

# Rural Lambton Stewardship Network



- Started as a pilot project in 1994 with the Ministry of Natural Resources
- One of 46 Ontario
   Stewardship Councils
- Dissolved March 2013
- Incorporated in 2013 as a not for profit organization
- Relocated to Wallaceburg





## WHY WE STARTED







## Original Seed Was Hand Collected From Provincial Parks with OMNR permits







#### Partnering with Local Greenhouse Operators for Propagation





Prairie species grown in greenhouse



#### Plug Planting Seed Production Beds









## Harvest time







## Custom Seed Cleaning Facility









# Several Benefits to Planting Native Species



- 1. Reduced Mowing Cost
- 2. Reduction in Spraying
- 3. Increased Diversity for Pollinators/Butterflies

4. Carbon Sequestration

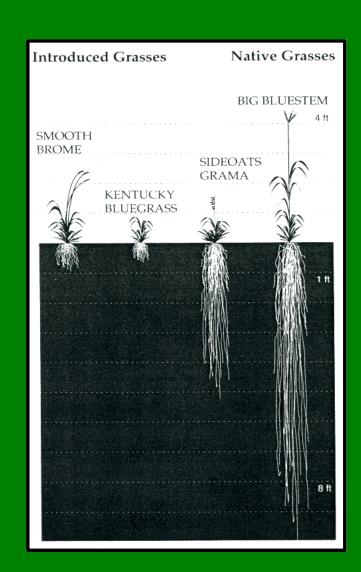






#### Deep Rooting System

- Extensive rooting system helps prevent erosion
- Carbon Sequestration
- Provides strength to outcompete noxious weeds
- Remains upright in the winter time acting as a living snow fence.





