

Agricultural & Rural Systems



What are agriculture and rural systems?

The Agricultural System is made of the agricultural land base, comprised of Prime Agricultural Areas and rural lands, plus the network of infrastructure, services and other elements supporting agriculture. The Rural System includes critical components of the Agricultural System, rural settlement areas and rural lands, important natural heritage and water resources as well as other natural resources.

What is the Region doing?

- Protecting Prime Agriculture Areas for long-term use for agriculture
- Adopting an agricultural system approach to support agriculture and the agri-food sector
- Fostering access to healthy locally grown food
- Enhancing economic viability and environmental sustainability of the Agricultural System
- Protecting the character and natural environment of rural Peel
- Permitting a wider range of agriculture, agriculture-related and on-farm diversified uses

Why are agriculture and rural system policies important?

- Agriculture makes significant contributions to Peel's economy and plays a vital role in maintaining the character of the rural community
- Access to healthy, affordable food contributes to public health
- Rural greenlands, surface and ground water and other natural resources sustain Peel's quality of life and a healthy natural environment

Regional Official Plan policies will ...

- Implement Provincial policy direction incorporating policies that protect Prime Agricultural Areas and support agriculture and the Agricultural System
- Provide a policy framework/policy direction for more detailed planning and implementation by the local municipalities
- Enhance support for urban agriculture



How can I stay involved?

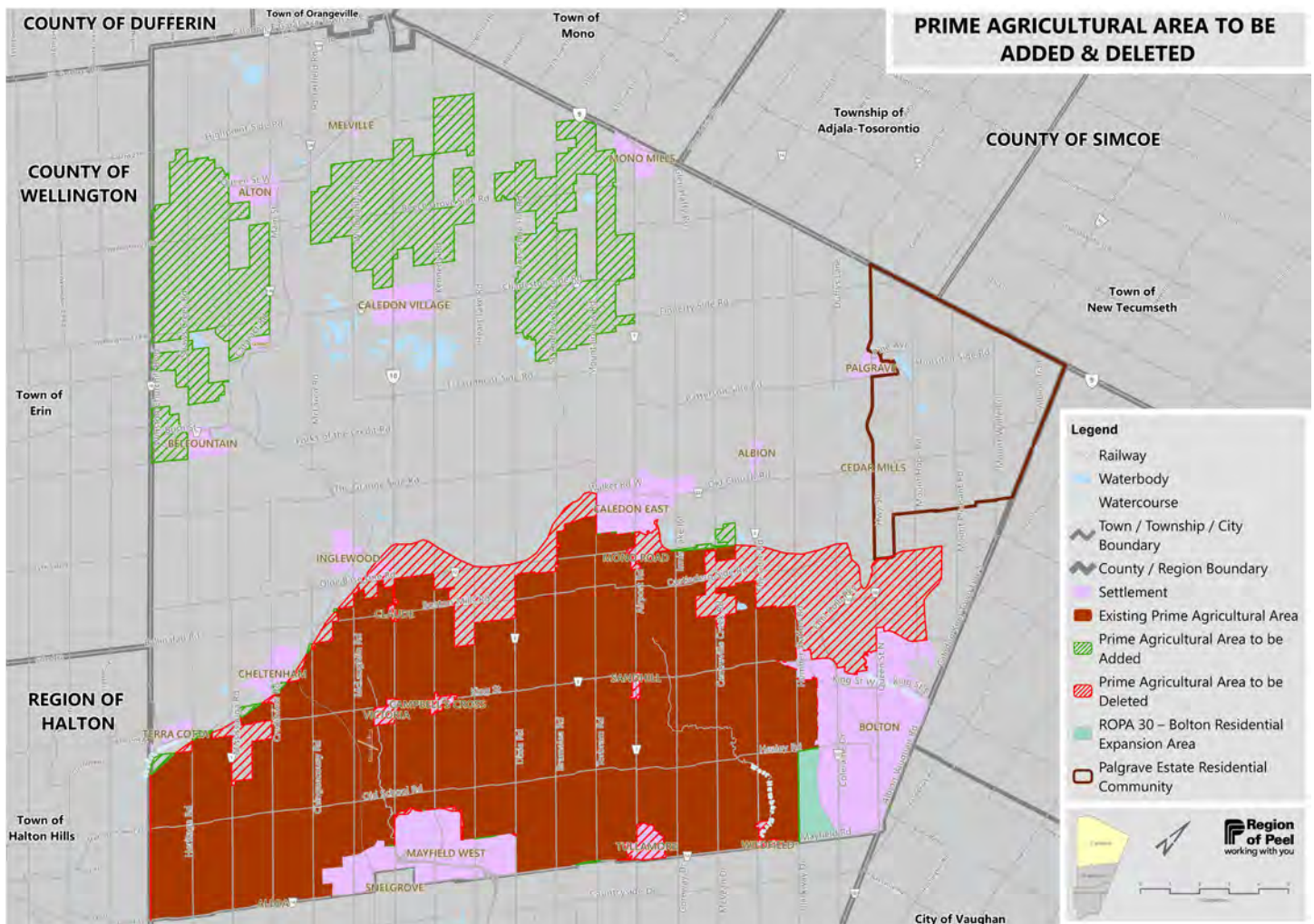
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How are agriculture & rural system policies formed?

Provincial requirements drive policy development for agriculture and rural systems. The Region undertakes a number of technical studies to guide policy development.



Changes are being made to Prime Agriculture Area mapping in accordance with provincial requirements.



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