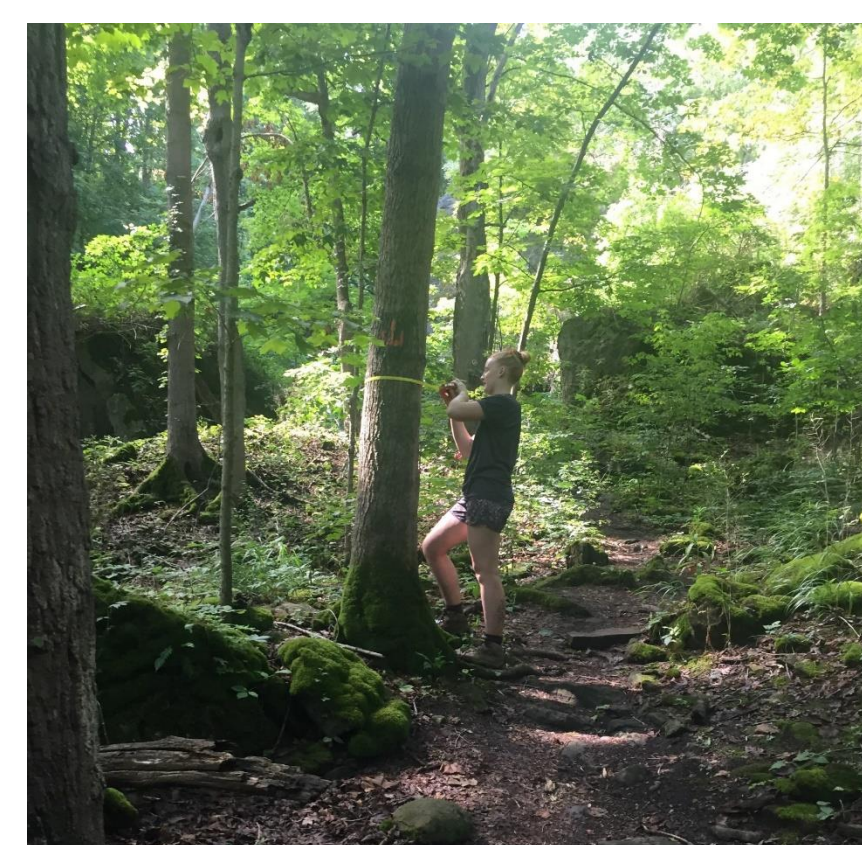


# Excellence in Environmental Stewardship Initiative (EESI)

In April 2018, the Niagara Parks Commission (NPC) and Brock University's Environmental Sustainability Research Centre (ESRC) developed a partnership called the Excellence in Environmental Stewardship Initiative (EESI). ESRC faculty, staff, and students work in partnership with NPC staff and the community to provide an evidence-based platform for NPC's current and future environmental stewardship practices.



## Developing The Environmental Stewardship Plan

We are currently collaborating with NPC staff to develop an **Environmental Stewardship Plan** for the NPC. The Environmental Stewardship Plan follows the directions set out in the NPC Strategic Plan (2018-2028) and will guide actions to enhance environmental stewardship now and in the future.

## Accomplishments

While this partnership is still young, it has been remarkably productive. Since it started in April 2018, the partnership has completed the following:

- An inventory of all past Niagara Parks stewardship projects.
- A database for all information involved with this research to allow NPC and partners to make evidence-based decisions for years to come.
- Created a publicly available Google Map of all NPC stewardship projects (scan QR code below).
- Conducted focus group with key NPC individuals to develop future stewardship goals and objectives.

For more information on this partnership, scan the QR code or visit:  
[brocku.ca/esrc/environmental-stewardship-initiative](http://brocku.ca/esrc/environmental-stewardship-initiative)



## Ongoing Research Projects

**Analyzing Approaches to Measuring Ecological Outcomes of Environmental Stewardship (Julia Baird, Ph.D.; Marilyne Jollineau, Ph.D.; Ryan Plummer, Ph.D.)**

- This project aims to compare multiple approaches of monitoring and evaluation of ecological outcomes from NPC environmental stewardship initiatives.

**Assessing Perceptions of the State of the Environment (Angela Mallette, MS Student)**

- This project aims to develop an understanding of how different groups of people perceive the state of the environment, and how this compares to measurements of various ecological indicators obtained at the Niagara Glen Nature Reserve.

**Understanding Environmental Stewardship in the Niagara Region (Brooke Kapeller, MS Student)**

- This project aims to develop an understanding of environmental stewardship in the Niagara Region. It will examine how elements of stewardship relate to positive outcomes and initiative success.