



**YORKLANDS GREEN HUB**  
Opening green doors to the future.

Welcome to the Yorklands community update!

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### **Yorklands Community Update: July 11, 2025**

☀️ As summer steams ahead, we're excited to share with you the happenings at YGH:

🎨 🚗 Watching for 'Go' Boys: Matthew's Farmhouse Walk - July 24 - Join Susan Ratcliffe for an evening walk to learn more about one of the heritage structures at the Yorklands site!

⚠️ 🚧 Trestle Bridge Demolition Update - Infrastructure Ontario plans to demolish the historic Trestle Bridge on Yorklands. Find out about how you can take action.

🎵 🌙 Symphony Under The Stars II - Aug 6 - We are overjoyed to offer this again in collaboration with the Guelph Symphony Orchestra and Ten Telescopes! Grab a ticket for a majestic evening of live music under the stars.

👏 🌍 Call for Volunteers - We have a bunch of exciting positions open; make sure to check them out!

🌿 Call for Noticing Nature Facilitator - A great opportunity for folks with a background in outdoor education, community arts, or youth programming!

Wishing you the best,

The Yorklands Team

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# WATCHING FOR 'GO' BOYS

A walk around the Matthew's farmhouse with Susan Ratcliffe



THURSDAY JULY 24, 7- 8:30 PM | MEET  
AT THE STONE GATE, 919 YORK ROAD

**24**  
JULY





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  Watching for 'Go' Boys: Matthew's Farmhouse Walk

Who doesn't love evening walks in the summertime?!

Join Susan Ratcliffe for a walk around Matthew's Farmhouse, a heritage building on the Yorklands site. Susan will share stories of the buildings former occupants, it's purpose at the OR, and the significance of these heritage buildings to our community.

More specific instructions about where to meet will be emailed prior to the event. Get a ticket before it's too late!

See you on July 24!

**Register Now:** <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/watching-for-go-boys-a-guided-walk-with-susan-ratcliffe-tickets-1474926397559?aff=oddtcreator>

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### ⚠️ 🚧 Trestle Bridge Demolition Update

In recent weeks, Yorklands Green Hub learned of Infrastructure Ontario's plans to demolish the nearly 100-year-old Trestle Bridge on the west side of the Eramosa River. To raise awareness, we hosted a guided walk on June 29 with Susan Ratcliffe, who shared the bridge's rich history. Thank you to all who attended.

Despite being deemed unsafe, the bridge sits in a heavily forested area, and **its demolition would require bringing in heavy equipment—posing serious environmental risks to the river and surrounding habitat.** The Guelph Hiking Trail Club (GHTC), which holds the rights to maintain trails along the river, has rallied a coalition of local organizations—including Yorklands—to urge Infrastructure Ontario to pause demolition and consider restoration instead.

A 2021 study commissioned by GHTC found that restoring the bridge would be less expensive than tearing it down, while also preserving a vital trail connection and heritage feature.

**We encourage you to join us in writing to Angela Clayton, CEO of Infrastructure Ontario, at [angela.clayton@infrastructureontario.ca](mailto:angela.clayton@infrastructureontario.ca).** Express your concerns about the environmental damage demolition would cause, and support restoration as a more affordable and sustainable solution for taxpayers and trail users alike.

Here is a list of organizations sending letters on behalf of their members:

Yorklands Green Hub  
Guelph Hiking Trail Club  
Urban Park Guelph  
GORBA (Guelph Off-Road Bicycling Assoc)  
GCAT (Guelph Coalition for Active Transportation)  
GTUC (Guelph Trail User-groups Coalition)  
Guelph Cycling Club

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WEDNESDAY AUGUST 6, 8:45PM  
YORKLAND GREEN HUB, 785 YORK RD

# Symphony under the Stars II

register for tickets to this free  
GSO Pop Up Orchestra Festival event



Join us at the picturesque Yorkland Green Hub,  
as we celebrate the marvels of the universe,  
with beloved music inspired by the stars.  
Guests will also have the opportunity to partake in stargazing  
using 3D-printed telescopes, guided by Bryan Delodder from Ten Telescopes.

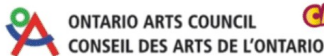
[guelphsymphony.com](http://guelphsymphony.com)



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Ten Telescopes

Join us on **Wednesday, August 6, 2025, at 8:45pm**, for an unforgettable evening of music and stargazing at the Yorklands in partnership with the Guelph Symphony Orchestra and Ten Telescopes. Building on the magic of last year's event, this family-friendly outdoor experience blends the beauty of live classical music with guided telescope viewing under the summer sky.

We're currently looking for 4–5 volunteers to help with event setup, wayfinding, and welcoming guests—come be part of the team that helps bring this special night to life! Email [info@yorklandsgreenhub.ca](mailto:info@yorklandsgreenhub.ca)

**Additional Event Details:**

Please bring a lawn-chair or blanket.

