

# MUNICIPAL POLICY

## Municipal policy respecting wetlands mitigation measures and the community education initiative

The Municipality of Chelsea has agreed to conserve wetlands within its territory, according to the conditions stipulated in Zoning By-law 636-05. Sub-section 4.15.5 of said by-law calls for application of this Municipal Policy.

For any community or development project within a community land use zone (zones L1 P1 and P2, as defined in Municipal Zoning By-law 636-05 and its amendments), the following conditions apply to any and all wetlands for which the proposed project or development or portion thereof falls within (a) a wetland (sub-section 4.15.3); or (b) a setback thirty (30) metres from the edge of a wetland (sub-section 4.15.4):

- 1.** The project or development shall be planned so as to minimize any negative impact on the wetland area, pursuant to the provisions of By-law 636-05.
- 2.** When a portion of said project or development involves a wetland area or a portion of its established thirty (30) metre setback, project promoters or developers will mitigate the negative ecological impact of the intervention in accordance with the four (4) principles cited in article 4.15.5 of By-law 636-05.
- 3.** The project promoters or developer, working closely with the Natural Resources Advisory Sub-Committee and any other source of information or expert assistance that may be necessary, shall draft a mitigation plan for any project or development that may affect wetlands. The mitigation plan shall be submitted to Municipal Council as part of the information provided during the approval process. Council shall not approve any project or development that may affect a wetland area in the absence of said mitigation plan.
- 4.** The Municipality of Chelsea wishes to help residents understand the natural world in which they live. Understanding wetlands, their ecology and role in the water cycle, is a significant part of that education. For the wetland areas cited in sub-section 4.15.5 of By-law 636-05, the project promoter or developer shall contribute in a significant, concrete manner to wetlands education in the Municipality of Chelsea. Said contribution shall be at least one percent (1%) of total project/development cost, and shall be outlined in the mitigation plan (see para 6, below). Wetlands education contributions may include (for example only) nature interpretation trails or signage; sponsorship of wetlands education activities for schools, community groups, or the Municipality; a series of community symposia; community wetlands research initiatives; educational bulletins; wildlife observation areas, or other suitable measures. In general, the contribution to wetlands education must be significant. The project promoter or developer must specify the educational components in the mitigation plan.
- 5.** Following approval of the mitigation plan by Chelsea Municipal Council, said plan documents shall be available to the public. The project promoter or developer is responsible for implementing the mitigation plan. Once the project or development is complete, the promoter or developer shall report to Council on implementation of all mitigation measures and said report shall also become a public document.
- 6.** A mitigation plan shall include the following information:
  - a) Proposed ecological impact of the project/development in the absence of mitigation;
  - b) Detailed description of any and all proposed mitigation measures, including drawings, description of the work, and timetable for implementation;
  - c) Estimated cost of mitigation measures;
  - d) The estimated effect of mitigation on the functioning of the wetland area;
  - e) A description of the proposed contribution to wetland education in the Municipality of Chelsea;
  - f) A proposed implementation timetable.