

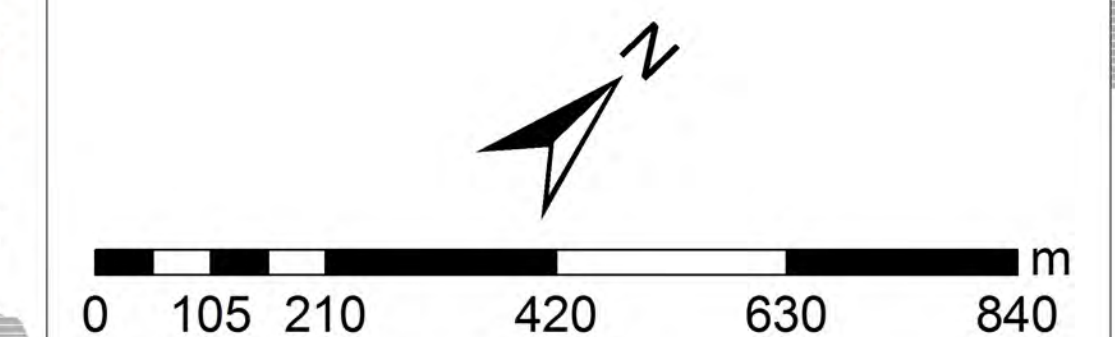
# NATURAL HERITAGE SYSTEM



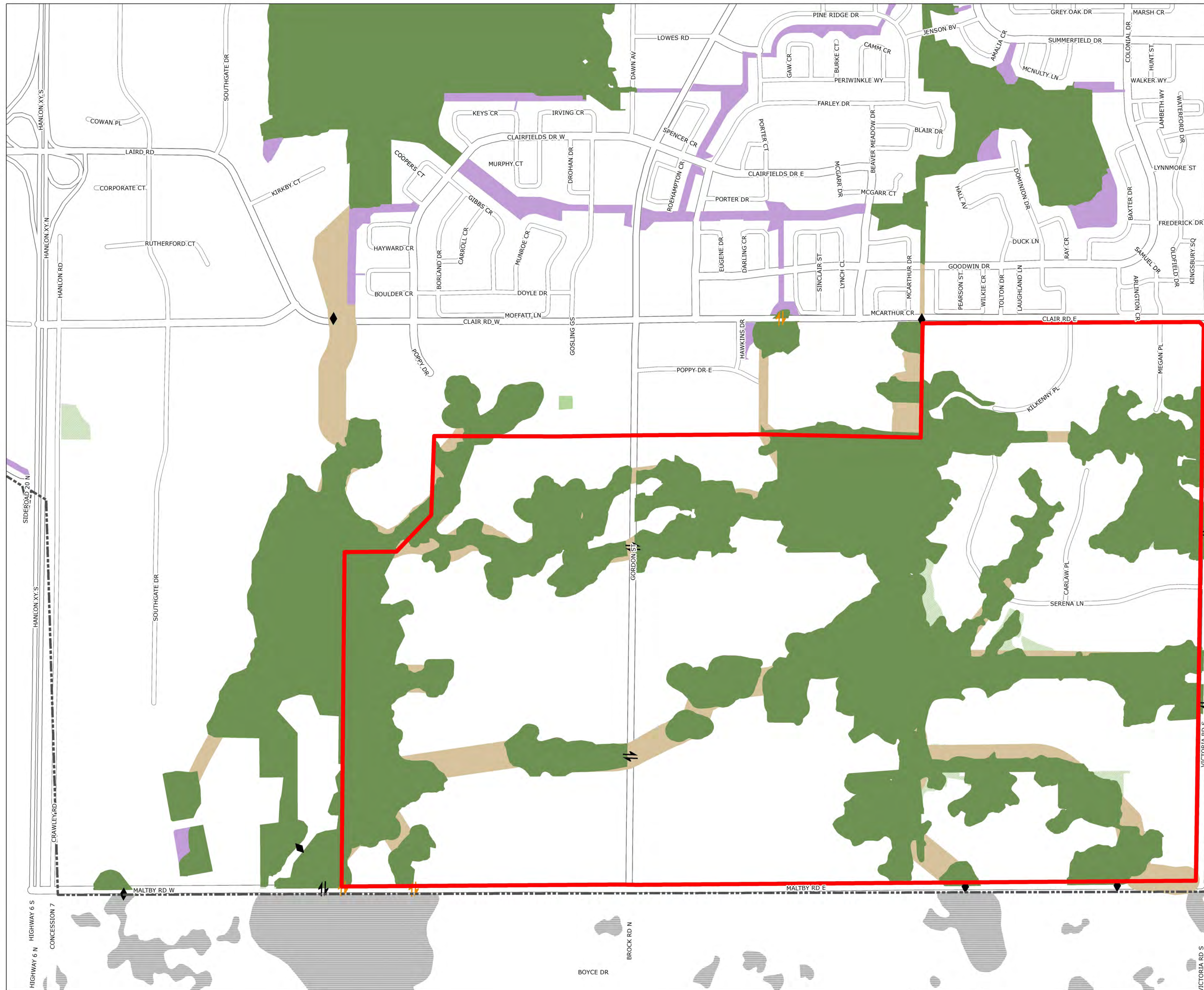
2001 Official Plan, September 2014  
Consolidation  
**SCHEDULE 10:**  
**NATURAL HERITAGE SYSTEM**  
Natural Heritage System  
**Clair - Maltby**  
**Secondary Plan**

