# SECTION 1: THREAT REDUCTION

# THREAT REDUCTION

## 1.1 (A) OWNED CATS

**DESCRIPTION**

Regulatory and educational measures taken to help control and reduce populations of cats roaming at large:

(A) Coordinated efforts directed at cat owners to reduce the number of owned cats outside such as educational campaigns, licensing and no-roam bylaws.

**SCORING INDICATORS**

Proof of each action required. Two points per action. Generally if you can demonstrate some level of progress for each action, you will be awarded one point. Two points will be limited to comprehensive efforts to address that one issue. For example, for (A) to get 2 points, you need to have a no-roam bylaw AND demonstrate both enforcement of the bylaw and an educational campaign to make cat owners aware of the bylaw.

### HOW CRITERIA IS MET

The City of Guelph's Animal Control By-law requires that cats be licensed. The City of Guelph does not currently have a no-roam bylaw.

The Guelph Cat Population Task Force is in place to engage the community in discussion around strategies for cat population management. The task force is a group of experts and knowledgeable citizen volunteers from various stakeholders including the City of Guelph, University of Guelph and the Guelph Humane Society. Their mission is to: "(1) provide unbiased and scientifically accurate information to the public; (2) develop and implement scientific studies to help answer additional questions; (3) facilitate opportunities for the community to provide input and guidance on future action or study; and 4) develop and implement collaborative projects and solutions that have community support or scientific merit."

A coalition of Guelph groups are working with Nature Canada's Keep Cats Safe & Bird Lives campaign to help keep both birds and cats safe by keeping cats from roaming outdoors unsupervised. The initiative aims to educate the public about the risks to both cats and birds that result from allowing cat to roam outdoors.

<b>Points Awarded</b> <i>(for completion by Nature Canada)</i>	
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# THREAT REDUCTION

## 1.1 (B) UNOWNED CATS

### DESCRIPTION

(B) Within the municipality there is an active strategy to reduce populations of unowned (feral) cats and mitigate their threat to birds (e.g. removing feral colonies from areas of high bird importance).

### SCORING INDICATORS

Evidence of an active program to humanely reduce the number of unowned outdoor cats. 2 points will be awarded for broad, municipal-wide strategies and actions that can demonstrate progress on the goal.

## HOW CRITERIA IS MET

The City of Guelph's Animal Control By-law requires every keeper of a cat over the age of four months to be registered and obtain an Animal License from the City or Pound Operator. The by-law also establishes that if an animal is at large and/or trespassing, an Animal Protection Officer may seize and impound it. If the keeper of an animal impounded for being at large and/or trespassing wishes to claim the animal, the keeper shall pay applicable fees and charges and have the animal registered and licensed.

New Hope Animal Rescue, based in Guelph, has a 50/50 Feral Cat program that uses the "Trap-Neuter-Return-Maintain" model. New Hope is listed as a TNR group in Ontario by the Ontario Shelter Medicine Association.

**Points Awarded**  
(for completion by Nature Canada)

# THREAT REDUCTION

## 1.1 (C) MONITORING OF ROAMING CATS

### DESCRIPTION

(C) The bird team and/ municipality either has, or is a partner in programs/ projects to estimate the number and/or distribution of cats outdoors so that progress on reducing the populations of outdoor cats can be tracked over time.

### SCORING INDICATORS

Proof of implementation of a cat counting/estimating protocol to establish baseline numbers or to compare with baseline numbers will be awarded 2 points. Proof of intent to implement such a protocol gets one point.

## HOW CRITERIA IS MET

In 2014, researchers at the University of Guelph conducted a survey of Guelph residents and estimated that there are 29,579 owned cats in the city, with an estimated 40% of residents allowing outdoor access to their cat(s) (1).

Additionally, University of Guelph researchers developed an outdoor cat population model in Guelph. They estimated total population size to be approximately 7,660 free-roaming cats and created a distribution map of outdoor cats across the city (2).

Currently, a team of University of Guelph researchers led by Dr. Elizabeth Gow and Dr. Ryan Norris, along with graduate students Marlee Pyott and Lara Hiles, are using "catcams", which are collar-mounted cameras on owned outdoor cats, to study movement and predation by cats. The study aims to improve estimates of the types and numbers of wildlife prey taken by cats.

#### References:

(1) Patter, L., T. Flockhart, J. Coe, O. Berke, R. Goller, A. Havorka, and S. Bateman. 2019. Perceptions of community cats and preferences for their management in Guelph, Ontario. Part I: A quantitative analysis. *The Canadian Veterinary Journal. La revue veterinaire canadienne* 60:41-47.

(2) Flockhart, D.T.T., D.R. Norris, and J.B. Coe. 2016. Predicting free-roaming cat population densities in urban areas. *Animal Conservation* 19:472-483.

**Points Awarded**  
(for completion by Nature Canada)

# THREAT REDUCTION

## 1.2 (A) WINDOW COLLISIONS – NEW CONSTRUCTION

### DESCRIPTION

Demonstrate that your municipality is taking measures to reduce window collisions by:  
(A) Developing and implementing bird friendly design standards/CSA Bird Friendly Building Design standard for new construction

### SCORING INDICATORS

*Proof of each action required.*

(A) refers to the municipality developing or adopting bird friendly or bird safe standards for new construction. One point is awarded if the standard is a guideline, two points if the standard is a requirement.

## HOW CRITERIA IS MET

The City of Guelph released its [Bird Friendly Design Guideline](#) on October 8, 2021. The guideline, which is implemented through the Site Plan Review Committee, will help to prevent bird-window collisions from occurring. The guideline was completed as part of the Natural Heritage Action Plan. The Bird Friendly Design Guideline is promoted and encouraged during pre-consultation for all development applications. The Bird Friendly Design Guideline applies to all development applications subject to site plan approval located within 120 metres of the Natural Heritage System.

The City of Guelph's [Lighting Guidelines for Lighting Plans](#) is also implemented through the site plan approval process, and includes bird-friendly exterior lighting best practices.

