

North Grenville in Bloom 2025 Profile Book



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“Gifts from Mother Earth,” presented to the Municipality of North Grenville by local artist Finian Paibomesai in 2022. The original mural is on display in the front lobby of the North Grenville Municipal Centre.

Land Acknowledgement

The Municipality of North Grenville acknowledges that the Municipality operates on the territory of the Anishnabek.

We recognize all First Nations, Métis, and Inuit peoples who now call North Grenville their home. We respect and support the need for cultivating a strong relationship, and we commit to Indigenous-informed decision making to foster the path towards reconciliation.

Phonetic Spelling

Anishnabek (Ah nish naw beck)



Mayor Peckford enjoying the foliage at Rotary Park

A Message from the Mayor

Dear Friends and Judges,

On behalf of Council and the Municipality of North Grenville, I am delighted to welcome you to the 2025 Communities in Bloom celebrations, especially our esteemed judges. We are so proud to showcase the beauty, spirit, and civic pride that are blossoming this – and every – year in North Grenville.

Communities in Bloom is a celebration of environmental stewardship, community involvement, and collaboration – bringing together individuals, organizations, and municipalities to encourage vibrant, livable, and beautiful communities. North Grenville is proud to be part of this national movement.

Our commitment to enhancing and protecting our natural environment shines through in places like the peaceful trails of the Ferguson Forest Centre or the Kemptville Campus. This year’s theme of Edible Gardens is reflected in the many spaces where residents grow and share food – from backyard plots to community-supported agriculture initiatives – including the lovingly volunteer-maintained Giving Garden, and our shared Community Garden on the Kemptville Campus.

Our many green spaces – including our proud achievement of the still recently re-invigorated Riverside Park – reflect the care and dedication of our residents, volunteers, municipal staff, and community partners.

We encourage everyone to take part in supporting North Grenville’s Communities in Bloom submission by sharing photos for our website and profile book, and by exploring the beauty of our community in person.

As you enjoy our landscapes and gardens, I invite you to discover more. Visit our charming hamlets – Oxford Mills, Bishop’s Mills, and Burritt’s Rapids – each with its own unique character and heritage. Explore Kemptville’s vibrant downtown, featuring local shops, artisans, and eateries. Take in the arts, stop by the Farmers’ Market, or even paddle Kemptville Creek, our own personal branch of the historic Rideau Canal.

It is my sincere hope that the 2025 Communities in Bloom experience fosters new friendships, meaningful partnerships, and a renewed sense of connection. Thank you for being part of this special event. Let’s continue to celebrate, grow, and bloom – together.

Nancy Peckford

Warm regards,

Mayor Nancy Peckford
North Grenville

Vision

North Grenville is a caring, vibrant, and cohesive community, where growth is sustainably managed to enhance the quality of urban and rural life for all. The community's 10-Year Strategic Plan reflected the insights of almost 2,000 public participants, advisory committee members, community groups, Council, and municipal staff who engaged in the process.

The plan is based on a foundation of five Strategic Pillars:



Balanced and Environmentally Sustainable Growth



A Strong, Connected, and Vibrant Community



Diverse and Resilient Economic Development



Efficient Governance and Service Delivery



A Caring Community



About North Grenville

The Municipality of North Grenville is a fast-growing community, with over 18,000 residents, located directly adjacent to the southern border of the City of Ottawa along Highway 416.

- Population: 18,000 +
- Land Area (square kilometres): 351.9km²
- Public Outdoor Recreation Space: 12.92km²
- Bike Paths and Lanes: 20.6km
- Trails: 47.5km
- City Capital and Operating Budget to Support Festivals and Events: 9.77%
- Total Number of Dwelling units: 6,440
- Housing Starts: 165 (46 housing, 119 apartment units)
- Issued Building Permits thus far in 2025: 144
- Number of Businesses in North Grenville: 1,769



History of North Grenville, Celebrating 27 Years

The Corporation of the Municipality of North Grenville was established January 1, 1998, through the amalgamation of the Township of Kemptville, South Gower Township, and Oxford-on-Rideau Township.

First Nations peoples lived in the Ottawa Valley by the Rideau River for thousands of years prior to European settlers arriving to this area in the 1780s, and on the lands of what is now known as North Grenville. The Rideau River has a rich history of First Nations peoples trading up and down the river.

When European settlers came to claim the lands under the British Crown, the United Counties of Leeds and Grenville (UCLG) were established in 1850. Through the establishment of the UCLG, the early Hamlets of North Grenville were incorporated, and named to distinguish themselves.

Oxford-On-Rideau (now known as Oxford Station) was incorporated in 1850, with Kemptville being a part of this township until its incorporation in 1857. Oxford Station was



once a stop for the Bytown (now Ottawa) and Prescott Railway system, with the train stopping in Oxford Station, bringing farmers hardware and supplies, and picking up cheese and eggs to deliver to Ottawa.

South Gower Township was incorporated in 1834, but was settled much earlier, and includes Heckston and Peltons Corners hamlets.

Peltons Corners was once a main through-way for stagecoaches. Heckston was once an overnight stop on the long stagecoach trip from Prescott to Ottawa.

Bishops Mills was settled in 1840 by Chauncey and Ira Bishop and is a rural village. The Bishops Mills cemetery houses the remains of the village's earliest pioneers, and dates back to 1862.

Burritts Rapids is the oldest settlement along the Rideau Canal in North Grenville, and once bustled with the construction of the Rideau Canal from 1827- 1831.

Oxford Mills houses the original general store, and the original iron vault (now The Brigadoon restaurant), the historic Maplewood School (now the Community Hall) and the original stone Town Hall.



Tidiness and Community Appearance

Municipal By-Law Enforcement

The Municipality of North Grenville is very committed to keeping a tidy and welcoming environment for all visitors and residents.

Multiple By-Laws have been enacted to maintain the Municipality, enforced by three By-Law Officers, and one Manager of By-Law Services.

- Property Standards By-Law (32-98A)
 - » Prescribes standards for maintenance and occupancy of property within the Municipality
- Yards By-Law (46-07)
 - » Requires the owners of private property to maintain their lands in a safe and clean manner
- Smoking By-Law (57-15)
 - » Prohibits the smoking of tobacco in buildings and vehicles owned or leased by the Municipality of North Grenville, within nine (9) metres of the entrance or exit of those buildings, and within 20 metres of a playground, sporting field, or spectator area
- Parks By-Law (113-16)
 - » To regulate and promote the responsible enjoyment and use of parks and facilities
- Care of Roads (9-16)
 - » Care of roads within the Municipality

Street Cleaning

The Municipality keeps its streets clean through an annual street sweeping of urban and subdivision streets. Street sweeping is essential to maintaining public streets by removing debris, dirt, leaves, and more from roads, sidewalks, and curbs. The sweep ensures the Municipality maintains its commitment to a well-kept and visually pleasing community for residents and visitors to enjoy.

North Grenville Fire Service (NGFS)

Following accidents or natural disasters, the NGFS assists with sweeping debris off the road after accidents, and spraying down the roads, along with removing other various natural debris.



Parks, Trails, and Public Space Maintenance

- Regular cleaning and maintenance: the Municipality schedules routine litter removal, debris clearing, grass cutting, and pruning of trees and shrubs for Municipal property.
- Waste management: trash bins, recycling containers, and waste collection services are in public spaces to promote proper waste disposal and management.
- Landscape care: the Municipality mows, waters, fertilizes, and provides weed control to Municipal parks and land.
- Playground and equipment maintenance: playgrounds and recreational equipment in public spaces are inspected, maintained and replaced by the Municipality to ensure it meets safety standards.
- Seasonal care: depending on the season, the Municipality provides ice and snow removal in the winters, and leaf collection and fall cleanup take place in autumn.



Grants

- The Municipality provides Façade and Signage Grants to assist businesses with maintaining a high-quality appearance.

Residential/Business and Institutions

North Grenville Chamber of Commerce (NGCC)

In May 2023, the NGCC purchased benches shaped like open books to enhance the beauty of downtown Kemptville. These artistic benches, which have been featured in Sign Media Canada magazine, are prominently installed along Prescott Street, including in front of the North Grenville Public Library.





Adopt a Tree/Bench/Park/Trail

The Adopt-A-Park/Trail Program is a cooperative program designed to encourage organizations, businesses, and individuals to volunteer and assist the Municipality in the enhancement of local parks and trails through provision of in-kind labour for clean-ups, monitoring/reporting hazards, and/or to contribute financially toward improvements/enhancements.

