

What is Partners in Project Green?

Opportunities to gain a competitive advantage through sustainable business practices are more attainable than you think. Partners in Project Green is a growing community of businesses working together to green their bottom line by creating an internationally-recognized eco-business zone around Toronto Pearson.

Through new forms of business-to-business collaboration, Partners in Project Green delivers programming that helps businesses reduce energy and resource costs, uncover new business opportunities, and address everyday operational challenges in a green and cost-effective manner.

Pearson Eco-Business Zone



www.partnersinprojectgreen.com



Our partners in this program include:



CLR
Centre for Landscape Research - University of Toronto

GREEN PARKING LOT PROGRAM

Financial and environmental benefits from enhanced landscape management



Partners in Project Green, in partnership with the University of Toronto's Centre for Landscape Research, offers companies in the Pearson Eco-Business Zone a Green Parking Lot Program.

The program offers companies assistance in the (re)design of their parking lots and their industrial properties to include landscape ecological features that can help them reduce costs, enhance safety and enrich the aesthetics of their facility, while improving local air and water quality.

Benefits of a green parking lot include:

- > Reduced or eliminated landscape irrigation costs
- > Improved pedestrian safety
- > Enhanced facility aesthetics
- > Improved stormwater retention with reduced treatment costs
- > Reduced pollutant loading in receiving watercourses
- > Improved air quality through shading

Program Cost

The Green Parking Lot Program is a cost-shared initiative with an average cost of \$10,000 per site. Businesses pay half the cost, while Partners in Project Green covers 50% of the cost up to a maximum of \$5,000. Businesses receive construction ready drawings at the end of the process.

For more information on the program, contact Partners in Project Green at:

416-661-6600, ext. 5316
admin@partnersinprojectgreen.com



Potential solutions

Permeable Pavement – paving methods for roads, parking lots and walkways that allow rainwater to percolate through the paving material into the soil below. Permeable paving can be made from asphalt, concrete, paving stones, or recycled materials such as glass or rubber.



Native Landscaping – by introducing native trees and plants into a site costs for irrigation and maintenance can be reduced and the aesthetic value of the site increased.



Bio-Retention Swales – planted depressions that are designed to collect rainwater runoff from roofs, parking lots and walkways, and allow it to infiltrate into the soil and irrigate landscaping.



Curb-Cuts – a cost-effective way of using the grade of a parking area, curb-cuts can be used to receive rainwater and direct it towards grassed or landscaped areas.



Why green your parking lot?

Urban development alters the natural hydrologic cycle by replacing pervious vegetated areas with impervious roofs and pavements. These changes in surface cover reduce infiltration of rainwater, and dramatically increase surface runoff, resulting in erosion of stream channels and increased potential for downstream flooding.

As these higher runoff volumes enter receiving waters, they carry with them a variety of pollutants collected from parking lots and roads, which ultimately degrade river ecosystems and contaminate swimming areas.

The use of permeable pavement and bio-retention swales for treatment of runoff from parking lots, driveways and roads allows rainwater to slowly infiltrate into the ground, as it did prior to urbanization. As more water infiltrates, less runs off, providing for improved protection of downstream aquatic habitat, property and swimming areas.

To learn more about the benefits of green parking lots visit TRCA's Sustainable Technologies website at www.sustainabletechnologies.ca.



Pratt and Whitney Canada's Mississauga facility – existing and proposed green site interventions.



The Green Parking Lot Program has three steps

1

Site Visit

A site visit is conducted to review existing parking and landscaped areas to identify opportunities and consult the business on their ideas for the site.

2

Preliminary Design

The Centre for Landscape Research develops a high-level preliminary design concept that looks at all opportunities on the site. This concept is reviewed by the business to determine the landscape interventions of most interest.

3

Final Design

Based on the input from staff, the Centre for Landscape Research finalizes pre-construction diagrams of the landscape (re)design, develops phasing options and associated costs with its implementation.