The University of Guelph Physical Resources department, headed by Paul Mesman, the Director of Design, Engineering and Construction, has agreed to update the University's Building Design Standards to include the CSA Bird Friendly Design Standards. These changes are expected to occur in 2022.

Currently, there is a petition to incorporate the CSA Bird Friendly Design Standard into the Ontario Building Code, which would result in the requirement that bird-friendly materials be used in new residential and commercial building windows. This petition is being led by MPP Chris Glover.

**Points Awarded**  
(for completion by Nature Canada)

# THREAT REDUCTION

## 1.2 (B) WINDOW COLLISIONS – EXISTING AND PROPOSED MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS

<b>DESCRIPTION</b> (B) Assessing and mitigating risk to birds from existing and proposed municipal buildings	<b>SCORING INDICATORS</b> One point if individuals or a group monitors window collisions, and/or assess risk by using BirdSafe or a similar program.
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### HOW CRITERIA IS MET

The City of Guelph's Bird Friendly Design Guideline and Lighting Guidelines for Lighting Plans are applied to all proposed municipal buildings.

Monitoring of bird-window collisions has occurred as part of the Global Bird Rescue by Natural Guelph.

Bird Safe Guelph began window collision monitoring in the spring of 2022 on the University of Guelph campus. This research program is run by Dr. Ryan Norris and PhD student Karen Ong.

<b>Points Awarded</b> (for completion by Nature Canada)	
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# THREAT REDUCTION

## 1.2 (C) WINDOW COLLISIONS - EDUCATION OF PROPERTY OWNERS

### DESCRIPTION

(C) Informing and educating property owners and tenants of existing buildings (including home owners) of measures they can take to mitigate bird collision risk

### SCORING INDICATORS

One point is awarded with evidence of educational campaigns focused on the broad public or specific neighbourhoods.

### HOW CRITERIA IS MET

Bird Safe Guelph is a local conservation group that has been working since October 2020 to educate community members about the issue of bird-window collisions. Bird Safe Guelph has distributed approximately 200 window treatment kits (containing either Feather Friendly Tape or a white, oil-based paint marker) to residents and ran a contest to encourage window treatments. Bird Safe Guelph's work has reached thousands of people through social media (@BirdSafeGuelph on Twitter and Instagram), collaborations with artists including a window mural at Guelph City Hall and news reports from CBC, Guelph Today, CTV News Kitchener, Global News and other organizations.



**Points Awarded**  
(for completion by Nature Canada)



# THREAT REDUCTION

## 1.2 (D) TREATED WINDOWS - BASELINE DATA

**DESCRIPTION**  
(D) Establishing a baseline and maintaining a database of the number of residences or buildings with treated windows in the city to demonstrate progress over time

**SCORING INDICATORS**  
Evidence of the database is provided.

### HOW CRITERIA IS MET

Bird Safe Guelph has photo documentation of bird-safe window retrofits done by community members in the City of Guelph.

The City of Guelph tracks approved development applications that have implemented Bird Friendly Design Guidelines.

**Points Awarded**  
*(for completion by Nature Canada)*

# THREAT REDUCTION

## 1.3 (A) LIGHT POLLUTION – REDUCTION STRATEGY (MIGRATION)

### DESCRIPTION

(A) Municipality has a light pollution reduction strategy and supports actions to reduce light pollution, particularly during migratory seasons.

### SCORING INDICATORS

One point is given upon evidence of a strategy to reduce light pollution

## HOW CRITERIA IS MET

The City of Guelph Lighting Guidelines, which apply to new construction of commercial, institutional, residential, industrial and government facilities, prohibit the installation of SAG lens lights and any fixture that projects light horizontally. The purpose of the guideline is to mitigate and address concerns related to direct glare and light trespass.

Lighting fixtures are required to be full cut off and International Dark Sky Association compliant. Further, fixtures are required to be positioned such that they focus light downward, preventing light from emitting above the horizontal plane and preventing light trespass.

The Lighting Zone for the Natural Heritage System is LZ1 with dark ambient brightness, requiring 0.0 foot candles at the limit of the Natural Heritage System and maximum pole height of 4.5 metres.

The City of Guelph's Facilities Management division has upgraded the City's street lights with Light Emitting Diode (LED) technology and adaptive controls. LED luminaires require much less energy and maintenance than traditional high-pressure sodium fixtures, reducing costs, energy usage and environmental impact. Further, LED street lights offer better visibility and reduce light pollution.

**Points Awarded**  
(for completion by Nature Canada)

# THREAT REDUCTION

## 1.3 (B) LIGHT POLLUTION – NEW DEVELOPMENTS / RETROFIT

<b>DESCRIPTION</b> (B) Light pollution mitigation standards for all new developments and/or retrofit program to replace street lamps with energy-efficient shielded fixtures	<b>SCORING INDICATORS</b> One point given for either proof of mitigation standards (e.g., bylaw or guidance), and/or proof of a retrofit program (e.g., retrofitting standard street lights with downward directional street lighting). To attain "high level" certification, there must be evidence of both standards for new development and a retrofit program
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### HOW CRITERIA IS MET

The City of Guelph's Lighting Guidelines for Lighting Plans provide a set of effective standards designed to limit the impacts of excess and unnecessary external lighting. The guidelines incorporate energy efficiencies such as sensors and timers and direct light away from the night sky and minimize the impact of lighting on adjacent uses by limiting glare and light trespass.

The City of Guelph is in the process of upgrading all street lights to LED lighting with a Correlated Colour Temperature of no more than 3,000 Kelvin, bearing a Fixture Seal of Approval of the International Dark-Sky Association to reduce light pollution and light trespass.

<b>Points Awarded</b> (for completion by Nature Canada)	1
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# THREAT REDUCTION

## 1.3 (C) LIGHT POLLUTION - OUTREACH CAMPAIGN

### DESCRIPTION

(C) Outreach campaign for residents and businesses to promote responsible light control practices within the municipality.