Environmentally conscious volunteers may donate their time to help create a cleaner community and enhance the environment by collecting debris along trails. Minor monetary contributions would be utilized to enhance the area surrounding the trail such as through the addition of wayfinding/interpretive signage, picnic tables etc. Major monetary contributions would be utilized for replacement, rehabilitation, or construction of park infrastructure or portions of the trail system where missing linkages have been identified.

For those adopting a section of the trail system or park, the Municipality would provide a certificate of appreciation and erect and maintain signs recognizing the contribution of Adopt-a-Park/Trail participants at the approaches of designated areas.



PITCH-IN CANADA

Many North Grenville residents take part in Pitch-In Week at the Municipality. PITCH-IN CANADA is a national, community-based organization comprised of eco-action and community volunteers who believe that maintaining a quality environment and encouraging civic pride is everyone’s responsibility. PITCH-IN CANADA encourages voluntary action to keep communities clean, beautiful and to restore and maintain a healthy environment.

North Grenville Scouting Youth and North Grenville Girl Guides

In celebration of Earth Week, North Grenville Scouting Youth (Bears, Cubs, Scouts, and Venturers), as well as the North Grenville Girl Guides, took to garbage pickup at Riverside Park, the River Trail, Curry Park and Waterfront Trails.

Annual Ferguson Forest and Arboretum Clean-Up

In celebration of Earth Day, volunteers, including members of Friends of the Ferguson Forest, gather at Anniversary Park to clean up waste throughout the Ferguson Forest and Arboretum. The group plans to make this an annual event.



Kemptville Campus

The Kemptville Campus has a mission to renew the lands and buildings of the former Kemptville Agricultural College and turn them into a thriving education and community centre. The campus covers almost 630 acres of land, including forests, wetlands, farmland, and a “village” of buildings, soccer fields, and other recreational facilities. The Campus’ work is guided by the pillars of education and learning; health and wellness; and economic development - all within an overarching framework of climate change resilience.

Kemptville Horticultural Society (KHS)

The Kemptville Horticultural Society oversees the public planting and maintenance of Rotary Park and Ferguson Forest’s Giving Garden

Local Community Associations

Historically, local Community Associations (including the Burritts Rapids Community Association, Kemptville District Community Association, Bishops Mills Community Association, and Oxford Mills Community Association) have called upon volunteers to assist with maintaining their



community halls (some historic halls). The maintenance calls included basic repairs, painting, weeding, planting, landscaping, and other maintenance calls.

Ferguson Forest Centre, Kemptville Disc Golf Club, and Kemptville Winter Trail

All three organizations come together to maintain their shared space. For example, in the winter seasons, the Kemptville Winter Trail (KeWi), a sanctioned cross country ski club, grooms the trails in the winter, maintains their fire-pit structure, clubhouse, and storage building. The Kemptville Disc Golf Club maintains their disc golf course, and their nets are used for the sport. Ferguson Forest assists with maintaining trails and receptacles in the area.

- Local Golf Courses
 - » Hire staff or contractors to perform maintenance activities
- Private Cemeteries
 - » Hire staff or contractors to perform maintenance activities



Environmental Action

From tree planting and urban forestry to community gardens and waste management programs, the Municipality (residents and businesses included) is dedicated to Environmental Sustainability and creating a greener future and green economy.

Municipal

NGtransit

NGtransit is North Grenville's first universal public transportation service, launched January 15th, 2024. It offers residents a reliable, convenient, and eco-friendly travel option transportation option, significantly enhancing local connectivity. Last July 2024, we completed a thorough mid-year performance evaluation covering service reliability, ridership patterns, customer satisfaction, and operational efficiency to ensure NGtransit continues to meet the needs of our growing community.

In the first full year of operation (to December 2024), NGtransit completed over 8,000 trips, serving approximately 8,484 passengers.

In spring 2025, NGtransit was honoured as a Finalist for the Transportation Association of Canada's (TAC) Small Municipalities Achievement Award, which celebrates innovative transportation initiatives in communities under 100,000 residents.

Building on this success, North Grenville recently secured up to \$719,000 in OTIF funding to support a new fixed-route commuter service to Ottawa's Limebank Station and expand on-demand transit within our borders.



About NGtransit:

NGtransit is North Grenville's municipal-wide, on-demand transit service offering:

- Service seven (7) days a week
- On-demand booking and the ability to schedule trips in advance
- A variety of ways to book a ride (phone, app, online)
- One-way fares and thirty (30) day pass
- Specialized service for riders with accessibility needs and users of our current accessible system - including door-to-door service and the ability to book rides within a shorter time frame

By-Law Enforcement

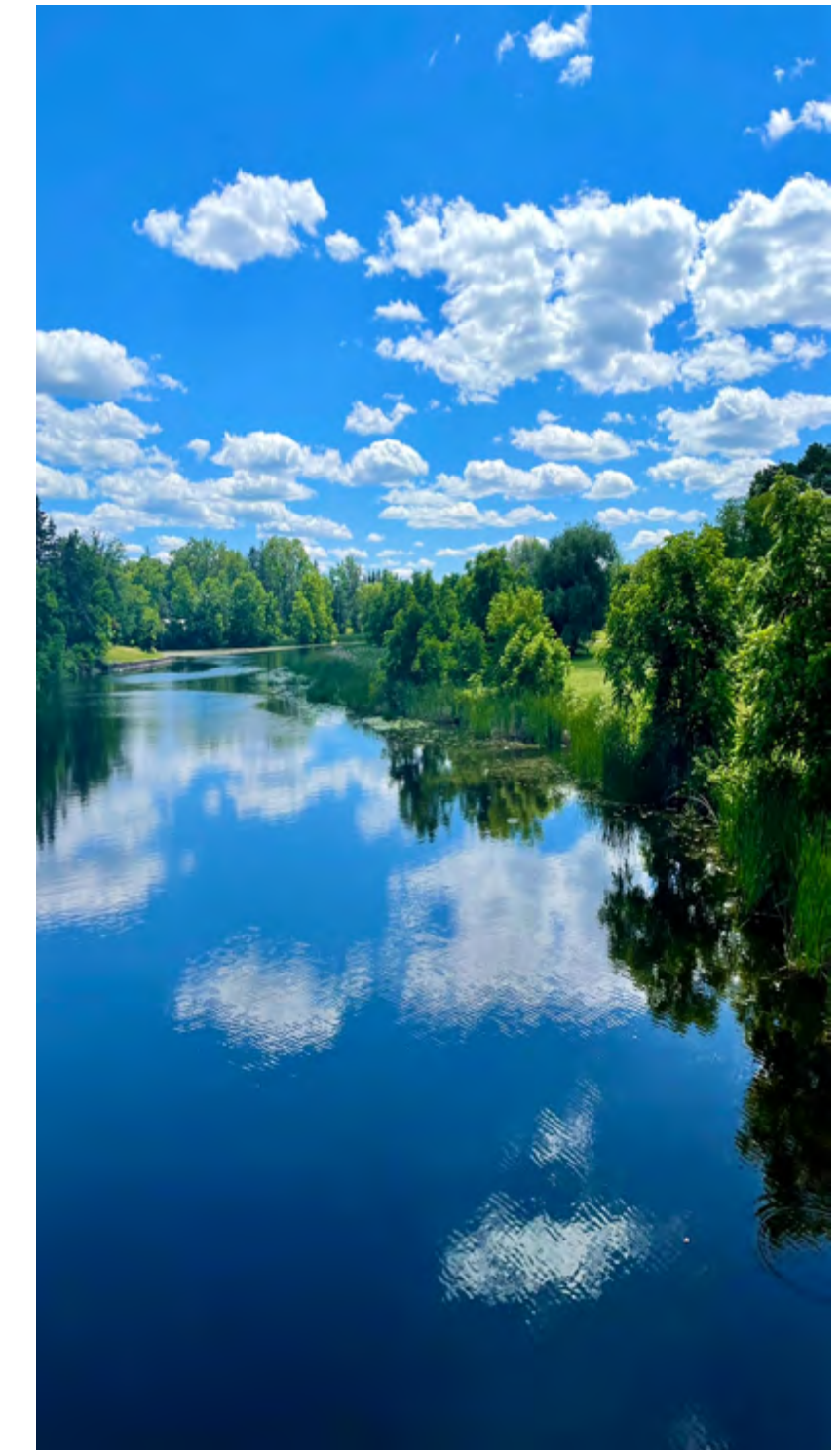
- Garbage and Recycling Collection By-Law (7-21)
 - » Regulates the management, collection, removal and disposal of recyclables, source separated organics and waste material in the Municipality of North Grenville.

