





YORKLANDS GREEN HUB
Opening green doors to the future.


Welcome to the Yorklands community update!


Yorklands Community Update – October 31, 2025


As the days draw shorter and the leaves turn, Yorklands continues to move forward with new events and updates. Here's what's in store for the next two weeks:

 Nature's Remedies Guided Tour - Nov 8 - Join us for a midday walk. Witness the vibrant autumn colours and uncover the power of medicinal trees, roots, and plants. Tickets are free!

 Small Change Fund - We're pleased to announce our new Small Change Fund partnership. Help realize the next chapter for Yorklands, together.

 Seedy Saturday - Nov 8 - Head on over to the Guelph Public Library's main branch; learn more about seeds and native plants – connect with us and our community partners.

 Request for Testimonials - Fill out our testimonial form and tell us how the YGH has touched your life. It only takes 60 seconds, or less.

 Volunteer Opportunities - Looking to get involved while supporting our local environment? Check out our new volunteer positions below.

Enjoy your Halloween Night! 🕷️ 🕸️ 🎃

The Yorklands Team





**NATURE'S
REMEDIES**

MEDICINAL TREES, EDIBLE
ROOTS & MORE

SATURDAY
November 8, 2025
1:00 - 2:30 PM
Rain Date: Sunday, November 9

785 York Road, Guelph
(#4 bus drops you off at
our front gates)

**YORKLANDS GREEN HUB**
opening green doors to the future

  Nature's Remedies Guided Tour

Discover the medicinal power of local plants, herbs, and trees!

Led by clinical herbalist [Zhyfhs Millicent](#), RH (OHA), this guided Yorklands walk **explores the wealth of medicine available in our backyards, local forests, and parks.**

Participants will learn:

- Medicinal qualities of certain plants
- How to identify local plants
- How to work with the plants
- Ethical harvesting practices
- Optimal harvesting techniques


And so much more!

Whether you're treating wasp stings, trying to reduce rash itchiness, healing fungal infections, improving digestion, or alleviating other ailments – **these plants could help!**

Get your ticket today and encounter the healing that's not too far away.

Event Details:

 **Date:** Saturday, November 8, 1:00pm-2:30pm

 **Location:** 785 York Road, Guelph (#4 bus drops you off at our front gates)

 **Tickets:** <https://naturesremediesyorklands.eventbrite.ca>

* Rain date is scheduled for Sunday, November 9th.*



Revive the Yorklands: A Community Vision for Nature and Belonging



At the Yorklands, native plants now thrive beside old prison walls. We imagine a living classroom deeply rooted in reconciliation, biodiversity, and climate action. Where youth lead nature walks, newcomers grow food, and Indigenous Elders share stories with students in the shade of heritage trees. With your support, this future is within reach.

Big news for Yorklands Green Hub!

We are joining forces with Small Change Fund on a fundraising campaign called [Revive the Yorklands: A Community Vision for Nature and Belonging.](#)

Together, we're creating a model of urban conservation that upholds biodiversity, fosters healing and reconciliation, and strengthens climate resilience.

A place where nature, learning, and community thrive for everyone.

Your donations will support year-round community programming and help us hire two new essential staff members. Funds also drive our efforts to keep the Ontario Reformatory lands protected as public greenspace. If you donate to our joint project, you will receive a tax receipt through the charitable organization, Small Change Fund.

Join us in bringing this vision to life —watch the video and visit our website.

 Website: [Revive the Yorklands: A Community Vision for Nature and Belonging](#)

 Video: [Watch below to learn more](#) 

For further information, please contact us at: info@yorklandsgreenhub.ca



NEW WEBSITE

Featuring a New Interactive Map!

<https://yorklandsgreenhub.ca>



Website Updates

We're happy to share our [updated website](#) with you!

Visitors will see our refreshed logo, interactive map, and improved layouts. All these updates aim to enhance the YGH experience.

The [new interactive](#) map highlights key landmarks across Yorklands and showcases historical information about the former reformatory lands — a great companion for your next hike or walk!

See the changes for yourself. Check out the links below. [↓](#)

[🌐 YGH Website](#)

[🗺️ Interactive Map](#)



Guelph Public Library
Explore • Connect • Thrive

Guelph Native Plant Seedy Saturday

Discover native plants, swap seeds, and connect with gardeners and environmental groups.

Saturday, November 8
11:00am - 2:00pm
Main Library
Families welcome

Registration not required.

Alternative formats are available by contacting Library Communications at **519-824-6220**.



In collaboration with our local partners, the YGH is fortunate to share [an upcoming celebration](#) of native plants and community growing!

Co-hosted by the Guelph Seed Library (a project of the Guelph Tool Library) and Guelph Public Library, the event brings together gardeners, seed savers, native plant enthusiasts, and environmental advocates for a day of learning and sharing.

What to expect:

- A workshop on growing native plants from seed
- Seed cleaning and saving tutorials
- Seed donating and sharing
- Opportunities to connect with local organizations and groups

Families are welcome!

