

FACT SHEET • ONTARIO PLACE: GREEN INITIATIVES

OVERVIEW

Environmental responsibility has become a necessity for Canadians. In recognizing the importance of this issue, Ontario Place has taken certain initiatives -both past and present- to continue its ecological responsibility. Since its inception in 1971, Ontario Place has made conservation efforts. This past year, further steps have been taken toward energy conservation and to reduce the production of harmful emissions.

ENERGY CONSERVATION

In 2007, Ontario place installed a new HVAC (heating, ventilation, air conditioning) system in the Atlantis complex, resulting in a 67% reduction in total electricity consumption and an 81% reduction in natural gas consumption.

The Ontario Place administration building has been retrofitted with T8 Ballast lighting to cut electricity consumption by 30%.

EMMISSION REDUCTION

The new HVAC system at the Atlantis complex will decrease the production of harmful emissions significantly. The complex will see a 62% annual decrease in CO₂, SO₂, and NO_x emissions. These reductions are well ahead of the standards set by the City of Toronto to decrease its emissions by 30% by 2010.

WATER CONSERVATION

Ontario Place takes full advantage of its geographic location on the shores of Lake Ontario:

- As part of Ontario Place's original design, lake water is used to cool the Cinesphere and pavilions and refrigerate the POD complexes. Water is strained using a non-chemical, mechanical strainer made by S.P. Kinney.
- Lake water is used to operate the Wilderness Adventure Ride and Soak City[®] water park. At Soak City[®], lake water is filtered, treated, and reused at the water play area, the Rush River Raft Ride, Purple Pipeline, Pink Twister, and Hydrofuge.
- Lake water is used for irrigation to maintain grass and plant life, and for site wash-down.

RECYCLING

100% of garbage at Ontario Place is sorted. Ontario Place uses the services of Turtle Island Recycling, that sorts all garbage into recycling, compost, and waste.

CONSERVATION AND REVITALIZATION

FISH HABITAT

In 2006, Ontario Place and the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority constructed a new fish habitat along the Riverwalk area. The goal of the project is to improve habitat conditions for warm-water game fish such as bass, perch, and pike, as well as benefit other wildlife species. The project includes the implementation of several components:

- Shoreline vegetation
- Logs and woody material
- Stone and gravel shoals
- Fish gates
- Shoreline access
- Interpretive signs

TORONTO WATERFRONT REVITALIZATION

Ontario Place is proactive in working with the Toronto Waterfront Revitalization Corporation to transform Toronto's waterfront into the ecological landmark that it has the potential to be. Beautification plans are in place for the Martin Goodman Trail, which runs through Ontario Place property.

ROYAL BOTANICAL GARDENS / LANDSCAPING

In 2007, Ontario Place is welcoming the expertise of the Royal Botanical Gardens to continue its beautification process. Ontario Place is pesticide free. Ontario Place does not use pesticides on its grass or gardens.

ONTARIO PLACE BUMPER BOATS

The Mercury Marine outboard motors used in the Bumper Boats attraction now use specially formulated oil that has reduced carbon build-up by 80%. This results in a "cleaner burn" with reduced emissions. The Bumper Boats' Mercury Marine outboard motors cast aluminum parts are made from 100% recycled aluminum and use longer lasting spark plugs reducing the impact of a throwaway component on the environment.