Water-Use Reduction

- Consumers are billed based on the amount of water they consume (with the use of water meters), which incentivizes residents and businesses to use less water.
- A third party comes to the Municipality annually for leak detection on the water distribution system. This aids in preventing water from being lost/wasted before it reaches the consumer.
- In water billing inserts, the Municipality includes water saving tips. Tips include how to check if your toilet is leaking, and more.
- Public Education: Using less water is not only good for the water supply but has other benefits too. When we use less water, we also use less energy (from the water pumps turning on less), less chemical (less sodium hypochlorite required) which has its own environmental cost (the production of the chemical, the shipping, the plastic containers it is packaged in), and a reduced load on the wastewater plant.
- The Municipality must have a source water protection plan to protect the groundwater from contamination. The Rideau Valley Conservations Authority (RVCA) does most of this work on our behalf. Source water protection plans focus on safeguarding the natural areas, such as lakes, rivers, and underground aquifers where our water comes from. The plans identify potential threats and risks to these water sources, including pollution, industrial activities, or urban development. Strategies and policies are implemented to prevent or minimize these risks to ensure our drinking water remains clean and safe.

Municipality of North Grenville Declared a Blue Community

A Blue Community recognizes the importance of protecting its water supply to ensure clean, safe water for generations to come.





As a Blue Community, the Municipality of North Grenville recognizes water as a fundamental right, which entitles everyone to access clean and safe water.

The Municipality of North Grenville installed water filling stations in the arena lobby in 2016 and will continue to promote local well or municipal tap water. Moving forward, the Municipality will remove bottled water from vending machines and when possible, encourage events within the Municipality to use potable water.

Two new water filling stations have been installed in downtown Kemptville. One is outside of the North Grenville Public Library, which permits visitors and residents access to water at no cost while exploring downtown. The second station, as part of the Revitalization of the Riverside Park project, has been installed to ensure park-goers stay hydrated while enjoying the area.

Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion

The North Grenville Wastewater Plant expansion involves a series of upgrades to increase its capacity and efficiency. The process includes the installation of advanced treatment technologies, expansion of current facilities, and integration of new infrastructure to accommodate a growing population. This project aims to enhance environmental protection, support economic growth, and ensure reliable wastewater management for the community’s future needs.

Waste Management

- The Municipality contracts Emterra Group/Emterra Environmental (Emterra) to deliver comprehensive waste management and recycling services that promote long-term environmental sustainability.
- Recycling Initiatives: Emterra operates recycling facilities that recover valuable materials from various waste

streams. This helps divert waste from landfills, conserves natural resources, and reduces greenhouse gas emissions linked to manufacturing from raw materials.

- Material Recovery Facilities (MRFs): Emterra’s MRFs use advanced technologies and sorting systems to maximize the recovery of recyclable items. Materials are sorted, processed, and prepared for reuse, minimizing landfill contributions.
- Organics and Composting Program:
 - » Emterra provides weekly green bin collection, 52 weeks a year, as part of North Grenville’s long-term waste diversion strategy.
 - » Prior to the program’s launch, over 50% of household garbage (by weight) was found to be compostable organic material.
 - » In 2021, the Municipality set a goal to divert 30% of organics from landfill; progress is tracked through weigh-slip data.
 - » Composting organic material helps reduce methane emissions and enriches soil, supporting both environmental and financial sustainability.



Oxford Mills Waste Transfer Station

- Waste Sorting and Recycling: The transfer station has designated areas for residents to sort and separate their waste into various categories. Proper waste sorting promotes recycling and reduces the amount of waste sent to landfills.
- Energy Efficiency Measures: The Transfer Station, much like the Municipal Office, adopts energy efficiency measures such as energy-efficient lighting, and optimizing energy consumption.
- Environmental Monitoring: There are networks of wells, surface water locations, and neighbouring residential wells that are monitored in accordance with a set plan by the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks. The Transfer station reports the results back annually.
- Agreements: The Municipality has agreements with organizations to manage the materials that are diverted from landfill. Management of these materials is Provincially regulated and organizations that accept our diverted materials must process the materials that comply with the provincial regulations.



Bi-Weekly Garbage Pick-up and Bag Tags

The Municipality incentivizes residents and businesses to be more conscious of their waste generation and disposal habits by maintaining bi-weekly garbage pickup, and bag-tags required for garbage pickup.

This has prompted individuals to form conscious purchasing decisions, and increased awareness of waste generation, and to opt for alternative disposal options and methods.

Active Transportation Infrastructure

North Grenville promotes active transportation options such as walking and cycling and invests in bike lanes and trails to encourage residents to choose sustainable transportation methods.

Tree Planting and Urban Forestry

North Grenville engages in preservation of green spaces to enhance biodiversity and improve air quality.





Environmental Action Advisory Committee (EAAC)

The EAAC provides information to residents on environmentally sustainable practices and offers advice to the North Grenville Municipal Council on initiatives to promote a green economy, and researches and gathers information on best environmental practices for communities, with a focus on changes to be made at the Municipal level.

Residential

Kemptville Youth Centre Electronic Waste Recycling Program

- Provides a 24/7 e-waste drop-off depot at 5 Oxford Street West.
- Accepts a wide range of electronics: computers, phones, TVs, printers, monitors, and more.
- Proceeds support local youth programming at the Kemptville Youth Centre.
- Diverted over 52 tonnes of electronic waste from landfills in 2020 alone.
- Promotes environmental responsibility and youth



empowerment through community-based action.

North Grenville Habitat Gardeners (NGHG)

The NGHG is enriching the community’s biodiversity by implementing naturalization projects at various locations within the Municipality of North Grenville, including Kemptville Campus and Crozier Park in Oxford Mills.

The group aims for these initiatives to support their long-term goal of transforming one-third of the current lawns into bio-diverse gardens.

Sustainable North Grenville (SNR)

Made up of North Grenville residents committed to creating a more sustainable community, SNR’s mission is to cultivate a resilient community that fulfills the social, cultural, and economic needs of its residents both now and for the future, while safeguarding the environment’s capacity to support it.

Recycling and Waste Management

Residents sort their waste and compost organic materials.

Water Conservation

- Many residents make use of rain barrels (sold at the Municipal Office and Waste Transfer Station) to water their gardens.
- Many homes opt for water saving fixtures.
- The North Grenville Girl Guides held a fundraiser selling rain barrels, supporting their international trip.

Kemptville Farmers’ Market

- Kemptville Farmers’ Market runs from May to October on Sundays, and supports the Environment by promoting waste reduction, supports local farmers, and aids in preserving farmland, and reduces food miles.
- Supporting local farmers by purchasing fresh, locally grown food is an environmentally conscious choice that contributes to a more sustainable food system.

Community Clean-Up Events

- PITCH-IN CANADA* previously mentioned.

Business and Institutions

Kemptville Campus

The Kemptville Campus has a mission to renew the lands and buildings of the former Kemptville Agricultural College (KAC) and turn them into a thriving education and community centre.

The Campus covers almost 630 acres of land, including forests, wetlands, farmland, and a “village” of buildings, soccer fields, and other recreational facilities. The Campus’ work is guided by the pillars of education and learning; health and wellness; and economic development - all within an overarching framework of climate change resilience.



- **Native plants and habitats:**
 - » The first meeting of the North Grenville Habitat Gardeners was held in 2023 in the Kemptville Campus Greenhouses, led by Philip Fry. The group discussed planting a naturalized, pollinator-friendly area of the campus near the greenhouses. The Campus is pleased to support this initiative that will help support our fragile pollinator population and provide educational opportunities for schoolchildren and members of the public.
- **Climate Change Resilience:**
 - » The Campus has a mandate to champion climate change resilience in all it does. What we grow and how we grow is a big part of that commitment. To think through their role and develop a plan, the Campus has been networking with other organizations involved in the local food, agriculture, and horticultural communities. Campus staff visited the new Climate Change Arboretum in Glen Elbe in May—this is a great partnership between the Thousand Islands Watershed Land Trust and the Leeds-Grenville Stewardship Council. The Campus will host their volunteers on a reciprocal visit in late July.