Event Details:

 **Date:** Saturday, November 8, 11:00am-2:00pm

 **Location:** [Guelph Public Library Main Branch: 100 Norfolk Street, Guelph, ON N1H 4J6](#)

 **Registration:** Not required



IMPORTANT UPDATE



Guelph's 2026 City Budget Update

In our efforts to protect nature in our city, the YGH would like to draw your attention to the proposed [City Budget](#) for 2026. No funding is being provided for the new [Private Tree Bylaw](#) which is designed to protect established larger trees on private property and therefore the vast majority of the urban tree canopy. That is essentially a cut in staffing as someone will have to do the work of approving the permits required for removing trees.

This bylaw is designed to protect established larger trees on private property and is a way to maintain our tree canopy.

The [Park Stewards](#) volunteer program is also being considered to be cut from the budget. It is a program costing just \$25,000 and more than pays for itself by having local residents involved in enhancing our parks with activities like tree planting and removing invasive species.

Please write to the mayor and council to show your support for these programs at Councillorsandmayor@guelph.ca

**How has YGH
affected your life?**

**Do you have a
testimonial
you want to share?**





TELL US HOW IN 60
SECONDS!
SCAN THE QR CODE TO
BE DIRECTED TO THE
SURVEY!



“Yorklands Green Hub has positively impacted me by deepening my connection to nature and strengthening my sense of community. Walking the trails and witnessing the transformation of this historic site into a place of ecological renewal has been both grounding and inspiring...”

*Kim Wakeford,
Membership Coordinator*

  Tell Us Your Testimonials!

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>




VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!



Make meaningful contributions to our community and help build a stronger, more sustainable, and environmentally conscious future for all!

Email us at: info@yorklandsgreenhub.ca

 We're Looking for Volunteers!

Want to make meaningful contributions to the community while supporting sustainability efforts?

You don't have to wait. The opportunity is right here!

We're currently seeking volunteers for our events committee! The new events committee is similar to the old PEP (Programs, Events, and Promotions) committee. Previous volunteers had a great time.

Whether you like meeting new people or organizing communications or events, we'd love to hear from you.

Come be part of our team!

 **Email us at info@yorklandsgreenhub.ca to learn more**

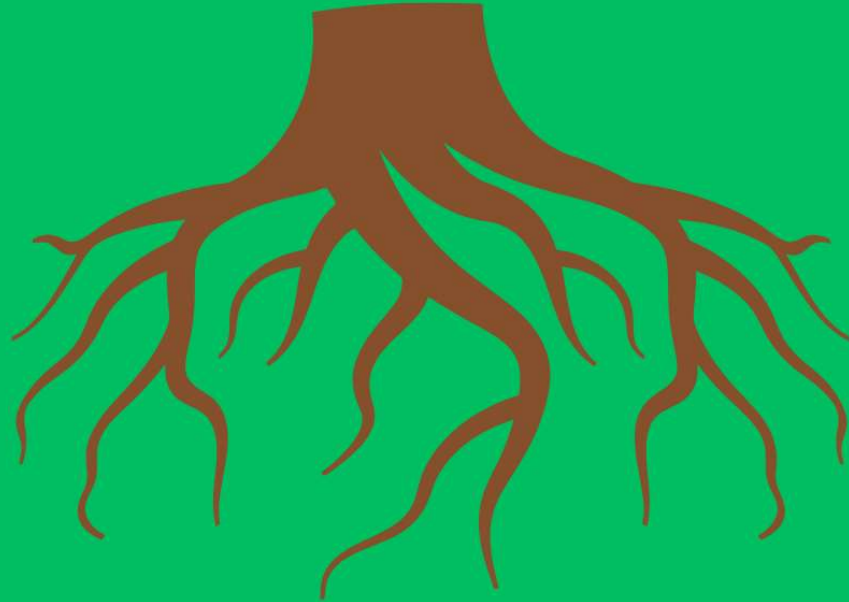
 **Apply here: <https://yorklandsgreenhub.ca/volunteer-form/>.**



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 our Ten Tall Trees facilitator, Nico!

"Nico Hannah is a lifelong nature advocate and tree enthusiast with an educational background in environmental sciences. He has been delivering engaging nature and arts based programming to learners of all ages for two decades."

WE'RE ROOTING FOR YOU TO JOIN!



Become a member today

Join our community of members dedicated to preserving the Yorklands site and cultivating a greener, more sustainable future for all. **We're rooting for you!**
Scan the QR code to join!



Scan & Learn More!



Become A Member: Preserve and Protect Yorklands

Members are the roots of Yorklands Green Hub. Their contributions nourish Yorklands, helping it grow and flourish.

By becoming a member, **your donation fuels initiatives that make Yorklands thrive.** They protect the historic Yorklands site, connect people to nature, uphold Indigenous collaboration, and champion environmental education.

Each membership strengthens our efforts to create a more environmentally conscious community.

We offer both **monthly and annual memberships with several tiers of support.** Members can select the tier that best fits their interests and capacity. As a token of appreciation, **every membership tier comes with exclusive rewards.**

We're rooting for you to join! Help grow a greener future for all!

Email Kim Wakeford at yghmembershipsecretary@yorklandsgreenhub.ca, scan the QR code above, or click “become a member” below.

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



[Donate](#)

[Click here to visit our website](#)

[Become a Member](#)



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