



# UPDATE

## MARCH 2026

### NVEB Launches Repair Café in New Hamburg

by Ashley Ropp

**H**ave you ever mourned your favourite sweater, lost to a gaping hole in the armpit? If not your favourite sweater, then a necklace you love, no longer wearable because of a broken clasp.

Maybe you don't fret over worn out clothing and accessories, but you desperately wish that old side table could be fixed so that you wouldn't have to maneuver a new one into the monthly budget. We all



face the same problem sooner or later: stuff breaks!

Whether it's a family heirloom weathered by age, or a jacket with a hole in the pocket, items breaking and wearing down can cause frustration and heartbreak. The Nith Valley EcoBoosters (NVEB) has noticed this problem too. We've also noticed how much the inability to repair things can contribute to environmental damage. NVEB is committed to sustainability in the Wilmot and Wellesley area, so we want to do something about this unnecessary waste.

It's easy to forget that the earth has limited resources, especially when companies continue to push new products for the sake of novelty, or because the previous products have not been designed to last. This linear manufacturing process can't last forever, but while it does last, this constant production is sucking up valuable energy and resources, worsening destruction. The solution? Use what we have! Reusing, up-cycling, recycling, and repairing are powerful ways to protect the planet, save money, practice hands-on skills, and turn us from passive consumers to active contributors.

For these reasons and ...Continued on page 4

### Why I Got Pumped About Heat Pumps!

by Diane Stanley-Horn

**W**hen I moved back to rural property in 2011 in Wellesley Township, after renting in various cities for 25 years, I knew that I would be driving more and that I would also finally have full control of making changes to my home. I decided to purchase a hybrid vehicle and then an EV, and I put in a ground source heat pump, among other changes.

The heat pump has been great; it is highly energy efficient and comfortable, and it dramatically cut my home's carbon footprint. Both major changes had an upfront investment that paid back over time. And I knew both were the way of the future, being key parts of the energy transition happening in Canada and all across the globe to address climate change. Like the rest of the

world, and even in the face of inevitable headwinds, Canada is decarbonizing and moving towards clean and sustainable energy to protect our beautiful earth.

For many Canadian households like mine, the biggest contributors to climate change are gas cars and fossil-fueled space and water heating. This is certainly true in



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# OUR WATER

## CHALLENGES & SOLUTIONS!



### OUR SPEAKER:

**Dr. Hugh Simpson**  
Hydrogeologist



Morwick 360 Groundwater Research Institute  
University of Guelph

Dr. Simpson has over 30 years experience in groundwater resources management & protection

### EVENT DETAILS:

- Tuesday, April 21<sup>st</sup>  
7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
- Attend in person or online.
- Zion United Church  
215 Peel Street  
New Hamburg.

### LEARN ABOUT:

- Where we get our water.
- The water capacity issue in the Region of Waterloo.
- What is being done & what can be done?
- Water conservation strategies.

**FREE WEBINAR, REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED**

Register at: [nvecoboosters.com](http://nvecoboosters.com) or <https://bit.ly/2026water> or scan:



## NVEB Member BIO

### Diane Stanley-Horn

by Diane Stanley-Horn

I grew up on a beautiful rural property in Waterloo Region, with a forest, an orchard and large flower and vegetable gardens. I have always had a deep love of nature and biodiversity and an appreciation for local food production and our connection to the natural world.

My studies and life experiences also fostered an appreciation for our global connectedness and the beauty, complexity and potential precarity of our planet. Having multiple passions, I studied psychology and environmental biology and after completing graduate work, became an entrepreneur in social service software with my husband.

I have long been concerned about climate change. My company, Athena Software, joined a Regional Carbon Initiative (a program of Sustainable Waterloo Region) to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions relative to our growth, through which we were able to achieve our pledged emissions targets.

I also joined the Board of Sustainable Waterloo Region while at Athena. When my partners and I sold Athena Software in 2021, we were able to retire and I was able to focus more time and energy on helping to address the climate crisis and supporting the clean energy transition through participation in local groups like the Nith Valley EcoBoosters (NVEB), GreenWR and the Waterloo Region Climate Collaborative.

I love being a part of these groups and getting to know so many people passionate about shifting towards a sustainable, prosperous future. One project in particular that I have had the privilege of leading in collaboration

with Em Stermann (another NVEB member) is [getpumpedwr.ca](https://getpumpedwr.ca), an initiative that encourages clean electric heat pump adoption in place of fossil gas furnaces, using homeowner testimonials and simple, locally relevant resources.

