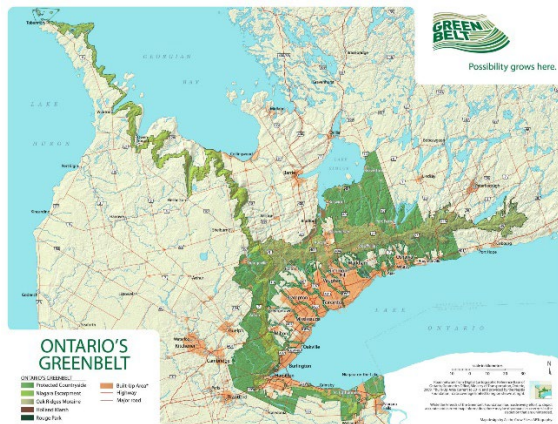


Ontario's Greenbelt



Want to know more about Ontario's Greenbelt and why it is (was) under protection?

Created in 2005, the [Greenbelt](#) protects over two million acres of Ontario's most vulnerable greenspace and agricultural land from urban sprawl. The Greater Golden Horseshoe (GGH), which includes the cities of Toronto, Hamilton and Oshawa, is one of the fastest-growing regions in North America. With up to 15 million people projected to live there by 2051, it's now more important than ever to protect the vital farmland and sensitive natural ecosystems surrounding the GGH. The Greenbelt is also home to many of Ontario's vibrant rural communities and natural heritage attractions and provides 177,700 full-time jobs and \$9.6 billion in economic impact every year.

Beyond agriculture, the Greenbelt protects the habitats of 78 species at risk. In some places, cedar trees along the escarpment are 800 years old. It's also recreational space in a crowded region where access to nature is sorely needed, with hiking trails, camping and rock climbing. The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the need for green space.

<https://www.greenbelt.ca/learn>

<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/business/article-ontario-greenbelt-farmland-wetlands-floodplains/>

<https://thenarwhal.ca/ontario-greenbelt-explainer/>

Check out the developers who will benefit from the new plan for parts of the Greenbelt.

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/gta-developers-own-greenbelt-land-swap-1.6648273>