- **Kemptville Campus Greenhouses**
 - » The Campus' long-serving Greenhouse Manager, Claude Smith, continues to engage volunteers and the broader community in growing activities in the AJ Logsdail Greenhouses. She spends the spring and fall on campus working with local growers and others who enjoy the community space.
 - » The Greenhouse, alongside the Horticultural Society, hosts an annual Kemptville Seedy Sunday in March- every year it's a raging success!
 - » Claude and other guest speakers have offered workshops this spring to local schoolchildren interested in learning about plants.
 - » The Kemptville Horticultural Society hosted a successful Spring Plant Sale in May 2024.
 - » The Campus' old poly greenhouse sadly collapsed following a heavy snowfall. It is expected to be replaced this upcoming winter. That will provide additional growing space for local farmers, flower wholesalers, or other small businesses looking to extend their growing season.
 - » Space is available for rent in the main greenhouse for anyone interested! You can read more here: www.kemptvillecampus.ca/opportunities



- **Kemptville Campus Community Garden**
 - » The Kemptville Campus Community Garden (KCCG) is led by a group of community volunteers and supported by the Campus. The community garden offers a vibrant, inclusive public space to share food growing skills and build community.
 - » In 2023, a new allotment garden was established at the corner of Curtis Drive and Campus Drive, to provide space for local residents and community organizations to grow their own food. Start-up funding for the project was secured through the Municipality of North Grenville's Community Grants Program and the Kemptville Horticultural Society. Garden volunteers worked in partnership with Campus staff to design and build the garden and its infrastructure.
 - » In the garden's first year, 26 plots were rented out to garden members, spanning all levels of garden experience. Now in its second season, the community garden has taken on new members and hosts many visitors - from local arts groups holding paint nights, to school tours, to visits from Communities in Bloom judges. One plot is managed by the North Grenville Learning Co-operative (also a campus tenant), with many little hands helping to grow and harvest the food!

- » All are welcome to visit the garden - the Campus asks that you not harvest any crops without asking a gardener first, as their members are growing food for their households. Surplus produce is donated weekly throughout the growing season to the Kemptville Food Bank, Beth Donovan Hospice and other community groups.
 - » To learn more about the Kemptville Campus Community Garden, book a tour, or be added to the waiting list for a plot, please contact Leela Ramachandran, KCECC Programs Manager at lrachandran@kemptvillecampus.ca.
 - » Visit the Kemptville Campus Community Garden Facebook page to learn about upcoming events at the garden!
- **AgriFood Business Course**
 - » In 2023, Kemptville Campus partnered with the Conseil des écoles catholique de centre-est (CECCE) and Académie catholique Notre-Dame (ACND) to offer a new high-school course in Agri-Food Business at Kemptville Campus. Students from multiple school boards participated, gaining a unique opportunity to visit and learn directly from local farm business owners through monthly field trips. They also studied online and in person, learning how food is grown, processed,



- and distributed in Eastern Ontario.
- » For their class project, the students created an online directory of local foods and agricultural products in the North Grenville region, including fresh produce, meat, flowers, honey, soap, maple syrup, and more! Visit their website to learn more about what foods are produced in our region and how you can find them.
- **School Workshops on Local Food Systems**
 - » Building on the AgriFood Business Course, Kemptville Campus has begun offering school workshops on Local Food Systems. These workshops can be a half or full day, and can be tailored to a group's level and particular interests. Workshops can include interactive learning activities, hands-on projects, and site visits of our community garden, greenhouse and sugar bush. They can be hosted on campus or delivered at your location.
 - » Topics include:
 - What is a Food System?
 - Benefits/challenges of Local Food
 - Exploring our local food system
 - How can students engage with local food?
 - Hands-on projects can include school gardens, composting, growing plants for sale, creating local food inventories, and more





- **Incubator Kitchen Project**
In 2023, Kemptville Campus conducted a feasibility study to explore the creation of an incubator kitchen. The facility would offer affordable, local kitchen space to launch and grow small food businesses. It would also offer specialized training and business supports, building a network of local food producers and processors who collaborate and learn together. Our vision is to support a vibrant local food system in Eastern Ontario, with thriving food businesses and retail opportunities, celebration and promotion of local food, and increased connections between growers, producers, processors and eaters. Based on the results of the feasibility study, the Campus is looking at next steps including reearching operating systems and programming for a potential incubator kitchen.

- Kemptville Campus is pleased to partner with community food and farming organizations to host regional events around food and farming, including:
 - **Eco Farm Day, February 24 2024** - in partnership with Canadian Organic Growers and Community Futures Grenville, the Campus welcomed nearly 200 participants to this longstanding event. Farmers and others working in the organic farming and food sector across Eastern Ontario and Western Quebec joined the Campus for a full day of learning, networking and sharing with peers and experts in the sector. Participants and organizers were very pleased with the experience, and they look forward to hosting the event annually going forward.
 - **Good Food in Schools, April 11 2024** - hosted in partnership with Foodcore Leeds Grenville Lanark, The Table Community Food Centre and the Leeds Grenville Lanark District Health Unit, this one-day event brought together stakeholders working on school food education and programs across Eastern Ontario. Educators and staff from five school boards were joined by parents, volunteers, and community food organizations to share their efforts to create healthy and positive school food

environments. From the newly announced federal universal school meal program to school gardens, grow towers, greenhouses and cafes in our community, participants were engaged and inspired. In response to attendee feedback, the Campus looks forward to making this an annual event.

Ferguson Forest Centre

According to the Ferguson Forest Centre, “The Ferguson Forest Centre is a non-profit corporation operating a social enterprise tree nursery and managing recreational and conservation lands in the Municipality of North Grenville.” The Ferguson Forest Centre’s mission is to operate the tree nursery and utilize its profits to:

- Promote awareness and interest in forestry (in particular, afforestation and sustainable forest management)
- Maintain, enhance and promote the responsible use and stewardship of the recreation and conservation lands managed by the Ferguson Forest Centre for the benefit of the residents of North Grenville”
- Afforestation: The act or process of establishing a forest or stand of trees especially on land not previously forested. Afforestation has been one of the most talked-about methods of dealing with global warming.



- Sustainable Forest Management: Sustainable Forest management maintains and enhances the long-term health of forest ecosystems for the benefit of all living things while providing environmental, economic, social, and cultural opportunities for present and future generations. <http://biomassnorth.org>

“Simply put, we cannot survive on this planet without forests. In a sense, they breathe for the Earth, absorbing carbon dioxide from our atmosphere, and producing the oxygen we require in return. And by storing that carbon, forests help to regulate the global climate, absorbing nearly 40 percent of the fossil-fuel emissions we humans produce.”
- www.rainforest-alliance.org

Ferguson Forest Centre. (n.d.). About. Retrieved July 18, 2023, from <https://www.fergusonforestcentre.ca/about#>

Friends of the Ferguson Forest:

The Friends of the Ferguson Forest is an organization comprised of a volunteer Board of Directors, public members, and community volunteers & sponsors.

The Friends of the Ferguson Forest Centre supports the preservation and enhancement of the Ferguson



Forest Centre, its Tree Nursery and the public lands it manages. The Friends provide a strong community voice, educational programming, and opportunities for community involvement.

Indigenous and First Nations History

North Grenville has a rich Indigenous and First Nations history. Before European settlement, the Ottawa Valley region was inhabited by Indigenous peoples, primarily the Algonquin Nation, for thousands of years. European colonization and the establishment of settlements in the 19th century significantly impacted the Indigenous communities in the region, causing displacement, loss of land, and the imposition of new systems disrupted Indigenous ways of life.

It is important to acknowledge and respect the Indigenous and First Nations history and ongoing presence in North Grenville.

Heritage Conservation

Municipal

The Municipality has played a crucial role in heritage conservation to preserve and protect the cultural and historical assets within the Municipality through Heritage Designation, Heritage Planning Policies, Heritage Conservation Guidelines, and Public Education. The Municipality also collaborates with the North Grenville Historical Society to enforce knowledge-sharing, public programming, and resource sharing to enhance heritage



conservation efforts. Development control and review is conducted to ensure that new construction, renovations, or alterations to heritage properties are in line with heritage conservation objectives.

