

Haldimand County Administration Building 53 Thorburn Street South Cayuga, ON NOA 1E0

August 29, 2024

To Whom It May Concern,

Haldimand County in partnership with the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority (NPCA) was successful in securing funding from the Canadian Government's 2 Billion Trees Program (2BT) to complete on-the-ground afforestation projects on municipally owned land throughout the County. The stormwater block located to the north of the Kramer Court lots was approved by Council as one of the afforestation projects for 2024.

Afforestation is the establishment of forests in an area where there is no recent forest cover. This spring 1,350 seedlings comprised of White Pine, Bur Oak, Swamp White Oak, Silver Maple, Sycamore and Black Cherry were planted on the north side of the creek. This October, Haldimand County and NPCA are planning to plant native shrubs and an additional 1,000 seedlings comprised of Maple, White Pine, Sycamore, White Oak, Red Oak, Basswood, Choke Cherry and Serviceberry on the south side of the creek. The planting will be monitored by the County and NPCA for several years until the trees have become established which may require future plantings to replace trees that have died.

Afforestation of the stormwater block has many benefits for the County and Empire Corner's community:

- Improve pollinator habitat during the early grassland stage;
- Increase biological diversity and wildlife habitat;
- Enhancing the landscape's ability to sequester carbon helping to mitigate climate change; and
- Intercept stormwater run-off and reduce erosion.

County staff have installed Natural Area signs on the property line between your property and the stormwater block. Please remove any personal items from within the stormwater block before September 30, 2024.

To learn more about this afforestation project or to get involved and volunteer in tree planting initiatives, please reach out to the undersigned.

Best regards,

Adam Chamberlin
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