

AUGUST 2016



LOCATION:
Heart Lake Conservation Area, Etobicoke Creek Watershed

DATE:
Tuesday, August 2, 2016

REGION/MUNICIPALITY:
City of Brampton

PARTNERS:
Toronto and Region Conservation (TRCA), Region of Peel, Brampton YMCA



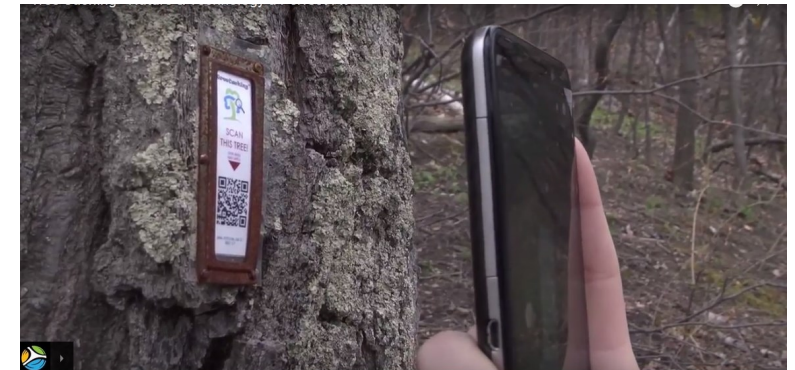
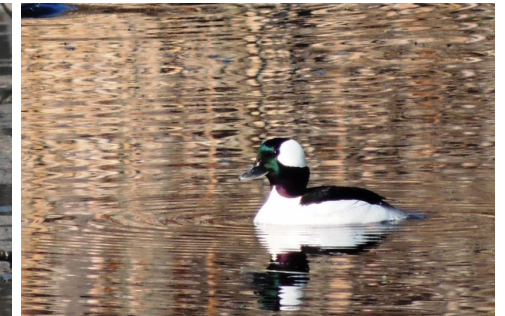
Heart Lake Conservation Area Tree Caching with Brampton YMCA

Brampton YMCA youth and staff visited Heart Lake Conservation Area (HLCA) to try their hand at tree caching. This fun and interactive exercise is similar in concept to geocaching, however the cache are strategically tagged trees.

As you find a cache, it provides participants with a barcode that can be scanned using a smartphone or tablet. This barcode directs them to a website that provides information about the tree species, identification characteristics, carbon sequestered by that particular tree, and additional information about local natural heritage features.

The group walked the trails covering approximately 7 kilometers and found 16 tree caches throughout park. The students learned exciting environmental facts about native vegetation, features of HLCA and highlights of Etobicoke and Mimico Creeks watersheds.

This activity allows local residents to enjoy a recreational activity outside, gain an appreciation of local native vegetation, wildlife and gain a better understanding of diverse ecosystems within their community.



POSITIVE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

KM Hiked	Tree Caches Found	Volunteers	Volunteer Hrs.
7	16	~11	33