

Putting Down Roots for the Future

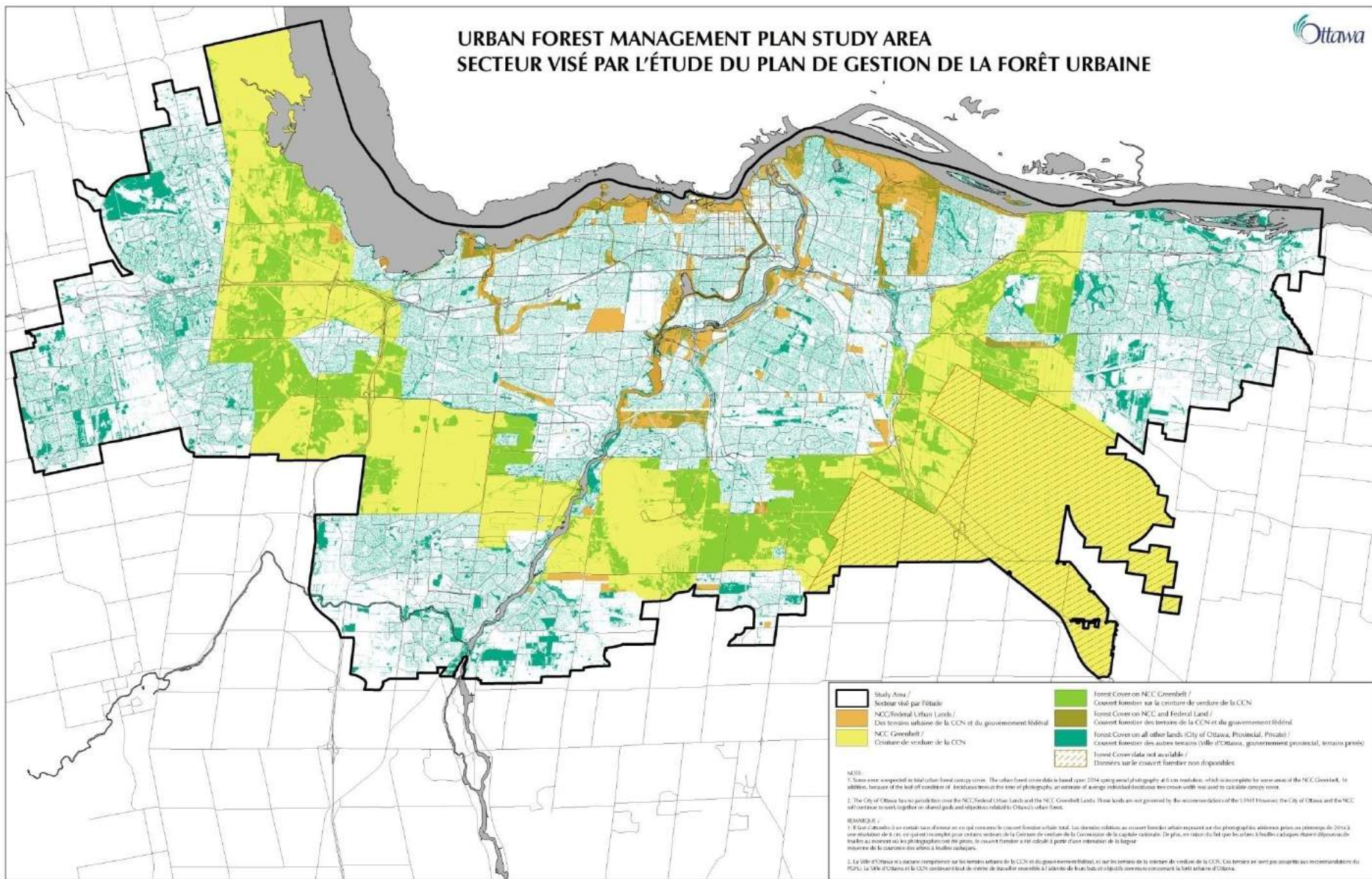
Ottawa's Vision for a Forested Future

EOMF Christmas Forest Seminar



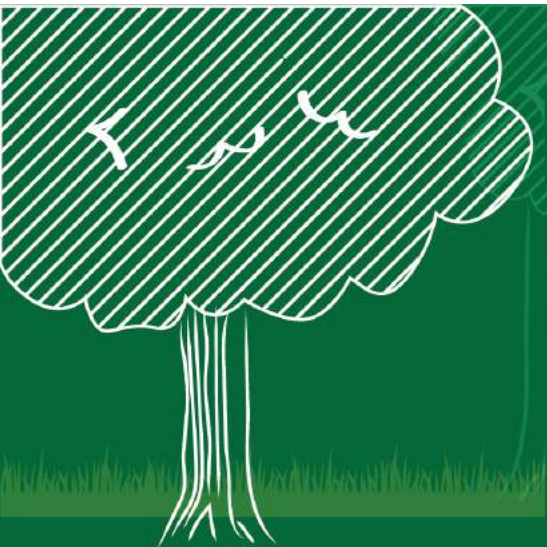
December 12, 2018

URBAN FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN STUDY AREA SECTEUR VISÉ PAR L'ÉTUDE DU PLAN DE GESTION DE LA FORÊT URBAINE



Benefits of Urban Trees





Improve your mental health



Spending time around trees and in urban natural areas helps to reduce stress, anger, fatigue, sadness and anxiety and it also helps to increase energy.



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Time to get physical

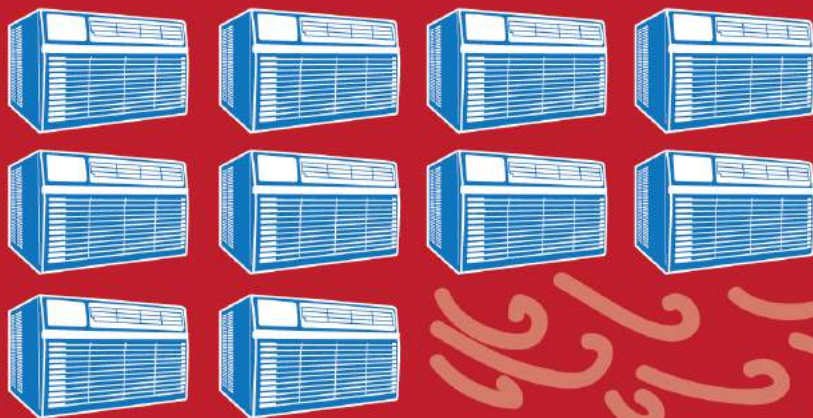
Neighbourhoods with trees and natural areas promote physical activity which benefits health and well being.



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Cool off when it's HOT!



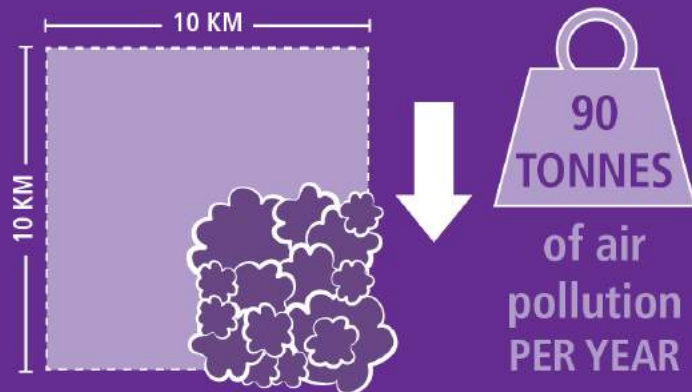
The evaporation from a single tree can produce the cooling effect of 10 room size air conditioners operating 20 hours a day.



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Breathe Clean Air



Trees produce oxygen as they break down carbon dioxide. A 10 x 10 km area with 25% tree cover can remove 90 tonnes of air pollution per year.



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Protect yourself!

A tree's shade provides natural protection against UV rays.



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Urban Forest Management in Ottawa

Forestry – Public Works & Environmental Services

Natural Systems – Planning, Infrastructure and Economic Development

Parks - Planning and Operations

Development Review Planning

Urban Design

LRT

Transportation Planning

Roads Maintenance

Ottawa Public Health

Asset Management

Economic Development

.....and so on.....