The following properties have been designated under Part 4 of the Ontario Heritage Act as being architecturally and/or historically significant, by the Municipality.

- **Acton's Corners School S.S. No. 6**
 - » This school was the second to be built on this land; the first school on the property was constructed in 1858. The original school building was then torn down in 1905, and Acton's Corners School was then constructed in the same year shortly after.
- **Alphaeus Patterson Bakery**
 - » This building was first cited as a bakery in the Land Registry Abstracts on May 7, 1888.
 - » The bakery is centred around its original wood fired



brick oven, which has served the community for over 120 years.

- **Arcand Homestead**
 - » Despite the lands of Lot 3 Concession 8 being held by the Crown until 1872, the Arcand ("Arcaw") family settled on the land as early as 1853, and perhaps earlier. Initially a log house was constructed on the property, prior to the current dwelling.
 - » During renovations of the present residence in the 1990s, a newspaper from 1892 was found between the log walls and the interior strapping on the ground floor.
- **Armouries**
 - » Constructed in 1914, the Armouries were designed and built as a military drill hall during the First World War.
 - » Much of the building was forced to be re-constructed after being damaged by a fire in 1933.
- **Bishops Mills Temperance Hall**
 - » Constructed in 1878 as a temperance hall by the Independent Order of Good Templars; these halls were erected across Ontario towards the end of the 19th century to combat the perceived problem of excessive drinking.
- **Burritts Rapids Dam**
 - » The remains of the dam across the Rideau River at Burritts Rapids are designated as historic with architectural value. Towards the end of the 19th century, the dam provided waterpower for a cloth mill, grist mill, shingle mill, and sawmill.
- **Centennial Residence, 8 Mary Street**
 - » Constructed around 1867, 8 Mary Street is a one-and-a-half story L-shaped clapboard house with flat corner boards and flat trip.
- **Former Carnegie Library**
 - » The first library in Kemptville was established in 1870.

- **Former North Grenville District High School**
 - » It has cultural heritage value for its physical/design values, its historical/ associative values, and its contextual values.
- **Frenche's General Store**
 - » Constructed as a general store in 1862.
- **Lyman Clothier House**
 - » A deed is the earliest documentation mentioning the dwelling, indicating that it was constructed in 1842 at the latest.
- **Maplewood Public School S.S. No. 8**
 - » Constructed in 1875, formerly known as the Public-School S.S. No. 8, Maplewood Hall is a one Storey stone building located in Oxford Mills.
- **Old Kemptville Town Hall**
 - » Constructed in the 19th century.
- **Oxford-on-Rideau Township Hall**
 - » Constructed in 1875 and designated a national historic site of Canada in 1984, the Hall served as the seat of government until 1998.
- **Richey Waugh's General Store**
 - » Constructed between 1842 and 1846.
- **S.S. No. 3 (1847)**
- **S.S. No. 3 (1881)**
- **St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church**
 - » Constructed sometime around 1880.
 - » Originally called the Central Presbyterian Church.
- **St. John the Evangelist Church**
- **The Leslie Block**
 - » The building dates to 1862, and construction purposes for the building were unknown. Documents from the 19th century indicate it had two commercial enterprises on the ground floor, with residential quarters on the second floor.



Waterfront Access Strategy

The Waterfront Access Strategy will develop an overall long-term vision for enhancing public use and access to the Rideau River and Kemptville Creek. The study will look at the access for boats and kayaks, the waterfront trail network and recreational amenities in and around waterfront parks. The overall vision for an improved waterfront access and park system is supported by the Municipality's comprehensive framework through the official plan policies, tourism objectives, strategic plan, park and recreation plan, trails strategy and other important design work completed to date (e.g., Terra Marine Walkway project, environmental assessment, etc.). The development of this strategy incorporated many stages of stakeholder and community engagement.

Municipal

Indigenous Advisory Circle

The Indigenous Advisory Circle was formed in 2023, and its purpose is to provide advice and recommendations to the Municipality of North Grenville on Indigenous issues and concern and to promote and support reconciliation between the Municipality and Indigenous peoples. The Circle provides advice on municipal initiatives including providing input on the planning process particularly with regards to stewardship of lands.

Heritage Advisory Committee

The Heritage Advisory Committee advises the Council on heritage matters including architectural, material culture, historical, and natural heritage. This is achieved through conservation and restoration initiatives, education and heritage designation of built environments.

The Committee, working alongside staff and the North Grenville Historical Society, may advise, provide knowledge and expertise, facilitate the work of the organizing body, and act as a liaison between politicians, organizational staff, members of the public about matters of architectural or historical significance.

Residential

Honor Our Veterans Banners - Hometown Heroes

Roy Brown, a past president of the Royal Canadian Legion Kemptville Branch 212, spearheaded the local adoption of the Canada Wide Memorial Banner Program, endorsed



by the Royal Canadian Legion Dominion Command. The Honour Our Veterans Banner Program is an ongoing Remembrance, Cultural, and Legacy Project aimed at recognizing and honoring military veterans who have served, and continue to serve, in the Canadian, Allied, or Commonwealth forces. The inaugural edition featured 14 banners displayed in Downtown Kemptville October through November, showcasing support for this meaningful initiative.

North Grenville Sites of Remembrance - Roy Brown

Dedicated community member and volunteer, Roy Brown, conducted a special project devoting many hours of research to identify and preserve information on North Grenville's Military Heroes. The Sites of Remembrance online memorial is the result of Roy's hard work.

The project is a collection of buildings and places within our community that honour and pay tribute to those that served in the Canadian Army, Royal Canadian Navy, Royal Canadian Air Force, Royal Canadian Naval Reserve and the Military Nursing Sisters, many of whom lost their lives in service of the King, the Queen and our country. Below is the list of the collection of Sites of Remembrance buildings and places in North Grenville:

- Holy Cross Catholic Church
- Kemptville Cenotaph
- North Grenville Historical Society
- North Grenville Municipal Centre
- Pte. Blake Williamson Memorial Hall
- Royal Canadian Legion - Kemptville Branch 212
- St. James Anglican Church

- St. John's United Church
- St. Paul's Presbyterian Church
- Veterans Way
- Veterans Way Memorial Park
- Veterans' Commemorative Park

Kemptville Quilters Guild

Teresa Harrison and Nancy Grundy of the Kemptville Quilters Guild have introduced the Eastern Ontario Quilt Documentation Project (EOQDP) to North Grenville to document the area's history through the art of quilting. This significant historical initiative is a source of pride for North Grenville. The EOQDP acknowledges that quilters have intricately woven their family histories alongside social, economic, and historical events into their creations. Many quilts have been made by re-purposing a variety of textiles, including sugar and flour sacks, fabric scraps from clothing projects, and worn clothing and bedding, all of which hold historical value. Residents have donated quilts, some decades old, to this project, thereby contributing to the preservation of the region's history.



The Kemptville Quilters Guild has donated several quilts for various categories of historical events, including Canadian Wartime Quilts, Annual Quilt Documentation, and Centennial Quilts.

Heritage Homes

Many homeowners who reside in heritage homes make conscious efforts to preserve their heritage homes, many of which are from the 19th century, and around 120 years old, if not more.

Rotary Park Poppies - Brenda Ward

Organizer Brenda Ward has continued her annual tradition of decorating Rotary Park and the Cenotaph on Prescott Street with knitted and crocheted poppies sourced from around the world. The knitting pattern for the poppies was originally borrowed from an Australian organization called 5000 Poppies. To keep the initiative local, Brenda enlisted the help of a local knitting group to create the poppies. The objective of this project is to ensure that locals remember the true meaning of Remembrance Day, with the poppy display being set up for November 11th.

Business and Institutions

North Grenville Historical Society

“The North Grenville Historical Society is a group of dedicated volunteers whose first objective is to arouse and stimulate public interest in the heritage and history of the people and places of the North Grenville area; including the historical townships of Oxford-on-Rideau and South Gower, the historical town of Kemptonville; and the hamlets of Pelton’s Corners, Heckston, Oxford Mills, Burritts Rapids, Oxford Station, and Bishops Mills.”

“We also advance education by improving the public’s understanding and awareness of the history of North Grenville by hosting events, supporting programs, producing educational materials and scholarly articles and operating the North Grenville Archives, which is owned by the Society. The purposes of the Archives are to collect, classify and preserve information and artifacts relating to North Grenville and to maintain this material as a resource centre accessible to members and the general public. Our constitution makes it clear that the Society is to be ‘carried on without purpose of gain for its members, and any profits or gains to the organization shall be used in promoting its objectives.’”

