



**Canadian Nursery Landscape Association**  
**Association Canadienne des Pépiniéristes et des Paysagistes**

*Communities in Bloom has long harnessed the power of engaging passionate people – community minded people with a vested interest in making their communities a better place to live.*

*The living proof is on the ground!*



**2021 Green Cities Award Application**



## Purpose

Climate change is affecting our cities, our communities, and our homes and is changing the way we must design and build our urban landscapes. Yes, climate change is a global problem, but the effects hit us locally, where we live. Each city, town and community must then, seek solutions and develop initiatives that are specific to their needs – on their streets, in their parks, playgrounds and schools, at all their green spaces, at every opportunity.

Never have our living landscapes been so important to our collective health and well-being – thriving, contributing, working green spaces and places for people to gather and enjoy.

Urban green spaces such as gardens, parks, transportation corridors and woodlands provide a multitude of benefits to human urban populations, and a vital habitat for wildlife.

These important elements of our urban green infrastructure impact our health by improving air and water quality and limiting the impact of heatwaves by reducing urban temperatures. They provide a place for physical fitness and reduce urban stress, the presence of green spaces can enhance the health and wellbeing of people living and working in cities. In addition, urban vegetation filters both air and water, helping to mitigate the effects of climate change in our cities, and reduces the likelihood of flooding by slowing and storing excess rain water.

This award champions city leadership in the use of nature based solutions/green infrastructure for improving the health and well-being of our cities.

## Submission Process and Deadline

Each community will be required to submit a 500 word description of green infrastructure/nature based solutions activities in their community, along with photos. This is your chance to share with the judges why your community should be awarded the Green Cities award. This description should accompany your scorecard which can be found at the end of the application. Please send all submissions to [bloom@cib-cef.com](mailto:bloom@cib-cef.com).

All submissions must be received by September 3rd, 2021. Late entries will not be considered. Application forms and all related materials can be submitted via email. Entrants are required to use standard electronic formats such as Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint; as well as Adobe PDF files. Photos may be submitted as PDF, JPG or TIFF files.

## Judging

The scorecard will be evaluated and the best score will win. In the case of a tie, the municipality with the most complete package (i.e. links and information shared) will be the winner.

## Winning Entries / Prizes

The winning entrant will receive

- A complimentary virtual consultation with one of our esteemed green city experts to review your scorecard.
- A plaque.
- Recognition at the CiB 2021 virtual symposium.
- Featured in an upcoming issue of CNLA's Newsbrief magazine.

## Entry Form

All information must be clearly typed or printed.

Community : \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Website: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### Copyright Release of Digital Photos:

I (we) understand that upon submitting this application to (association name) the digital photos become the property of Communities in Bloom and the CNLA. I (we) agree to give Communities in Bloom and the CNLA permission to use the digital photos in award recognition or any other promotional activity that Communities in Bloom and the CNLA is involved with.

Project Contact's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Submit completed application to Communities in Bloom by**

**September 3rd, 2021**

**GREEN CITIES AWARD EVALUATION FORM**

**AIR QUALITY & TEMPERATURE MITIGATION**

**Air Quality – This section explores how your municipality reduces airborne pollutants specifically through the use of tree canopy and other living green infrastructure (green spaces).**

| 1. What is the current estimated total crown canopy cover percentage for your municipality? Explain how your municipality measures crown canopy cover?  | Scale             | Score |
|---|-------------------|-------|
| Greater than 30%  | 5                 |       |
| Between 15%-30%   | 3                 |       |
| Less than 15%   | 0                 |       |
| Comments/links:   |                   |       |
| <b>2. Do you have a municipal bylaw that includes performance requirements to meet minimum crown canopy cover targets? If yes provide a link.</b>   |                   |       |
| Yes, based on canopy to canopy percentage target replacement (1 for 2 or more new trees based on size of trees removed).  | 5                 |       |
| Yes, based on unit to unit (1 for 1) replacement.   | 3                 |       |
| No bylaw or permitting required.  | 0                 |       |
| Comments/links:   |                   |       |
| <b>3. What percentage of your municipality is currently designated and / or dedicated or protected as either protected environmentally sensitive areas (ESA) including wetlands, or park use (e.g. large green spaces, natural sports fields) not included above?</b> |                   |       |
| Greater than 30%  | 5                 |       |
| Between 15%-30%   | 3                 |       |
| Less than 15%   | 0                 |       |
| Comments/links:   |                   |       |
| <b>4. Do you have regulations and / or bylaws requiring a certain percentage of green space and / or pervious areas for new developments? What kind of regulations? What kinds of land use or zoning is included?</b>   |                   |       |
| Yes, greater than 30%   | 5                 |       |
| Yes, greater than 10%   | 3                 |       |
| No, we have no requirements whatsoever.   | 0                 |       |
| Comments/links:   |                   |       |
| <b>Air Quality Total</b>  | <b>MAXIMUM 20</b> | 20    |

