

CHAPTER G – GLOSSARY

Active Transportation: non-motorized travel, including walking, cycling, inline skating and wheelchair movements. The active transportation network includes sidewalks, crosswalks, designated road lanes and off-road trails to accommodate active transportation (Metrolinx, 2008). (OPA 5)

Adaptive Reuse: means the adaptation of an existing building or site for another land use. (OPA 5)

Adjacent: In regard to cultural heritage and archaeology, those lands contiguous to, or located within 50 metres of, a *protected heritage property*. (OPA 5)

Adjacent Lands: means those lands contiguous to hazard lands, a specific natural heritage feature, or area where it is likely that development or site alteration would have a negative impact on the hazard, feature or area. The extent of the adjacent lands may be recommended by the Province or based on municipal approaches which achieve the same objectives. (OPA 5)

Adverse Effects: as defined in the Environmental Protection Act, means one or more of:

- a) impairment of the quality of the natural environment for any use that can be made of it;
- b) injury or damage to property or plant or animal life;
- c) harm or material discomfort to any person;
- d) an adverse effect on the health of any person;
- e) impairment of the safety of any person;
- f) rendering any property or plant or animal life unfit for human use;
- g) loss of enjoyment of normal use of property; and,
- h) interference with normal conduct of business. (PPS, 2005) (OPA 5)

Affordable: means:

- a) in the case of ownership housing, the least expensive of:
 - i) housing for which the purchase price results in annual accommodation costs which do not exceed 30 percent of gross annual household income for *low and moderate income households*; or
 - ii) housing for which the purchase price is at least 10 percent below the average purchase price of a resale unit in the City of Hamilton; and,
- b) in the case of rental housing, the least expensive of:
 - i) a unit for which the rent does not exceed 30 percent of gross annual household income for *low and moderate income households*; or

- ii) a unit for which the rent is at or below the average market rent of a unit in the City of Hamilton (PPS, 2005 amended); and,
- c) in the case of housing developments, at least 25 percent of either *affordable* ownership or *affordable* rental housing. For the purposes of the policies of this Plan, *affordable* housing developments may include a mix of *affordable* and market rate units, both ownership and rental. (OPA 5)

Aggregate Recycling Facility: means the storage, crushing and reprocessing of used mineral aggregate products, including concrete and asphalt, to new mineral aggregate products.

Agricultural Use: means the growing of crops, including nursery and horticultural crops; raising of livestock; raising of other animals for food, fur or fibre, including poultry and fish; aquaculture; apiaries; agro-forestry; maple syrup production; and associated on-farm buildings and *structures*, including accommodation for full-time farm labour when the size and nature of the operation requires additional employment (PPS, 2005).

Agricultural-Related Use: means those farm-related commercial and farm-related industrial uses that are *small scale* and directly related to the *farm operation* and are required in close proximity to the *farm operation* (PPS, 2005).

Aggregate Recycling Facility: means the storage, crushing and reprocessing of used mineral aggregate products to new mineral aggregate products.

Alternative Energy Systems: means sources of energy or energy conversion processes that significantly reduce the amount of harmful emissions to the environment (air, earth and water) when compared to conventional energy systems. Alternative energy systems undertakings do not include renewable energy undertakings as defined in the Green Energy and Green Economy Act. (OPA 5)

Alvars: means naturally open areas of thin or no soil over essentially flat limestone, dolostone, or marble rock, supporting a sparse vegetation cover of mostly shrubs and herbs (Greenbelt Plan, 2005).

Archaeological Resources: Include artifacts, archaeological sites and marine archaeological sites. The identification and evaluation of such resources are based upon archaeological fieldwork undertaken in accordance with the Ontario Heritage Act (PPS, 2005). (OPA 5)

Area of Archaeological Potential: A defined geographical area with the potential to contain *archaeological resources*. Criteria for determining archaeological potential are established by the Province, this Plan and the City's Archaeological Management Plan. Archaeological potential is confirmed through archaeological fieldwork undertaken in accordance with the Ontario Heritage Act (PPS, 2005, amended). (OPA 5)

Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI): means areas of land and water containing natural landscapes or features that have been identified as having life science or earth science values related to protection, scientific study or education (PPS, 2005).

Bed and Breakfast Establishment: means a single detached dwelling in which rooms are made available by the residents of the dwelling, for remuneration, for the temporary accommodation of travelers and the provision of food or meals only to overnight guests.

Built Heritage Resources: means one or more *significant* buildings, structures, monuments, installations or remains associated with architectural, cultural, social, political, economic or military history and identified as being important to a community (PPS, 2005). These resources may be identified through inclusion in the City’s Register of Property of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest, designation or heritage conservation easement under the Ontario Heritage Act, and/or listed by local, provincial or federal jurisdictions. (OPA 5)

Cistern: means for the purposes of this Plan a cistern shall include any private water supply for a use, building or structure that relies on the storage of water that is not provided from an on-site well.

