



UPDATE QUARTERLY Q1 —2023

NVEB Seriously Concerned with Difficulty in Arranging Meeting with MPP Mike Harris over Ontario's Bill 23

The Nith Valley EcoBoosters group is very concerned about the ramifications of Bill 23 that was introduced by the provincial government in late October. In November we wrote to both the Wilmot and Wellesley Township Councils because we knew that the bill would significantly impact local municipalities. We wanted them to be aware of our viewpoint regarding environmental issues related to the bill that would be considered in the townships' responses to the provincial government.

Members of our group started attending regular meetings with other environmental activists in Waterloo Region and sur-

rounding areas to plan actions and share information. We have participated in a rally at MPP Mike Harris' office on November 16, engaged attendees at the Elmira Santa Claus parade; distributed written materials and lawn signs; and participated in rallies at the Dumfries Conservation Area in Cambridge on February 4th and at Queens Park in Toronto on February 25.

Of course, we felt it was important to share our concerns about Bill 23 with our local MPP. The following is an excerpt from a letter written by the Nith Valley EcoBoosters (NVEB) to the MPP for Kitchener-Conestoga, Mike Harris, a few weeks after Bill

23 was introduced. It outlines our ongoing concerns about the bill.

"Bill 23 and the plan to remove land from the Greenbelt are

Continued on page 8...

New Wilmot Council Makes About-face On Hallman Pit

Wilmot Township Council recently shocked the Citizens for Safe Ground Water when it announced that Wilmot will not be fighting the Hallman Pit at the upcoming Ontario Land Tribunal hearing. The Council's decision was made in a closed meeting by members that have little history of the tremendous amount of time and energy that a concerned group of local citizens have given to fighting for our township's environment.

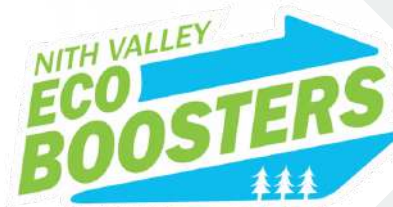
The Nith Valley EcoBoosters have been supporting the Citizens for Safe Ground Water (CSGW) over the last few years in their efforts to prevent another gravel pit from being developed in Wilmot Township. In fact, our group delegated to the Wilmot Township Council in May 2021 and April 2022 to

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NVEB Protesting Bill 23 in front of MPP Mike Harris' office.

ELECTRIC VEHICLES



**DO YOU HAVE A QUESTION?
ASK THE OWNERS!!**

TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 2023, 7-9 P.M.



WEBINAR DETAILS:

- A summary/update on the current state of electric vehicles (EVs).
- Brief presentations by owners about their experiences with an EV.

ASK THE OWNERS!!

- Our extended Question & Answer period will give you lots of time to ask your questions.

OUR SPEAKERS:

- A 2019 Chevy Bolt owner will summarize the experience of a long EV trip from Ontario to Newfoundland.
- Other speakers will discuss their specific EV situation and experiences.
- Speakers and Q&A panelists are owners of various types of Hybrid, Plug-In, and Battery EVs.

Free webinar but registration is required.

Register at: nvecoboosters.com or <https://bit.ly/ElectricVehicles2> or Scan



ELECTRIC VEHICLES DO YOU HAVE A QUESTION? ASK THE OWNERS!!

NEW HAMBURG, ON – Many changes related to Electric Vehicles (EV's) have occurred in the 2 years since the Nith Valley EcoBoosters hosted their first webinar focused on this subject. The technology has evolved, the variety of EV's being produced has mushroomed and the uptake of this type of transportation has escalated.

As a result, the Nith Valley EcoBoosters have decided to revisit this subject by organizing a follow up webinar on Tuesday, March 21, 2023 from 7 – 9 p.m. The webinar will begin with an update on the current state of EV's offered by Neil Lackey, an EV owner for over four years and one of the three team members who created the material for both the 2021 and the 2023 webinars.