| <b>Temperature &amp; Urban Heat Island Impact – This section explores how your municipality reduces localized temperatures and heat island impacts through the use of living green infrastructure in large and small spaces, including groundcover (turfgrass), trees, and everything in between.</b>  |                   |       |  |
|--|-------------------|-------|--|
| <b>1. Does your municipality have effective regulations or DPs to assist with urban heat island temperature management strategies? Please explain or provide a link.</b>   | Scale             | Score |  |
| Yes, street tree planting and green spaces are incorporated into all urban development, private and public, and is enforced.   | 5                 |       |  |
| Yes, however, it is not always followed or enforced.   | 3                 |       |  |
| Neither of the above.  | 0                 |       |  |
| Comments/links:  |                   |       |  |
| <b>2. Are green space performance targets an important part of the planning &amp; development process? How are performance targets achieved for different size/ scale/types of land use to help support open spaces, green infrastructure, and parks areas? Are targets achieved through area plans, neighborhood level plans, and/or site specific development? Please explain.</b> |                   |       |  |
| Yes, green spaces are incorporated into the planning process.  | 5                 |       |  |
| Yes, however, approvals often are allowed to scale back or eliminate these features.   | 3                 |       |  |
| No, green spaces are not considered when planning.   | 0                 |       |  |
| Comments/links:  |                   |       |  |
| <b>3. Are green streets an important part of the planning and development process? Median and boulevard (streetscape), pocket parks, and road corridors, are used primarily for living green infrastructure (small landscapes, plantings or turfgrass) vs non-permeable paving?</b>  |                   |       |  |
| Yes, all new urban development areas are designed with living green infrastructure and permeable surfaces.   | 5                 |       |  |
| Green infrastructure is used in some cases but not all.  | 3                 |       |  |
| Most areas are still simply paved over.  | 0                 |       |  |
| Comments/links:  |                   |       |  |
| <b>4. Is natural landscaping or bio-engineering an important part of the development requirements? Do you support the use of turfgrass as an appropriate ground cover in urban developments? Do you have natural sports fields vs artificial sports fields?</b>  |                   |       |  |
| Yes, we understand the value of turfgrass and support its value in reducing heat and cleaning the air; we do not allow artificial turf sports fields.  | 5                 |       |  |
| We allow some use of artificial turf on non-municipal properties.  | 3                 |       |  |
| We have artificial turf sports fields vs natural turf.   | 0                 |       |  |
| Comments/links:  |                   |       |  |
| <b>Temperature Mitigation Total</b>  | <b>MAXIMUM 20</b> | 20    |  |

## WATER QUALITY & STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

**Water Quality & Stormwater Management – Water quality and stormwater management overlap. Progressive forms of stormwater management help deal with volumes, flow control and they filter and clean the water through the process. This section explores how your municipality is working to retain, detain, and treat runoff from rainfall in urban landscapes, which allows both cleansing and control.**

| <b>1. Rainwater runoff can be retained or detained through the use of permeable paving. What percentage of urban development is permeable (pervious) vs non-permeable?</b>  | Scale             | Score |
|---|-------------------|-------|
| Greater than 30% is permeable.  | 5                 |       |
| Between 15%-30% is permeable.   | 3                 |       |
| Less than 15% is permeable.   | 0                 |       |
| Comments/links:   |                   |       |
| <b>2. Rainwater runoff can be retained or detained through the use of green roofs and green walls. Do you have a green roof regulation and / or bylaw and do you provide incentives to developers to include green roofs? If yes please provide.</b>  |                   |       |
| Yes, they are required in urban development by regulation and/or bylaw.   | 5                 |       |
| Not required, however incentives are available for developers to include green roofs.   | 3                 |       |
| Neither of the above.   | 0                 |       |
| Comments/links:   |                   |       |
| <b>3. Rainwater runoff can be retained or detained through the use of raingardens and/or bioswales or other water storage methods. Do you have raingardens and / or bioswales as part of your urban development guidelines and / or bylaws? Do you provide incentives to developers to include such methods? If yes please provide.</b> |                   |       |
| Yes, they are required in urban development by regulation and/or bylaw.   | 5                 |       |
| Not required, however incentives are available for developers to include raingardens, bioswales or other water storage methods.   | 3                 |       |
| Neither of the above.   | 0                 |       |
| Comments/links:   |                   |       |
| <b>4. Are urban wetlands and environmentally sensitive areas protected through municipal guidelines and / or bylaws and are new stormwater catchment solutions built into new developments? If yes please provide.</b>  |                   |       |
| Yes, new ones are required by regulation and/or bylaw, and existing spaces are protected.   | 5                 |       |
| Existing ones are protected, however there are no regulations and/or bylaws to include urban wetlands in larger developments.   | 3                 |       |
| Neither of the above.   | 0                 |       |
| Comments/links:   |                   |       |
| <b>Water Quality &amp; Stormwater Management Total</b>  | <b>MAXIMUM 20</b> | 20    |