Outside of my volunteer work I am a musician and enjoy reading, some gardening, keeping up with research on a variety of science topics and travelling (though a little less nowadays and with offsets). I live with my husband and cats in Wellesley Township and have two amazing children, both in University. ☘



#### NVEB Educational Event

### Our Water: Challenges & Solutions

In an announcement made December 4, 2025, the Region of Waterloo identified a **water capacity issue** resulting from population growth and aging infrastructure. The issue is within the Mannheim Service Area which supplies water to Kitchener, Waterloo, parts of Cambridge, as well as Woolwich and Wilmot Townships.

To help our community understand what this means and what can be done, the Nith Valley EcoBoosters are hosting a free event, **“Our Water: Challenges & Solutions”** on Tuesday, **April 21** from **7:00 to 9:00 p.m.** at Zion United Church, 215 Peel Street, New Hamburg. This event will also be live streamed for those who are not able to attend in person.

Our keynote speaker is **Dr. Hugh Simpson** who has more than 30 years of experience working as a hydrogeologist in provincial and regional municipal governments focusing on the management and protection of groundwater resources. His work included technical review and guidance to better manage and protect local groundwater resources throughout rural portions of the Regional Municipality

of Waterloo from 1992 to 2000. During this time, he was also involved with gravel pit proposals, privately serviced housing, and stormwater issues.

Topics that will be discussed include:

- A review of where Wilmot & Wellesley Townships currently get their water.
- A summary of the water capacity issue that the Region of Waterloo identified and its potential impact on the residents of Wilmot & Wellesley Townships.
- Why this issue occurred.
- What is being done and/or what can be done to resolve this issue.
- Potential water conservation strategies for municipalities.
- Water conservation tips & strategies for individuals and households.

A Question & Answer period will follow Dr. Simpson’s presentation

This is a **free** event but **registration is required**. Register at:

<https://bit.ly/2026water> or  
[nvecoboosters.com](https://nvecoboosters.com)

...Continued from page 1—  
**Repair Café**

many more, NVEB decided to organize a Repair Café in New Hamburg. A Repair Café is a free community event run by volunteers, where people can bring in their broken items and designated ‘fixers’ will walk them through the process of repair.

This started as a one-time event in Amsterdam in 2009 and has since grown into a worldwide movement. NVEB has joined the **Right to Repair movement** and we have held two Repair Cafés so far, one in November 2025 and the most recent on January 31, 2026. Both events were well attended with 15-20 people bringing items for repair.

Most people brought in more than one item for an average of 46 items at each event.

NVEB will be hosting additional Repair Cafés on the **last Saturday of every other month** except July.

Repair Cafés are held from **9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.** at **Zion United Church, 215 Peel Street in New Hamburg** and the next one is scheduled **Saturday, March 28**.

No appointment is necessary! Just drop in, and our greeters will

walk you through the process and direct you to the appropriate fixer.

For our March Repair Café we will have fixers available for wooden items, clothing, crochet and knitwear, jewelry, books, and non-electrical household items.

Community members are required to stay with the fixer while the repair is happening, so that they can learn new skills and apply those skills to future repairs.

Because of this, items cannot just be dropped off for repair. Sometimes the item being repaired requires more specialized skills, such as knitting, and the fixer may not be able to walk the owner of the item through the process so they can replicate it in the future.

When that’s the case, there will be snacks, refreshments, reading material, and places to sit and mingle while you wait for your repair to be done.

You’re also welcome to keep the fixer company, even if they can’t teach you how to do future complex repairs.

**The NVEB Repair Café is looking for volunteers!!** If this sounds like something you’d like to be involved in, we’ve got a role for you! If you have any specialized skills you’d like to share, reach out to us to talk about

becoming a fixer.

In particular, we are looking for **one or more qualified, licensed and insured electricians** to volunteer their time and expertise.

Currently, we are **not** able to do repairs on any electrical appliances because we do not have a volunteer electrician participating in our Repair Café.

If you or someone you know has the necessary qualifications and would be interested in helping to do small electrical repairs, please contact us.

Even if you don’t have specialized skills, we could also use more volunteers to help with organizing, advertising, greeting, set-up and take-down, and other small details related to running the Repair Café.

We can work with flexible availability and would appreciate any time you have to offer.

We’re so excited to build a space that centres around repair, learning, and community, and we’d be even more excited if you were a part of it!

If you want to join our team, or if you have any questions, don’t hesitate to reach out to [nvebrepaircafe@gmail.com](mailto:nvebrepaircafe@gmail.com). We hope to see you at our next Repair Café!