The planning team, which also includes Bart Van Andel and Andy Wilson, has recruited a diverse group of EV owners who will offer brief presentations about their experiences with a variety of EV's – Hybrids, Plug-ins and Battery only.

This event is specifically geared to attendees with questions because a large part of the program will be devoted to those questions being asked and the various owners responding. Registration is required for this free webinar.

Register for this free event at <http://nvecoboosters.com/> or <https://bit.ly/ElectricVehicles2>
Contact details – Neil Lackey at nvecoboosters@gmail.com



Nith Valley EcoBoosters

“Let’s Talk — Sustainable Investing 101 Webinar” Introduces Environmentally Healthier Concepts

The Nith Valley EcoBoosters (NVEB) hosted this free webinar on December 7th, 2022, to introduce the topic of sustainable investing to the community and discuss how we can all make more intentional choices with our investments. The event featured Tim Nash, the founder and President of Good Investing and an expert in personal finance.

Tim began his presentation by outlining a “traditional” portfolio of stocks and bonds which most people buy through a mutual fund or exchange traded fund (ETF). The issue with these funds? Many of us don’t realize they invest in companies that have negative impacts on our health and planet such as oil and tobacco companies and weapons manufacturers. Tim shared research that showed investing this way can add more to our annual carbon footprint than driving a gas-powered car or taking a couple flights per year.

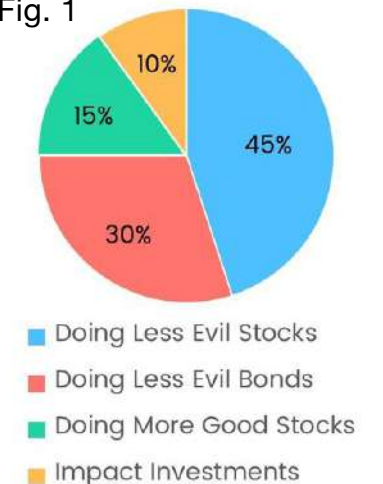
Tim’s solution to this is to create a portfolio that better aligns with your values. He presented an example of a responsible portfolio (Figure 1) that would reduce negative impacts and support sustainability leaders without taking on too much risk.

The largest component he calls *Doing Less Evil* (stocks and bonds). These investments eliminate companies based on their industry (weapons, tobacco) business practices (human rights) or how sustainable they are compared to their industry peers.

The *Doing More Good* component goes a step further by investing in companies contributing to solving sustainability challenges like those involved in renewable energy. The final component, Impact Investments, focuses on supporting not-for-profit organizations while also getting a financial return.

To learn more about the impact of traditional portfolios and how to invest sustainably you can view a

Fig. 1



recording of the webinar: bit.ly/31lywxF. NVEB has also created a resource document that is available: bit.ly/3J4MIhb, that provides links and information about articles, books, podcasts, and websites related to the concept of “sustainable investment.” It also contains contact information for our speaker, Tim Nash if you have further questions or would like to speak to a professional about your investments.

—Garner Matthews

Let's Tree Wilmot (LTW) Hits Three Years Old, Gets Federal Money and Plans to Plant a 1000 Trees

Happy Third Birthday Let's Tree Wilmot! (LTW). LTW, a project of Wilmot Horticultural Society recently celebrated their March 11th Birthday.

From planting 100 trees in our first (Covid) year to planting 1066 trees/shrubs and 600 tree seedlings in our own tree nursery last year. Instructional videos on planting, pruning and more were created and posted on our YouTube channel. Our strong partnership continues with Wilmot Township. We celebrated receiving a \$163,000 2 Billion Tree Grant Capacity Building from Natural Resources Canada over two years

What are we up to this year? Of course, we are planting more trees but it is critical that the trees we plant survive. Working with the Township, we are exploring the best methods of watering the newly planted trees for their first two years and monitoring their survival rates.

More educational videos will be created and shared beyond our own tree planting community. Our tree nursery will expand by another 800 seedlings in April. This project is important as the industry has a shortage of native trees and soon, we will be able to use our own stock.