#### Why is Native Prairie important?







## Before/After Projects 2007 - 2024







# Enbridge/First Solar 175 acre TGP restoration





#### Port Lambton Lagoons



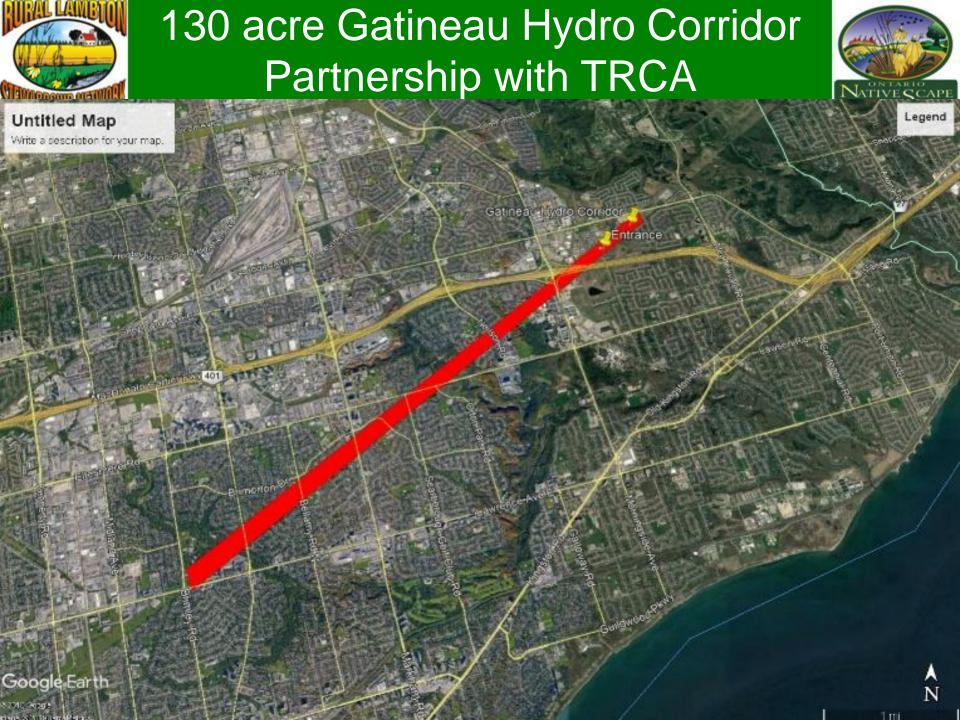




#### Hwy. 40 Prairie Passage 2002 - 2024 Before (non productive habitat)









#### Gatineau Hydro Corridor Site Prep/Planting/Weeds/Prairie

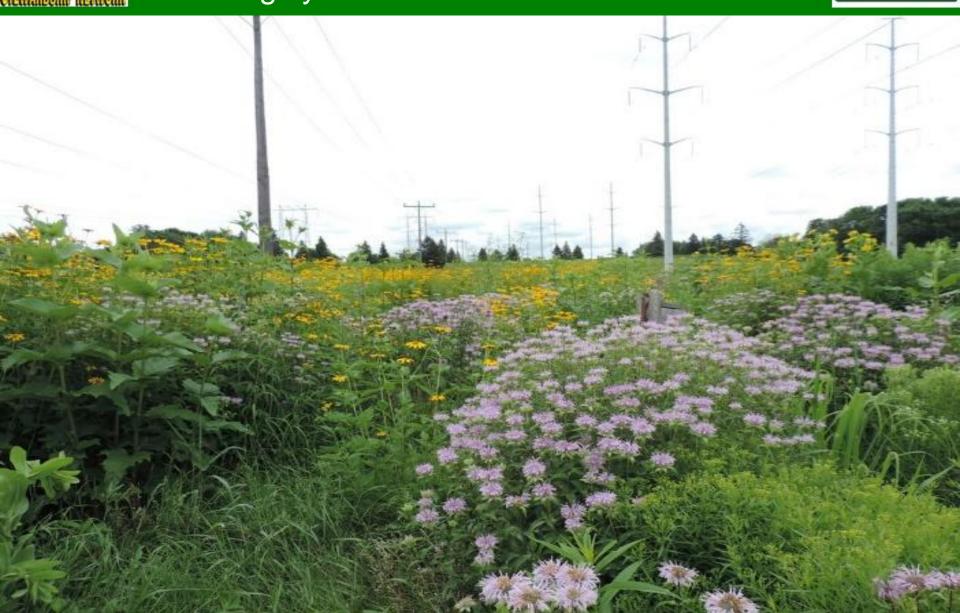






## Went from being mowed since the 80's to a Highly Productive Pollinator Habitat

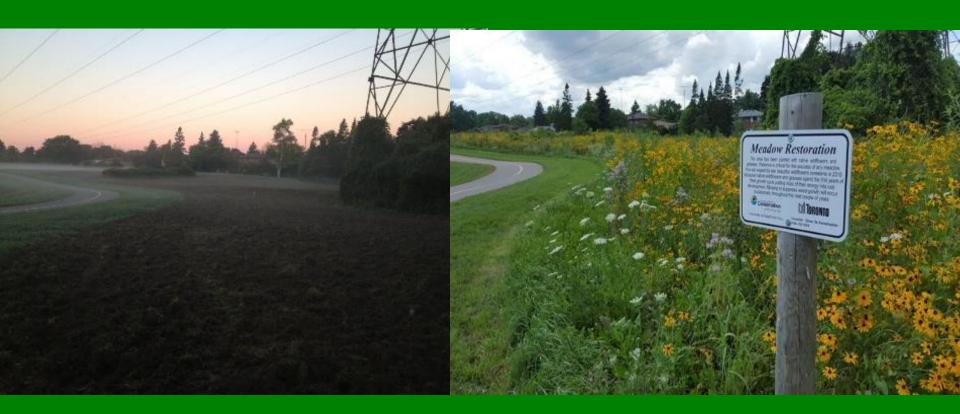














## Before 2005 After 2020







### Native Prairie Planting



Since 1996 – Ontario NativeScape/RLSN have established over 4479 acres in Ontario from Windsor-Ottawa on over 460 projects.





#### Patience



