

In the winter, I am able to survive cold temperatures by freezing until the warm spring defrosts me and brings me back to life!



WHAT IS THE CITY DOING?

The City of Brampton's Natural Heritage and Environmental Management Strategy focuses on the improved protection, enhancement and restoration of Brampton's natural heritage system.

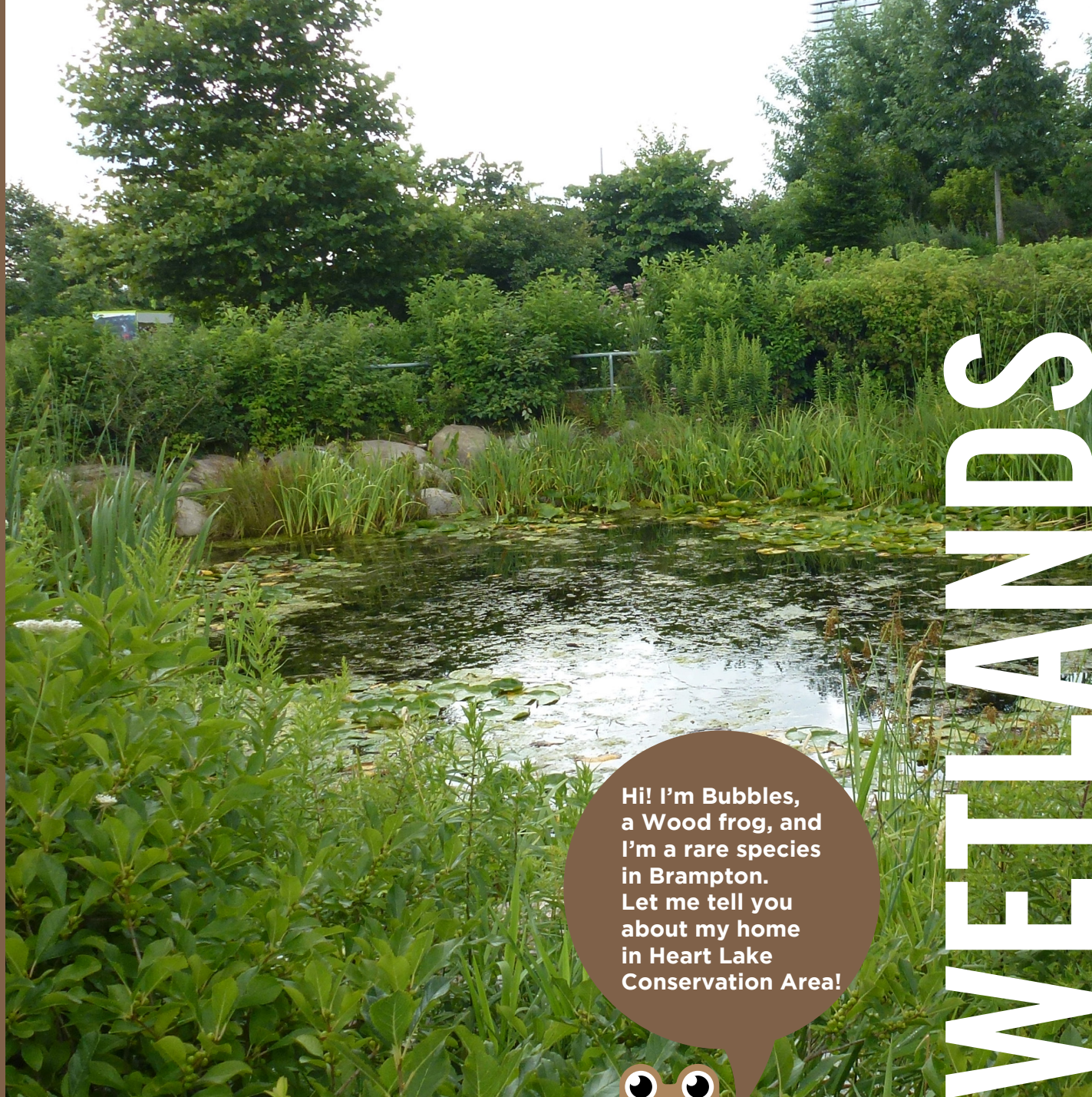
The City developed a Natural Heritage Restoration Program that prioritizes areas for naturalization, including the re-establishment and creation of wetland communities, as well as the identification and prioritization of linkage opportunities for wetlands.

Through these strategies, Brampton is creating wetland habitats and protecting existing habitats from increased urbanization.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Reducing litter is an important step in conserving wetland habitat. Litter that ends up on the road can make its way into wetlands, contaminating them. Make sure to pick up and properly dispose of garbage to keep wetlands and their residents happy and healthy.

If you want to learn more, join Brampton's Grow Green Network at brampton.ca/growgreen



WETLANDS

Hi! I'm Bubbles, a Wood frog, and I'm a rare species in Brampton. Let me tell you about my home in Heart Lake Conservation Area!



brampton.ca/growgreen



Make sure to listen for our calls in the spring! We are trying to attract our mates!



MYTHS AND MISUNDERSTANDINGS

More wetlands mean more mosquitoes

Historically, wetlands were removed because people thought they were a source of mosquitoes and bugs that spread disease. The urban environment actually contributes more to mosquito populations than wetlands! The urban environment has lots of areas with standing water, such as eaves, bird baths and old tires, with no natural predators to keep the mosquitoes in check. A healthy wetland can actually control mosquito populations because they provide habitat for natural mosquito predators, such as frogs and dragon flies.

A wetland is an area that holds water for all or part of the year

There are several different types of wetlands including marshes, swamps, fens and bogs. In addition to being a unique home for wildlife, wetlands are natural filters. In urban areas such as this, runoff from rain and snow melt washes over buildings and streets where it picks up pollutants and carries them to larger watercourses like streams, rivers and lakes. Wetlands temporarily store and filter this runoff water before it enters into watercourses, creating healthier and cleaner sources of our drinking water.

COMMON NATIVE SPECIES

Plants

- Cattail
- Cardinal Flower
- Water lilies
- Primrose
- Marsh Marigold
- Cranberry

Animals

- Beaver
- Snapping Turtle
- Mallard Duck
- Muskrat
- Spotted Salamander
- Leopard Frog

SOME WETLANDS IN BRAMPTON

- Heart Lake Conservation Area
- Claireville Conservation Area
- Eldorado Park
- Conservation Drive Park



Stores carbon, reducing the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere.



Offers opportunities for recreational activities such as bird watching, and photography.

BENEFITS OF WETLANDS



Cleans and stores water, which improves water quality and reduces flooding.



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



Provides habitat for fish and wildlife.



Mosquitos are one of my main food sources and I help keep them away from people!

