



Environment

Regulatory Framework

The Land Use Planning and Development Plan for the Urban agglomeration of Montreal sets a number of environmental guidelines that the City of Westmount must follow:

GUIDELINE 1

Protect and highlight areas of ecological interest

GUIDELINE 3

Encourage living conditions that respect the local environment

GUIDELINE 2

Ensure mitigation of the risks related to the impacts of climate change

GUIDELINE 4

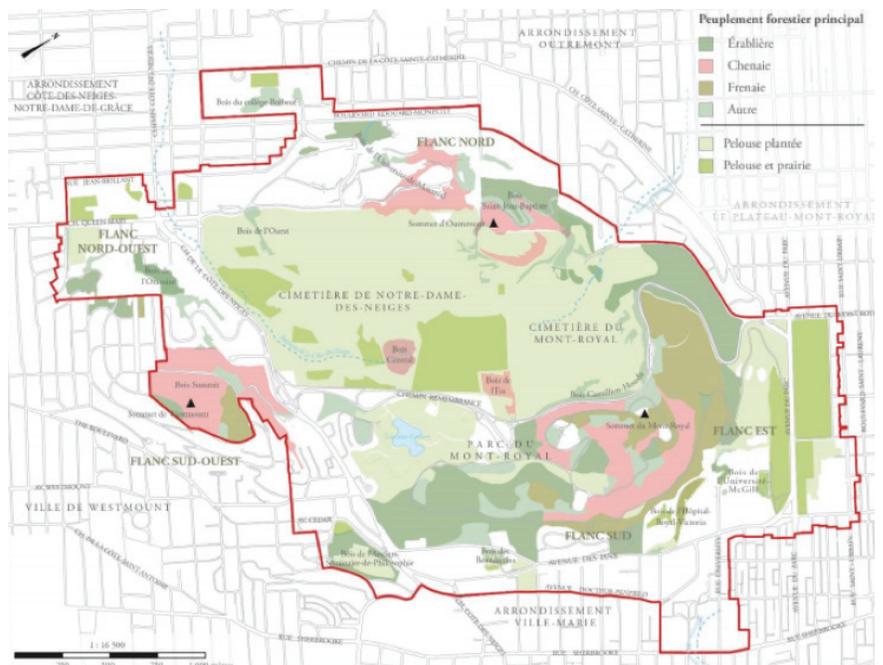
Ensure public health and safety through cohabitation between activities likely to generate nuisances and the surrounding environment

Wooded Areas and Canopy Index

SUMMIT WOODS

Mainly composed of oak trees, Summit Woods is one of the most important wooded areas of the Mount Royal Heritage Site, particularly because of its relatively intact tree cover.

The park is also recognized as a prime location for observing migratory birds in the spring.



Reference: Mount Royal Heritage Site Conservation Plan, Ministère de la Culture et des Communications, 2018

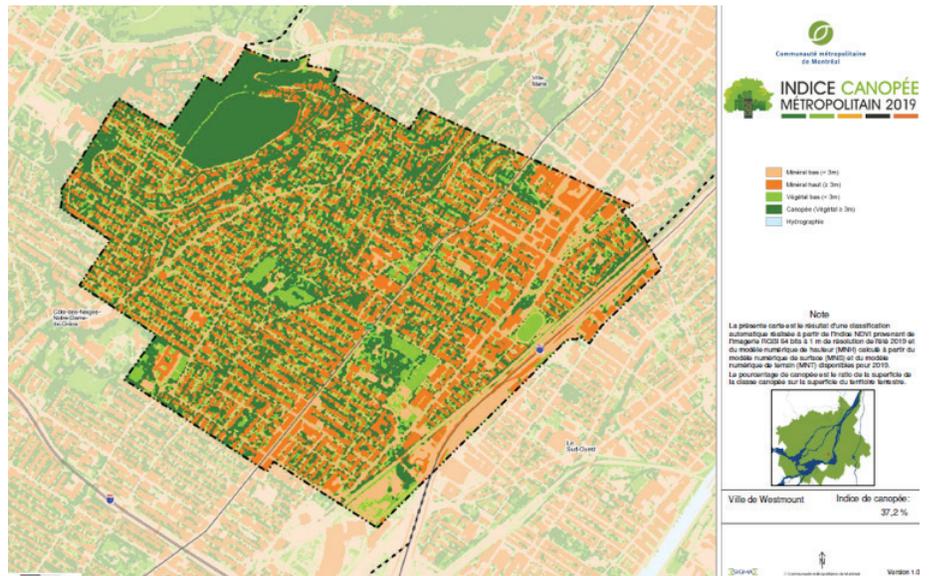
CANOPY INDEX

Because of its extensive tree cover, Westmount has one of the best canopy indexes in the Montreal agglomeration.

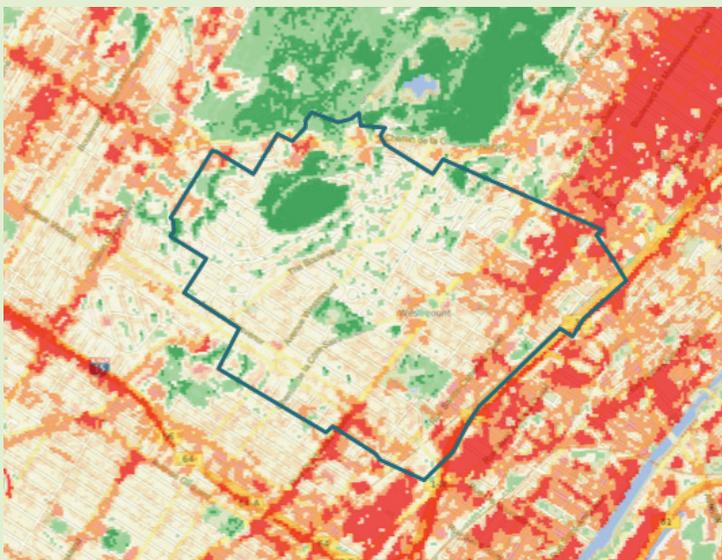
For information purposes, the Land Use and Development Plan aims to achieve a canopy index of 25% over the entire Urban Agglomeration of Montreal.