Cannabis Growing and Harvesting Facility: shall mean a wholly enclosed building or structure used for growing, harvesting, testing, destroying, packaging and shipping of cannabis, for a facility where a licence, permit or authorization has been issued under applicable federal law. (OPA 21)

Community Energy Plan: means a City-wide plan that addresses energy security concerns and which may also address climate change, and may include the objectives of reducing energy consumption, developing renewable energy or alternative energy supplies, ensuring reliable conventional energy supplies, or of reducing greenhouse gas emissions. (OPA 5)

Community Facilities/Services: means lands, buildings, and structures that support a high quality of life for people and communities by providing services for health, education, recreation, social or cultural activities, security and safety. Community facilities/services may include but not be limited to community and recreation centres, arenas, parks, health care facilities, day care centres, senior’s centres, emergency medical services, fire services, police services, *cultural facilities*, places of worship, museums, schools, and libraries. Community facilities/services may be publicly or privately owned and/or operated. (OPA 5)

Compatibility/compatible: means land uses and building forms that are mutually tolerant and capable of existing together in harmony within an area. *Compatibility* or *compatible* should not be narrowly interpreted to mean “the same as” or even as “being similar to”. (OPA 5)

Connectivity: means the degree to which *Core Areas* are connected to one another by links such as plant and animal movement corridors, hydrological and nutrient cycling, genetic transfer, and energy flows from food webs (Greenbelt Plan, 2005).

Core Areas: includes *key natural heritage features, key hydrologic features, local natural areas, and their vegetation protection zones.*

Conserve: means the identification, protection, use and/or management of *cultural heritage* and *archaeological resources*. (OPA 5)

Conserved: in the context of *cultural heritage resources*, means the identification, protection, use and/or management of *cultural heritage* and *archaeological resources* in such a way that their heritage values, attributes and integrity are retained. This may be

addressed through a conservation plan or heritage impact statement (PPS, 2005). (OPA 5)

Craftsperson Shop: means an establishment used for the creation, finishing, refinishing or similar production of custom or homemade commodities, together with the retailing of only the commodities produced or refinished on site.

Cultural Facilities: means publicly owned and/or operated lands, buildings and structures used for the creation, production and dissemination of arts and culture. *Cultural facilities* include publicly owned and/or operated lands, buildings and cultural sites such as but not limited to museums, art galleries, exhibition facilities, and managed historical sites. (OPA 5)

Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment: A document comprising text and graphic material including plans, drawings and photographs that contains the results of historical research, field work, survey, analysis, and description(s) of *cultural heritage resources* together with a description of the process and procedures in deriving potential effects and mitigation measures as required by official plan policies and any other applicable or pertinent guidelines. A *cultural heritage impact assessment* may include an archaeological assessment where appropriate. (OPA 5)

Cultural Heritage Landscape: A defined geographical area of heritage significance which has been modified by human activities and is valued by a community. It involves a grouping(s) of individual heritage features such as structures, spaces, archaeological sites and natural elements, which together form a significant type of heritage form, distinctive from that of its constituent elements or parts. Examples may include, but are not limited to, heritage conservation districts designated under the Ontario Heritage Act; and villages, parks, gardens, battlefields, mainstreets and neighbourhoods, cemeteries, trailways and industrial complexes of cultural heritage value (PPS, 2005). (OPA 5)

Cultural Heritage Conservation Plan Statement: A document comprising text and graphic material including plans, drawings and photographs that contains the results of historical research, field work, survey, analysis, and description(s) of *cultural heritage resources* together with a statement of cultural heritage value, interest, merit or significance accompanied by guidelines as required by the policies of this Plan. A *cultural heritage conservation plan statement* shall be considered a conservation plan as including in the PPS (2005) definition of *conserved* (above). (OPA 5)

Cultural Heritage Properties: Properties that contain *cultural heritage resources*. (OPA 5)

Cultural Heritage Resources: Structures, features, sites, and/or landscapes that, either individually or as part of a whole, are of historical, architectural, archaeological, and/or scenic value that may also represent intangible heritage, such as customs, ways-of-life, values, and activities.

Designated Growth Area: means lands within Urban Areas and Rural Settlement Areas designated in an official plan for growth over the long-term planning horizon, but which have not yet been fully developed. *Designated growth areas* include lands which are designated and available for residential growth, as well as lands required for employment and other uses (modified PPS, 2005).

Development: means the creation of a new lot, a change in land use, or the construction of buildings and *structures*, requiring approval under the Planning Act, but does not include:

- a) Activities that create or maintain infrastructure used by a public body and authorized under an environmental assessment process; or
- b) Works subject to the Drainage Act; or
- c) The carrying out of agricultural practices on land that was being used for agriculture on or before December 16, 2004 unless the *development* entails the construction of buildings or structures. (Greenbelt, 2005, amended). (OPA 5)

Disturbed Area: means the portion of the site where *site alteration*, grading, or construction activities are occurring.

Earth Science Area of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI): means areas selected by the Province as representative of Ontario’s geological diversity. They can include outstanding bedrock exposures, fossil beds, and landforms such as karst and drumlins.

Ecological Function: means the natural processes, products, or services that living and non-living environments provide or perform within or between species, ecosystems and landscapes, including hydrologic functions and biological, physical, chemical, and socio-economic interactions (PPS, 2005).

Ecological Value: means the value of vegetation in maintaining the health of the *key natural heritage* or *key hydrologic feature* and the related ecological features and *ecological functions*, as measured by factors such as the diversity of species, the diversity of habitats, and the suitability and amount of habitats that are available for rare, threatened and endangered species.