- North Grenville Historical Society. (n.d.). Home. North Grenville Historical Society. www.northgrenvillehistoricalsociety.ca

In 2023, the North Grenville Historical Society has rolled out a project called ‘North Grenville Walking Tours’ that will be available for residents to listen to seven (7) minutes’ worth of historical information as they walk around and visit North Grenville’s historical sights. The North Grenville Historical Society is dedicated to spreading knowledge of local heritage, built and natural, among the community. The Walking Tours are offered in both English and French.

Oxford-on-Rideau Public School

For the second year in a row, Oxford-on-Rideau Public School, in partnership with the Municipality and North Grenville Historical Society invited students to spend a day in a one-room schoolhouse at the historical landsite, Maplewood Hall. This experience allowed students to experience what a typical school day looked like in 1876.

Indigenous Cultural Forest Space

Residents of North Grenville have collaborated with the Ferguson Forest Centre Arboretum to establish an Indigenous commemorative site that honors the culture, traditions, and history of the region, which lies within Algonquin territory. This space will serve as a venue for celebrating Anishinaabe culture and hosting cultural events.



New to the FFC: Mino-jichaag-mtigwaaki
(Good Spirit Forest)

North Grenville Times

Dr. David Shanahan, local historian and North Grenville Times co-owner, has written many articles about the history of North Grenville to spread awareness and education. Some of his articles include Bridge Over Troubled Waters Part 1&2, Lost Lands of the Algonquin, Always Something New in History, The Founding of a Town, and so many more.

B&H Your Community Grocer

For the past 60 years, B&H has been North Grenville’s staple grocery store, supporting local farmers and offering a wide range of local meat, produce, dairy, and groceries. In addition to providing quality products, B&H is a dedicated advocate for the community, frequently fundraising to support local initiatives.

Tree Management/Urban Forestry & Trails

Municipal

Tree Management

North Grenville recognizes trees as important municipal assets that provide environmental, health, and aesthetic benefits. To support this, the Municipality is developing a Tree Asset Management Policy focused on the care, maintenance, and replacement of municipally funded trees in parks and public spaces. The policy will also incorporate native tree buffer requirements for future developments adjacent to municipal parks and trails.



The Environmental Action Advisory Committee is assisting with initial consultation and providing recommendations on both the Tree Asset Management Policy and the development buffer guidelines.

Trails

North Grenville is comprised of many trails that are covered by an abundance of trees and shrubs natural to eastern Ontario. Below is a list of Municipally run trails:

- Creekside Nature Trail - 0.7 km
- Libby Island Trail - 0.5 km
- Multi-use Pathway - 1.7 km
- Rail Trail - 3.5 km
- Recreation Trail - 0.4 km
- Settler's Trail - 3.6 km
- South Gower Fitness Trail - 1.0 km
- Tip to Tip Trail - 2.2 km
- Waterfront Trail - 1.3 Km

The Municipality takes various measures to protect the natural forestry and ensure conservation and sustainability of green spaces:

- Collaboration with Conservation Organizations: Limerick Forest, Kemptville Campus, Rideau Valley Conservation Authority and Ferguson Forest Centre
- Green Space Planning and Zoning: green space planning and zoning has been incorporated in development plans
- Storm water Management: proper practices help reduce erosion and pollution, which can negatively impact forested areas

Municipal trails have maps with informative signage indicating appropriate trail use (ex. Dog walking, hiking, ATV acceptable, etc).

Residential

North Grenville Residents support Urban Forestry and Trails by:

- Adopting Trees/Trails
- Tree Planting and Care
- Trail Stewardship: many residents volunteer to help maintain and clean up local trails.

Business and Institutions

Ferguson Forest Centre (FFC)

Ferguson Forest Centre Arboretum: The Ferguson Centre Arboretum is located on 25 acres (10 hectares) of the Ferguson Forest Centre, with future plans of the Arboretum to include over 45 species of trees and shrubs native to eastern Ontario, and with themed areas, benches and picnic tables. Currently, the Arboretum has a park-like environment ideal for public use and enjoyment, with maintained lawn areas, naturalized and tree planted areas, with stone dust paths and linkages to the FFC trails.

- Ferguson Forest Trees
 - » Ash, Green
 - » Beech, Blue
 - » Butternut
 - » Basswood
 - » Birch, White
 - » Chestnut, American
 - » Catalpa
 - » Cherry, Black
 - » Cedar, Red
 - » Cedar, White
 - » Crabapple
 - » Fir, Balsam
 - » Hemlock
 - » Hackberry
 - » Hickory, Shagbark
 - » Kentucky Coffeetree
 - » Locust, Honey
 - » Mountain Ash
 - » Maple, Hard (sugar)
 - » Maple, Red
 - » Maple, Silver
 - » Oak, Bur
 - » Oak, Red

- » Oak, White
- » Ohio Buckeye
- » Pine, Jack
- » Pine, Red
- » Pine, White
- » Spruce (Colorado, Norway, White)
- » Tamarack
- » Walnut, Black
- » Willow, Peachleaf
- » Willow, Weeping

Ferguson Forest Trails:

- Alf Campbell Trail - 3.9 km
- Beech Trail - 1.1 km





- Chickadee Trail - 1.4 km
- Kinderwood Trail - 0.3 km
- Link Trail - 1.6 km
- Maple Trail - 1.5 km
- Patchell’s Path - 0.5 km
- Turtle Trail - 1.4 km

Kemptville Campus

Urban Forestry:

- The campus suffered tree damage during the ice storm of April 2023-- which made it all the timelier that they were able to do some tree planting later that month. On April 25, staff and volunteers planted Yellow Birch, Highbush Cranberry, White Cedar, Red Osier Dogwood, Silver Maple, Norway Spruce, Staghorn Sumac, Peachleaf Willow, and Black Elderberry trees on campus.



- A variety of larger “caliper” trees were planted around the campus on May 12.
- The Campus has also partnered with On the Bend Sugar Shack to renew the maple syrup operation on campus. Maple sap from 1162 taps in the 18-acre Peter Wensink Maple Forest is processed at our Agroforestry Centre on Bedell Road.
- More generally, the campus has 200 acres of FSC-certified sustainable forests and a professional forest manager, Jim Hendry, who oversees our forest management plan.

Kemptville Campus Trails:

- Barnside Trail - 0.7 km
- Dickinson Trail - 1.5 km
- Discovery Trail - 0.8 km
- Pebble Dr. & Curtis Ave. Trail - 1.0km
- Poplar Grove Trail - 0.9 km
- Sugar Bush Trail - 1.6 km

Peter Wensink Maple Forest

Located on the Kemptville Campus, this 18-acre maple bush is one of nearly eighty producers across Ontario and one of seven in Leeds-Grenville funded through the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership and Ontario’s Maple Production Improvement Initiative.

In collaboration with On The Bend Sugar Shack, the first annual “Fall in Love with Maple” event in North Grenville took place in 2021 at the sugar bush. This event is part of a province-wide campaign in association with the Ontario Maple Syrup Producers Association (OMSPA). The event attracted significant attendance, with 500 people enjoying a pancake breakfast hosted by the Knights of Columbus and over 650 visitors exploring the sugar bush. The day featured live music presented by the Kemptville Live Music Festival,

guided forest tours by registered foresters, and tours of the sugar bush led by the campus forester.

Limerick Forest Trails

North Grenville is lucky to host two public sites of the Limerick Forest. One near the hamlet of Oxford Station and one between Oxford Mills and our neighbours in Merrickville.

In total, Limerick Forest is a 6092-hectare community forest that is owned and managed by the United Counties of Leeds and Grenville (UCLG). We are grateful for the efforts of UCLG staff and the Friends of Limerick Forest, a group of volunteers that do hands on projects to enhance and maintain the forest for all.