- Legend**
- City Streets
  - Future City Streets
  - County Roads
  - Railways
  - Watercourses
  - Waterbodies
  - Corporate Boundary
  - County of Wellington Greenland System
  - Natural Heritage System**
  - Significant Natural Areas
  - Significant Natural Areas\*
  - Ecological Linkages
  - Restoration Areas
  - Natural Areas**
  - Natural Areas\*
  - Natural Areas Overlay
  - Wildlife Crossings**
  - Deer Crossings
  - Amphibian Crossings
  - Other Wildlife Crossing Opportunities

\*Note: Significant Natural Areas and Natural Areas designations include minimum buffers, where applicable.



Produced by the City of Guelph  
Development Planning  
August 2015

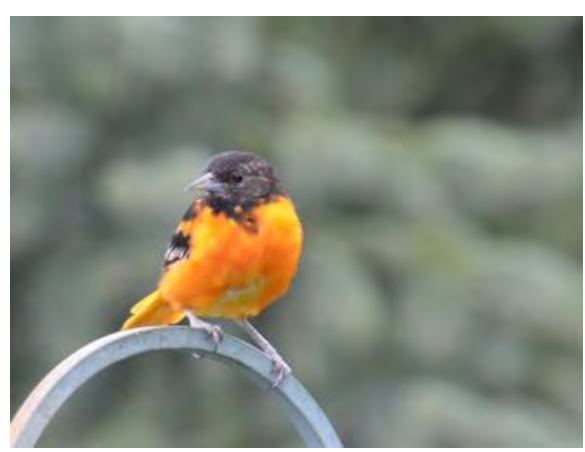
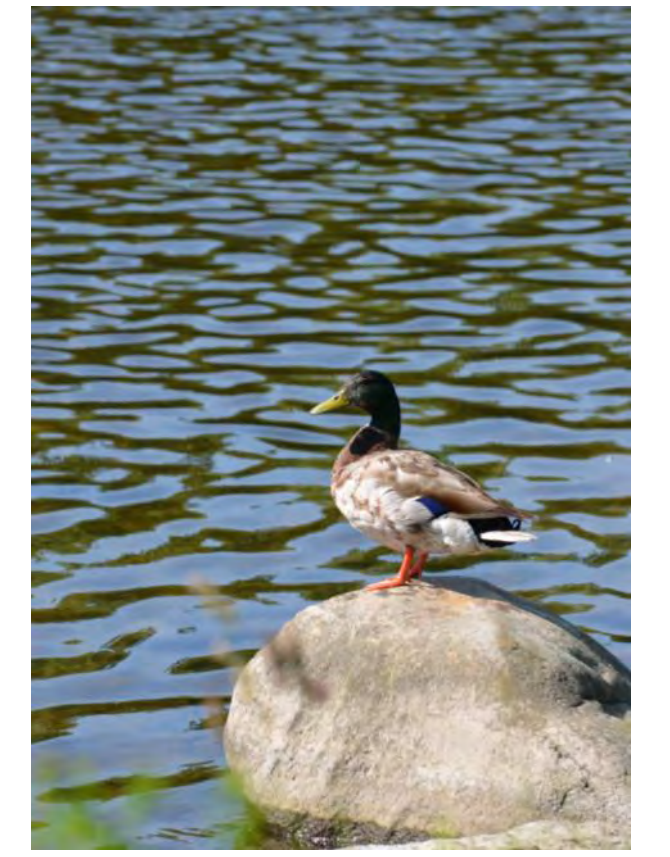
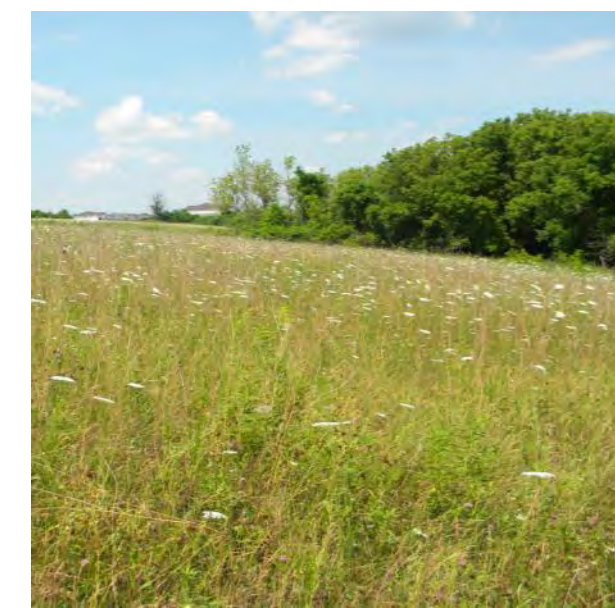
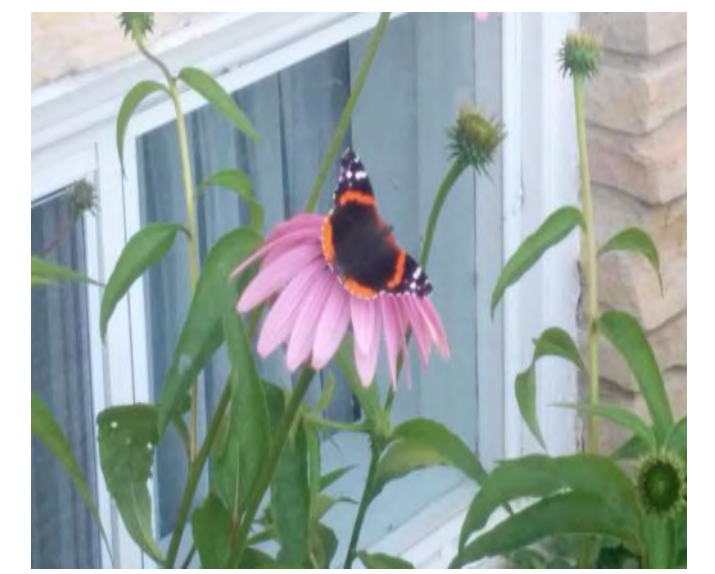


# NATURAL HERITAGE SYSTEM

One of the City's most valuable assets is its natural heritage system.

How the City protects, maintains, enhances and restores its natural heritage system is part of an environment first approach for managing the natural heritage features and areas in the city.

Our natural heritage system contributes to enhancing the quality of life within the city by protecting a wide range of natural features and ecological services, while also providing natural and open spaces for leisure activities and enjoyment opportunities for residents and visitors.



The City's Natural Heritage System (NHS) is made up of a combination of natural heritage features and areas, including:

- Significant Wetlands and Other Wetlands;
- Significant Woodlands and Cultural Woodlands;
- Significant Valleylands;
- Significant Wildlife Habitats, including Ecological Linkages and Habitats for Significant Species;
- Habitats of Endangered and Threatened Species;
- Significant Landform;
- Restoration Areas; and
- Wildlife crossings.