Save-the-date for spring tree plantings events. April 22 (afternoon), May 7 (afternoon) and May 13 (morning). The Project Committee team has been planning since last fall selecting species, sourcing and ordering trees. Where are we planting? On April 22, in tandem with Wilmot Tree Giveaway by Wilmot Township, we will complete planting by Wilmot Recreation Complex's triangle along the highway with about 200 trees. In the future as the trees mature, the area will provide a great noise buffer, wind break and wildlife corridor. We are trying something new with a Sunday afternoon planting at the request of some residents. We will be planting at Scott Park (30 – 40 trees) and Catherine Street Park (100+), New Hamburg around its perimeter. Our last spring planting on May 13 will be at Baden Sand Hills with approximately 150-200 trees surrounding the parking lot and the roadside pathway. For more information and to register, go to <https://www.eventbrite.com/d/canada--wilmot/lets-tree-wilmot>

Thank you to our other partner Nith Valley EcoBoosters and all the residents of Wilmot Township for your enthusiastic support.

—Marlene Knezevich



Nith Valley EcoBoosters

“Shaping Engaged, Resilient and Livable Communities” Webinar

The Nith Valley EcoBoosters (NVEB) hosted this free webinar on October 4th, 2022. 79 people registered for the event which featured guest speakers:

- **Kevin Eby:** Former member of the Ontario Greenbelt Council and Director of Community Planning for the Region of Waterloo.
- **Tim Van Hinte:** Director of Planning for the Township of Wellesley.
- **Suzanne Karajabelian:** Managing Director, Engagement & Operations, Environmental Defence Canada.
- **Kevin Thomason:** Director, Smart Growth Waterloo Region, Vice-Chair, Grand River Environmental Network.

The webinar presented ideas and discussion about liveable communities, participation in the municipal planning process, the importance of individual engagement, and how to turn that passion into a movement.

Kevin Eby described liveable communities as those which include essential features that allow residents of all ages and backgrounds to thrive. A liveable community:

1. Encourages/facilitates travel by means other than by private automobile.
2. Supports and creates compact neighbourhoods where everything you need is available within a 15 minute walk.
3. Recognizes that there is a reduced need for single detached dwellings as our population ages and provides access to services and age-appropriate housing for our increasing number of seniors.

Suzanne Karajabelian talked about Environmental Defence Canada's "Ontario: Yours to Protect" initiative which is a great example of how grassroots local community movements and public engagement have resulted in the Ontario government's reversal of some proposed environmental changes due to negative feedback from thousands of people. She emphasized that having local "champions" to lead community movements is very important to the success of those movements.

With municipal elections just a few weeks away, Suzanne also addressed the question: Why

should we vote? She reminded us that municipal leaders can influence a number of concerns that many people have such as preventing expansion of urban boundaries, securing affordable housing, protecting natural areas, and taking action on the climate crisis. She encouraged everyone to get out and vote because at the local level, a few hundred votes are enough to determine the outcome and the type of leaders that end up being elected.

Tim Van Hinte began his presentation addressing the question "What is public participation" as it relates to the municipal planning process. He then provided an overview of the planning process in Ontario and talked about how to become engaged and provide input into the planning process. This would include going to public meetings, open houses and information sessions and letting council know what you think. Talking with neighbours is a good way to hear different perspectives on an issue. Tim emphasized that municipal planners are currently experiencing unprecedented workloads, staffing issues and significant challenges such as the climate crisis, reconciliation and affordable housing. He stressed that making a phone call or having a face to face meeting to discuss issues with a planner can be much more effective than going back and forth through e-mail. Finally, he emphasized that planning is a "slow" process, but it's better to be slow than wrong!