### SCORING INDICATORS

One point for educational and outreach campaigns to reduce light attraction during migration periods such as the “lights out Toronto” campaigns of the past.

## HOW CRITERIA IS MET

Bird Safe Guelph and Guelph's Bird Team included an outreach campaign about light pollution as a component of the Guelph Bird Event hosted at the Arboretum on May 14, 2022.

**Points Awarded**  
(for completion by Nature Canada)

# THREAT REDUCTION

## 1.4 PESTICIDE USE

**DESCRIPTION**

Municipality has a policy to reduce or eliminate non-essential pesticide use that directly or indirectly harms birds, on public and private land that is implemented through local bylaws. This policy should include restrictions on pesticides used to control nuisance insects such as mosquitos (such as BTI) unless there is a demonstrated health risk (such as proof of West Nile in larvae).

**SCORING INDICATORS**

Proof of the policy is provided. Examples of such policies would include a ban on cosmetic use of pesticides. The use of BTI to control mosquitos and blackflies is controversial, in that it is increasingly used by municipalities to kill mosquito and fly larva in wetlands in response to neighbourhood pressure. There is strong evidence that this reduces the available food for aerial insectivores like swallows and has a negative impact on their populations.

### HOW CRITERIA IS MET

The City of Guelph's [website](#) includes information on weed control without pesticides, and provides a link to the Provincial Government's ban on the use of cosmetic pesticides.

The City of Guelph does not use pesticides to control mosquito or black fly larva in wetlands.

Under the Pesticides Act. R.S.O. 1990, the Ontario Regulation 63/09 came into effect in 2009 and bans the use of pesticides for cosmetic use. This includes banning the usage of 2,4-D, Diazinon and glyphosate for cosmetic uses on lawns, parks, schoolyards and gardens across Ontario.

# THREAT REDUCTION

## 1.5 PLASTICS

### DESCRIPTION

Municipality takes regulatory measures and encourages voluntary measures to reduce the amount of plastic waste generated (e.g. banning of single use plastics).

### SCORING INDICATORS

Provide proof of regulatory (e.g. a municipal bylaw) and voluntary measures (e.g. a local business) such as a ban on single use plastics, shopping bags, plastic straws, etc.

## HOW CRITERIA IS MET

The University of Guelph eliminated plastic straws and bags from campus in 2018 and has run the #iamreusable program since 2011 to help reduce takeout food packaging waste.

A volunteer group called Plastic Free Guelph ran campaigns to reduce plastic waste. One such campaign was called "Straws Suck" and encouraged businesses to eliminate plastic straws. At least ten businesses in Guelph committed to eliminating plastic straws.

On April 4, 2022 Staff presented two recommendations to Council based on feedback received on the Solid Waste Management Master Plan to ban many of the common single-use plastics by March 2023. These recommendations were supported and approved by City Council.

**Points Awarded**  
(for completion by Nature Canada)

# THREAT REDUCTION

## 1.6 VEHICLES

### DESCRIPTION

Measures in place to reduce bird collisions with vehicles such as lower speed limits when passing through important bird habitat, and measures to reduce the number of vehicles on the roads (such as a good public transit system and cycling infrastructure).

### SCORING INDICATORS

Provide proof of measures to protect birds from vehicle collisions. For example, at locations where a busy road cuts through a wildlife corridor, evidence of mitigation would include lower speed limits, signage about wildlife crossing, or proof of engineered solutions such as wildlife underpasses or overpasses.

## HOW CRITERIA IS MET

The City of Guelph has identified wildlife crossing locations as a component of the Natural Heritage System, in the [Official Plan](#). Refer to Schedule 4 or page 398 of the pdf. In these locations, mitigation measures include wildlife crossing warning signage, lower speed limits and wildlife underpasses and funnel fencing. The City is currently working on a Road Ecology Guideline as part of the Natural Heritage Action Plan to implement road ecology best management practices across the city.

To date, wildlife underpasses have been installed at the following locations:

Eastview Road (three underpasses)  
Niska Road (three underpasses)  
Laird Road (five interim wildlife culvert underpasses)  
Poppy Drive (two underpasses)  
Kortright Subdivision (five underpasses)  
Maltby Road (three wildlife culvert underpasses)

Within Guelph, motorized vehicle speeds are limited to 30-60 kilometers per hour with higher speeds located on major roadways such as Speedvale Avenue, Stone Road, and Gordon Street. In and/or near some public parks, speed limits are reduced to 15-30 kilometers per hour. In Guelph, truck routes are restricted to major roads including Stone Road, Wellington Road, Victoria Road, York Road and Highway 6 (the Hanlon Expressway).

Guelph Transit, Guelph's public transportation system, has routes throughout the city.

Guelph has a large network of bike lanes and paths. Guelph's Cycling Master Plan and Transportation Master Plan aim to improve cycling infrastructure and culture and integrates pedestrian and bicycle networks into transportation planning.

Wildlife crossing signage is common in the city and more signs were recently installed in the University of Guelph Arboretum, a hot spot for bird activity in the city.

**Points Awarded**  
(for completion by Nature Canada)

# THREAT REDUCTION

## 1.7 HABITAT DISTURBANCE

### DESCRIPTION

Municipality has policy and practices to prohibit or mitigate disturbance of birds from humans or their pets at natural areas or important bird habitat (e.g., leash bylaw, no-go zones certain times of year).

### SCORING INDICATORS

Provide proof of policy and examples of implementation such as signage at important bird habitat (e.g. a natural area, wetland or known migratory stop-over site) or evidence of a bylaw in place. Provide evidence that important bird habitats/ biodiversity hotspots are recognized within an official policy document.

## HOW CRITERIA IS MET

The City of Guelph's [Animal Control By-law](#) establishes that no dog shall be leash-free except on land owned or occupied by the keeper, or in a leash-free area of a part of the City. There are additional restrictions on dogs at some parks and beaches; e.g. at [Guelph Lake Conservation Area](#), dogs must be on leashes no longer than two metres at all times and are not allowed on beaches.