## URBAN FOREST

The Urban Forest includes all of the City's trees and forest resources from Significant Woodlands to individual and groups of trees, hedgerows, other wooded areas and plantations.

A healthy urban forest improves our quality of life. Trees, plants and shrubs help clean the air, conserve energy and make Guelph's neighbourhoods more beautiful and enjoyable.

Guelph is working to maximize the health and size of its urban forest, and is committed to working towards a 40% overall canopy cover target by 2031. To succeed, the City, residents, businesses and community partners must work together to increase the size and health of Guelph's urban forest.

To assist in this the City developed an Urban Forest Management Plan - a 20 year plan that will allow the City to shift to proactively and adaptively manage the urban forest on both public and private land. This Plan provides the City with recommendations and tools to move forward in a practical and progressive manner.

# PARIS GALT MORAINE

The Paris Galt Moraine generally consists of hummocky belts or ridges that run in a northwest to south east direction.

The glacial influences that shaped the moraine provided opportunities for depressions, kettles and kettle lakes to form. This along with the rolling and hummocky nature of the moraine, support many local wetland features including Halls Pond.

The nature of the Moraine's closed depressions create areas where there is little to no external runoff occurring which then contributes to areas of locally increased infiltration and/or local wetland features.

The Clair Maltby area is entirely situated on part of the Paris Galt Moraine.

