






YORKLANDS GREEN HUB
Opening green doors to the future.


Welcome to the Yorklands community update!


Yorklands Community Update: July 24, 2025

 As the middle of summer is here, Yorklands Green Hub has been keeping busy with a bunch of new upcoming events and activities. We can't wait to tell you all about them!

 Watching for 'Go' Boys: Matthew's Farmhouse Walk - July 24 - Tonight, come join Susan Ratcliffe for a guided walk to learn more about one of the heritage structures at the Yorklands site! Register for this evening!

 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.

 #GuelphGreenReads Book Club Panel Discussion: Join Yorklands Green Hub on Sept. 11 for a thought-provoking panel discussion featuring several community environmental advocates at the Guelph Public Library.

 Virtual Q&A with Dr. Nadina Galle - Sept. 23 - In celebration of National Forest Week, the YGH and other community partners are hosting a virtual Q&A featuring Dr. Nadina Galle's *The Nature of Our Cities*. A great way to conclude your summer reading!

🎨 🎵 🎨 The Voice of The River - Aug 2 - Join Yorklands Green Hub and other local groups for evening of food, puppetry, creativity, and theatre!

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

Best Wishes,
The Yorklands Team

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?!

Happening this evening, Susan Ratcliffe will lead 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. Grab your tickets before it's too late!

See you tonight!

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



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.

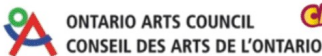
guelphsymphony.com



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Ten Telescopes

Join us on **Wednesday, August 6, at 8:45pm**, for an unforgettable evening of music and stargazing at the Yorklands in partnership with the GSO 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

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! [!\[\]\(d3fb9f94af8b26d1c844efa9a98805b0_img.jpg\)](#)

[Tickets For Symphony Under the Stars II](#)

#GuelphGreenReads

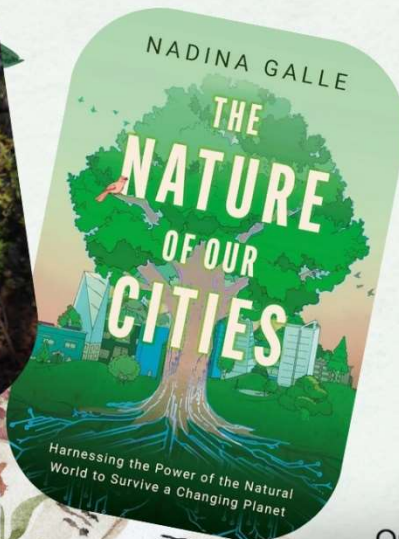
Book Club Panel Discussion

September 11
Thursday

7:00–8:30 PM

Guelph Public Library – Main Branch
(100 Norfolk St.)

Join us!





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  #GuelphGreenReads Book Club Panel Discussion

Join Yorklands Green Hub for a thought-provoking panel discussion inspired by *The Nature of Our Cities* by Dr. Nadina Galle. Explore how technology and ecology intersect in shaping the future of urban sustainability.

Moderated by long-time heritage advocate Susan Ratcliffe, this engaging evening will feature insights from:

- Steve Yessie, City of Guelph Water Conservation
- Dave Beaton, City of Guelph Forestry
- Abigail Walton, Youth Climate Leader
- Heather Schibli, Pollination Guelph

Bring your questions, reflections, and curiosity as we discuss smart cities, resilient ecosystems, and how we can all play a part in building greener communities.

Free and open to the public!

Date: Thursday, September 11 | 7:00–8:30 PM

Location: Guelph Public Library – Main Branch (100 Norfolk St.)

Register here: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/guelphgreenreads-book-club-panel-discussion-tickets-1514094680949?aff=oddtcreator>

Presented as part of the #GuelphGreenReads book club, in partnership with Yorklands Green Hub, the Guelph Public Library, the Arboretum, Pollination Guelph, Bookshelf, GUFF and more.

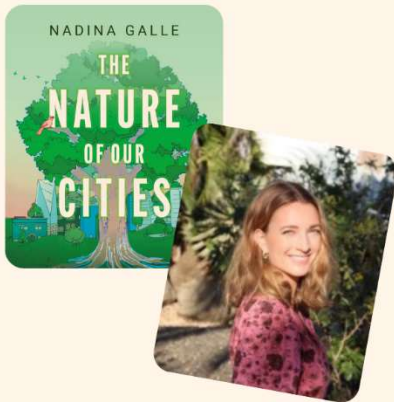


Virtual Q & A

With

Dr. Nadina Galle

#GUELPH GREEN READS



In celebration of National Forest Week, the Yorklands Green Hub and other local organizations are hosting an exclusive online Q&A session, featuring **Dr. Nadina Galle** and her groundbreaking book, *The Nature of Our Cities*.

As part of our summer book club, the Q&A is a perfect opportunity for readers to wrap up their reading and ask the author any follow-up questions they may have! Closer to the event date, a zoom link will be emailed to registered participants.

DAY	TIME	LOCATION
SEPT, 23	7-8:30PM	ONLINE/ZOOM

Register Now: <https://guelphgreenreadsvirtualqanda.eventbrite.ca>



Guelph Public Library
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  Virtual Q&A with Dr. Nadina Galle

Come get tickets for an **exclusive online Q&A with Dr. Nadina Galle**, author of *The Nature of Our Cities*, as we wrap up #GuelphGreenReads and celebrate National Forest Week! Hosted by Yorklands Green Hub and several local organizations, this event concludes the summer book club launched on May 20th, at the University of Guelph's Arboretum.

The Q&A offers readers a chance to dive deeper into the book's themes—exploring how technology and ecology can work together to build greener communities. Readers will also have the opportunity to ask the author, Dr. Nadina Galle, questions about her work. Bring your thoughts and curiosity to this lively follow-up session!