## Nith Valley EcoBoosters Host Nature Network's Fall Meeting

On Saturday, October 25, Nith Valley EcoBoosters (NVEB) hosted the fall meeting of the Nature Network's Great Lakes West Region. The EcoBoosters group is a member of this network which is part of the environmental charity, Ontario Nature (<https://ontarionature.org/about/nature-network/>)

The meeting, held at Zion United Church in New Hamburg, included representatives from four other Nature Network groups, the Network's organizer, the Regional Councillor and six NVEB members.

Ashley Ropp, a member of NVEB's Youth Advocates Working Group, was the guest speaker. Ashley was jointly sponsored by the Nith Valley EcoBoosters and the Midland-Penetanguishene Field Naturalists, another Nature Network group, to attend Ontario Nature's Youth Summit which took place at Camp Tawingo, near Huntsville in September 2025.

Some of the highlights for Ashley at the Youth Summit included increased awareness of Indigenous knowledge plus learning about sustainable agriculture and new ideas about advocacy. She enjoyed working with others passionate about nature and appreciated the connections made through Indigenous ceremony.

In her update, Lesley Rudy, Nature Network organizer, said five new groups have joined since the spring regional meetings, making a total of 153 groups in the network. Lesley encouraged groups to send in their stories for the monthly Nature Network News online publication and reminded them of the resources and support that are available to assist with their work.

As part of Lesley's update, she provided information about the new executive director of Ontario Nature, Andrés Jiménez Monge. She also spoke about ongoing campaigns such as "Speaking up for Wetlands" and advocacy work related to Provincial Parks and both provincial and federal budgets.

Following Lesley's presentation, the reps from the various Nature Network groups in attendance shared highlights of their groups' activities since the last regional meeting. There was also an update from the Regional Councillor who spoke about the Ontario Nature board's priorities and key campaigns, including an expansion project for the Sauble Dunes Nature Reserve, one of many Nature Reserves that the organization protects.

Following lunch, participants travelled to the Mike Schout Wetlands where Phil Holst, of Ducks Unlimited and a key person in the design of the location, led the group on a wonderful tour that included spotting a mink and a heron capturing a fish. ❀



### ...Continued from page 1 — Heat Pumps

Waterloo Region, where most homes are heated with natural gas (most of which is imported from the U.S.). But unlike many other cold climate countries, Canada has lagged behind in transitioning to clean, electric energy, even though we have one of the cleanest electrical grids in the world. There are a lot of reasons for this. The availability of affordable EVs with a supporting charging network has been slow to arrive. Heat pumps have a learning curve for HVAC suppliers that have deep expertise and business models suited for quickly swapping one gas furnace for another. Homes sometimes need additional tweaks to optimize them for new technology. Homeowners simply don't know that there are new, viable options for them to choose from unless they are actively looking for climate-friendly solutions. These are some of the challenges that we need to overcome together. To play my own small part in this big transition, I decided to help spread the word as a volunteer at GreenWR, in collaboration with the Nith Valley EcoBoosters (NVEB), through a website that shares homeowner testimonials and offers a simple process for homeowners to follow on their

journey to clean energy in their home.

The website is [getpumpedWR.ca](http://getpumpedWR.ca). It shares stories from homeowners in Waterloo Region that have made the switch, including some local stars from the NVEB community! Whether you want to go all electric or keep a gas backup, whether you want geothermal, or need a ducted air source heat pump or a ductless system, there is a solution for your home. If you own a home and have the means, a heat pump is one of the most impactful things you can do to address climate change. And if you are simply interested in the new clean electro-tech solutions that are becoming available, there is a cold climate solution that awaits you too. The technology heat pumps use offers a smarter and better way to heat and cool our living spaces than burning polluting fuels has. I welcome you to explore the site, connect with us and check back frequently as we add new resources and more interviews. Like me, the homeowners that I spoke with are happy with their solutions and are willing to help others in their journeys. Help us make Waterloo Region an example of a caring and sustainable community that is not afraid to step boldly into the clean energy future our children need. ❀

# ... Let's Tree Wilmot Continues

by Marlene Knezevich

Let's Tree Wilmot, a project of Garden Wilmot, had another successful year planting trees in Wilmot Township both on public and private lands. Our Two Billion Tree Grant from Natural Resources Canada ended and in August, we received notice of receiving the Federation of Canadian Municipalities – Growing Canada's Community Canopies grant. This grant required matching funds that came from Garden Wilmot, Wilmot Township's Enova, Rotary Wilmot and private donors. Funding covers two years of planting and one year of maintenance.