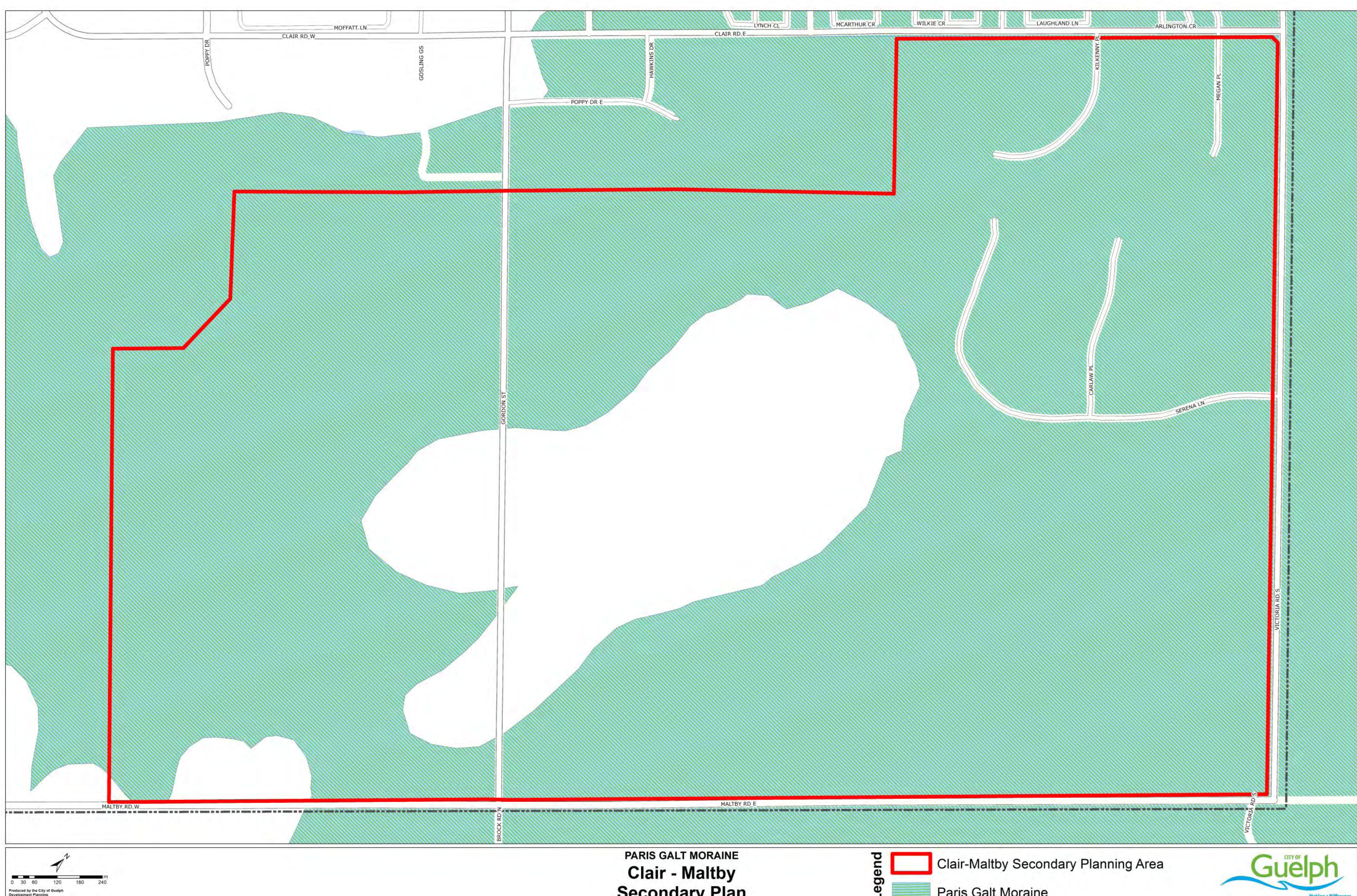


## SIGNIFICANT LANDFORM

Areas in the Natural Heritage System referred to and mapped as "Significant Landform" include Significant Portions of the Paris Galt Moraine.

These areas capture parts of the Moraine that contribute to City's geological diversity, provide connectivity and continuity to the City's Natural Heritage System, support ground water features, hydrologic functions and biodiversity.

The Official Plan policies that support the protection of Significant Landform are aimed at protecting the hummocky topography and related functions of the Moraine for the areas that have been identified as being "Significant".