- Chalet Loop - South Tract - 3.0 km
- Chalet Loop Cross Country Ski Trail - South Tract - 4.0 km
- Huckleberry Trail - North Tract - 6.4 km
- Jack Henry Snowshoe Trail - South Tract - 1.0 km

Landscape

Municipal

Examples of landscapes that can be found here:

- Rural Countryside: rolling farmlands, open fields, and farmsteads
- Woodlands and forests
- Waterways and rivers: Rideau River, Kemptville Creek
- Historic Villages: Downtown Kemptville
- Parks and green spaces: Riverside Park,
- Anniversary Park, Crozier Park, etc

- Wetlands and marshes
- Trails and natural reserves
- Cemeteries
- Gardens and nurseries
- Conservation areas

County Road 43 Expansion

The expansion of County Road 43 brings significant benefits to North Grenville by enhancing safety, improving transportation infrastructure, and fostering economic growth. With new sidewalks, pedestrian lighting, and bike paths, residents will enjoy safer and more accessible routes for walking and cycling. The upgrades will also ease traffic congestion, support local businesses, and encourage outdoor activities, ultimately contributing to a more vibrant, connected, and resilient community.





Upgrades and Improvements:

- Sidewalks:
 - » New pedestrian pathways for safe and accessible walking.
- Pedestrian Lighting:
 - » Installation of streetlights to enhance safety and visibility.
- Landscaping:
 - » Beautification of the roadway with new plants and greenery.
- Bike Paths:
 - » Dedicated lanes for cyclists promotes safer, eco-friendly travel.
- Community Impact:
 - » Safety Enhancements:
 - » Safer conditions for drivers, cyclists, and pedestrians.
 - » Improvements beneficial for residents, businesses, and daily commuters.
- Construction Impact and Mitigation:
 - » Acknowledged Inconveniences:
 - » Recognized potential disruptions for the public, residents, and businesses.
 - » Mitigation Plan:
 - » Detailed plan to be developed with regular communication.
 - » Measures include defined detours, construction schedules, and information on access to businesses and residences.
- Municipal and County Collaboration:
 - » Municipal Staff and United Counties:
 - » Committed to engaging with affected parties.
 - » Ensuring contractors adhere to mitigation measures throughout the project.



Recent Project Updates:

- Pre-Construction Milestones:
 - » Initial Assessments: Comprehensive surveys and environmental impact studies completed.
 - » Public Consultations: Multiple feedback sessions with local residents and businesses to gather input and address concerns.
- Detailed Engineering Plans:
 - » Roadway Expansion: Plans include widening the road to accommodate increased traffic and improve safety.
 - » Stormwater Management: Upgraded drainage systems to reduce flooding risks and manage stormwater effectively.
 - » Utility Relocations: Coordination with utility providers to relocate services as necessary for the expansion.
- Construction Phases:
 - » Phase 1: Sidewalk and bike path installations along the southern section.
 - » Phase 2: Landscaping and lighting improvements in the central area.
 - » Phase 3: Northern section upgrades including the new pedestrian walkways and road surface improvements.
- Anticipated Benefits:
 - » Economic Growth: Enhanced infrastructure expected to boost local businesses and attract new investments.
 - » Environmental Benefits: Landscaping and stormwater improvements aim to promote sustainability and reduce ecological impact.
 - » Community Connectivity: Improved walkways and bike paths to foster a more connected and active community.
- Ongoing Communication:
 - » Regular Updates: Social media, websites, radio & newspaper advertisements.
 - » Community Meetings: Scheduled quarterly to discuss progress and gather ongoing feedback.



Riverside Park Revitalization Initiative

The Riverside Park Revitalization Initiative, started in 2019, has been designed to offer families, youth and seniors a more enjoyable and inclusive outdoor experience at North Grenville's largest multi-use park.

The revitalization includes:

- New Splash Pad:
 - » Features: Interactive water elements for play.
 - » Cooling: Keeps everyone cool during summer.
- Shade Structure:
 - » Partner: Enbridge - community fund recipient.
 - » Purpose: Provides sun protection for park visitors.
- Refrigerated Outdoor Rink:
 - » Winter Use: Ice skating during winter.
 - » Summer Use: Converted for basketball with new nets.
- Accessible Picnic Tables:
 - » Everyone can enjoy park gatherings comfortably.



- Multi-Use Pathway:
 - » Paving: Scheduled for early June.
 - » Use: Suitable for walkers, strollers, mobility devices, joggers, and cyclists.
 - » Amenities: Benches and two fitness stations along the path.
- Upgraded Sports Facilities:
 - » Lighting: New lights on tennis/pickleball courts.
 - » BMX Track: Upgraded with partners Hurst Marina and MW Lawn and Snow.
- Year-Round Pool House:
 - » Renovation: Transformed into an accessible facility with heated washrooms and changing rooms.
- Community Impact:
 - » Mayor's Vision: Inclusive, accessible, and vibrant community space.
 - » Council's Commitment: Enhancing the quality of life and fostering a sense of community.

- Statements from Officials:
 - » Mayor Peckford: Emphasizes the park's significance and personal motivation.
 - » Councillor O'Sullivan: Highlights the project's contribution to community dynamism and accessibility.

Residential

- Golf Course Communities -e.g. eQuinelle Homes
- Waterfront properties - along the Rideau River.

Business and Institutions

eQuinelle Golf Course

eQuinelle has a beautifully manicured Golf Course/ Landscape in Kemptville.

Rideau Glen Golf Course

The Rideau Glen Golf Course is another beautifully manicured Golf Course/Landscape in Kemptville.

Kemptville Campus

Renewing the landscaping beds

- The Campus hired Premier Turf this spring to rebuild and renew the garden beds around campus. Their work will emphasize native plants and help to bring the campus back to its former glory -- there have already been plenty of compliments and even a few wedding requests coming in for the location!
- The lawns, sports fields, and trails are maintained with care by the Campus' partners at the Municipality of North Grenville's Parks, Recreation and Culture Department.

Plants and Floral Displays

Municipal

The Municipality maintains floral displays at the following locations:

- North Grenville Fire Station #1
- eQuinelle Park
- North Grenville Public Library
- North Grenville Municipal Centre
- Armories
- Canada Post Office
- Rotary Park
- Hanging flower baskets in Downtown Kemptville

Waste Transfer Station

- Municipal staff member, Don Langford, re-purposed several discarded bathtubs into beautiful planters.



Residential

Residents were invited to nominate neighbours and friends for our 'Garden of the Week', to showcase their dedicated work. Some nominations are showcased online on the North Grenville in Bloom Facebook page.

So many North Grenville residents have beautiful floral displays - we wish we could share them all! The judges tour will highlight and display several community member's gardens and floral displays.

Business and Institutions

Village Greening – Burritts Rapids Community Association (BRCA)

Village Greening is a volunteer committee of the Burritts Rapids Community Association (BRCA), dedicated to enhancing the beauty and environmental health of Burritts Rapids.

- The committee was established in celebration of the 175th anniversary of the Rideau Canal's construction through the village.
- Gardens were planted at several key locations including the Parks Canada Lock Station, the Public Library, the Community Hall, and Swing Bridge Park.
- In 2012, Village Greening planted four native maple trees to contribute to the local tree canopy.
- In 2016, a Monarch Waystation/Butterfly Garden was created to support pollinators and native biodiversity.
- The committee continues to actively weed, plant, water, and maintain these community spaces.
- In 2024, Village Greening introduced edible plantings in window boxes, bringing both beauty and local food awareness to the streetscape.



Kemptville Horticultural Society (KHS)

- Annual Plant Sale
- Kemptville Community Garden - hands-on participation
- Hey Day: annual garage sale that benefits the Kemptville District Hospital - KHS manages the plant sale table
- Kemptville's Rotary Park - public planting and maintenance
- Ferguson Forest Giving Garden - public planting and maintenance
- Flower Shows in May and September

The North Grenville Habitat Gardeners (NGHG)

Oxford-on-Rideau Public School has taken on a Habitat Garden project at Crozier Park, in collaboration with the Environmental Action Advisory Committee (EAAC). Crozier Park hosts three Habitat Footprint Gardens, thanks to the EAAC, and will now see a fourth. The project is hands on, with EAAC members mentoring the students.

Wilding Acres

- Flower farming offering handcrafted market bouquets from locally grown, seasonal blooms

Kirk Farm/Lavender Mills Farm

- Family run farm specializing in lavender cultivation and lavender artisanal products, offering seasonal tours, workshops, and events. Visitors can enjoy the beauty of blooming lavender fields, shop for handcrafted goods, and take part in educational experiences centred around sustainable farming and wellness.