Challenges to the Urban Forest

- Land use change and development
- Invasive species
- Difficult growing conditions
- Tree loss on private property
- Need for integration
- Inadequate tree protection



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Putting Down Roots for the Future

- A 20 year strategic Urban Forest Management Plan for Ottawa, 2018-2037
- Recognizes the value of the City's urban forest
- Supports community's commitment to continued and improved stewardship
- A structured approach to protecting and enhancing the services provided by the urban forest

Putting Down Roots for the Future

- The UFMP will enable the City to:
 - Protect and manage existing trees more effectively;
 - Achieve greater success in tree establishment;
 - Increase the urban tree canopy; and
 - Engage the community in support of urban forest sustainability.
- Implemented jointly by PWES and PIED
 - Will guide work planning process

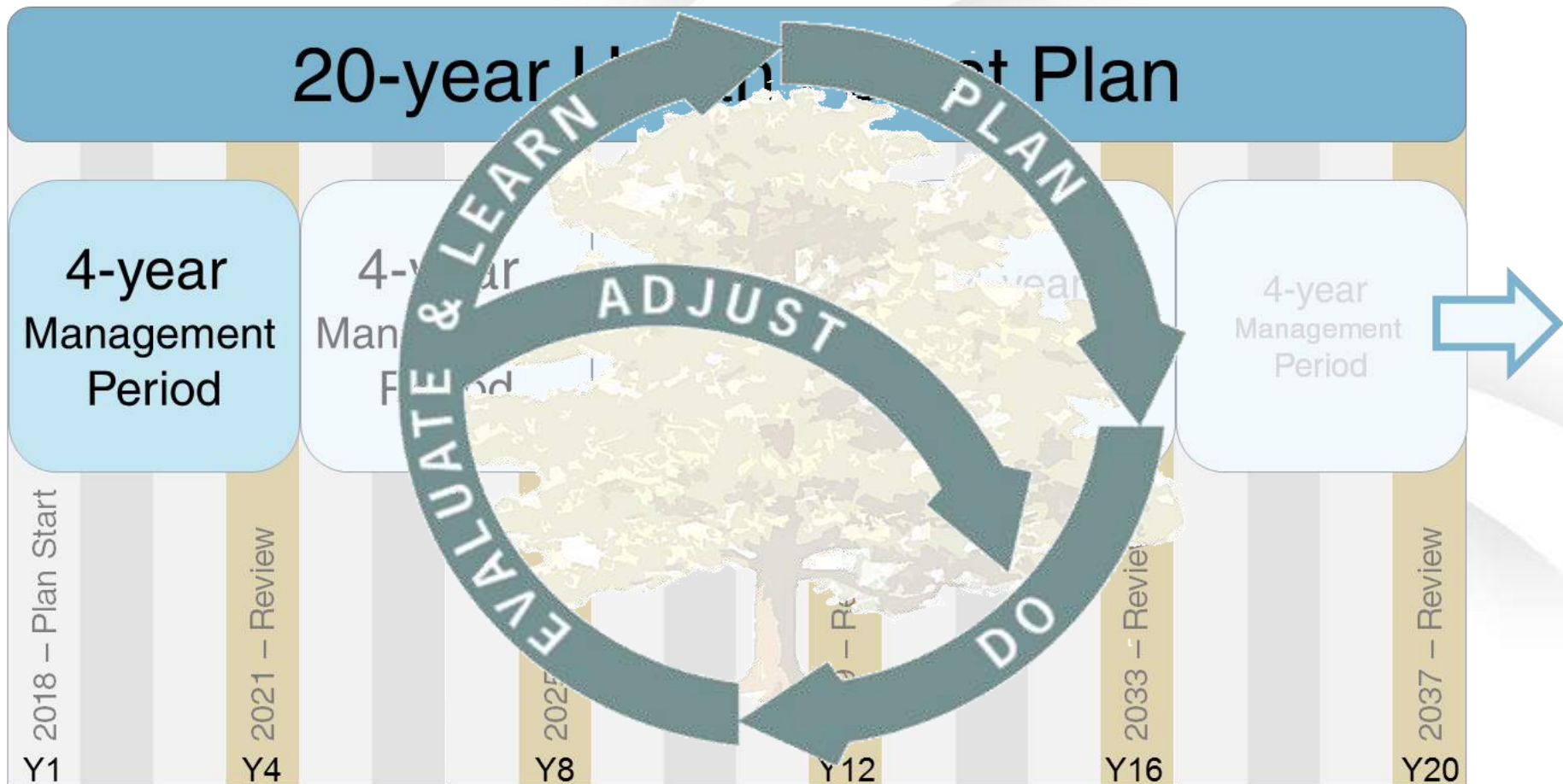
An Urban Forest Management Plan for Ottawa