In 2025, we planted a total of 1,122 trees equalling 370 volunteer planting hours. We planted at Nithview/Floodplain-Tri-County Homes (645), Perth Street wetland – private (171), Scott Park (118), Sir Adam Beck Public School (43), New Dundee Community Park (46) and Petersburg Community Park (88) trees/shrubs.

Since 2020, we planted 5,862 trees planted, creating 30 acres of future forest canopy. We water the trees for two years as the Township currently lacks the resources. Our team of Water Warriors watered 2600 trees with total of 269 volunteer hours using 'Billy' our Ram truck.

About 1500 hours/year are spent on planning, planting, watering, programming, tree maintenance, education, promotions and administration. We already are planning the upcoming year.

For education, we will be offering another pruning workshop on March 21<sup>st</sup> in Mannheim. Last year, we had seven Wednesday Walks in Wilmot's Wonderful Woods with Louis Silcox. This year, we plan to offer Saturday walks as well. These walks offer a wonderful opportunity to learn where the trails are and their highlights. Artists of all ages drew trees during the Canada Day Celebration at our Garden Wilmot/Let's Tree Wilmot booth.

We are growing 1242 trees at our tree seedling bed. The last couple of years, each spring we used 300-350 trees in planting projects. Our trees grew so well last summer, we have 800 that need to find new homes. Thank you to our volunteers who weed and put down black plastic row cover as the aggressive Canada thistle (a non-native) created a challenge.

Our Fall Celebration, on Tuesday Nov. 11, 2025 was a fun evening of celebrating our accomplishments, our volunteers and listening to Christine Earnshaw of Tree Canada speak on *Growing Greener Communities: Perspectives from Tree Canada*.

LTW collects tree seeds for Reep Green Solution's hoop greenhouse, and share seeds with Trees for Woolwich and ReLeaf Stratford. The main species were pawpaw, bitternut and shagbark hickory, Kentucky Coffee tree and red oak. Thanks go out to landowners who contribute to this.

Our largest 2026 project is creating a future 'Carolinian Corner' forest on Wilmot Township's property in the northwest corner of Mannheim. A future trail will be created and LTW will plant about 800 trees. We will incorporate Carolinian species such as Kentucky Coffee Tree, Cucumber Tree (native magnolia), yellowwood, tulip tree and more.

We are excited for 2026 projects. For private owners' projects, they cover the costs and we provide expertise and volunteers. Having private owners plant trees is important as most land is privately owned. They are instrumental in increasing the tree canopy. There are grants available to help landowners. Email us at [letstreewilmot@gmail.com](mailto:letstreewilmot@gmail.com) for more information. Go to our events page at [LetsTreeWilmot.ca](http://LetsTreeWilmot.ca) and Facebook. Have a tree...mendous spring! ☘



# Waterloo Water Woes

By Dorothy Wilson

Three weeks before Christmas, residents of Waterloo Region got an unwelcome present when an announcement was made that a water capacity issue had been identified within the Mannheim Service Area which supplies water to Kitchener, Waterloo and parts of Cambridge, Woolwich and Wilmot. Assurances that there was no risk to water quality did nothing to prevent questions from arising regarding whether or not Waterloo Region has enough water for the long term needs of the community, especially when considering projected growth over the next decades.

Much has been said about the cause of the issue but it appears that mistakes have been made with calculating water capacity and with managing water and sewer infrastructure. The removal of planning authority from the Region is also a contributing factor as are current levels of funding for the management of aging infrastructure and community growth.

The first major action in response to the water capacity issue was for the Region of Waterloo to put a hold on approvals of new housing developments. This decision has been met with strong opposition from developers and builders. Some have claimed that the problem is merely technical and should be fixed without delay. Others have suggested that the regional chair should be replaced or the entire water system should be privatized. Based on what has happened in other places when water was privatized, that is definitely an undesirable solution.

Meanwhile environmentalists support the development freeze and urge stricter protections for the Waterloo Moraine, the source of most of the Region's water. Many in the Region that feel the current water issue is one more reason why the land assembly project in Wilmot should be abandoned. Another problem that has come to light since the water capacity issue was announced is the questionable management of water taking permits by the province. It is alleged that there is inadequate monitoring of water taking activities after permits are issued and



little or no assessment of potential impacts beforehand.

