

#3 Rubidge Park & the Trans Canada Trail

People love the Trans Canada Trail, and use the green space adjacent to it to walk dogs, picnic, and play games. The residents of Downtown Jackson Creek call this "Rubidge Park" and have been working hard to make the park more of a community space. Residents have formed a neighbourhood association, called the Reid McDonnell Neighbourhood Association, to bring more programming and activities to the park like clean-ups and BBQs. Relative to the density of the neighbourhood, there is little public community space in Downtown Jackson Creek. Since many people live in apartment buildings, many residents do not have backyards or porches to enjoy the company of their friends. As a result, the park is an important gathering space.

The bridge along the Trans Canada Trail has been a spot in the neighbourhood that has sparked much discussion and some disagreement amongst residents. Many people enjoy the bridge, and see it as a peaceful place to sit and gather. However, some people experience fear and discomfort travelling through here, especially after dark. There are also concerns about the bridge's surface quality, graffiti, and lack of maintenance. Many residents see opportunities to enhance the park and the bridge, and also see a need to consider diverse users of this space, and look for solutions that benefit all.



DESIGN CONCEPTS



Install pedestrian lighting

Add more lighting along the Trans Canada Trail and in the park, but ensure lighting is sensitive to wildlife and lights up the path adequately for pedestrians.



Safe



Connected

Community gardens and fruit trees

Reach out to Nourish, and start a garden in the park. Build accessible raised beds, and plant some fruit trees so that the community can enjoy fresh fruits.



Natural & Green



Community-Oriented

Celebrate Jackson Creek

Rehabilitate the shoreline along Jackson Creek by planting native plants and improving access to the creek.



Vibrant & Clean



Natural & Green

Add more waste disposal bins and a community board

Install a community board by the bridge as a place for people to share information on events and resources. Add more garbage and recycling bins to keep the park cleaner.



Vibrant & Clean



Community-Oriented

Enhance the bridge

Improve the surface quality of the bridge and possibly paint the sides. This could be a potential art project for students or the community.



Safe



Connected



Accessible



Vibrant & Clean



Naturalized play area

Create a naturalized play area using elements like logs, rocks, and trees to encourage children to play creatively.



Natural & Green



Community-Oriented

What is one desire you have for the future of your Neighbourhood?

"A natural playscape in the park that complements the Creek corridor"

"Would like a play structure in the park here, and safe needle disposal bins."

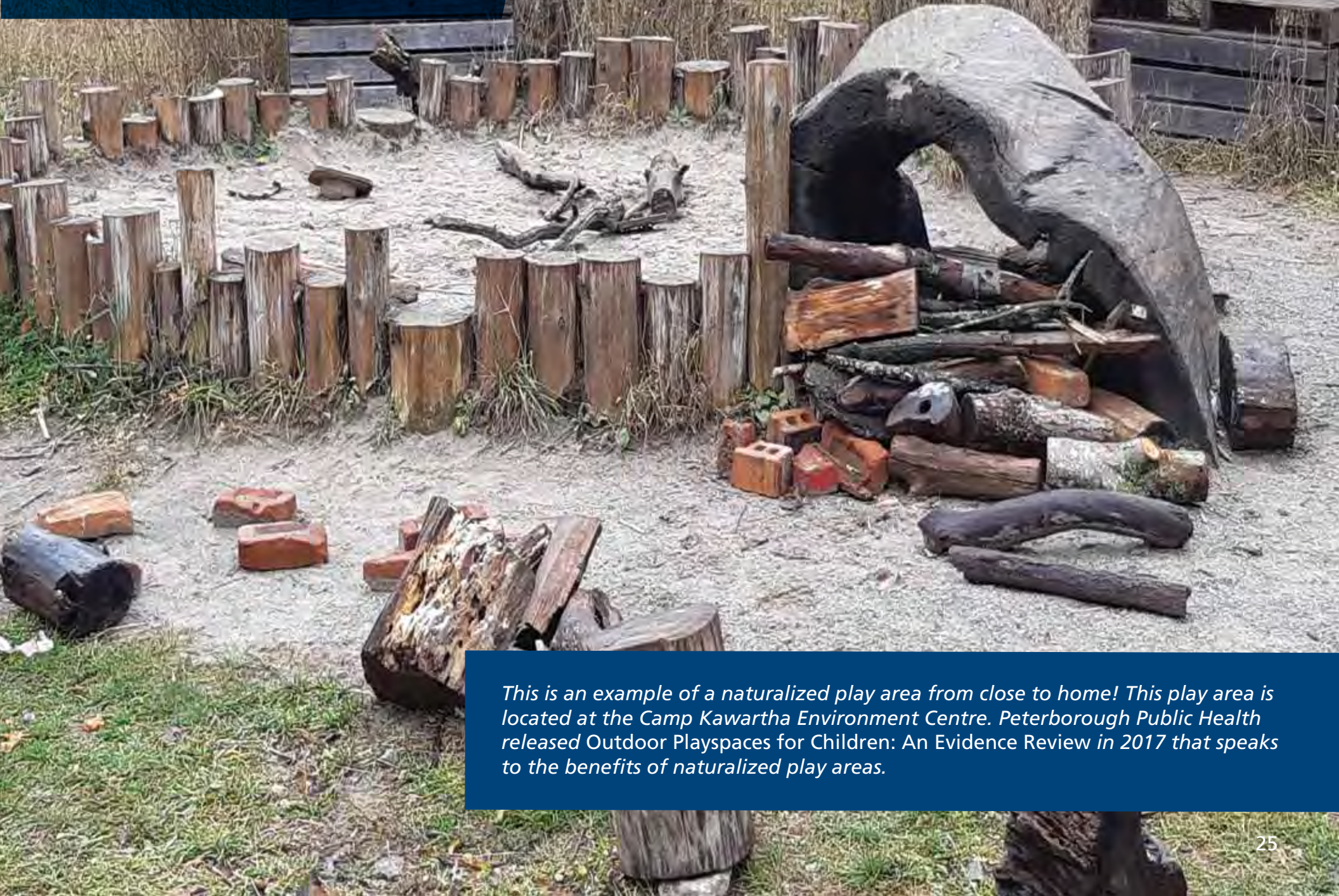
RESIDENT QUOTES

"Love the trail, but tend not to take after dark"

"Better lighting! Makes the trail feel safer."



NATURALIZED PLAY AREA



This is an example of a naturalized play area from close to home! This play area is located at the Camp Kawartha Environment Centre. Peterborough Public Health released Outdoor Playspaces for Children: An Evidence Review in 2017 that speaks to the benefits of naturalized play areas.