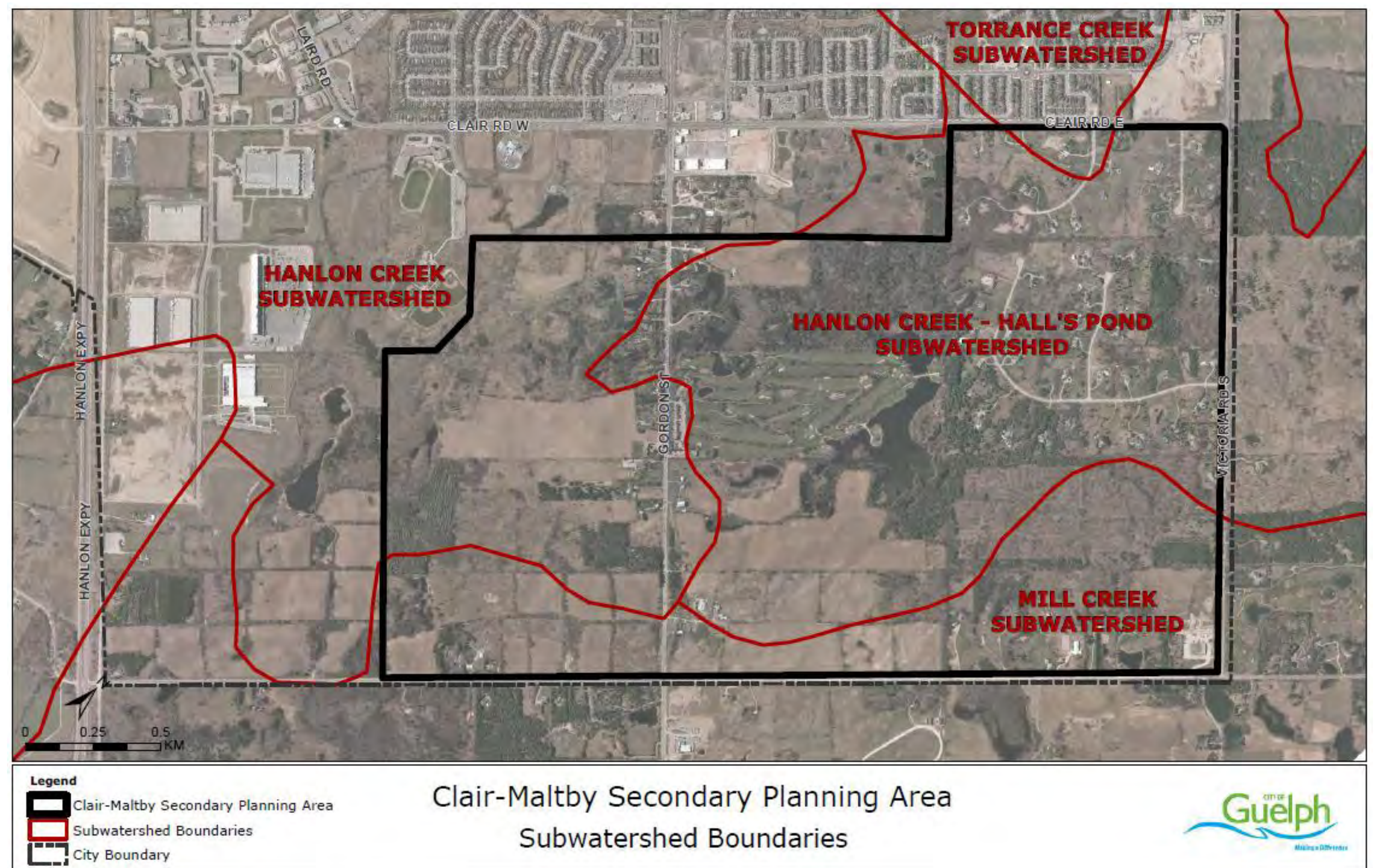
# WATER RESOURCES

The City is dependant upon it's water resources for supplying drinking water for residents and businesses in the community, and supporting natural heritage features like the Speed and Eramosa Rivers including their tributaries, as well as fish habitats and wetland ecosystems.

## SUBWATERSHEDS WITHIN CLAIR-MALTBY

### Hanlon Creek

Last updated in 2006 the Hanlon Creek Subwatershed study recognises parts of the Clair-Maltby Area as an important head water and recharge area that supports Hanlon Creek. This includes the area associated with the Halls Pond Provincially Significant Wetland.