The City of Guelph's [Leash-Free Policy](#) guides how staff assess, build, maintain and enforce off-leash areas as our city continues to grow. Leash-free areas are not permitted in close proximity to the Natural Heritage System. Signage often includes photographs and educational facts about species that occur in the area, frequently including birds.

Educational signage is routinely included along the City of Guelph's trail system within and adjacent to the Natural Heritage System to educate trail users about the biodiversity around them. Information on the City's trail system is available in the [Guelph Trail Master Plan](#).

The City's [Natural Heritage System](#) officially recognizes important natural areas in the city, including significant wetlands, woodlands, valleylands, fish habitat, wildlife habitats including linkages, habitats of endangered species and threatened species, restoration areas, and wildlife crossings. Through the Official Plan, the Natural Heritage System is a designated land use, where development and site alteration are prohibited. The Natural Heritage System receives long term protection, with permitted uses limited to scientific research, wildlife conservation and passive recreational activities.

The City of Guelph's Animal Control By-law requires dogs to be on leash except on privately-owned lands and in leash-free dog parks. Signage is posted at trail heads communicating to members of the public that dogs are required to be kept on-leash, people are to pick up and dispose of garbage and pet waste, and all users are required to stay on trails.

Guelph's Official Plan requires Environmental Impact Studies for trails that are desired to cross a sensitive woodland or wetland to determine if the trail can be constructed in a manner that is consistent with "no negative impact". If the trail cannot be constructed without creating a negative impact, the policies of the Official Plan prohibit it. Refer to policy 4.1.3.4.7 (trails in Significant Wetlands) and policy 4.1.3.6.7 (trails in Significant Woodlands).

**Points Awarded**  
(for completion by Nature Canada)



# THREAT REDUCTION

## SCORING

### ENTRY

9 points from at least 3 categories.

### INTERMEDIATE

12 points from at least 5 categories including at least 1 category worth 2 or more.

### HIGH

14 points or more. Must include at least 2 points in categories 1 and 2.

**Points Awarded**

*(for completion by Nature Canada)*

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# SECTION 2: HABITAT PROTECTION, RESTORATION, AND CLIMATE RESILIENCY

## 2.1 NATURAL AREAS

### DESCRIPTION

Natural areas within the municipal boundaries are protected within the Municipal Plan and there is a commitment to increase this area. Plan distinguishes between natural areas and other types of municipal space such as recreational parks.

### SCORING INDICATORS

Provide proof of the policy. To maintain this criterion, the city must document the size of the area protected, and demonstrate a commitment to increase in this area over time. Any municipal plan that includes protection of natural area spaces will receive one point. Additional points are based on the evidence of implementation and whether there are ambitious targets to increase the number and size of the protected areas.

## HOW CRITERIA IS MET

Through the Official Plan, the Natural Heritage System is a designated land use, where development and site alteration are prohibited. The Natural Heritage System receives long term protection, with permitted uses limited to scientific research, wildlife conservation and passive recreational activities.

Additional lands meeting criteria for protection are assessed through development applications, based on the Official Plan. Additional lands are then added to the Natural Heritage System and are protected.

Refer to Section 4 of the [Official Plan](#) for Natural Heritage-related policy.

The City of Guelph completes an annual [sustainability report card](#) where the amount of natural heritage system is reported on an annual basis, along with other metrics such as urban forest canopy cover. Refer to page 8 of the pdf for details.

**Points Awarded**  
(for completion by Nature Canada)

2.2 BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

DESCRIPTION

Municipality has an official strategy to protect the biological diversity in its parks and natural areas. The strategy includes measures such as promoting connectivity between natural areas, buffering core biodiversity hotspots from harmful human activities, increasing the number of protected areas, and periodically monitoring birds on some city parks to assess the success of the strategy.

SCORING INDICATORS

Provide proof of the strategy and its implementation. The strategy to protect biological diversity can be part of the protected areas plan, or vice versa, but must specifically identify protection of biological diversity as a goal. One point is awarded for having an official strategy (adopted by Council). Two points if the strategy has targets and metrics for success and there is evidence of implementation. Three points for cities that meet the previous two tests as well as using monitoring to track changes to biodiversity and use results for adaptive management (e.g. bird monitoring in city owned natural areas).

HOW CRITERIA IS MET

A priority action identified in the City's Natural Heritage Action Plan is to create a biodiversity strategy to assist in identifying biodiversity and ecosystem targets, to develop recommendations to protect, maintain, restore and enhance biodiversity (including native pollinator habitats) and to establish key performance indicators that measure effectiveness of policies and guidelines (Action 8). The target date for initiating this action is schedules for 2023.

Points Awarded  
(for completion by Nature Canada)

2.3 CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION STRATEGY

**DESCRIPTION**

Municipality has a climate change adaptation strategy that includes specific measures including nature-based climate solutions. Examples of this include wetland creation to absorb and retain flood water, or planting trees to create shade and lower the surface air temperature

**SCORING INDICATORS**

Provide proof of the strategy and its implementation. One point if the City has an official strategy. Additional points are awarded based on evidence of ongoing measures and actions.

HOW CRITERIA IS MET

The City of Guelph is currently working on completing a city-wide climate change adaptation strategy. This was identified as a strategic priority in the City of Guelph's [Strategic Plan](#).

The City is also working on completing a pilot project on natural asset valuation to assign a monetary value to the services provided by the Natural Heritage System. The pilot is intended to be rolled out city-wide so that natural assets can be included in the City's asset management portfolio. Just as watermain and sanitary sewers are accounted for, natural assets would be flagged for maintenance, inspection, etc.