| <b>NATURAL ASSETS AND LAND USE</b>   |                   |       |  |
|--|-------------------|-------|--|
| <b>Natural Assets and Land Use – This section explores what policy(s) your municipality has in place to create effective land use planning and retain and protect existing natural assets.</b>   |                   |       |  |
| <b>1. What kinds of green infrastructure or natural assets are formally protected or supported by policy and/or regulation?</b>  | Scale             | Score |  |
| Natural assets – wetlands, forests, water bodies (lakes, rivers, creeks), soils and grasslands.  | 1                 |       |  |
| Bio-engineered facilities – rain gardens, bioswales, urban street trees, urban parks, stormwater wetlands/ponds, greenroofs, biomimicry.   | 1                 |       |  |
| Urban containment boundaries.  | 1                 |       |  |
| Municipal conservation land acquisition strategy.  | 1                 |       |  |
| Corporate and financial service to support green infrastructure initiatives.   | 1                 |       |  |
| <b>2. What kinds of green infrastructure initiatives does your municipality have in place?</b>   |                   |       |  |
| Cost comparison of green infrastructure vs grey infrastructure.  | 1                 |       |  |
| Green infrastructure and natural asset inventory using GIS.  | 1                 |       |  |
| ITree evaluation of services and benefits related to green infrastructure.   | 1                 |       |  |
| Green infrastructure management strategy.  | 1                 |       |  |
| Green infrastructure development/developer incentives.   | 1                 |       |  |
| <b>3. What kinds of municipal public outreach and education programs are in place to support Green City designs?</b>   |                   |       |  |
| Municipal climate change resiliency strategy.  | 1                 |       |  |
| Bio-diversity conservation strategy.   | 1                 |       |  |
| Watershed planning management strategy.  | 1                 |       |  |
| Green infrastructure management strategy.  | 1                 |       |  |
| Municipal advisory committee(s) related to green infrastructure.   | 1                 |       |  |
| <b>4. Municipal greenways and natural open green spaces within each neighbourhood can contribute to municipal wide connectivity. Does your municipality have established clear greenways through neighbourhoods that connect to adjacent neighbourhoods creating municipal wide greenways?</b> |                   |       |  |
| Yes, we have clear greenways established through neighbourhoods that connect to adjacent neighbourhoods.   | 5                 |       |  |
| Yes, we have some greenways, however we do not have connected greenways through numerous neighbourhoods.   | 3                 |       |  |
| Neither of the above.  | 0                 |       |  |
| <b>Temperature Mitigation Total</b>  | <b>MAXIMUM 20</b> | 20    |  |

| <b>HEALTH &amp; COMMUNITY WELL-BEING</b>  |                    |       |  |
|---|--------------------|-------|--|
| <b>Health &amp; Community Well-Being – This section explores how your municipality supports physical health, mental health, and quality of life (liveability), while improving safety and reducing crime and perceptions of danger within your municipality. How are you using your green spaces with health &amp; well being a goal?</b> |                    |       |  |
| <b>1. Have you improved citizen engagement in recreational or social activities in green spaces through municipal outdoor recreational programs and activities? If so, provide some recent successful examples.</b>   | Scale              | Score |  |
| Yes, we have a strong outdoor recreation program and many activities.   | 5                  |       |  |
| We program a number of outdoor activities, but no formal planned programs.  | 3                  |       |  |
| We have no outdoor recreation activities.   | 0                  |       |  |
| Comments/links:   |                    |       |  |
| <b>2. How many kilometres of multi-use trails are available to the public in your municipality - per 100,000 population?</b>  |                    |       |  |
| Greater than 200 kilometres.  | 5                  |       |  |
| Between 100 and 200 kilometres.   | 3                  |       |  |
| Less than 100 kilometres.   | 0                  |       |  |
| Comments/links:   |                    |       |  |
| <b>3. What percentage of your municipal citizens have public green spaces or parks within a ten-minute walk of where they live?</b>   |                    |       |  |
| Greater than 90% of citizens.   | 5                  |       |  |
| Between 50% and 90% of citizens.  | 3                  |       |  |
| Less than 50% of citizens.  | 0                  |       |  |
| Comments/links:   |                    |       |  |
| <b>4. Do you support urban food production and food safety through garden plots, on rooftops, or as community gardens?</b>  |                    |       |  |
| Yes, our municipality has municipally owned community garden and/or other garden plots.   | 5                  |       |  |
| Our municipality does not have its own, however it supports other public community gardens through financial incentives or support.   | 3                  |       |  |
| Neither of the above.   | 0                  |       |  |
| Comments/links:   |                    |       |  |
| <b>Health and Well Being Total</b>  | <b>MAXIMUM 20</b>  | 20    |  |
|   |                    |       |  |
| <b>Green City Award Total</b>   | <b>MAXIMUM 100</b> | 100   |  |

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