

## WHAT IS THE CITY DOING?

The City of Brampton has created a Natural Heritage Restoration Program aimed at protecting, restoring and enhancing areas of the Natural Heritage System.

The City is currently helping ravines through:

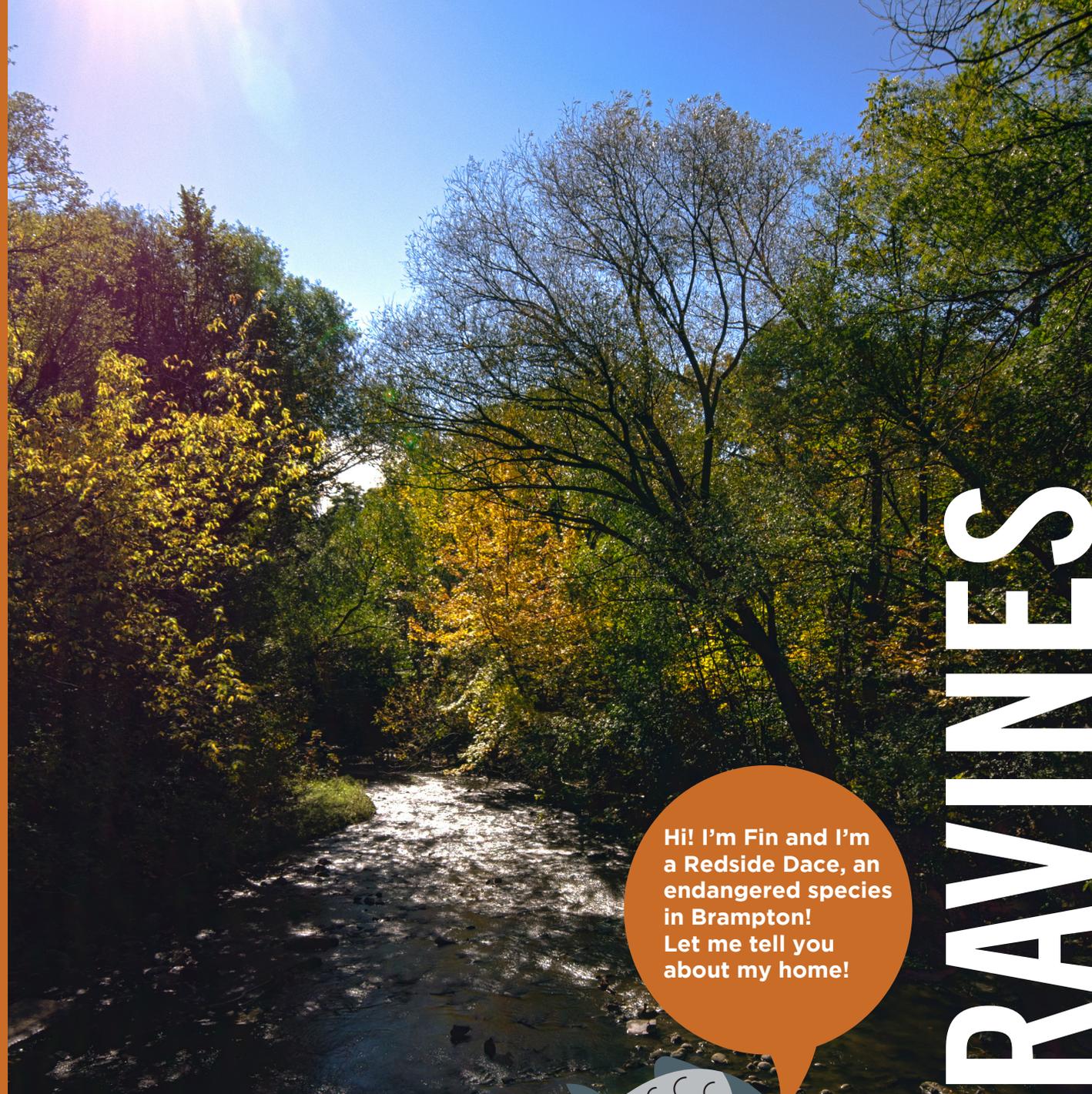
- Reduced mowing in ravines to promote the growth of native species.
- Developing a trail system so you can access ravines and experience their beauty.

## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Ravines are highly sensitive areas that are impacted by our actions. The chemicals that you use outside can make their way into ravine systems. Here are some ways you can prevent chemicals from polluting the ravines and endangering wildlife:

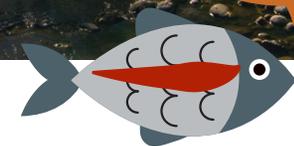
- Take your car to a carwash instead of washing it on your driveway
- Use natural alternatives to pesticides
- Reduce salt use in the winter
- Don't put things down the sewage grate

If you are drawn to help protect these places, try getting involved in Brampton's Grow Green Network at [brampton.ca/growgreen](http://brampton.ca/growgreen)



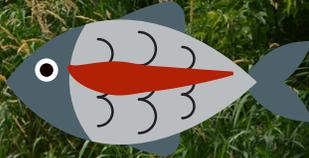
# RAVINES

Hi! I'm Fin and I'm a Redside Dace, an endangered species in Brampton! Let me tell you about my home!





I live in the Etobicoke Creek, but I have a tough time staying healthy because of the salts, oil, paint and other pollution.



## MYTHS AND MISUNDERSTANDINGS

### *Nothing live in ravines*

Some may think that Brampton's ravines are lifeless, however, they are actually alive with fish, bird, mammal and plant species. This wildlife contributes to healthy biodiversity in Brampton.

### *It's okay to dump things down the sewer*

Brampton's sewer system drains into the city's ravines. This means that anything you dump down the sewer ends up directly in our ravines and eventually makes its way to Lake Ontario, our source of drinking water. Keeping chemicals and litter out of the sewers will ensure the continued existence of these unique habitats.

### *Ravines are natural corridors that carry water to larger bodies of water*

Brampton's ravine system is one of the most celebrated features in the city. Ravines provide many important ecological services and recreational opportunities. They carry water from headwaters, through our streams and finally, to Lake Ontario, our source of drinking water. They link different types of natural landscapes across the city. Protecting and enhancing the ravine system is necessary to ensure that Brampton is a resilient, healthy and environmentally sustainable city.

## COMMON NATIVE SPECIES

### Plants

- American Beech
- Dogwood
- Serviceberries
- Black Oak
- Eastern White Pine
- Honeylocust

### Animals

- American Mink
- Great Blue Heron
- Beaver
- Leopard Frog
- Redside Dace
- Wood Frog

## SOME RAVINES IN BRAMPTON

- Etobicoke Creek
- Fletcher's Creek
- Credit River
- Humber and West Humber Rivers



Reduces erosion.



Reduces flooding and erosion when well vegetated.

## BENEFITS OF RAVINES



Connects the landscape, allowing plants and animals to move from place to place.



Offers opportunities for recreational activities including photography hiking, canoeing, kayaking and bird watching.



Provides a habitat for fish and wildlife.



Did you know that most of the world's ocean pollution originates from urban areas like Brampton?