JDW Custom Farming

- Hobby farm with an extensive lavender field, and members of the Ontario Lavender Association and the Purple Road
- Products by JDW Custom Farming include:
 - » Fresh farm chicken and duck eggs, pickled eggs, lavender and chamomile herbal tea, lavender, coconut and goji berry herbal tea, music garlic, seasonal fruits and vegetables, forestry services, and lavender sachets.

Kemptville Campus Greenhouse

The Kemptville Campus Greenhouse boasts a collection of beautiful plants and is open to community members for workshops and events. One notable event hosted by



the Greenhouse was the Day Hospice Program, where residents from Beth Donovan Hospice participated in hands-on plant repotting sessions.

Saunders Country Critters and Garden Centre

- Grows over 1,000 varieties of plants including annuals, perennials, herbs and vegetables, and is open every year following the weekend closest to May 1st.

Beth Donovan Hospice

- Beth Donovan Hospice has held vegetable planting workshops for their hospice groups with the assistance of volunteers.



Kemptville Campus Community Garden

- The Kemptville Campus has a community garden for produce for those looking for more land to plant on, and for novices looking to learn from experienced green thumbs.

Rideau Woodland Ramble

- The Rideau Woodland Ramble is an exquisite plant exhibit with multiple gardens interconnected by trails, wildlife, and many different plants.

North Grenville Giving Garden

- The North Grenville Giving Garden is maintained by the Kemptville Horticultural Society and grows fresh produce.

Local Businesses with Beautiful Floral Displays

Many local businesses across North Grenville enhance their storefronts with vibrant floral displays, bringing colour, charm, and seasonal beauty to our downtown and village streetscapes. These efforts reflect community pride and contribute to a welcoming atmosphere for visitors and residents alike.

Examples include, but are not limited to:

- Brigadoon Restaurant
- Countryside Antiques
- Cranberry Hill Animal Hospital
- eQuinelle Golf Club
 - » The Hanna family has built a beautiful floral display and extended their garden onto eQuinelle property
- Get Cronk'd
- Green Gables Vines Winery
- LD's Creations
 - » Creates beautiful garden sculptures from re-purposed household items.
- McDougall Brown - Insurance and Financial
- The Flower Shop



Tour Details:

- Ferguson Forest Centre
 - » Tree nursery
 - » Parks
 - » Veterans Way
 - » Mino-jichaag-mtigwaaki (Good Spirit Forest)
- Kemptville Campus
 - » Community Garden
 - » Greenhouse
 - » Trails
 - » Sugar Bush
 - » Tree planting site
- Rotary Park
- History Hub
- Saunders Country Critters Farm & Greenhouse
- Riverside Park
- Resident Pollinator Garden and butterfly habitat
- Crozier Park Pollinator Gardens
- Maplewood Hall
- Rideau Woodland Ramble
- Burritts Rapids Lock Station – Parks Canada staff
- Equinelle Golf Club
- North Grenville Giving Garden





2025 North Grenville in Bloom - Key Accomplishments

Community Photo Contest:
Launched a community-wide photo contest with categories reflecting Communities in Bloom criteria (Floral Displays, Edible Gardens, Local Heritage, Landscapes, Urban Trails) with public voting and prizes.

Garden Spotlight Program:
Recognized outstanding local gardens with lawn signs and featured them on social media.

NGiB Bloom Bingo Campaign:
Engaged residents through themed bingo cards focused on Pollinators, Invasive Species, Edible Gardens, and Family Gardening, with prize draws and online features.

Library Gardening Kits:
Partnered with the North Grenville Public Library to provide free gardening kits for loan, complete with tools and beginner resources.

Rail Trail Wildflower Patches:
Established pollinator-friendly wildflower gardens along the Rail Trail, with residents adopting and maintaining plots.

Fruit Tree Pollination Map:
Created an interactive map for residents to register their fruit trees and view pollination radius, encouraging biodiversity and better fruit yields.

Downtown Business Bloom Awards:
Recognized and celebrated downtown businesses for outstanding floral and edible garden displays, with categories for all garden sizes.

Bat House Distribution & Mosquito Control Education:
In partnership with the North Grenville Men’s Shed, built and distributed bat houses, providing education on natural mosquito control.

Invasive Species Awareness Campaign:
Led educational outreach on invasive plant identification and control, connecting residents to regional Weed Control resources.

Summer Clean-Up Pilot Project:
Coordinated a mid-season community clean-up to beautify high-traffic areas before the CiB judges’ visit.

Hamlet Sign Adoption Initiative:
Launched a new project encouraging creative adoption and beautification of Hamlet signs throughout North Grenville, with community and staff involvement.

North Grenville Giving Garden Enhancements:
Incorporated herbs into the Giving Garden to increase edible garden diversity and promote community access to fresh ingredients.

Support for Burritt’s Rapids Walking Tours:
Assisted the Burritt’s Rapids community with the promotion and awareness of their heritage-focused walking tours, enhancing local tourism and historical appreciation.

North Grenville - Judges Feedback & Progress Summary

Category	Judges Recommendations (2023 & 2024)	Status (as of 2025 Profile Book)
Tidiness / Community Appearance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Downtown “Clean Sweep” program with BIA• Hydro box wraps with art or branding• Extra downtown clean-up events• Storefront weed control & planters	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✅ BIA & NGiB Downtown Clean Sweep partnership✅ Façade & Signage Grant promotion✅ Regular street sweeping and by-law enforcement✅ Graffiti supported at Skatepark🔄 Hydro box wraps under review🔄 Increased storefront planters still growing
Environmental Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop municipal Tree Policy• Expand Adopt-a-Tree/Bench/Park programs• Incentivize rain barrel use (e.g., tax rebate)• Introduce battery-powered maintenance equipment• Host more environmental education events	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✅ Draft Tree Management Policy in development (with EAAC input)✅ Rain barrel sales ongoing (tax rebate under review)✅ NGtransit launched (promoting sustainable transportation)✅ Invasive Species Spotlight campaign underway✅ Waste reduction and water conservation programs in place🔄 Rain barrel tax incentive pending🔄 2-for-1 tree replacement bylaw under review





Category	Judges Recommendations (2023 & 2024)	Status (as of 2025 Profile Book)
Heritage Conservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Expand school heritage programming• Promote history in business storefronts• Showcase local cemetery as heritage site• Develop Heritage Tree recognition program	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✅ Heritage Advisory Committee active✅ Heritage sites featured in Profile Book and tours (e.g., Oxford Mills, Burritts Rapids, St. James Anglican Cemetery)✅ Indigenous Land Acknowledgement integrated✅ History Hub and Historical Society active🔄 School-based programs in early discussion🔄 Heritage Tree program under consideration
Urban Forestry / Trails	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Create and adopt formal Tree Policy• Start tree inventory• Expand Arbor Day/Green Streets/Tree Education programs• Trail signage improvements• Address pest management with proactive training	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✅ Draft Tree Policy underway (EAAC-supported)✅ Tree canopy/inventory data collection started (GIS/Conservation Authorities)✅ Adopt-a-Park/Trail/Tree programs promoted✅ Ongoing community tree education (NGiB Social Media)✅ Fruit Tree Initiative🔄 Full Tree Inventory pending🔄 Heritage Tree program in future plans🔄 Trail signage updates ongoing (vandalism repair ongoing)🔄 Proactive pest management still needed

Category	Judges Recommendations (2023 & 2024)	Status (as of 2025 Profile Book)
Landscape	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improve gateway/hamlet signage aesthetics• Increase staff IPM/plant care training• More wayfinding signage• Expand volunteer recognition (events, signage)• Address weed control in hardscaped downtown areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✅ Hamlet Sign Adoption Initiative launched✅ County Road 43 landscape and pedestrian improvements underway✅ Garden Spotlights ongoing✅ Bloom Bingo campaign launched✅ More pollinator plantings along Rail Trail✅ Formal volunteer recognition event pending🔄 Wayfinding signage implementation in progress
Floral Displays	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Switch to larger, fewer downtown hanging baskets• Improve watering and fertilization training• Include subdivisions and residential streets on future tours• Expand business and volunteer participation in downtown floral displays• Recognize more residential gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✅ Larger basket size under review (budget-dependent)✅ Garden Spotlight program active✅ Downtown Business Bloom Awards launched✅ Business planter participation growing✅ Garden visits expanded during judge tours🔄 Staff training on watering/fertilizing in progress🔄 Business-level engagement still being grown