- Community and stakeholders calling for a more strategic approach
- Concept of a “forest strategy” in Official Plan
- Term of Council Strategic Initiative (SI 24)
- Bill 68 – Policies in place to protect and enhance tree canopy in the municipality
- Emerald Ash Borer

A Community Built Plan

- Consultation process was positive and key to the development of the UFMP
- Two phases of consultation
- Over 200 people participated in each phase
- 5 Public Sessions, 2 Online Surveys
- External Stakeholder Group
 - 25+ groups represented
 - 4 meetings
- Internal Stakeholder Group

UFMP Framework





Putting Down Roots for the Future

Ottawa's Urban Forest Management Plan

Ottawa's urban forest is healthy, diverse, resilient, and always growing. It sustains vibrant, liveable and unique neighbourhoods and promotes health and well-being equitably for all of the city's residents and visitors.

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Objectives of Ottawa's Urban Forest Management Plan

Sustainability

Protection and
Establishment

Improve
Knowledge

Community
Engagement

Resilient,
Diverse,
Functional

Minimize Risk

Proactive
Management
and Resources

Putting Down Roots for the Future



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UFMP Implementation

- 26 Recommendations to be implemented over the first two management periods
- To be jointly Implemented by Forestry & Natural Systems



UFMP FIRST MANAGEMENT PERIOD 2018-2021

#	Description of Recommendation	Lead
2	Internal & External Working groups	NSEP
3	Urban Forest Inventory Collection & Maintenance	FMU
4	Urban Forest Canopy Study	NSEP
5	Asset Management	NSEP/FMU
6	Improve policy implementation through internal outreach and engagement	NSEP
7	Significant Woodlands	NSEP
8	Review of Tree By-laws: a. Municipal Tree By-law b. Urban Tree Conservation By-law c. Heritage Tree By-law	FMU NSEP NSEP
14	Tree Compensation Guidelines	NSEP
24	Incentives for tree conservation	NSEP
9	Tree Planting and Establishment Guidelines: a. Greenfield Areas (Street Tree Manual) b. Existing Conditions c. Urban Hardscapes	NSEP FMU FMU
13	Review City tree planting programs	FMU
11	Assumption of trees in new developments	FMU
12	Forested Areas Maintenance Strategy	FMU
22	Expand Community Engagement, public education	FMU
23	Outreach and engagement strategy	FMU

Canopy Cover Study

- To establish appropriate urban forest canopy cover targets for Ottawa based on potential canopy cover.
- Current canopy cover
- Maximum potential canopy cover using land cover data
- Target – possible planting area
- Tree planting prioritization tool

Municipal Trees & Natural Areas Protection By-law

- Protects all trees on City land across Ottawa.



Urban Tree Conservation By-law

Two parts:

1. Land > 1 hectare, trees $\geq 10\text{cm}$ in diameter
 - Implemented through Tree Conservation Report and development review
2. Land ≤ 1 hectare, trees $\geq 50\text{cm}$ in diameter
 - Distinctive trees
 - Implemented by Forestry Services with a distinctive tree permit process

Tree By-law Review

- Review & update both tree by-laws
- Investigate the need for a heritage tree by-law, program, registry
- Develop city-wide compensation guidelines
- Identify & formalize incentives for encouraging tree conservation & planting
- Revise City processes and procedures related to tree retention & implementation of tree by-laws

Where will we be in 5 years?

- Better protection of trees, better mechanisms in place to enforce tree by-law
- Value of urban trees recognized throughout all City departments
- A complete urban forest canopy study and tree planting prioritization tool
- Integration of Ottawa's urban forest into CAM
- Overall a more proactive urban forest management program for Ottawa.

THANK YOU



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