The City of Guelph promotes Low Impact Development (LID) and green infrastructure through the development review process. The Stormwater Management Master Plan update (currently ongoing) will include a Guelph specific guideline for implementing LID measures and green infrastructure in the City. The purpose of the guideline is to support the use of LID measures to contribute to managing stormwater as a resource rather than runoff. This will help us mitigate impacts to wetland water balance and runoff resulting from increased impervious surfaces.

<b>Points Awarded</b> (for completion by Nature Canada)	
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2.4 (A) HABITAT MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

DESCRIPTION

Municipality has a habitat management strategy based on ecological and climate considerations. These include: (A) increasing the number of trees and area of the urban forest canopy;

SCORING INDICATORS

Provide proof of implementation of the strategy and each action. One point per action. Evidence for a. includes inventories of trees and plans for increasing the numbers.

HOW CRITERIA IS MET

The City of Guelph has an [Urban Forest Management Plan](#) (UFMP) to ensure a sustainable urban forest that provides environmental, social and economic benefits as our community continues grow. One of the recommendations of the UFMP is to complete a Tree Planting Strategy to identify planting locations to increase Guelph's tree canopy cover.

Following the devastation caused by the Emerald Ash Borer to woodlands throughout Guelph, Urban Forestry staff have prepared management prescriptions to restore woodland cover through the planting of native trees and shrubs and removing buckthorn. In the felling of dead or dying trees, larger dead trees were selectively retained as habitat snags (bole left standing at approximately five metres tall) to provide habitat for cavity nesting birds and feeding opportunities for woodpeckers and gleaners like nuthatches and brown creeper.

Points Awarded (for completion by Nature Canada)	
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2.4 (B) SNAG PROTECTION

DESCRIPTION

(B) leaving snags standing in cases where public safety is not jeopardized;

SCORING INDICATORS

One point is based on evidence such as a policy statements or evidence within management plans for natural areas.

HOW CRITERIA IS MET

The City of Guelph's [Tree Technical Manual](#) provides guidance on the City's expectations related to tree related plans, including Tree Inventory and Preservation Plans and Vegetation Compensation Plans. Within the document, it is noted that notes and recommendations are to be recorded per tree, and includes "habitat tree" as an example. Opportunities to provide habitat trees are assessed per project based on site-specific considerations, including the state of decay of the tree, size of the tree, proximity to trail or private property. Habitat trees are often limbed, with the bole left standing at approximately five metres tall.

Examples of habitat trees left standing are provided at Ellis Creek Natural Area, Torrance Creek Wetland, and Riverside Park.

Points Awarded  
(for completion by Nature Canada)

2.4 (C) PROTECTION OF TREES

DESCRIPTION

(C) protecting trees on private and public lands;

SCORING INDICATORS

Refers to a tree bylaws that protects trees as a public value from private land owners cutting them down without permits.

HOW CRITERIA IS MET

The City of Guelph has a [private tree protection by-law](#) which regulates the removal and injury of trees larger than 10.0 centimetres in diameter at breast height (1.2 metres from the ground) on properties larger than 0.2 hectares (0.5 acre) in size.

Through the Urban Forest Management Plan, staff will be completing a review of the private tree protection by-law beginning in 2022, which will include reviewing the need for a public tree by-law.

The City of Guelph's current practice is to manage trees on public property in a manner consistent with the private tree protection by-law, which is to protect trees where and when possible, and if protection is not possible, provide compensation per the City's Tree Technical Manual.

<p><b>Points Awarded</b> (for completion by Nature Canada)</p>	
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2.4 (D) RESPONSIBLE VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

DESCRIPTION

(D) Prohibiting active vegetation management during breeding season on municipal lands, including forests, storm-water management facilities, and easements.

SCORING INDICATORS

A point is accorded if a city can demonstrate that its employees involved in active habitat management do not harm breeding birds or their habitat.

HOW CRITERIA IS MET

The City of Guelph conducts business in a manner consistent with the Migratory Birds Act, restricting the removal of vegetation within the active nesting period prescribed by the Canadian Wildlife Service. This information is communicated through the completion of Environmental Impact Studies, Environmental Assessments, Capital Project, Tree Permits, Building Permits, and Construction Drawings.

The City of Guelph conducts all forestry-related work outside of the active nesting period. If emergency work is required, forestry staff hire wildlife monitors to ensure that birds are not impacted.

The City of Guelph has incorporated wildlife exclusion measures when repairing chimneys deemed to be cultural heritage resources under the Heritage Act that are also habitat for Chimney Swift. Chimney Swifts were excluded (following nesting season) by blocking off the chimney while repairs were being undertaken. The repair of the chimney involved creating a collar that would protect the masonry while also allowing Chimney Swift to enter the structure to roost. Following repair, Chimney Swift continue to roost in this location (Goldie Mill).

Points Awarded  
(for completion by Nature Canada)

2.5 IMPORTANT BIRD AND BIODIVERSITY AREA (IBA)

DESCRIPTION

Municipality has an Important Bird and Biodiversity Area (IBA) within or adjacent to its boundaries. A local partnership promotes the protection and stewardship of this area.

SCORING INDICATORS

One point if there is one or more nearby IBAs and the Bird Team can provide the names of the IBAs and at least one IBA caretaker group or individual.

HOW CRITERIA IS MET

An Important Bird and Biodiversity Area is not located within the City of Guelph. ON005 Dundas Valley and Dundas Marsh is approximately 40 kilometres from Guelph, and ON059 Luther Marsh is approximately 45 kilometres from Guelph. Most of the Dundas Valley IBA is publically-owned as part of the Royal Botanical Gardens.

Points Awarded (for completion by Nature Canada)	
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2.6 NATIVE FLORA - MUNICIPAL LANDS

DESCRIPTION

Municipality promotes the importance of planting native local flora on municipal lands, especially where new development is occurring through development and landscaping guidelines and standards in areas near natural features. Subdivision permits should include conditions protecting existing natural habitat and promote use of native vegetation and include measures to discourage illegal disposal of yard waste (a source of invasive exotic plants) in natural areas.