Kevin Thomason's presentation focused on how to create a movement and rally your community. Some of his key recommendations were:

- Spend time researching issues and proposals before you make a presentation to Council or an organization.
- Have a prepared presentation, practice it ahead of time, and have printouts of it to distribute.
- Aim for emotion in your presentations – it is more powerful than logic, and more memorable.
- A "story" can be much more impactful and hard for opponents to counter.
- Get to know community reporters and build a rapport with them.
- Think beyond your immediate issue. Not everyone is going to be as excited as you are about a particular issue. Finding a larger goal that everyone will be inspired by has a better chance of creating momentum and rallying the community. For example, "protecting the Greenbelt" is a larger goal than just focusing on water, farmland or endangered species.

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NVEB Youth Advocates Boost Student Enthusiasm on Environment

Are you interested in school-based climate action? Are you a teacher or school council member who wants to green your school, but don't have time to get it done? You're in luck! The NVEB Youth Advocates are committed to helping schools in Wilmot and Wellesley become climate change leaders and we are ready to help you! We get it — greening your school is difficult, especially when you are busy already with so many other projects. That's where the Youth Advocates come in — we do the behind-the-scenes work so that your greening process can be easy and stress-free!

Over the past year and a half, the Youth Advocates have been hard at work researching school grants and programs and connecting with the school board to give us a well-rounded base of knowledge on how to help schools with their greening projects.

In the past few months, we have created several interactive school resources including games like "Jeapor-tree" and "Tree Hedbanz". One of our members took Jeapor-tree to a class at Tavistock Public School, to great success! If you are interested in having the Youth Advocates come into your school to play educational games or teach important environmental topics, please contact us at nveb.youthadvocates@gmail.com.

In November, the Youth Advocates visited elementary schools across Wilmot and Wellesley townships to discuss how we can help these

schools with the greening projects, followed up by a meeting with the Wellesley School Council. These schools expressed an interest in our work. In the coming months, we hope to turn these conversations into real action plans for school greening projects!

Overall, the Youth Advocates have a lot of work to do and we are always looking for new members to help us make a difference in schools and in the community! It is the perfect opportunity to have fun and make new friends while making a difference too. Youth who participate will benefit by:

- Gaining skills to help boost their resume for work or to apply for post-secondary education
- Making a difference in their community and inspiring others
- Helping to combat the climate crisis
- Making community connections and finding mentors
- Building their confidence
- Receiving volunteer hours

Any youth that are interested in helping the community and combating the climate crisis can send an email to nveb.youthadvocates@gmail.com for more information. The Youth Advocates look forward to working with schools to create a greener future for today's youth!

—Lyndsay Dajka

nveb.youthadvocates@gmail.com

Livable Communities... Continued from page 5

- Meet and get to know municipal and regional staff.
- Meet with councillors in advance of meetings and get to know where they stand on issues.
- Propose solutions – don't just complain!
- Work with other individuals and groups within your community to accomplish your goals.

During the Question & Answer portion of the webinar, Kevin Eby made a very important point about engagement. Always remember to show respect for whoever you are making a presentation to. Make your point, but don't attack the decision makers – they are people just like you, and you can lose support very quickly if you are too ag-

gressive and critical.

A question was asked about what the recommended first step would be for people who lack confidence but want to become more engaged in their community? Suzanne recommended that in this case, you should never try to do something alone on your first attempt. For example, going to speak to your MPP or a Council member with someone you trust (a friend or neighbour) will give you more confidence and motivation to actually do it.

A recording of the webinar can be found at the following link: <https://youtu.be/VDsaWhUT-2k>

The resource document for this webinar can be found on the NVEB website: <https://nvecoboosters.com/ResourcesCommunities.pdf>

—Tom Knezevich

Nith Valley EcoBoosters

First NVEB Meeting with Councillors Seemed Positive

NVEB & the Wilmot Ecumenical Working Group invited the newly elected council members of Wilmot & Wellesley to attend an information sharing meeting on Nov. 29, 2022. A total of 15 attended, including Councillors Steven Martin and Kris Wilkinson from Wilmot Township and Claude Hergott, Wellesley Township Council.

