

# What does it mean to Vote to Protect Ontario's Environment?

Now, more than ever, it's vital to ensure Ontario has local farms that can feed us, affordable clean energy, and smart solutions for putting the environment and livable communities first. By voting in this election, Ontarians have a chance to speak up for lower costs and a healthier future for themselves and their families.

## What to ask for from our leaders:

- ✓ **Cancel Highway 413**  
Invest in public transit and build livable, connected communities instead!
- ✓ **Invest in Clean Energy in Ontario**  
Replace fossil fuels with clean, affordable energy produced in our province.
- ✓ **Commit to Wetland Protection and Restoration**  
Prioritize our critical ecosystems over unnecessary suburban sprawl.
- ✓ **Expand Ontario's Deposit Return Program to all Beverage Containers**  
Put deposits on all beverage containers, like we already have for beer, wine, and spirits.
- ✓ **Build Sustainable Mid-rise Housing**  
Prioritize building mid-rise housing in existing neighbourhoods over suburban sprawl.

## Why should Ontario cancel highway 413?

- The highway will destroy 2,000 acres of farmland, 400 acres of Greenbelt, and habitats for 29 federally-identified species at risk.
- At a cost of over \$10B, Highway 413 would save drivers less than 1 minute.
- Better alternatives exist: invest in transit and subsidize Highway 407 for truckers.

## What is a real climate plan for Ontario?

- Phasing out gas in our electricity system and in our homes, investing in wind and solar, and making EVs and heat pumps more affordable to Ontarians.
- Ontario must also invest in public transit and safe cycling infrastructure to help reduce traffic congestion, reduce emissions from cars, and build livable, connected communities.

## Why does Ontario need to protect our wetlands?

- Southern Ontario has lost over 72% of its wetlands due to unchecked development.
- Southern Ontario's Wetlands provide critical habitats and more than \$50billion in benefits per year.

## Why should Ontario expand deposit return?

- Ontario has the worst beverage recycling rate in Canada.
- Deposit-return programs are proven to be the best way to ensure empties get recycled or refilled. Expanding Ontario's program would divert billions of plastic containers from landfills.

## How does Ontario sustainably fix the housing shortage?

- Ontario has all of the tools it needs to house a fast-growing population, but our focus on sprawl development has made it hard for housing construction to meet demand.
- Ontario needs to prioritize building mid-rise housing (4-6 storeys) on existing residential streets.