SCORING INDICATORS

One point for evidence that the municipality promotes the use of site-appropriate native flora in landscaping for its own properties and for development landscaping standards for subdivision permits.

HOW CRITERIA IS MET

The City of Guelph promotes the use of native species in landscape plans and vegetation compensation plans. Refer to the City's [Tree Technical Manual](#) for additional information. Details about the requirement for native species in landscape plans are also provided in the City of Guelph Environmental Impact Study Guidelines, version 2 (2020) and Site Plan Guidelines.

Internally, the City of Guelph has also developed planting lists to suit various growing conditions to assist tree planting and restoration efforts implemented by Natural Areas and Stewardship.

The City's Healthy Landscape program offered throughout the city, provides home visits to expertise to advise homeowners on site-appropriate native plants for landscaping purposes. The City website also provides information about native garden designs for both full sun and shade environments.

Dumping of yard waste in natural areas is not permitted in Guelph.

<b>Points Awarded</b> (for completion by Nature Canada)	
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2.7 NATIVE FLORA – PRIVATE PROPERTY

DESCRIPTION

Demonstrate widespread community participation in initiatives to encourage native plant habitat that supports native birds and pollinators on private property, to increase the urban tree canopy on private land, and to support other “green infrastructure” initiatives to address climate change.

SCORING INDICATORS

One point if you provide evidence supporting “widespread community participation” in at least one national or international initiatives or local program that encourages increasing wildlife habitat on private land. This could include membership in a program like Bee City for example.

HOW CRITERIA IS MET

- The City of Guelph is a [Bee City](#).
- The City of Guelph regularly partners with [Pollination Guelph](#) to help improve and support pollinator habitat in the city, including restoration and management of the Pollinator Park.
- The City of Guelph maintains several butterfly gardens featuring flowering native plants within city parks to provide additional habitat and opportunities for education.
- The City of Guelph also has a program called [Healthy Landscapes](#), where landowners can reach out to city staff for a landscape / garden consultation to improve biodiversity and native species on their properties. Healthy Landscapes has developed a series of planting plans that homeowners can use to implement on their properties.
- The City of Guelph has a stormwater retrofit program where rebates are provided to residents who install rain gardens. This has the added benefit of enhancing local biodiversity.
- The Arboretum's Gosling Gardens is designed to attract wildlife.

Points Awarded (for completion by Nature Canada)	
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# HABITAT PROTECTION, RESTORATION, AND CLIMATE RESILIENCY

## 2.8 STOPOVER & NESTING HABITAT

### DESCRIPTION

Bird City partner groups implement stewardship to increase or improve breeding or stopover habitat for bird conservation priority species from your Bird Conservation Region Plan. Example species include Species at Risk (e.g. Chimney Swift) and other aerial insectivores, Eastern Meadowlark and other grassland birds and shorebirds. Example actions including providing housing (e.g., maintained Purple Martin condos), and maintaining bird-friendly hay production.

### SCORING INDICATORS

A point is awarded to cities in which there are active stewardship recovery projects such as those suggested in the criterion description.

## HOW CRITERIA IS MET

Ontario Public Interest Research Group's (affiliated with the University of Guelph) Speed River Project and the City of Guelph's Natural Areas and Stewardship Department maintain several bird houses throughout the city, for Eastern Bluebird and Tree Swallow.

Chimney Swift habitat is protected and maintained through heritage permits and facility renewal, including chimney restoration projects to maintain existing chimney swift habitat. For example, the chimney at Goldie Mill has been restored and retrofitted to protect the masonry while still maintaining chimney swift habitat. Further, the chimney at the Metalworks development and Spring Mill Distillery is in the process of being restored and retrofitted to provide habitat for chimney swift.

**Points Awarded**  
(for completion by Nature Canada)

SCORING

ENTRY

8 points from at least 3 categories.

INTERMEDIATE

11 points from at least 4 categories.

HIGH

14 points from at least 6 categories including at least 1 point from categories 2.1, 2.2, 2.3 and 2.4.

<p>Points Awarded</p> <p>(for completion by Nature Canada)</p>	
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# SECTION 3: COMMUNITY OUTREACH/ EDUCATION

# COMMUNITY OUTREACH/ EDUCATION

## 3.1 WORLD MIGRATORY BIRD DAY

### DESCRIPTION

Hold (and officially proclaim) a World Migratory Bird Day event annually to celebrate birds in your municipality.

### SCORING INDICATORS

This is a mandatory action for this program. Cities must hold a Bird Day event to apply. To receive all 4 points, you must provide proof of the event and Mayor's or Council proclamation in support of Bird Day.

## HOW CRITERIA IS MET

Bird Safe Guelph and Guelph's Bird Team hosted a Guelph Bird Day on World Migratory Bird Day on May 14, 2022 from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm at the Conifer Site in the Arboretum. Community members were provided with the opportunity to attend guided bird walks and educational activity booths to learn about birds and bird conservation.



**Points Awarded**  
(for completion by Nature Canada)



# COMMUNITY OUTREACH/ EDUCATION

## 3.2 SCHOOLS, GROUPS & COMMUNITIES

### DESCRIPTION

A significant percentage of local schools and other educational organizations (e.g. Scouts Canada, Earth Rangers, 4-H) provide students with opportunities to connect with nature, enjoy birds and learn how to help them. Local school boards, conservation authority, or municipality, has facilities/staffing to support outdoor/environmental education, including opportunities to observe birds. At least one school does a specific bird-related program such as Christmas bird count for kids or curriculum from Keep cats safe and save bird lives. Educational program must include specific elements designed to engage members of the public who could be considered underprivileged families and groups, racialized youth and recent arrivals to Canada.

### SCORING INDICATORS

Provide evidence in support of this level of outreach and engagement of children, youth and other target audiences. One point is awarded if there are local education facilities and institutions that include activities for children to observe and appreciate birds both in school and outside through an educational organization that offers nature programming to the public. Two points if there are specific bird-related nature programs for recent arrivals to Canada, underprivileged or racialized families. Three points if there is at least one school or organization that offers programming from the Keep cats safe and save bird lives curriculum.