Environmentally Significant Areas (ESAs): means locally significant areas that meet any one of the following criteria:

- a) The area is a good representative of a biotic community characteristic of the natural landscapes of the City and not adequately represented in existing protected areas or the area is a good representative of pre-settlement biotic community;
- b) There are biotic communities that are rare in the City, Province, or Canada;
- c) The area is a large natural area (20 hectares or more in size); it may be sufficiently large to provide habitat for species requiring large habitat areas;
- d) There is habitat for species considered significant in the City, Province, or Canada;
- e) The site fulfills a significant hydrological function (groundwater recharge or discharge, ground or surface water quality, or flood attenuation);
- f) The site contains a significant earth science feature (distinctive and unusual landform);
- g) There is a high diversity of native species or biotic communities;

- h) The area provides *essential* habitat for the continuation of species; for example, significant areas of species concentrations, areas *essential* for certain stage of the life cycle, source areas for species;
- i) There are significant seasonal concentrations of wildlife;
- j) The area acts as a link between natural areas or functions as a corridor for wildlife;
- k) The area is in good natural condition, with few non-native species, particularly invasive non-natives; or
- l) The area contains significant *fish habitat*.

Essential: means being deemed necessary to the public interest after all alternatives have been considered.

Evaluated Wetlands: means a wetland of that has been evaluated under the Ministry of Natural Resources Wetland Evaluation System and has been found to be provincially or locally significant.

Existing: when used in reference to a use, lot, building or *structure*, means any use, lot, building or *structure* legally established or created prior to the day of final approval and coming into effect of the relevant sections of this Official Plan or at some earlier date as may be specified in the policies such as December 16, 2004 for the Greenbelt Plan policies.

Farm Cluster: means a group of farm buildings, which includes the farm dwelling, located together on a property actively involved in an *agricultural use*.

Farm Consolidation: means the acquisition of additional farm parcels to be operated as one *farm operation*, for the purposes of expanding the *farm operation* and/or sustaining viability of continued *agricultural use* of the lands, where acquisition shall not include any arrangements other than the completed purchase of the additional farm parcel(s) by the same person (an individual, corporation, or partnership) that operates the farm operation. Beneficial ownership or ownership through any trust shall not be considered to be acquisition. (OPA 5)

Farm Labour Residence: means secondary accommodations provided for full-time farm labour where the size and nature of the *farm operation* requires additional employment in the form of either of the following:

- a) An accessory apartment attached to and forming part of the principal farm residence; or
- b) An accessory detached dwelling of temporary construction, such as a mobile home or bunk house, located in close proximity to the farm cluster. (OPA 9)

Farm Operation: means a single farm business operated by a person, (an individual, corporation, or partnership), and which is comprised primarily of an *agricultural use* and all of the land holdings and utilized land associated with the farm business. (OPA 5)

Farm Vacation Home: means an *existing* single detached dwelling, located on a lot used predominantly for a permitted *agricultural use*, in which individual rooms or the entire

dwelling is made available by the residents of the lot or the operators of the farm, for remuneration, for the temporary accommodation of travelers, and may include participation in farm activities, the provision of meals, services, facilities and amenities for the exclusive use of guests, so long as the scale and nature of the operation is secondary and accessory to the predominant *agricultural use* of the lot.

Fish Habitat: means the spawning grounds and nursery, rearing, food supply, and migration areas on which fish depend on directly or indirectly in order to carry out their life processes (PPS, 2005).

Formal consultation: means a meeting of potential applicants with City staff and outside agencies to identify the standards, requirements, and expectations for a potential Planning Act application. The purpose of a formal consultation is to:

- a) Provide applicants with preliminary comments on *development* proposals;
- b) Identify key issues to be addressed and approvals that will be required as part of the *development* approvals process; and,
- c) Identify all *information and materials* (i.e. plans, studies, reports, etc.) required to be submitted to satisfy complete application requirement(s). (OPA 5)

Garden Suite: means a one-unit detached residential *structure* containing bathroom and kitchen facilities that is ancillary to an *existing* residential *structure* and that is designed to be portable (Planning Act).

Ground Water Feature: refers to water-related features in the earth's subsurface, including recharge/discharge areas, water tables, aquifers and unsaturated zones that can be defined by surface and subsurface hydrogeologic investigations (PPS, 2005).

Hazard Lands: means hazardous lands and hazardous sites. (OPA 5)

Hazardous Lands: means property or lands that could be unsafe for development due to naturally occurring processes. Along the shorelines of the Great Lakes – St. Lawrence River System, this means the land, including that covered by water, between the international boundary, where applicable, and the furthest landward limit of the flooding hazard, erosion hazard or dynamic beach hazard limits. Along the shorelines of large inland lakes, this means the land, including that covered by water, between a defined offshore distance or depth and the furthest landward limit of the flooding hazard, erosion hazard or dynamic beach hazard limits. Along river, stream and small inland lake systems, this means the land, including that covered by water, to the furthest landward limit of the flooding hazard or erosion hazard limits (PPS, 2005). (OPA 5)

Heavy Rail: means freight and passenger rail including GO Transit rail used primarily to move people and goods inter-regionally. Heavy rail excludes *light rail transit*. (OPA 5)

Historic: means a time period, starting approximately 200 years ago, during which European settlement became increasingly widespread in the Hamilton area and for which a written (or 'historic') record has been kept. (OPA 5)

Holding Tank: means a tank designed to totally retain all sanitary sewage discharged into it and requiring periodic emptying (Building Code, O. Reg. 350/06).