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

Tickets below 

[Tickets For Q&A](#)

SUMMER BOOK CLUB

#GUELPHGREENREADS




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

🌿 Protecting What We've Planted: Aligning Guelph's Tree Bylaw with Urban Forest Stewardship 🌿

In a recent episode of The Internet of Nature podcast, Dr. Nadina Galle speaks with Alex Hancock of PlanIT Geo about a pressing issue: while cities invest in planting new trees on public land, they're losing mature trees on private property even faster. This conversation underscores the importance of not just planting trees but ensuring their long-term survival.

Guelph's updated Private Tree Protection Bylaw directly addresses this concern. The bylaw now requires permits for removing trees 30 cm or larger in diameter on all private properties, emphasizing the preservation of mature trees that provide significant environmental benefits. This aligns with the city's One Canopy Strategy, aiming for a 40% tree canopy cover by 2070.

By focusing on both planting new trees and protecting existing ones, Guelph is taking a comprehensive approach to urban forestry.

 To delve deeper into this topic, listen to the podcast episode here: [S5E4 — Faster than We Can Plant Trees On Public Land, We're Losing Them on Private Land with Alex Hancock of PlanIT Geo](#)

 For more information on Guelph's Private Tree Protection Bylaw, visit the city's official page: [City updates Private Tree Protection Bylaw](#)



  New! Fishing Line Recycling Stations at Yorklands

We're excited to announce that fishing line recycling stations have now been installed at four convenient locations around the ponds at Yorklands Green Hub!

These stations help protect local wildlife and waterways by giving anglers a

responsible way to dispose of used fishing line — which can otherwise pose serious risks to turtles, birds, and other species.

How You Can Help:

- Deposit any used fishing line into the marked tubes, no hooks or trash, please
- Encourage others to use them too!
- Learn more about how monofilament recycling supports healthy ecosystems

A huge thank you to our community partners and volunteers who helped bring this project to life. Next time you're at the ponds, keep an eye out for the new stations — and help keep Yorklands clean, safe, and thriving for all species.

~ Waterloo ~
**The Voice
of the River**
is coming to Guelph

<https://www.ruralcreativity.org>

August 2nd 6-9 pm at York Park

Let's meet at the confluence as we paddle & parade from York Park & The Boathouse for a 'Flotilla Finale' & weave our voice of the river with puppets, people and Rivers.

Paddle, Puppets & Parades

Food & Picnic

FREE FUN

Boathouse Ice Cream

Waterloom ~
Weaving ~
StoryLines ~
River Quilt

Stories & Theatre

Contact Bree for table space:
bree@waterforworldpeace.com

   [The Voice of The River](#): Celebrate Water, Art & Community!

Join Yorklands Green Hub and local groups for an evening of music, puppetry, art, and river celebration as part of the Grand River Community Play.

Explore interactive exhibits, including the Grand River Quilt, the Waterloom project, and more—ending with a magical puppet parade and canoe flotilla at the river’s confluence. Come early, bring a friend, and enjoy this unique riverside gathering! This is a pay-what-you-can event but people can attend for free. Ticket proceeds go to supporting the production.

Date: Saturday, August 2 | 6–9 PM

Location: York Road Park (near the covered bridge)

Tickets: [Pay What You Can](#)

HOW HAS YORKLANDS TOUCHED YOUR LIFE?

*TELL US HOW IN 60 SECONDS! FILL OUT THE
FORM BELOW*



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If interested, please fill out the form below and share your experiences! Your responses are extremely valuable for the YGH.


Link to the form is here: <https://form-can.keela.co/testimonial-form>

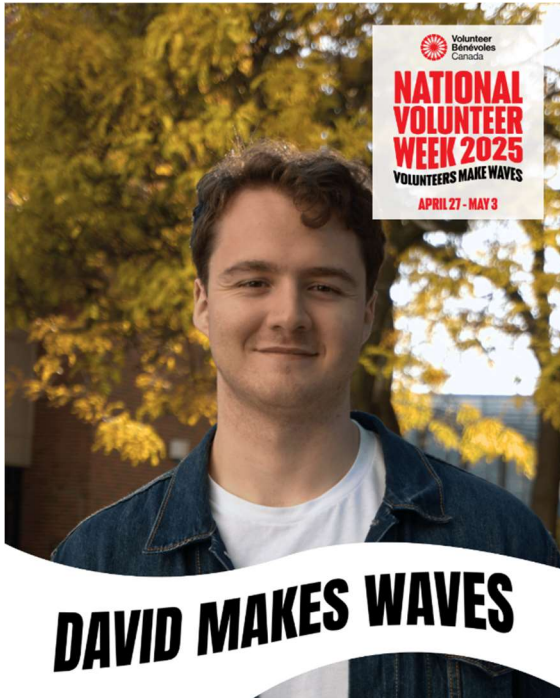


⚠️ 🚧 Trestle Bridge Demolition Update

In spite of the efforts of local organizations, their members, and community members writing to the CEO of Infrastructure Ontario (IO) in the past weeks, **the historic Trestle Bridge is set to be dismantled as of this week.**

The YGH would like to thank all community members and local organizations that tried to preserve the bridge. According to IO, it was deemed very unsafe in its present condition and is of no use for its purposes. We are saddened with how this situation has transpired.

 To learn more, please read the following Guelph Today Article: [Province says local club failed to save historic trestle bridge](#)



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 E-Blast Coordinator, David!

David holds an Honours Bachelor of Arts in English from York University. A longtime member of the Guelph community, he is passionate about supporting local initiatives. He joined YGH as a volunteer in May of this year. He's currently assisting the YGH with the creation and publication of their bi-weekly e-blasts.



 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

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



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