## HOW CRITERIA IS MET

Through the Arboretum, several workshops on birds and bird identification are offered by Chris Earley. Workshops include species groups of birds: warblers, shorebirds, birds of prey, etc. as well as more general introductory workshops to introduce people to birds. Owl prowls are also hosted by the Arboretum, which are family friendly events.

Nature Guelph provides educational opportunities through public speaking events.

The Christmas Bird Count is completed annually by several groups in the City.

The City's Natural Heritage Action Plan includes actions relating to outdoor education and nature-based learning for children. City staff will be working on these programs in the next five years.

Currently, Bird Safe Guelph is developing a free educational lesson plan for elementary school teachers to download and use to teach their classes about local birds and bird conservation. This program is expected to launch in September 2022.

**Points Awarded**  
(for completion by Nature Canada)

# COMMUNITY OUTREACH/ EDUCATION

## 3.3 COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY CAMPUSES

### DESCRIPTION

College and University campuses have adopted practices that actively reduce threats to birds or establish habitat that benefits birds. Implementation of practices should include or be driven by student committees or groups.

### SCORING INDICATORS

One point is awarded based on evidence that institutions that have policies and practices to benefit birds including names of institutions, the programs that they participate in (e.g BirdSafe, Bee City), as well as an example of a recent action and evidence of student involvement.

### HOW CRITERIA IS MET

The University of Guelph's Arboretum Centre has windows treated with Feather Friendly stickers.

The GO Bus Shelters in front of the University of Guelph are treated with Feather Friendly stickers. This initiative was driven by Bird Safe Guelph.

The University of Guelph Physical Resources department, headed by Paul Mesman, the Director of Design, Engineering and Construction, has agreed to update the University's Building Design Standards to include the CSA Bird Friendly Design Standards. These changes were expected by 2022. This initiative by driven by Bird Safe Guelph.

New campus buildings are currently in development, such as the Honeybee Research Centre, and are being built to follow the CSA Bird Friendly Guidelines and City of Guelph Bird Friendly Design Guidelines.

Bird-related research is ongoing at the University of Guelph Arboretum.  
<https://arboretum.uoguelph.ca/collectionsandresearch/biodiversitybirds>

Wild Ontario, based at the University of Guelph, is an environmental education program delivering live-animal shows and displays across Ontario. It provides an intensive, experiential learning opportunity for student volunteers and a long-term home and purpose for birds that can no longer survive in the wild.  
<http://www.wildontario.ca>

**Points Awarded**  
(for completion by Nature Canada)

# COMMUNITY OUTREACH/ EDUCATION

## 3.4 PUBLIC ACCESS TO RESOURCES

### DESCRIPTION

Bird Team partners (including Municipality) provide public access to resources (web links, brochures etc.) that encourage and inform the public of the benefit to birds from native plant gardening or establishment of natural habitat patches on their property in support of birds and/or pollinators (e.g. backyard habitat program).

### SCORING INDICATORS

One point if you can provide evidence of the digital or paper resources, as well as evidence of public interest and knowledge of them (e.g. social media activity).

## HOW CRITERIA IS MET

Public access to resources that encourage and inform the public of the benefit to birds from native plant gardening or establishment of natural habitat patches on their property in support of birds and/or pollinators is provided through the City of Guelph's [Healthy Landscapes](#) program. The city [website](#) provides information about native garden designs for both full sun and shade environments.

[Trees for Guelph](#) also contributes to this criterion by facilitating native tree and shrub plantings on public and private lands, including school grounds.

Pollination Guelph promotes conservation and development of habitat for pollinators. Their website provides resources for the public on planting native plants for pollinators and lists local native plant suppliers. They also run a public contest for photos of local pollinator-friendly gardens.

The University of Guelph Arboretum offers workshops on designing gardens with native plants to attract wildlife.

Guelph-Wellington Master Gardeners also provide opportunities to learn more about plants, gardening and enhancing local biodiversity and habitat.

The Guelph Outdoor School business educates kids and adults and has some programs specifically focused on birding. <https://www.theguelphoutdoorschool.com/>

**Points Awarded**  
(for completion by Nature Canada)

# COMMUNITY OUTREACH/ EDUCATION

## 3.5 PUBLIC INSTALLATIONS FOR EDUCATION

### DESCRIPTION

Municipality and Bird City partners install demonstrations or displays in public areas that educate citizens on the benefits of bird friendly actions and encourage engagement (benefits of dark sky lighting, window modifications etc.)

### SCORING INDICATORS

One point based on proof of installations (e.g. photographic evidence, or news stories.)

## HOW CRITERIA IS MET

The new City Library at 55 Baker Street, downtown Guelph, will be the City's first municipal building design with bird-friendly design measures in mind, through the implementation of the City's Bird Friendly Design Guidelines. Landscaping around the facility will include native plants and educational signage will be provided raising awareness about bird-window collisions.

Bird Safe Guelph, in collaboration with artist Shelby Bohn, completed a very successful [public art installation](#) on Guelph City Hall windows to raise awareness about bird-window collisions in October 2021 (ongoing). This mural shows the public that window retrofits can be beautiful as well as functional.

The University of Guelph Arboretum Centre has [Feather Friendly tape installed](#) and educational displays to inform the public about bird-window collisions.

The [Bird/Watching](#) statue at Guelph Central Station depicts a bird watching passengers come and go at the station, with the reversal of the gaze reminding us that environmental accountability is our responsibility.

**Points Awarded**  
(for completion by Nature Canada)

# COMMUNITY OUTREACH/ EDUCATION

## 3.6 ACCESSIBLE BIRD-WATCHING LOCATION(S)

### DESCRIPTION

There is at least one birding location within your city or town that has infrastructure to facilitate the observation and appreciation of birds (e.g. signs, panels, observation tower, and trails). This facility is publicly accessible for people without a car (serviced by public transit and/or bicycle and pedestrian trails). Digital information on birding areas should be easily available.

