

Why preserve land as open space?

It has been found that communities with open spaces and greenways:

- Enjoy better health due to outdoor recreation opportunities such as hiking, biking, paddling and fishing
- Enjoy higher property values
- Enjoy lower crime rates



River vista along the Clinton River Trail in Rochester Hills.

Our quality of life will be preserved and enhanced when green space is preserved. Open spaces are visually attractive and enhance community values. Our air, water and wildlife all benefit from such natural habitats. We will be establishing a legacy of natural beauty for ourselves and for future generations.

Vote Yes
November 2, 2004

Will this millage stop development in Rochester Hills?

No, the millage funds will enable the City to work with willing sellers and property owners to take advantage of opportunities to purchase and preserve portions of the remaining green spaces.

The open space protection effort will be a partnership between the City of Rochester Hills, potential grantors such as the state and federal governments, and private donors, all working together to enhance our community.

For example, the funds raised by the millage could be used to match grant dollars. Many grantors look more favorably on applications for land acquisition in which the applicant can provide a certain percentage of the needed funds.

For more information, please contact:

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Protect it now



...or lose it forever.

**Save open space
in Rochester Hills**

Vote Yes
**on the
land
preservation
millage!**

November 2, 2004

Why save open space? Because YOU asked.

In 2000, the City of Rochester Hills conducted "Speak-Up" strategic planning sessions to gain citizen input regarding community issues. **Rochester Hills residents identified open space preservation as one of their top three priorities.**

What is the purpose of the proposed millage?

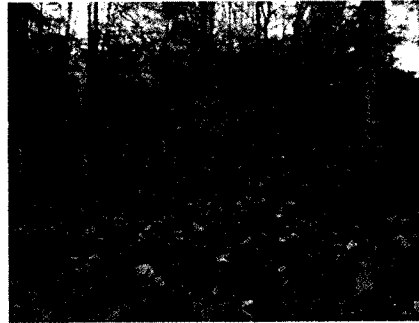
The millage will fund the purchase and protection of open land within Rochester Hills. The land will represent the natural and rural history of our City and will be permanently protected from residential and commercial development.

What land will be considered the highest priority for protection?

- Land along Paint Creek, Stony Creek, the Clinton River, and other waterways.
- Land with important natural features such as forests, prairies, bluffs, lakes, ponds and wetlands.
- Land with future passive and active recreation potential where residents could hike, bike or observe wildlife.
- Land that connects existing green spaces or natural areas.
- Habitat for native plants and animals.
- Land with important historic or cultural value.

Vote Yes...

~ To fund the purchase of open space...



~ To enhance the quality of life for all residents...



~ To leave a legacy for future generations.



How will the land preservation ballot question be worded?

"Shall the City of Rochester Hills levy a new millage of up to one-half (0.50) mill (\$0.50 per \$1,000 of taxable value) on the taxable value of all property assessed for taxes in the City for a period of ten (10) years, beginning in 2004 and continuing through 2013, inclusive, for the purpose of providing funds for the acquisition of land, for the protection of natural habitat, and the preservation of green spaces in the City? The estimated amount of revenue that will be collected in the first year if the millage is authorized and levied in full is One Million Six Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,600,000)."

If approved, what would the millage cost property owners?

\$100,000 home:
Taxable Value \$50,000 =
\$25.00/year or \$2.08/month

\$250,000 home:
Taxable Value \$125,000 =
\$62.50/year or \$5.21/month

\$500,000 home:
Taxable Value \$250,000 =
\$125.00/year or \$10.41/month