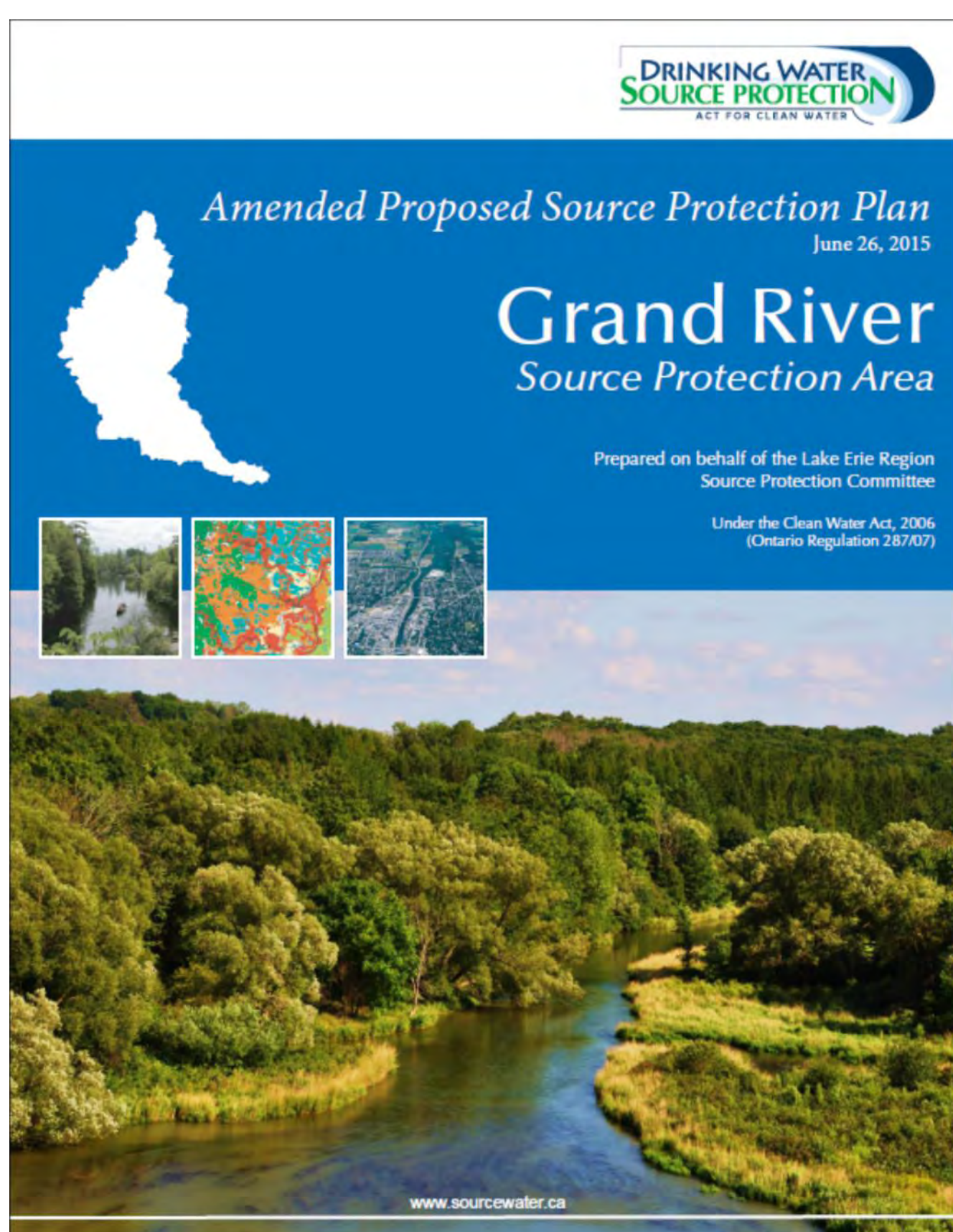
### Mill Creek

The 1996 Mill Creek Subwatershed Study recognised the Clair-Maltby Area as an area of ground water recharge supporting base flow functions for Mill Creek. The stream corridor for Mill Creek is located outside of the City in Puslinch Township and Cambridge where it meets the Grand River.

### Torrance Creek

While little of the Torrance Creek subwatershed is within the Clair-Maltby area, this area represents the “top end” of the subwatershed. The 1999 Torrance Creek Subwatershed Study recognizes that same area likely provides mostly deep bedrock aquaifer recharge functions - rather than contribute to base flows in Torrance Creek.

## SOURCE WATER PROTECTION



The Source Water Protection studies (i.e. the Approved Grand River Source Protection Area Assessment Report) completed to date have identified the Clair Maltby area as a significant groundwater recharge area.

The Proposed Source Protection Plan for the Grand River Source Protection Area was recently submitted to the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change for review. The City of Guelph anticipates that the Minister will approve the Plan by the end of 2015. Policies associated with water quantity protection will be developed over the next few years and the resultant policies will be included as an amendment to the Source Protection Plan.