After an introduction by Lyndsay Dajka of the NVEB Youth Advocates, Dorothy Wilson read a Land Acknowledgment. Linda Lackey gave a presentation outlining NVEB history, membership and working groups' projects, including the then upcoming *Let's Talk: Sustainable Investing 101*, with Tim Nash, December 7.

Betsy Daub gave an overview of activities and issues during previous councils' terms. In Wilmot, it included the creation of the Sustainability Working Group and Trails Committee; an important MZO request was made by Cachet in December 2022; the Hallman Gravel Pit application received overwhelming responses. In Wellesley, there were a tree nursery, Friends of the pond, and collaborations with the GRCA for tree giveaways.

Lyndsay reminded the participants that 50x30 was a commitment made by Wilmot council and that "citizens were all for it". Steven Martin's response was that "You've been doing important work."

A Questions/Comments period followed, with Linda and Betsy voicing the hope that NVEB can support councils in their work involving the environment, and that the Wilmot committees stay on.

To Linda's questions, "What are your priorities?" and "Did things come up during canvassing?", Kris Wilkinson replied that seeing the news lately is a reminder "what we have control over". He noted that Council must be mindful of the budget and changes from the Province. He will

be happy to continue working with groups and build on it, and they need a level of knowledge after Bill 23.

Wellesley Councillor Claude Hergott discussed plans by the Township to increase the Planting Roots tree initiative, involving school kids and using public land. The Township has purchased two electric ice resurfacers (replacing natural gas) and is replacing gas powered tools with electric tools.

Though obvious to this group, how clear is it to residents how different levels of government work?

Betsey commented that NVEB wants more engagement, and is looking for any ideas, such as Youth Advocates, with kids in Civics classes.

Kris Wilkinson responded that Wilmot is working on a new communications strategy with higher levels of engagement; NVEB is a good example of a community group that works, but other service groups are dying off. Not everyone understands and he noticed this in house visits.

Steven Martin had no specific ideas at that moment, pointing out that they (Council) have just had their first meeting. There's a commitment to working together, so he encouraged the group to keep bringing forward concerns in order to do that.

Councillor Martin gave an example of his personal goal to upgrade EV infrastructure by bringing charging stations to Level Three chargers. As an EV owner, he recognizes this is needed. He is impressed with what's been done and wants to contribute.

Betsey finished the discussion with the question, "With the 50x30 pledge being made, how can we meet that commitment?" Wellesley Township is committing to electric vehicles and tools. Wilmot is installing EV charging stations and looking at the building codes for green alternatives.

—Yvonne Zyma

A fool sees not the same tree that a wise man sees. —William Blake

Two Compliments To NVEB for Their Efforts

Received in response to media coverage in The Waterloo Region Record on February 21st, 2023 about the NVEB protest at MPP Mike Harris' office

"Congratulations for sticking to your mission and showing everyone Mike Harris's true colours. Great article and well done by your dedicated EcoBoosters."

"I read the Waterloo Regional Record article about getting Harris to respond. Thanks to that Record reporter and I was impressed with the community action your group demonstrated."

Nith Valley EcoBoosters

Committed to achieving and supporting a long-term healthy environment in Wilmot and Wellesley Townships through education, action and collaboration.

nvecoboosters.com/

Facebook <https://www.instagram.com/nvecoboosters/>



Protesting at Queens Park.

...Bill 23 Continued from page 1
 both of great concern to the Nith Valley EcoBoosters because they will:

- allow development on farmland and environmentally sensitive areas such as wetlands
- compromise the integrity of water sources
- lead to car dependent urban sprawl
- fail to provide housing appropriate for low-income individuals and families.
- increase greenhouse gas emissions
- threaten food security
- prohibit Conservation Authorities' power to protect anything beyond managing floodwaters and erosion
- limit the abilities of local governments to plan appropriately for their jurisdictions
- prevent citizens from appealing development plans for their communities

Bill 23 also completely disregards the fact that we are in a climate crisis.

