



Notice

Natural Heritage Network Study – Phases 2-4 Environmental Management Guideline

NATURAL HERITAGE NETWORK INVENTORY AND IMPROVEMENTS – PHASES 2-4

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT GUIDELINE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

The City of Vaughan is seeking input from the public on the draft Environmental Management Guideline (EMG). The EMG sets out the general requirements for specific studies, such as an Environmental Impact Study or Master Environment and Servicing Plan, in support of development applications with the potential to impact the Natural Heritage Network (NHN).

The City of Vaughan Official Plan (VOP 2010), adopted by Council in September 2010, designates a Natural Heritage Network which is made up of significant natural features such as valleylands, wetlands and woodlands. This study aims to confirm its boundaries and composition, and set targets for its refinement and improvement over the long term.

The overall NHN Study will assess the role of the existing NHN in maintaining elements of biodiversity and ecological functions for the long term, consistent with Section 2.1.2 of the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS). At the completion of all phases of the NHN Study, additional NHN areas may be proposed to meet ecosystem targets for the natural heritage system related to biodiversity persistence and maintaining ecological function.

The EMG has been revised to reflect the designation of a Natural Heritage Network in the VOP 2010 and policy changes to bring the VOP 2010 and the EMG into conformity with the PPS (2005) and the revised Natural Heritage Reference Manual (2010). Public comment on the EMG will be integrated with the public consultation program for Phases 2 through 4 of the NHN Study and reported on at that time.

A copy of the draft Environmental Management Guideline is available at:

http://www.vaughan.ca/projects/policy_planning_projects/natural_heritage/Pages/default.aspx.

Additional information may be obtained from Tony Iacobelli, Senior Policy Planner (Environment) of the Policy Planning Department at (905) 832-8585, ext. 8630.