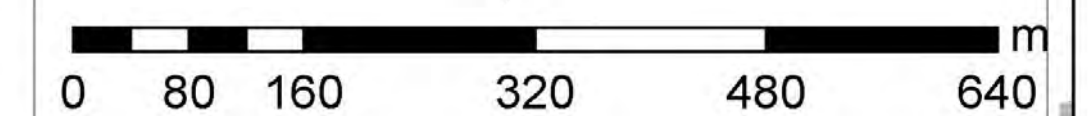
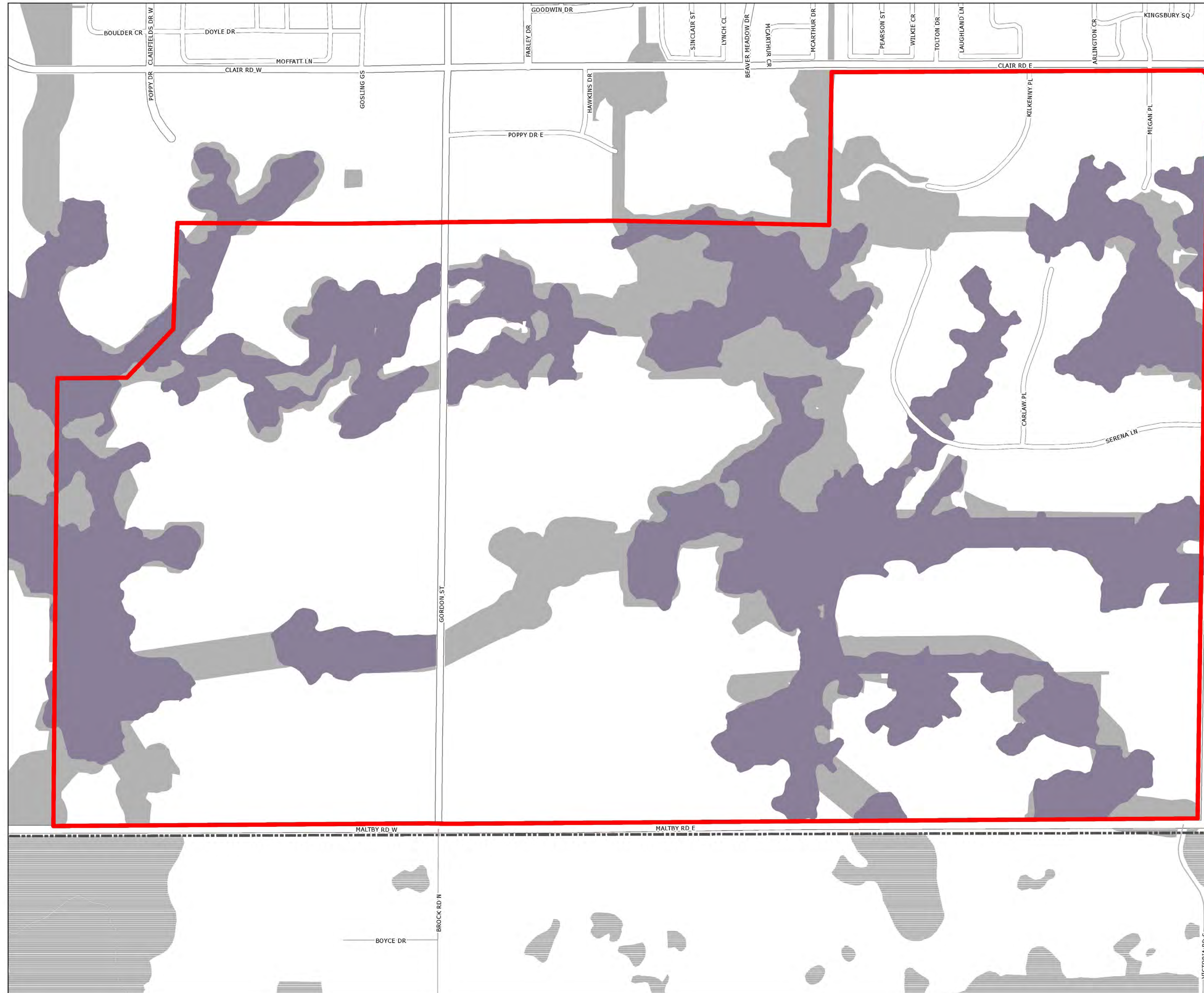
# SIGNIFICANT VALLEYLANDS & SIGNIFICANT LANDFORM



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 SCHEDULE 10D:  
 NATURAL HERITAGE SYSTEM  
 Significant Valleylands &  
 Significant Landform

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  - Corporate Boundary
  - County of Wellington Greenland System
  - City of Guelph Natural Heritage System
- Significant Natural Areas**
- Significant Valleylands**
- Undeveloped Portions of the Regulatory Floodplain
  - Other Valleylands
- Significant Landform**
- Significant Portions of the Paris-Galt Moraine



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