



environmental  
defence

ONTARIO  
*Yours to Protect*

## **Hands Off The Greenbelt - Key Messages**

1. Premier Ford, Minister Clark and others have repeatedly promised never to touch the Greenbelt. Those promises are now broken and tossed out the window.
2. Taking any land out of the Greenbelt puts the entire Greenbelt at risk. Now any land speculator can come up with an excuse about why their piece of land should be taken out of the Greenbelt.
3. The Greenbelt protects a lot of land that is under pressure for development. Replacing it with land that cannot be developed destroys the Greenbelt's role in protecting at-risk land.
4. There is more than enough land within existing cities and towns to build the homes we need, especially if we build compact, public transit friendly homes. There is no need to develop land in the Greenbelt.
5. Building homes in the Greenbelt will reduce the overall number of homes built. With limited construction material and labour available, the focus instead should be on building homes in existing neighborhoods, rather than low density sprawl on Greenbelt lands.
6. Taking land out of the Greenbelt for development would end the critical role the Greenbelt plays to stop sprawl and protect farmland, forests, and the source of our drinking water, as well address climate change.
7. Stripping these 7,400 acres of protection at the request of land speculators would deny farmers the certainty they need to continue stewarding the forests, wetlands and soils on their land.