

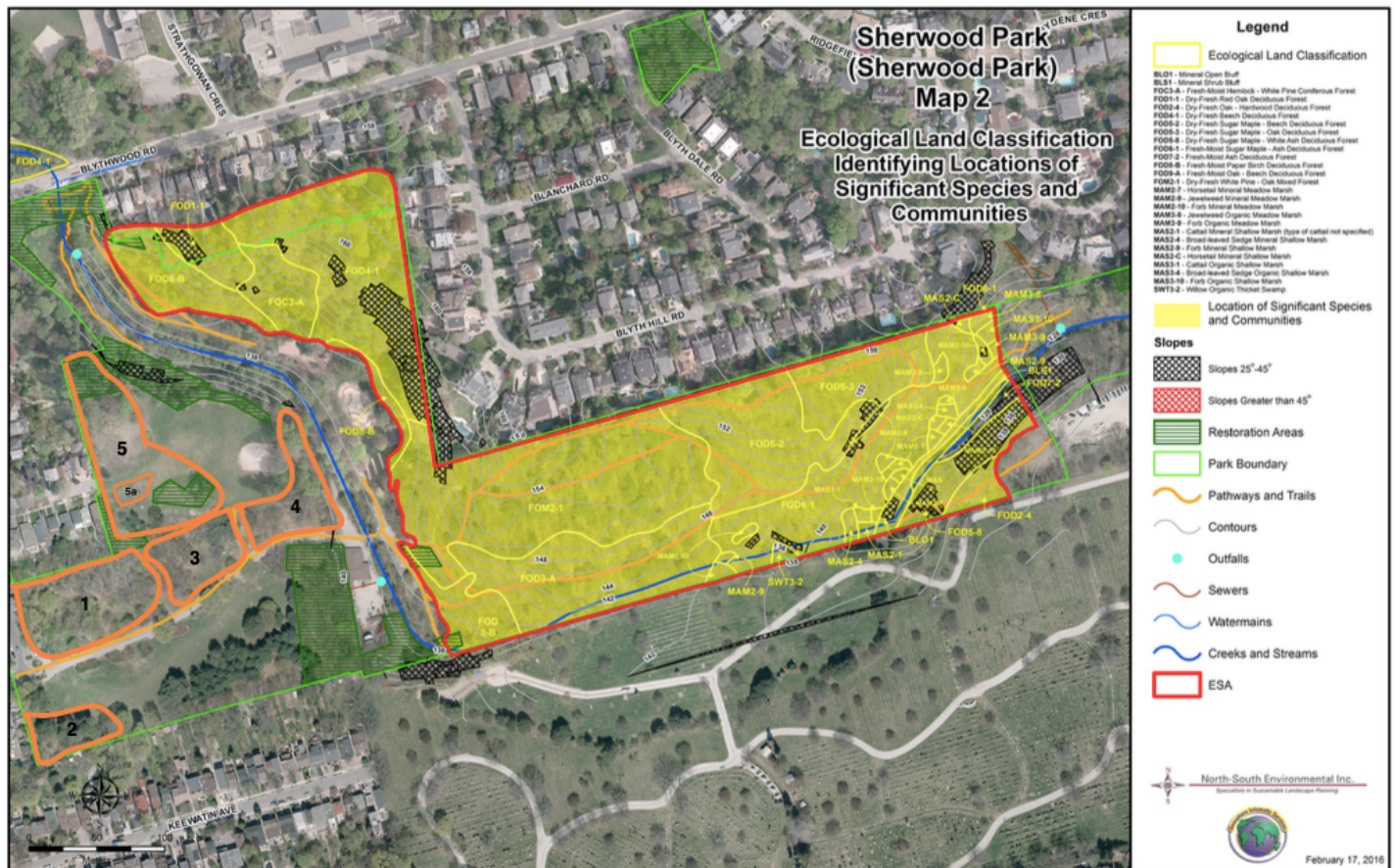
Sherwood Park Adopt-a-Patch Site Assessment – Physical Characteristics of Site 5a

Date: June 2, 2021
Park/Ravine Name: Sherwood Park
Lead Steward Name: Jan Neuman

Location description: Sherwood Park lies east of Bayview Avenue and south of Blythwood Avenue. There is a small parking lot with free parking between Sherwood and Sheldrake Avenues, east of Mount Pleasant Avenue. There is also parking on Blythwood Ave, but the above mentioned lot is closer to most of the identified stewardship areas. Sherwood Park is 40 acres in size and contains some trees more than 150 years old. It is part of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Forest, which used to cover the region. Burke Brook is a tributary of Wilket Creek, which flows into the west branch of the Don River. Apart from the flat land and facilities in the bottom of the valley, much of the forest on the east side of the creek is an ESA. A wooden boardwalk and stairs extend eastward from Burke Brook towards Bayview Avenue to make it easier to walk in steep areas and to protect the rich flora and fauna.

There is a playground, ball diamond, washroom, water fountain, picnic facility, dogs off leash area and maintenance buildings in the park.

Stewardship areas are on the west side of the creek. Five management units (MU) have been identified and are shown on the map below, outlined in orange. This site assessment will cover a small area of MU 5 called 5a. It is 455 sq m in size.