Home Business: means an occupation or business which is wholly contained within a single dwelling, conducted by a resident of the dwelling, and is clearly secondary to the predominant use of the dwelling for residential purposes.

Home Industry: means a *small scale* commercial or industrial use carried out on the same lot as a permitted *agricultural use* but which use is clearly secondary to the predominant *agricultural use* of the lot.

Housing with Supports: means public, private or non-profit owned housing with some form of support component, beyond economic support, intended for people who need support services to live independently in the community, where providers receive funding for support services. The tenure may be long term. Housing with supports includes special needs housing as defined by the Provincial Policy Statement (2005). (OPA 5)

Hydrologic Function: means the functions of the hydrological cycle that include the occurrence, circulation, distribution and chemical and physical properties of water on the surface of the land, in the soil and underlying rocks, and in the atmosphere, and water's interaction with the environment including its relation to living things (PPS, 2005).

Intermittent Streams: means stream-related watercourses that contain water or are dry at times of the year and are more or less predictable, generally flowing during wet seasons of the year but not the entire year, and where the water table is above the stream bottom during parts of the year (Greenbelt Plan, 2005).

Key Hydrologic Features (KHF): these features include:

- a) Permanent and *intermittent stream*;
- b) *Lakes* (and their *littoral zones*);
- c) *Seepage areas and springs*; and
- d) *Wetlands*
(Greenbelt Plan, 2005).

Key Natural Heritage Features (KNHF): include the following:

- a) *Significant habitat of endangered, threatened, and special concern species*;
- b) *Fish habitat*;
- c) *Wetlands*;
- d) *Life Science Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSIs)*;
- e) *Significant valleylands*;
- f) *Significant woodlands*;
- g) *Significant wildlife habitat*;
- h) *Sand barrens, savannahs, and tallgrass prairies*; and
- i) *Alvars*
(Greenbelt, Plan, 2005).

Lake: means any inland body of standing water usually fresh water larger than a pool or pond or a body of water filling a depression in the earth's surface (Greenbelt Plan, 2005).

Land Trust: means a nonprofit organization that, as all or part of its mission, actively works to *conserve land* by undertaking or assisting in land or conservation easement acquisition, or by its stewardship of such land or easements.

Legal or Technical Reasons: For the purposes of Section F.1.14.2.6, means severances for purposes such as easements, corrections of deeds, quit claims, and minor boundary adjustments which do not result in the creation of a new lot (PPS, 2005).

Life Science Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSIs): means lands and waters containing natural landscapes or features that are important for natural heritage protection, appreciation, scientific study, or education. Life Science ANSIs are identified by MNR using evaluation procedures established by that Ministry, as amended from time to time (Greenbelt Plan, 2005).

Linkages: means landscape areas that connect natural areas. *Linkages* are also important natural features, either in their own right or through restoration activities. They are avenues along which plants and animals can propagate, genetic interchange can occur, populations can move in response to environmental changes and life cycle requirements, and species can be replenished from other natural areas. Conserving *linkages* also protects and enhances *Core Areas*.

Lithic scatters: means a collection of stone tools and/or debris from the manufacture and use of stone tools. (OPA 5)

Littoral Zones: means the shallow water areas surrounding the outer boundary of a *lake*, which is usually a highly productive zone.

Local Natural Areas: means *Environmentally Significant Areas* (ESAs) as identified by the City of Hamilton, unevaluated *wetlands*, and Earth Science Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI).

Major Recreational Uses: means recreational uses that require large-scale modification of terrain, vegetation or both and usually also require large-scale buildings or structures, including but not limited to the following: golf courses; serviced playing fields; serviced campgrounds; and ski hills (Greenbelt Plan, 2005).

Major Transit Generator: means a facility or area which generates significant volumes of passenger and/or goods/services trips to/from residential, commercial and/or industrial land uses (Metrolinx, 2008). (OPA 5)

Middle- and Late-Archaic: means Native cultural horizons, approximately 7,000 to 3,000 years ago, marked by technological adaptations and regionalization of traditions and styles. (OPA 5)

Mineral Aggregate Operation: means

- a) Lands under license or permit, other than for *wayside pits and quarries*, issued in accordance with the Aggregate Resources Act, or successors thereto;
- b) For lands not designated under the Aggregate Resources Act, established pits and quarries that are not in contravention of municipal zoning by-laws and including adjacent land under agreement with or owned by the operator, to permit continuation of the operation; and
- c) Associated facilities used in extraction, transport, beneficiation, processing or recycling of *mineral aggregate resources* and derived products such as asphalt and concrete, or the production of secondary related products.

Mineral Aggregate Resources: means gravel, sand, clay, earth, shale, stone, limestone, dolostone, sandstone, marble, granite, rock or other material prescribed under the Aggregate Resources Act suitable for construction, industrial, manufacturing and maintenance purposes but does not include metallic ores, asbestos, graphite, kyanite, mica, nepheline syenite, salt, talc, wollastonite, mine tailings or other material prescribed under the Mining Act.

Minimum Distance Separation (MDS) Formulae: means formulae developed by the Province to separate uses so as to reduce incompatibility concerns about odour from livestock and manure storage facilities (PPS, 2005).

Natives: Indians as defined by the Indian Act of Canada. (OPA 5)

Natural Self-Sustaining Vegetation: means vegetation dominated by native plant species that can grow and persist without direct human management, protection, or tending (Greenbelt Plan, 2005).

Negative Impacts: means

- a) In regard to water, degradation to the quality or quantity of surface or ground water, *key hydrologic features* or vulnerable areas, and their related hydrologic functions, due to single, multiple or successive *development* or *site alteration* activities;
- b) In regard to *fish habitat*, the harmful alteration, disruption, or destruction of *fish habitat*, except where, in conjunction with the appropriate authorities, it has been authorized under the Fisheries Act, using the guiding principle of no net loss of productive capacity; and
- c) In regard to other natural heritage features and areas, degradation that threatens the health and integrity of the natural features or *ecological functions* for which an area is identified due to single, multiple, or successive *development* or *site alteration* activities (PPS, 2005).

Noise Studies:

- a) feasibility noise study: means an initial noise assessment in the planning stage of a development project in order to determine the feasibility of the proposed project meeting provincial sound level criteria, and if necessary, to specify required noise control measures, in accordance with provincial guidelines;
- b) detailed noise study: means a detailed assessment of all noise sources affecting the lands subject to a proposed development, and control measures required to meet provincial sound level criteria, in accordance with provincial guidelines. (OPA 5)

Non-Farm Development or Non-Agricultural Uses: means a residential, commercial, recreational, institutional, industrial other land use that is not included as an *agricultural use* or *agricultural-related use*.

Normal Farm Practices: means a practice, as defined in the Farming and Food Production Protection Act, 1998, that is conducted in a manner consistent with proper

and acceptable customs and standards as established and followed by similar agricultural operations under similar circumstances; or makes use of innovative technology in a manner consistent with proper advanced farm management practices. *Normal farm practices* shall be consistent with the Nutrient Management Act, 2002 and regulations made under that Act (PPS, 2005).

Other Information and Materials: means studies, reports, maps, plans or other documentation, in addition to the requirements of the Planning Act, that may be required for submission to the City to satisfy the complete Planning Act application requirements.

Other Natural Vegetation Types: means any meadow, thicket, or old field that connects *Core Areas* or is situated within 100 metres of a *Core Area*.

Paleo-Indian: Native cultural horizon, approximately 12,000 to 9,500 years ago, associated with the first human colonization of the American continents. (OPA 5)

Passive Recreation Uses: means those recreation uses that do not involve major construction, landscaping or design, and are low impact, such as hiking, bird watching, and fishing.

Permanent Stream: means a stream that continually flows in an average year (Greenbelt Plan, 2005).

Petroleum Resources: means oil, gas, and brine resources which have been identified through exploration and verified by preliminary drilling or other forms of investigation. This may include sites of former operations where resources are still present or former sites that may be converted to underground storage for natural gas or other hydrocarbons.

Planned Corridors: means corridors identified through provincial plans or preferred alignment(s) determined through the Environmental Assessment Act process which are required to meet projected needs (PPS, 2005). (OPA 5)

Planning Act: The Planning Act is Provincial legislation that sets out the ground rules for land use planning in Ontario and describes how land uses may be controlled, and who may control them. (OPA 5)

Portable Asphalt Plant: means a facility

- a) With equipment designed to heat and dry aggregate and to mix aggregate with bituminous asphalt to produce asphalt paving material, and includes stockpiling and storage of bulk materials used in the process; and
- b) Which is not of permanent construction, but which is to be dismantled at the completion of the construction project.

Portable Concrete Plant: means a building or *structure*

- a) With equipment designed to mix cementing materials, aggregate, water and admixtures to produce concrete, and includes stockpiling and storage of bulk materials used in the process; and

- b) Which is not of permanent construction, but which is designed to be dismantled at the completion of the construction project.

Post-Contact: Anytime after the European colonization of the Hamilton area, approximately 350 years ago, to the present. (OPA 5)

Prime Agricultural Area: means areas where *prime agricultural lands* predominate. This includes: areas of *prime agricultural lands* and associated Canada Land Inventory Class 4-7 soils; and additional areas where there is a local concentration of farms which exhibit characteristics of ongoing agriculture. *Prime agricultural areas* may be identified by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food using evaluation procedures established by the Province as amended from time to time, or may also be identified through an alternative agricultural land evaluation system approved by the Province. In *Rural Hamilton*, prime agricultural areas means areas where lands that have a high capability for agriculture predominate as determined by the Land Evaluation and Area Review (LEAR) method of land evaluation in combination with other land use considerations (PPS, 2005).

Prime Agricultural Land: means land that includes *specialty crop areas* and/or Canada Land Inventory Classes 1, 2, and 3 soils, in this order of priority for protection.

Private Services: means private sewage disposal and/or private water supply services. (OPA 5)

Protected Heritage Property: means real property designated under Parts IV, V or VI of the Ontario Heritage Act; heritage conservation easement property under Parts II or IV of the Ontario Heritage Act; and property that is the subject of a covenant or agreement between the owner of a property and a conservation body or level of government, registered on title and executed with the primary purpose of preserving, conserving and maintaining a cultural heritage feature or resource, or preventing its destruction, demolition or loss (PPS, 2005). (OPA 5)

Provincial Policy Statement: The Provincial Policy Statement is issued under the authority of Section 3 of the Planning Act. It provides direction on matters of provincial interest related to land use planning and development, and promotes the provincial “policy-led” planning system. (OPA 5)

Quality and Quantity of Water: is measured by indicators such as minimum base flow, depth to water table, aquifer pressure, oxygen levels, suspended solids, temperature bacteria, nutrients and hazardous contaminants, and hydrological regime (PPS, 2005).

Redevelopment: means the creation of new units, uses or lots on previously developed land in existing communities, including brownfield sites (PPS, 2005). (OPA 5)

Renewable Energy Systems: means the production of electrical power from an energy source that is renewed by natural processes including, but not limited to, wind, water, a biomass resource or product, or solar and geothermal energy. These systems have the same meaning as a renewable energy undertaking under the Green Energy and Green Economy Act. (OPA 5)

Residence Surplus to a Farming Operation: means one or two or more *existing* farm residences located on lands held under the same ownership as a result of a *farm consolidation*.

Resource-Based: means, when used in reference to a use or activity, those rural commercial, industrial, recreational or tourism uses that by their very nature require certain natural attributes or resources for their location including the availability of large lots or land areas.

Rural Areas: means lands in the rural area which are located outside settlement areas and which are outside *prime agricultural areas* (PPS, 2005). In *Rural Hamilton*, Rural Area means non-prime agricultural areas as determined by the LEAR method of land evaluation in combination with other land use considerations.

Rural Hamilton: means the area within the municipal boundary of the City of Hamilton but outside of the urban boundary.

Sand Barrens: means land (not including land that is being used for agricultural purposes or no longer exhibits *sand barrens* characteristics) that:

- a) Has sparse or patchy vegetation that is dominated by plants that are:
 - i) Adapted to severe drought and low nutrient levels; and
 - ii) Maintained by severe environmental limitations as drought, low nutrient levels and periodic disturbances such as fire;
- b) Has less than 25 per cent tree cover;
- c) Has sandy soils (other than shorelines) exposed by natural erosion, depositional process or both; and
- d) Has been further identified, by the Ministry of Natural Resources or by any other person, according to evaluation procedures established by the Ministry of Natural Resources, as amended from time to time (Greenbelt Plan, 2005).

Savannah: means land (not including land that is being used for agricultural purposes or no longer exhibits *savannah* characteristics) that:

- a) Has vegetation with a significant component of non-woody plants, including tallgrass prairie species that are maintained by seasonal drought, periodic disturbances including fire, or both;
- b) Has from 25 per cent to 60 per cent tree cover;
- c) Has mineral soils; and
- d) Has been further identified, by the Ministry of Natural Resources or by any other person according to evaluation procedures established by the Ministry of Natural Resources, as amended from time to time (Greenbelt Plan, 2005).

Secondary Dwelling Unit: means a dwelling unit that is accessory to and located on the same lot as the principal dwelling and shall be physically located within the principal dwelling, or located within an accessory building to the principal dwelling. (OPA 26)

Secondary Uses: means uses secondary to the principal use of the property, including but not limited to home occupations, home industries, and uses that produce value added agricultural products from the *farm operation* on the property (PPS, 2005).

Seepage Areas and Springs: means sites of emergence of groundwater where the water table is present at the ground surface (Greenbelt Plan, 2005).

Sensitive: in regard to surface water features and ground water features, means areas that are particularly susceptible to impacts from activities or events including, but not limited to, water withdrawals, and additions of pollutants (PPS, 2005).

Sensitive Land Uses: means a building, 'amenity area', or outdoor space where routine or normal activities occurring at reasonably expected times would experience one or more 'adverse effect(s)' from contaminant discharges generated by a nearby 'facility'. The 'sensitive land use' may be a part of the natural or built environment. Examples may include but are not limited to:

- a) residences or facilities where people sleep (e.g. single and multi-unit dwellings, nursing homes, hospitals, trailer parks, camping grounds, etc.). These uses are considered to be sensitive 24 hours/day.
- b) a permanent structure for non-facility related use, particularly of an institutional nature (e.g. schools, churches, community centres, day care centres); and,
- c) certain outdoor recreational uses deemed by a municipality or other level of government to be sensitive (e.g. trailer park, picnic area, etc.).

Significant: In regard to cultural heritage and archaeology, means *cultural heritage resources* that are valued for the important contribution they make to our understanding of the history of a place, an event, or a people (PPS, 2005). (OPA 5)

Significant Coastal Wetlands: means:

- a) any wetland that is located on one of the Great Lakes; or,
- b) any other wetland that is on a tributary to any of the above-specified water bodies, and lies, either wholly or in part, , downstream of a line located 2 kilometres upstream of the 1:100 year floodline (plus wave run-up) of a large water body to which the tributary is connected.

Significant Habitat of Threatened and Endangered Species: means the habitat, as approved by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, that is necessary for the maintenance, survival, and/or the recovery of naturally occurring or reintroduced populations of endangered or threatened species, and where those areas of occurrence are occupied or habitually occupied by the species during all or any part (s) of its life cycle (PPS, 2005).

Significant Habitat of Threatened, Endangered, and Special Concern Species: means the habitat, as approved by the Ministry of Natural Resources, that is necessary for the maintenance survival and/or recovery of naturally occurring or reintroduced populations of species at risk and where those areas of occurrence are occupied or habitually occupied by the species during all or any part (s) of its life cycle. To identify which species

are threatened, endangered, special concern, or provincially rare, the City will refer to species lists that are prepared and updated by the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR), and Environment Canada’s Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC). An updated list of locally rare species will be maintained through periodic updates to the Natural Heritage Database, co-owned by the Hamilton Naturalists’ Club and the City of Hamilton (PPS, 2005).

Significant Valleyland: means a natural area that occurs in a valley or other landform depression that has water flowing through or standing for some period of the year which is ecologically important in terms of features, functions, representation, or amount, and contributes to the quality and diversity of an identifiable geographic area or natural heritage system. (PPS, 2005).

Significant Wetland: means an area identified as provincially significant by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources using evaluation procedures established by the Province, as amended from time to time (PPS, 2005).

Significant Wildlife Habitats: means areas where plants, animals and other organisms live and find adequate amounts of food, water, shelter and space needed to sustain their populations. Wildlife habitat is significant where it is ecologically important in terms of features, functions, representation, or amount and contributes to the quality and diversity of a Natural Heritage System. Significant wildlife habitat areas are defined as consisting of one or more of the following:

- a) Critical habitat areas that provide for seasonal concentrations of animals;
- b) Wildlife movement corridors;
- c) Rare vegetation communities or specialized habitats for wildlife; and/or
- d) Habitats for species of conservation concern including provincially and federally threatened, endangered, special concern species, and locally rare species.
- e) MNR identifies criteria, as amended from time to time for the forgoing (Greenbelt Plan, 2005).

Significant Woodland: means an area which is ecologically important in terms of:

- a) Features such as species composition, age of trees, stand history;
- b) Functionally important due to its contribution to the broader landscape because of its location, size, or due to the amount of forest cover in the planning area; and
- c) Economically important due to site quality, species composition or past management history.

MNR identifies criteria, as amended from time to time for the forgoing (Greenbelt Plan, 2005).

In the City of Hamilton, *significant woodlands* must meet two or more of the following criteria:

Criterion	Description												
Size	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Forest Cover (by planning unit)</th> <th>Minimum patch size for significance</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>< 5 %</td> <td>1 ha.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5-10 %</td> <td>2 ha.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>11-15 %</td> <td>4 ha.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16-20 %</td> <td>10 ha.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>21-30 %</td> <td>15 ha.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Forest Cover (by planning unit)	Minimum patch size for significance	< 5 %	1 ha.	5-10 %	2 ha.	11-15 %	4 ha.	16-20 %	10 ha.	21-30 %	15 ha.
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Interior Forest	Woodlands that contain interior forest habitat. Interior forest habitat is defined as 100 metres from edge.												
Proximity/Connectivity	Woodlands that are located within 50 metres of a significant natural area (defined as <i>wetlands</i> 0.5 hectares or greater in size, <i>ESAs</i> , <i>PSWs</i> , and <i>Life Science ANSIs</i>).												
Proximity to Water	Woodlands where any portion is within 30 metres of any hydrological feature, including all streams, headwater areas, <i>wetlands</i> , and <i>lakes</i> .												
Age	Woodlands with trees of 100 years or more in age. Age will be determined initially using FRI mapping and can be verified during the EIS.												
Rare Species	Any woodland containing threatened, endangered, special concern, provincially or locally rare plant or wildlife species.												

Site Alteration: means activities, such as grading, excavation, and the placement of fill that would change the landform and natural vegetative characteristics of a site (PPS, 2005, amended). (OPA 5)

Small Scale: used to describe a permitted agriculture-related or secondary use, shall mean those uses that are characterized by a size and intensity of activity that is clearly secondary to and does not negatively impact the predominant use of the lands for *agricultural uses*, and which meet the maximum floor area, site coverage and other provisions of the Zoning By-law specific to that use.

Soil Disturbance: means activities such as, but not limited to, tree planting; grubbing, including tree and brush removal; grading; stockpiling; soil capping or placement of fill; demolition; use of heavy machinery on-site, including staging areas and access routes;

and, landscaping and landscape stabilization, which have the potential to impact and/or remove archaeological resources. (OPA 5)

Specialty Crop Area: means areas designated using evaluation procedures established by the Province, as amended from time to time, where specialty crops such as tender fruits (peaches, cherries, plums), grapes, other fruit crops, vegetable crops, greenhouse crops, and crops from agriculturally developed organic soil lands are predominantly grown, usually resulting from:

- a) Soils that have suitability to produce specialty crops, or lands that are subject to special climatic conditions, or a combination of both; and/or
- b) A combination of farmers skilled in the production of specialty crops, and of capital investment in related facilities and services to produce, store, or process specialty crops (PPS, 2005).

Stable Top of Bank: means the edge of the channel or bank, if there is a sharp change from the steep slope of the channel or bank to the shallower slope of the field area, or the normal full extent of the watercourse when it contains the maximum volume of water without flooding, if the change in slope does not exist (Greenbelt Plan, 2005).

Structure: means any *structure* that requires a buildings permit under the Building Code.

Surface Water Feature: refers to water-related features on the earth's surface, including headwaters, rivers, stream channels, inland lakes, seepage areas, recharge/discharge areas, springs, wetlands, and associated riparian lands that can be defined by their soil moisture, soil type, vegetation or topographic characteristics (PPS, 2005).

Sustainable Private Services: means a sewage disposal system, other than a holding tank, that is designed and constructed in accordance with the [Building Code Act](#) and a water supply well designed and constructed in accordance with Ministry of the Environment Guidelines or other guidelines approved by the City of Hamilton, which are located on the same property as the buildings to which the sewage disposal system and water well provide service.

Tallgrass Prairies: means land (not including land that is being used for agricultural purposes or no longer exhibits tallgrass prairie characteristics) that:

- a) Has vegetation dominated by non-woody plants, including tallgrass prairie species that are maintained by seasonal drought, periodic disturbances such as fire, or both;
- b) Has less than 25 percent tree cover;
- c) Has mineral soils; and
- d) Has been further identified, by the Minister of Natural Resources or by any other person, according to evaluation procedures established by the Ministry of Natural Resources, as amended from time to time (Greenbelt Plan, 2005).

Total Development Area: means the total area of the property less the area occupied by *key natural heritage features* and *key hydrologic features*, including any related *Vegetation Protection Zone* (Greenbelt Plan, 2005).

Transportation Corridor: A transportation corridor includes any or all of the following:

- a) major roads, arterial roads, and highways for moving people and goods;
- b) rail lines/railways for moving people and goods;
- c) transit rights-of-way/transitways including buses and light rail for moving people. (Growth Plan, 2006) (OPA 5)(OPA 23)

Transportation Demand Management: a program of incentives which influence whether, when, where and how people travel, and encourage them to make more efficient use of the transportation system (Metrolinx, 2008). (OPA 5)

Transportation System: A system consisting of corridors and rights-of-way for the movement of people and goods, and associated transportation facilities including transit stops and stations, cycle lanes, bus lanes, high occupancy vehicle lanes, rail facilities, park-and-ride lots, service centres, rest stops, vehicle inspection stations, inter-modal terminals, harbours, and associated facilities such as storage and maintenance (PPS, 2005). (OPA 5)

Urban Area: The area inside the *urban boundary*. (OPA 26)

Urban Boundary: The line that delineates the *urban area* from the *rural area*. (OPA 5)

Valley Lands: means a natural area that occurs in a valley or other landform depression that has water flowing through or standing for some period of the year (PPS, 2005).

Vegetation Protection Zone: means a vegetated buffer area surrounding a key natural heritage feature or key hydrologic feature within which only those land uses permitted within the feature itself are permitted. The width of the vegetation protection zone is to be determined when new development or *site alteration* occurs within 120 metres of a *key natural heritage feature* or *key hydrologic feature*, and is to be of sufficient size to protect the features and its functions from the impacts of the proposed change and associated activities that will occur before, during and after, construction, and where possible, restore or enhance the feature and/or its function. (Greenbelt Plan, 2005).

Vegetative Screens: means plantings designed to provide a visual screen between land uses.

Waste Management System: means sites and facilities to accommodate solid waste from one or more municipalities and includes landfill sites, recycling facilities, transfer stations, processing sites and hazardous waste depots (PPS, 2005).

Water Resource System: means made up of both ground and surface water features and their associated functions, which provide the water resources necessary to sustain healthy aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems and human water consumption (Greenbelt Plan, 2005).

Watershed: means an area that is drained by a river and its tributaries.

Watershed Plan: means a plan used for managing human activities and natural resources in an area defined by *watershed* boundaries. *Watershed plans* shall include, but are not limited to, the following components:

- a) A water budget and conservation plan;
- b) Land and water use and management strategies;
- c) A framework for implementation;
- d) An environmental monitoring plan;
- e) Requirements for the use of environmental management practices and programs;
- f) Criteria for evaluating the protection of water quality and quantity, and key *hydrologic features* and functions; and
- g) Targets on a *watershed* or sub-watershed basis for the protection and restoration of riparian areas and the establishment of natural self-sustaining vegetation.

Wayside Pits and Quarries: means temporary pits or quarries opened and used by or for a public authority solely for the purpose of a particular project or contract of road construction and not located on the road right-of-way.

Wetlands: mean land such as swamp, marsh, bog, or fen (not including land that is being used for agricultural purposes and no longer exhibits wetland characteristics) that:

- a) Is seasonally or permanently covered with shallow water or has the water table close to or at the surface;
- b) Has hydric soils and vegetation dominated by water-tolerant plants; and
- c) Has been further identified according to evaluation procedures established by the Ministry of Natural Resources, as amended from time to time.

This includes provincially and locally significant *wetlands* (Greenbelt Plan, 2005).

Wind Farm: means a site or property used for multiple commercial wind turbines.

Woodland Linkages: means any natural or planted wooded area of any size or composition that either connects or lies within 100 metres of a *Core Area*.

Woodland: In regard to archaeology, refers to a *Native* cultural horizon, approximately 3,000 to 300 years ago, marked by a large population increase and adoption of agricultural practices. (OPA 5)

Woodlands: means treed areas that provide environmental and economic benefits to both the private landowner and the general public, such as erosion prevention, hydrological and nutrient cycling, provision of clean air and the long-term storage of carbon, provision of wildlife habitat, outdoor recreational opportunities, and the sustainable harvest of a wide range of woodland products. Woodlands include treed areas, woodlots or forested areas (PPS, 2005). Woodlands do not include a cultivated

fruit or nut orchard or a plantation established for the purpose of producing Christmas trees.