By the end of January, the regional staff was revealing details of proposed fixes for the water capacity issue such as reallocating water supply from Wilmot Township and making changes to the water facilities in Kitchener. Regional councillors have approved an initial price tag of \$15 million dollars towards fixing the problems.

There certainly seems to be no complete resolution to the water capacity issue in the near future and long-term water security still needs to be addressed. However, some positive actions are being take. Regional Councillor Joe Gowing recently introduced a motion to the Region of Waterloo Sustainability, Infrastructure and Development Committee, calling on staff to report back to Council on measures available to protect and preserve the Region's existing groundwater supply and associated wetlands. One measure suggested in the motion was advocating to the Provincial Government for a "Bluebelt" that would provide permanent protection for critical water sources. Both the Nith Valley EcoBoosters and Citizens For Safe Groundwater sent letters in support of the motion.

The bottom line is that everyone needs to pay attention to the protection and preservation of our water sources and be prepared to hold all levels of government to account with regards to their role in this matter, in addition to personally managing their use of this precious resource. ❁



## NVEB Activities

### April 2025 to January 2026

#### APRIL

- Members of the NVEB Communications Working Group met with the Executive Officer to the Wilmot Council to explore ideas to help promote NVEB events.
- Hosted “Getting Off Gas - Electrify Your Home” webinar.
- Participated in Sustainability Expo at Eastwood Collegiate in Kitchener. (photo on Page 9)
- Attended the “Concert For The Earth” at Trinity Lutheran Church, Tavistock, a fundraiser for NVEB.
- NVEB Youth Advocates hosted a Clothing Swap at Zion United Church in New Hamburg.
- Attended the online Great Lakes West Regional Nature Network spring meeting.

#### MAY

- Hosted “How to be Hopeful in a World of Doom: The Practice of Evidence-Based Hope” webinar featuring Dr. Elin Kelsey.
- Endorsed letters by Ontario Nature. One to the Ontario Minister of Finance related to pre-budget consultations and a second regarding the impact of Bill 5 on the Endangered Species Act.

#### JUNE

- An NVEB member organized a meeting of Wellesley residents to discuss how to engage locals in discussions about greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.
- Signed two Ontario Climate Emergency Campaign letters regarding Bill 17 and Bill 5 and sent them to the Premier and appropriate ministers including our MPP.
- Held our AGM where members signed a petition from Mike Schreiner demanding a stop to Bill 5 (photo on page 9)

#### JULY

- Members of the Youth Advocates Working Group accepted a grant from the township for the Nith Valley EcoBoosters
- Members of the 50x30 Working Group met with Cachet Homes and Dillon Consulting to encourage steps towards reducing GHG emissions in their local development project.

#### AUGUST

- Signed a letter from Ontario Nature encouraging the federal government to

consider increasing its investment in nature in response to pre-budget consultations

#### SEPTEMBER

- Provided a display board, brochures and NVEB’s Water Game to Zion United Church in New Hamburg for their participation in the Doors Open event.
- Co-sponsored one of our Youth Advocates to attend the Ontario Nature Youth Summit at Camp Tawingo in Huntsville.
- Provided input with respect to Wilmot Township’s new official plan.

#### OCTOBER

- Signed on to three letters prepared by Ontario Nature related to aspects of Bill 5, specifically the Species Conservation Act and the criteria for Special Economic Zones.
- Hosted the Great Lakes West Nature Network fall meeting.

#### NOVEMBER

- Hosted a very successful Repair Café at Zion United Church. The plan is for this to be a bi-monthly event starting in January 2026.
- Signed a joint letter prepared by Ontario Nature commending the proposed expansion of protected areas and urging the protection of more.
- Members of the 50x30 Working Group met with Wilmot CAO to discuss progress on corporate and community GHG Emission reductions.

#### DECEMBER

- Advocated against the amalgamation of conservation areas with signing an Ontario Nature letter, sending our own letters to the Premier, our MPP, Wilmot, Wellesley and Region of Waterloo Councils and submitting a comment to the ERO.
- Added our group’s name to a media release prepared by Hold The Line <https://www.holdthelinewr.org> in response to the Region of Waterloo’s announcement about a water capacity issue.

#### JANUARY

- Hosted another successful Repair Café.
- Used Ontario Nature resources to promote World Wetlands Day with Wilmot and Wellesley Councils plus our contacts.
- Began another year of EcoNuggets in the Baden Outlook.
- Started planning for a spring event focused on water.
- Hosted WilmotCAN (November and January) ❁

# Submission from NVEB Regarding New Wilmot & Wellesley Township Official Plans

by Tom Knezevich

In September 2025, NVEB submitted the following key considerations that we feel must be included in the new Official Plans for both Wilmot and Wellesley Townships to the consultants hired by the Townships to develop the new plans. Each Township **must be accountable** for its new Official Plan once in effect.