Special features: (green indicates features found in this park)

public road	trails	stream/river	erosion	seep
washrooms	picnic shelter	picnic tables	playground	drinking water
boardwalk	DOLA	maintenance bldg.	garbage cans	

Grey infrastructure in patch vicinity:

Catch basin	manhole	Gas pipeline	Storm sewer outfall	river channelization
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Physical Characteristics: MU 5a

Aspect	N	NE	E	SE	S	SW	W	NW
Slope	flat	low		medium	steep			steep
Soil moisture	standing water	saturated soil		damp soil	dry soil			dry soil
Site exposure	full sun wet	full sun dry		partial sun wet	partial sun dry		shady wet	shady dry
Soil type	sand	silt		loam	clay		muck	gravel
Soil compaction	none	light		moderate	heavy			
Litter depth	0	< 1cm		1-2cm	> 2cm			
Bare ground	0%	1-5%		6 – 10%	11– 25%	26– 50%		> 50%
Coarse Woody Debris	0%	1 - 5%		6 – 10%	11– 25%	26– 50%		> 50%
Habitat type:	meadow	shrubland		hardwood forest	conifer forest	mixed forest		swamp/ marsh

TORONTO
NATURE
STEWARDS

**Sherwood Park Adopt-a-Patch
Site Assessment - Vegetation**

Vegetation:

Overstory Tree Density >13cm dbh						
Native conifers	none	isolated	few	low	medium	high
Native deciduous	none	isolated	few	low	medium	high
Invasive	none	isolated	few	low	medium	high
Regenerating Tree Density <13cm dbh						
Native conifers	none	isolated	few	low	medium	high
Native deciduous	none	isolated	few	low	medium	high
Invasive	none	isolated	few	low	medium	high

Overstory Species present: Black Walnut, Norway Maple, Manitoba Maple, fruit trees

Regenerating Species present: Basswood, Staghorn Sumac, **Norway Maple**

Most of the Black Walnut trees are at the west end of MU 5a. Most of the Staghorn sumac are on the perimeter of the MU on the north side, east end and a few on the southeast side.

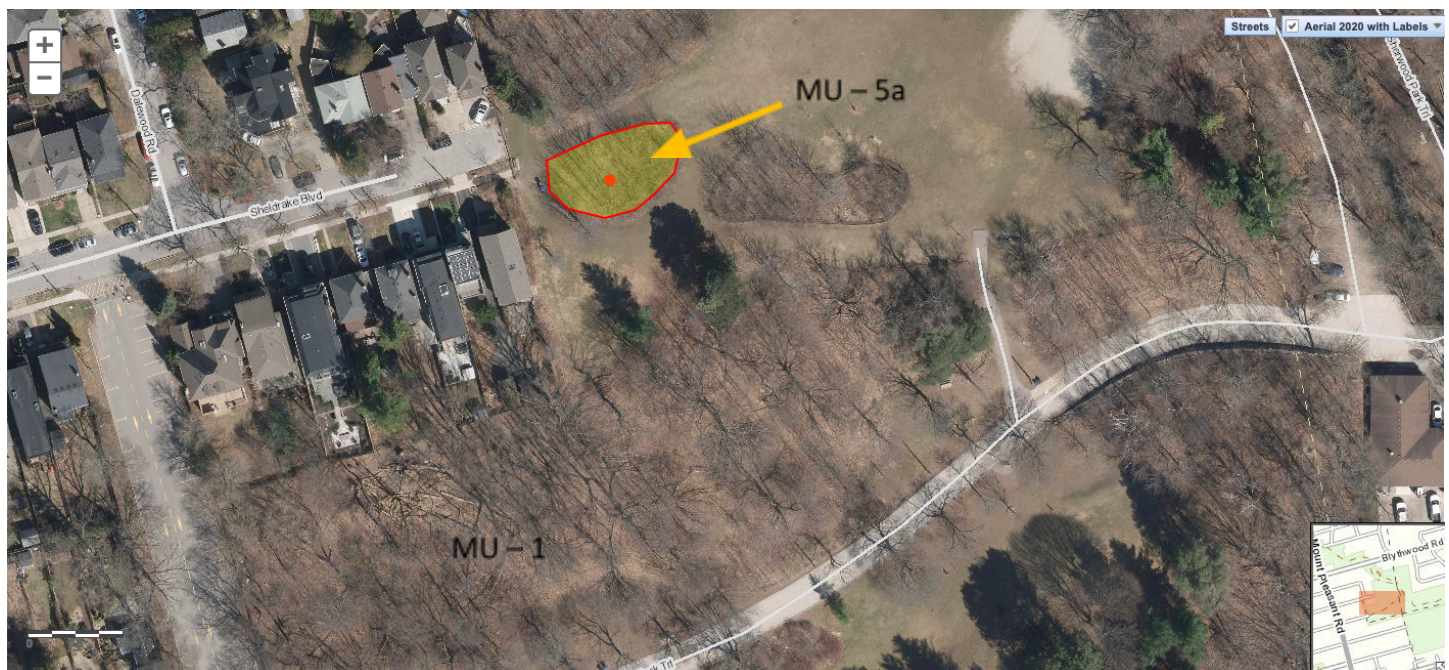
Shrubs (% cover)						
Native	0%	0 – 5%	6 – 25 %	26 – 50%	51 – 75%	>75%
Invasive	0%	0 – 5%	6 – 25 %	26 – 50%	51 – 75%	>75%

Species present: a few dead shrubs with long spines, species unknown

Herbaceous Plants (% cover)						
Native	0%	0 – 5%	6 – 25 %	26 – 50%	51 – 75%	>75%
Invasive	0%	0 – 5%	6 – 25 %	26 – 50%	51 – 75%	>75%

Species present: goldenrod, riverbank grape, virginia waterleaf, snakeroot, **yellow avens**, **virginia creeper**, **burdock**, **dandelion**, **garlic mustard**. **Garlic mustard covers 50-60% of the area.**

Restoration Plan: Garlic Mustard is the predominant invasive species, so removing it would be the first step. It predominates when looking at the MU. When it is gone, it will be easier to see what we should work on next. This MU has filtered sunlight for most of the day, so thought should be given to what native species should be planted next year in the place of the garlic mustard.



Photos from a permanent fixed point within MU 5a.

Looking West:



Looking south:



Looking East:



Looking north:

