

### TRANSFORMING EXISTING NEIGHBOURHOODS INTO GREENER, HEALTHIER PLACES TO LIVE, WORK AND PLAY

#### SNAP - An Action Plan for Change

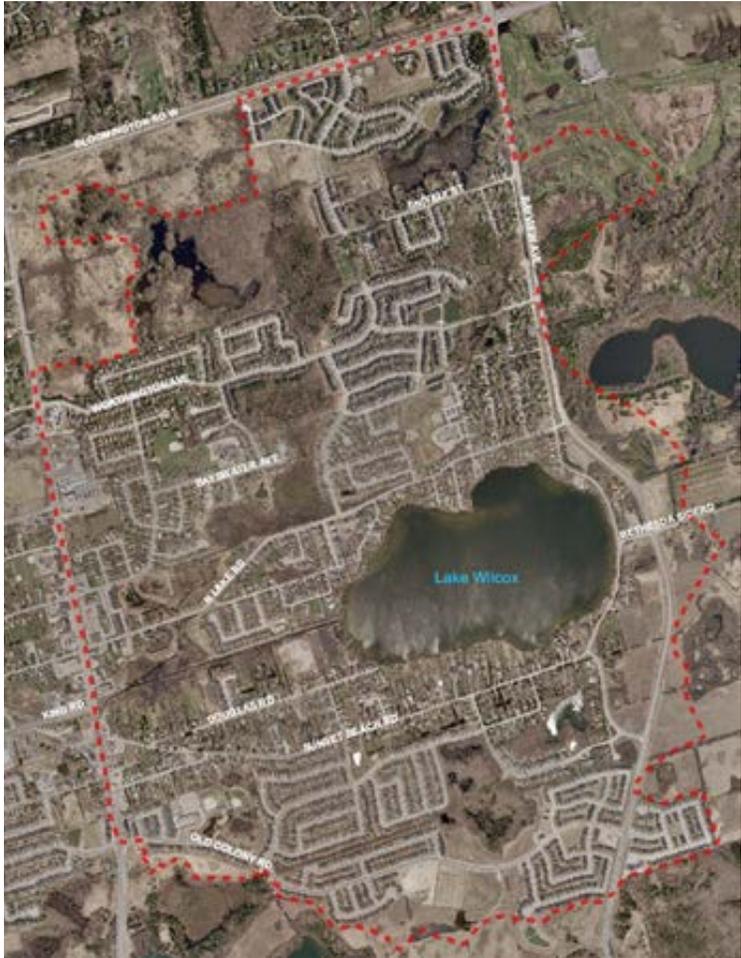
**The Sustainable Neighbourhood Retrofit Action Plan (SNAP)** is part of a pilot program to help established communities become more environmentally friendly and prepare for climate change. The SNAP brings together residents, businesses, community groups and government agencies to develop a science-based action plan for change that fits the needs of the neighbourhood. In partnership with York Region, the Town of Richmond Hill, and local groups, Toronto and Region Conservation is leading a SNAP for the “Lake Wilcox” Neighbourhood in the Oak Ridges area of Richmond Hill.

#### What does Lake Wilcox SNAP include?

The Lake Wilcox SNAP is a comprehensive action-oriented plan, developed to suit the needs of this growing and changing community. Considering the plentiful natural heritage features located here, the action plan focuses on Embracing Nature in the Community through 3 primary action areas: residential eco-landscaping, visitor stewardship, and green renovations and energy. This integrated action plan finds ways to improve water quality in Lake Wilcox, reduce storm runoff, enhance natural areas, and reduce water use. Finally, the plan strives to inspire long time cottagers and residents, new homeowners, businesses and visitors to work together towards environmental sustainability and strengthened neighbourhood identity.



#### Lake Wilcox SNAP Study Area



#### About the Lake Wilcox Neighbourhood

The Lake Wilcox neighbourhood is located within the larger community of Oak Ridges in the Town of Richmond Hill, York Region. It is home to a diverse and growing community and it contains the largest Kettle Lake on the Oak Ridge Moraine - Lake Wilcox. The neighbourhood is largely made up of older cottage-style houses and a new residential housing development as well as parklands, green spaces, businesses and institutions. This area is frequented by recreational visitors that come here to boat on Lake Wilcox or enjoy the natural beauty of the Oak Ridges Moraine parklands such as the Oak Ridges Corridor Park in the close vicinity.

### Creating the SNAP

The SNAP was created through a three-part process that includes data collection, engaging residents and businesses and evaluating options, to create a final local plan.

#### Phase 1

Review the current conditions



Identify areas for action → Immediate actions!

#### Phase 2

Integrated options



Evaluate and compare

#### Phase 3

Action Plan & Business Case → Ways to overcome barriers



To learn more about the SNAP and related projects contact:

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### Partners Wanted!

Community support and strong partnerships are key ingredients in the success of the Lake Wilcox SNAP. TRCA is working with local partners including Oak Ridges Friends of the Environment, York Region Environmental Alliance and Oak Ridges Trail Association. We welcome other interested groups, individuals and businesses to work with us on the development and implementation of the plan. The SNAP needs innovative, inclusive ways to reach residents, businesses and community groups to gather ideas throughout the project. We would like to connect with groups that meet regularly or do on-going outreach in the community to explore other ways to engage community members and encourage investment in retrofits for homes and businesses. The SNAP project is a great opportunity to promote new or existing products or services in a small area where success can be measured over time.

On the ground demonstration projects such as rainwater harvesting, eco-friendly landscaping, tree plantings, or energy and water conservation measures will also be a part of the SNAP's outreach and education component. We'd welcome the opportunity to work with local partners on these or other projects that showcase environmental change in the community. The SNAP project can also bring profile and resources to support existing environmental programs and build a stronger network of partners for future projects.

### Do you live or work in this neighbourhood?

**Get Involved!** We will be holding community meetings, events, and fun local activities. Come out and meet your neighbours! Check our website regularly for information on upcoming activities and initiatives.