## Climate/Environment

- The Official Plan needs to include a very strong statement on the importance of reducing total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions with a target of 80% reduction from 2010 levels by 2050.
- All new development applications in the Township must show the impact they will have on both corporate and community GHG emissions.



- The Township must incentivize developments with no natural gas connections to dwellings.
- The Township must incentivize developments with EV charging capability.
- The Township must track GHG emissions and report progress quarterly.
- The Township must produce an action plan to meet 2050 targets within one year of approval of the Official Plan.

## Transportation

- The Township must prioritize the creation of “15 minute neighbourhoods” where people can meet most of their daily transportation needs by walking, cycling, or rolling.
- The Township must continue to work with the Region of Waterloo to ensure the availability of public transit in existing and new developments.
- Given the rapidly growing use of e-bikes, the Township must provide appropriately sized paved shoulders on urban streets and Township roads for active transportation.

## Services

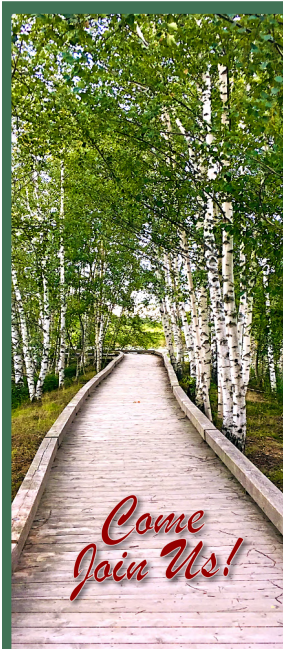
- The Township must protect ground water sources since they provide most of the Township’s drinking water.
- All development must be within the capacity of Township services and infrastructure (e.g. water and sewage) and support a long-term healthy environment.

## Agriculture

- Given that farmland is increasingly important for long term food security and for mitigation of the impacts of the climate crisis (i.e. carbon capture, flood control), the Township must permanently protect the countryside line to prevent any reduction in the amount of farmland through urban development.
- Section 3.8 of the current Official Plan (The Protected Countryside) must be carried forward in whole to the new Official Plan. ❁

Members attending Nith Valley EcoBoosters AGM (June 2025)





Are You  
Environmentally  
Conscientious?

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

*Come  
Join Us!*

[nvecoboosters@gmail.com](mailto:nvecoboosters@gmail.com)

### About Nith Valley EcoBoosters

Nith Valley EcoBoosters (NVEB) is a not-for-profit, politically non-partisan volunteer organization. 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.

NVEB holds at least two general meetings per year for our members and we have five working groups that meet more frequently to focus on specific activities. These groups focus on the following areas: 1) educational events, 2) communications, 3) reducing community greenhouse gas emissions, 4) running our bi-monthly Repair Cafe, and 5) developing a group for youth and young adults.

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

We are funded by donations, fundraising efforts and grants. There is no membership fee to join.

Contact Information  
[nvecoboosters.com](http://nvecoboosters.com)  
[nveoboosters@gmail.com](mailto:nveoboosters@gmail.com)

## NVEB 'EcoNuggets' — The Latest Solution



EcoNugget

### New Rules for Blue Box Recycling As of March 2, 2026

Circular Materials now oversees recycling in Waterloo Region. Two large blue boxes will be delivered to all residents by March 2. Recycling moves to bi-weekly collection. You may continue to use old blue boxes.

Changes are as follows:

- Paper/cardboard and glass/plastic containers **must** be separated into two blue bins.
- More plastics included: hard plastics (deodorants, glue sticks, etc), toothpaste & cream tubes, plastic cups, styrofoam, stand-up plastic 'pouch' bags, cereal box liners. Large styrofoam pieces must be broken down to fit in box.
- Pizza boxes, take-out containers, and paper plates must be free of residue & grease.
- All glass jars accepted – no alcohol bottles.
- Not included: books, children's toys (even if plastic), pots & pans, batteries & hazardous waste.

These changes are for residential waste only. For more details:

[www.circularmaterials.ca/resident-provinces/ontario/](http://www.circularmaterials.ca/resident-provinces/ontario/)

**For further information contact:**

[nvecoboosters@gmail.com](mailto: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.
- Nature Network—A province-wide network of groups and individuals that are a collective voice for conservation.