### SCORING INDICATORS

One point based on evidence of a local birding area that is publicly accessible, a brief description of the infrastructures (e.g. trails, observation tower), and how the area can be accessed by someone without a car.

## HOW CRITERIA IS MET

Recently installed boardwalks through the University of Guelph Arboretum include space for bird watching and teaching. In several sections, the boardwalk is widened to allow users to step off of the main path of travel and stop and watch birds. The Arboretum has over 12.5 km of trails and is easily accessible via Guelph Public Transit. The Arboretum's website has a [list of birds](#) seen there.

**Points Awarded**  
(for completion by Nature Canada)

# COMMUNITY OUTREACH/ EDUCATION

## 3.7 LOCAL SPECIES REFERENCE LIST

### DESCRIPTION

A Bird Team partner periodically publishes a "Bird checklist" for your city or town. This checklist should be easily available in digital form on the Internet. Alternatively, there are eBird hotspots in your City.

### SCORING INDICATORS

One point based on proof that a local bird checklist exists in a published form or there are eBird hotspots in your city.

## HOW CRITERIA IS MET

The City of Guelph does not have a Bird Checklist, but we do have a locally significant species list which highlights bird species that are considered locally significant species. These species are considered under the Habitat for Significant Species policies of the Official Plan.

The University of Guelph Arboretum publishes a [list of birds](#) found within its 165 hectare area.

There are many eBird hotspots in Guelph, including the following:

[Guelph Lake Conservation Area \(general\)](#) - 245 species

[University of Guelph Arboretum](#) - 204 species

[James St Trail](#) - 167 species

[Preservation Park](#) - 153 species

**Points Awarded**  
(for completion by Nature Canada)

# COMMUNITY OUTREACH/ EDUCATION

## 3.8 LOCAL BIRD FRIENDLY BUSINESSES

### DESCRIPTION

Businesses in your area promote bird friendly practices (e.g. sell or offer bird friendly coffee, no single use plastics, treat their windows with feather-friendly markers, etc.). These businesses should be recognized on partner websites.

### SCORING INDICATORS

To receive a point, you must provide proof that at least two businesses in your area have bird friendly practices. You must name the businesses and describe what bird-friendly practices they have.

## HOW CRITERIA IS MET

[Wild Birds Unlimited](#) sells bird friendly coffee along with many other bird-related products.

Balzac's sells the [Atwood Blend](#) which is bird friendly coffee.

The [Guelph Tool Library](#) promotes waste reduction through a tool-sharing library system, promotes growth of native habitat through a seed library program, promotes waste reduction through Repair Cafe's and promotes waste reduction through their Sew on the Go program.

Molloy's Bulk Refill & Soap Supply online store offers zero waste delivery, refills and a free jar/container library.

The Refill Bar located on Quebec Street offers soap refills and sustainable products.

**Points Awarded**  
(for completion by Nature Canada)

# COMMUNITY OUTREACH/ EDUCATION

## 3.9 CITY BIRD

### DESCRIPTION

You have a "City Bird" species that was selected through a public engagement process.

### SCORING INDICATORS

To receive a point for this criterion, you must provide the name of the "City Bird" species, proof of its status, and evidence of the process to select it.

## HOW CRITERIA IS MET

City of Guelph hosted two rounds of online engagement to select Guelph's Official Bird. In the first round, over 2,600 people voted for their favourite bird. The top three finalists were Chimney Swift (878 votes), Black-capped Chickadee (663 votes) and Green Heron (645 votes). Honourable mentions go to Eastern Screech Owl (375 votes), Belted Kingfisher (234 votes) and Peregrine Falcon (209 votes).

The second round of engagement ended on April 22, 2022 and Guelph's Official Bird, Black-capped Chickadee was announced to the public on May 14, 2022 on Guelph Bird Day. Black-capped Chickadee received 1,656 votes. Honourable mentions go to Chimney Swift (715 votes) and Green Heron (407 votes).



**Points Awarded**  
(for completion by Nature Canada)



# COMMUNITY OUTREACH/ EDUCATION

## 3.10 INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY SCIENCE PROGRAMS

### DESCRIPTION

There are active citizen science programs to monitor birds in your municipality including Christmas Bird Count, Swift Night Out, and Marsh Monitoring, and Global Bird Rescue, which monitor birds on areas that include public land. Public participation in these programs is promoted on local media. Demonstrate efforts to engage members of the public could be considered underprivileged, racialized or recent arrivals to Canada.

### SCORING INDICATORS

To receive one point, provide a list of bird-related citizen science programs in your city and describe the level of public interest and engagement of target audiences.

## HOW CRITERIA IS MET

Swift Watch, Owl Prowls, Christmas Bird Counts, Feeder Watch and Breeding Bird Surveys all occur within the City of Guelph annually. Many citizens are engaged in eBird and iNaturalist to record species in their habitats and to seek out new observations.

A Christmas Bird Count has occurred in Guelph for 54 years.

FLAP and Nature Guelph hosted a public event for Global Bird Rescue.

**Points Awarded**  
(for completion by Nature Canada)

# COMMUNITY OUTREACH/ EDUCATION

## SCORING

### ALL LEVELS MUST DO 3.1

#### ENTRY

7 points from at least 3 categories.

#### INTERMEDIATE

9 points from at least 5 categories.

#### HIGH

12 points from at least 7 categories.

**Points Awarded**

*(for completion by Nature Canada)*

# BIRD FRIENDLY TEAM

## LIST OF MEMBERS, AFFILIATION AND CONTACT INFORMATION (M-1)

### *CURRENT AS OF:*

Current as of: June 7, 2022

Guelph's Bird Team consists of the following organizations and individuals:

#### City of Guelph

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#### Bird Safe Guelph

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# BIRD FRIENDLY CITY