The Nith Valley EcoBoosters urge you to oppose Bill 23 and request that the provincial government



Protesting for wetlands protection.



Protesting at the Santa Claus parade in Elmira.

make changes to it to reflect the concerns that our group has and that have been outlined in this letter. We also ask that the integrity of the Greenbelt be preserved, as has been promised by this government previously."

Having received no response to our letter, the NVEB decided to request a meeting with MPP Harris. After some phone calls and emails that went unanswered, members of our group staged a protest at MPP Harris' office on February 13. Whether it was the protest or media coverage in the Woolwich Observer that had some influence, we will never know, but two days after the protest we had a response from MPP Harris' office and a meeting date was established. The Waterloo Region Record and The Wilmot Tavistock Gazette also ran stories on MPP Harris' lack of response to his constituents.

On Friday, March 3, four members of the NVEB and one of our supporters met with MPP Harris. We had prepared presentations that focused on our areas of concern.

One of the first topics covered was the Region of Waterloo Official Plan. MPP Harris commented that he is "all for Made in Waterloo Region", but he doesn't think the Regional Plan, as it is right now, "fits the

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...Bill 23 Continued from page 8
 needs of the community".

With regards to the decreased development charges in Bill 23, MPP Harris feels that there is a large misconception in the city of Waterloo about these charges. One of the presenters mentioned that it is not just Waterloo that is concerned about development charges. There is also confusion about whether these fees are, in fact, being reduced for affordable housing new builds. MPP Harris indicated he would be "happy to provide the facts". We plan to follow up with him on that topic.

We informed MPP Harris about our opposition to opening up the Greenbelt and paving over wetlands. He responded that the government is bringing more land into the Greenbelt and proposed developments will be adjacent to existing built up areas with services already in place.

Overall, MPP Harris strongly defended Bill 23 even though we raised legitimate concerns about it.

Members of our group raised issues about a wetland in Waterloo that was at risk and a situation in Kitchener where the city had requested a developer add affordable housing units to their plan but refused because of the expense. In both of those cases, which were unfamiliar to MPP Harris, he indicated that he would be interested in getting more information.

When we complained about his office's previous lack of responsiveness to our letter, emails and phone calls, MPP Harris responded that his office does respond. This has not been our experience.

Is this meeting a first step in building a relationship with MPP Harris? How he responds to our future emails will indicate his willingness to pursue this relationship.

Regardless, Nith Valley EcoBoosters will continue working with others to raise awareness of the potential impacts of Bill 23 and to inspire members of the community to take action.

—Dorothy Wilson

...CSGW Continued from page 1

raise concerns about the possible negative effects that the Hallman Pit could have on our community. These included the contamination of groundwater, disruption of wetlands and loss of wildlife habitat.

Last year, after hearing many well-researched presentations from local citizens and experts, Wilmot Council voted against the application for a zone change that would allow the Hallman Pit to go ahead.

It was no surprise that the applicant appealed the township's decision to the Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT). The CSGW group has been preparing for what is ahead with the hearing, fully expecting that Wilmot Township would be fighting the applicant's appeal alongside them.

This past October the provincial government introduced Bill 23, an omnibus bill that mandates that the losing party in Ontario Land Tribunal cases can be held responsible for paying the legal fees for the winner. Because the township's legal team felt that there was little chance of Wilmot winning at the Tribunal, they have recommended that a settlement be reached with the applicant, Jackson Harvest Farms. The Council has acted on this recommendation despite the fact that the township will face future costs from the operations of the gravel pit that could be very expensive if there is water contamination or other severe impacts.

There has been another cost to this action by the Council. That is the erosion of trust in Council members who had indicated in their recent election campaigns that they would stand by the previous Council's decision and champion transparency and accountability in their work on behalf of the community.