Reference: Montreal Metropolitan Community, 2019

City/Agglomeration	Canopy Index
Westmount	37.2%
Urban Agglomeration of Montreal	22%



Heat Islands



Reference: Sainte-Foy Forestry Teaching and Research Centre (CERFO), 2013

Although fewer in number than elsewhere in the agglomeration, heat islands remain a reality in Westmount, mainly in the southern part of the City, where there are more paved areas and less tree cover.

Westmount encourages a variety of solutions to counter heat islands, including:

- The use of white materials for parking lots. Westmount recently amended its zoning bylaw to prohibit the use of asphalt for the resurfacing of residential parking lots.
- Planting trees on private land. Each year, Westmount distributes a tree free of charge to residents who wish to plant one on their private property.

Runoff water

Good management of runoff water is essential to limit water accumulations in the lower areas of the City, especially after heavy rains or during the spring thaw.

Thanks to its zoning bylaw, Westmount requires a minimum amount of green space on private properties within its territory, which limits paving. Green spaces must represent at least 60 % of a backyard area and at least 70 % of a front yard area.

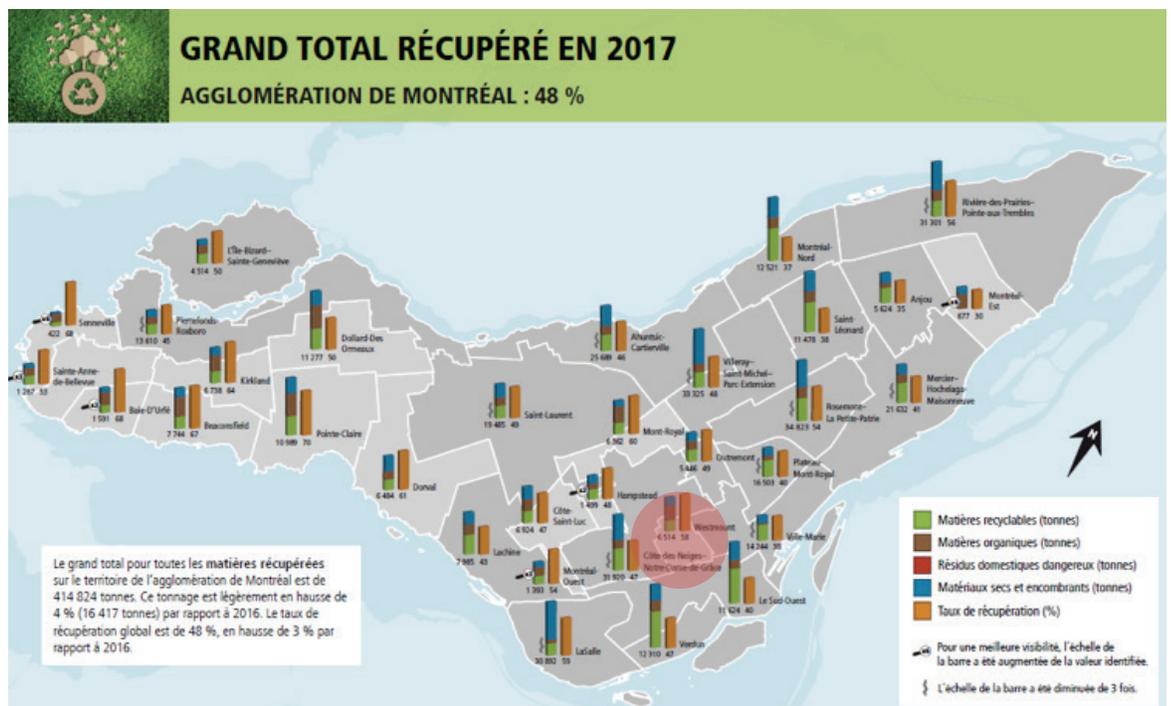
Residual Waste Management

Since 2009, Westmount has had a weekly food waste collection service for single-family homes and small multi-dwelling units. For buildings with nine units or more, access to the service has been available since 2018.

Although the recovery rates for organic and recyclable materials are below the agglomeration's goals, Westmount's results are higher than the agglomeration's average.

City/Agglomeration	Organic Waste Recovery Rate (2017 Goal – 60 %)	Recycling Recovery Rate (2017 Goal – 70 %)
Westmount	33 %	67 %
Montreal	23 %	60 %

Residual Waste Management Summary



Reference: Montreal Metropolitan Community, 2017

Transportation

Although the use of cycling, walking and public transit is increasing in Westmount (see Transportation and Mobility Factsheet), the City is lagging behind in terms of sustainable mobility.

In general, vehicles in Westmount are larger and more numerous per household than in Montreal, which necessarily has an impact on gas consumption and pollutant emissions. However, data on the use and number of electric or plug-in hybrid vehicles in Westmount are not available.

	2001	2006	2011	2016	2018
WESTMOUNT					
Passenger vehicles per household	1.006	0.958	0.999	1.008	Data unavailable
% of light trucks	19.9%	23.1%	30.6%	42.1%	46.6%
MONTREAL					
Passenger vehicles per household	0.738	0.758	0.784	0.813	Data unavailable
% of light trucks	17.6%	20.4%	25.4%	32.2%	35.8%

Reference: SAAQ 2016 and 2018