In the event of poor weather, the concert will be rescheduled to August 7th at 8:45pm.

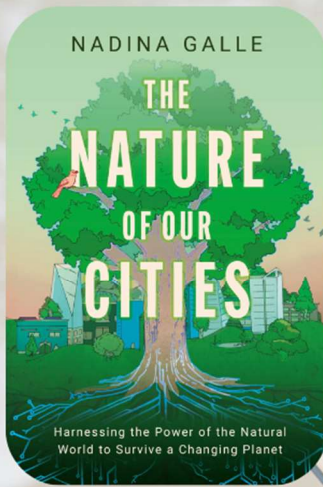
Grab a ticket down below before it's too late! 

[Tickets for Symphony Under Stars II](#)

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# SUMMER BOOK CLUB

#GUELPHGREENREADS





FOLLOW THE HASHTAG #GUELPHGREENREADS  
AND JOIN OUR COMMUNITY OF READERS THIS  
SUMMER!

 Reimagining Cities: Where Climate Action Meets Urban Nature

As part of the #GuelphGreenReads city-wide book club, we're reading *The Nature of Our Cities* by Dr. Nadina Galle—a fascinating look at how cities can harness technology to support thriving urban ecosystems. To deepen your understanding, check out her podcast episode *How Can We Align Urban Forestry and Municipal Climate Change Policy?* featuring Brett KenCairn, Senior Climate and Sustainability Coordinator for the City of Boulder.

In this insightful conversation, they explore how cities can better integrate urban forestry into climate action plans, highlighting the importance of cross-department collaboration, long-term thinking, and using data to guide policy. It's a compelling listen that pairs perfectly with the themes of the book—and offers real-world examples of what's possible when nature and innovation work together.

 **Give it a listen:** [S5E7 — How Can We Align Urban Forestry and Municipal Climate Change Policy? with Brett KenCairn of the City of Boulder](#)

 Copies of *The Nature of Our Cities* are available at [The Guelph Public Library](#) and [The Bookshelf](#).

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We've decided National Volunteer Week is too short to celebrate all the wonderful people that make our work possible. Every week we'll be introducing you to some exceptional YGH volunteers in each bi-weekly e-blast. This week we're pleased to introduce you to our Membership Secretary, Kim!

“After Kim retired from her job as a French teacher, she moved to Guelph in 2020. Kim enjoys being involved in the Guelph community especially with initiatives that help to foster a deeper connection between people and the environment. Kim joined the YGH as the Membership Secretary in 2024.”

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# CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS

Help build a greener, more resilient community for  
everyone!



👏🌍 We're Looking for Volunteers!

Want to get more involved with Yorklands Green Hub? We're currently seeking volunteers to support our numerous events, as well as help behind the scenes as our Events Coordinator or on our Environmental Education Advisory Committee. Whether you love connecting with the community or organizing communications or events, we'd love to hear from you! Interested?

Email us at [info@yorklandsgreenhub.ca](mailto:info@yorklandsgreenhub.ca) to learn more or apply here:  
<https://yorklandsgreenhub.ca/volunteer-form/>.

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 Join Our Team: Lead Art & Nature Sessions for Youth

Yorklands Green Hub is now accepting applications for Noticing Nature facilitators!

We're looking for creative and experienced individuals to lead this unique 2-hour outdoor program that inspires children and youth to connect with nature through guided ecological discovery and artistic expression.

Sessions take place at the beautiful Yorklands site and blend observation, creativity, and environmental awareness.

If you have a background in outdoor education, community arts, or youth engagement—and a passion for nurturing the next generation of nature stewards—we encourage you to apply. Learn more and fill out the facilitator application form on our website or click the button below. 

[Apply Today!](#)

**DON'T LET IT SLIP**

**COME AND GET A  
MEMBERSHIP!**

**Along with supporting historic and eco-friendly initiatives, a membership comes with a wide range of exclusive benefits. Don't miss out on this incredible opportunity!**

**Visit:** <https://yorklandsgreenhub.ca/become-member/>

By now you've heard about the launch of our new membership model, designed to offer enhanced benefits and flexibility to our valued members!

As we continue our mission to promote environmental sustainability and community engagement, we believe that this new model will better serve the diverse needs and interests of our members. As current memberships expire, we will be gradually transitioning all members to the new membership model. Rest assured, we will provide ample communication and support throughout this process to ensure a seamless transition for all members.

We invite you to explore our new membership tiers and consider renewing your membership at your preferred level. Your continued support enables us to drive positive change in our community and beyond.

For more information about the new membership model or to renew your membership, contact Kim Wakeford at

[yghmembershipsecretary@yorklandsgreenhub.ca](mailto:yghmembershipsecretary@yorklandsgreenhub.ca)

A special thank you to our sponsors at the Guelph Museums and The Neighbourhood Group for supporting our membership programs!



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