The Wilmot Council chambers plus an overflow room filled with supporters at the March 6th Council meeting when Citizens for Safe

Ground Water were allowed ten minutes to respond to the Council's decision. Members of the public were denied the opportunity to delegate on this issue. The group's lawyer addressed the health risk of fine particulate matter, a product of aggregate mining, which was never considered in the Region's staff reports. He also clarified that, although the issue of Tribunal costs in Bill 23 has been legislated, it has not been enacted.

One wonders if the members of Council were aware of that before making their decision. Samantha Lernout, President of the CSGW, reminded the Council of the widespread support the group has had in relation to their opposition to the gravel pit.

She also summarized concerns and questions that have been shared with her regarding promises broken by council members; the possibility of fear mongering influencing the councillors; and the lack of opportunity for members of the public to discuss strategies with Council before the decision was made.

Mayor Salonen read a prepared statement that basically said that the decision to make a settlement with Jackson Harvest Farms was a better choice than not having any say in the development.

She stated that she has been personally advocating with staff in the office of the Minister of Natural Resources, Graydon Smith, for improvements in the regulations. She also encouraged community members to reach out to Minister Smith and the Premier to push the province to uphold higher standards for management of this resource. Regardless of what the mayor said, members of the Citizens for Safe Ground Water feel like they have been let down by their Council. However, they are not "down and out" as they plan to continue their fight against the Hallman Pit and many others in the community will support them.

—Dorothy Wilson



Are You
Environmentally
Conscientious?

**Nith Valley
EcoBoosters
seeks new
members
to take the path
toward a safer
environment...**

*Come
Join Us!*

nvecoboosters@gmail.com

About Nith Valley EcoBoosters

Nith Valley EcoBoosters (NVEB) is a not-for-profit, politically non-partisan volunteer organization committed to achieving and supporting long-term healthy environments in Wilmot and Wellesley Townships. Environmental goals are achieved through education, action and collaboration.

Formed in 2013, NVEB was an ad hoc committee at Zion United Church in New Hamburg. In June 2015, the Nith Valley EcoBoosters became a community-based group adopting its current name.

The NVEB usually meets the fourth Wednesday of each month, except July and December. Monthly meetings are open to all. Subcommittees and working groups are established for various topics, issues or proposals as required. The meetings held by these groups are in addition to regular monthly meetings.

The Nith Valley EcoBoosters has organized or participated in multiple environmentally-related events each year. It has been an active supporter of most regional environmental groups and activities.

The Nith Valley EcoBoosters is funded by donations, fundraising efforts and grants. Membership fees are not collected.

Contact Information

<https://www.nvecoboosters.com>

nvecoboosters@gmail.com

NVEB 'EcoNuggets' The Latest Solutions



EcoNugget

Garlic Mustard was brought to North America as an edible herb but has become a serious forest invader.

- Garlic mustard forms dense stands, even in shade, and interferes with the seed germination of native woodland species such as drooping trillium and wood poppy.
- Identification is helped by the distinctive garlic smell when the leaves are crushed.
- Garlic mustard seeds remain viable in the ground for many years, so it is worth the effort to remove plants before they go to seed. In our area, mid-May to early June is good timing, but removing plants is important at all times.
- Garlic mustard is readily pulled by hand, but take care to dispose of the plants with care so seeds do not spread. If necessary, concentrate on the second-year (seed producing) plants.

To learn more about how to remove garlic mustard, go to <https://www.invasivespeciescentre.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/How-to-remove-garlic-mustard-1.pdf>

For further information contact:

nvecoboosters@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIPS

The NVEB are members of

- **GREN** (Grand River Environment Network) a collective of environmentalists in Waterloo Region that work on a variety of issues.
- **Future Ground Network**—An online organizing resource, associated with the David Suzuki Foundation. It is a convenor & mentor for community environmental groups.
- **Nature Network**—A province-wide network of groups and individuals that are a collective voice for conservation.
- In addition, since 2015, the Nith Valley EcoBoosters have collaborated with the **Waterloo Region Blue Dot Team** to promote the rights of all Canadians to a healthy environment. <https://bluedot.ca>