

Wonderful Watershed Moments!

AUGUST 2016



LOCATION:
Marie Curtis Park, Etobicoke Creek Watershed

DATE:
Saturday, August 20 2016

REGION/MUNICIPALITY:
City of Toronto

PARTNERS:
Toronto and Region Conservation (TRCA), Great Lakes eXXpedition, Local Residents

Watershed Wide Cleanup and Great Lakes eXXpedition Water Sampling Event at Marie Curtis Park

Volunteers came out to assist TRCA staff in a shoreline clean-up and water sampling collection in collaboration with Great Lakes eXXpedition at Marie Curtis Park.

In 2014 a group of women formed Great Lakes eXXpedition and took on a mission to make the unseen seen by leading the world's largest simultaneous water sampling project for micro-plastics.

Local residents gathered at Marie Curtis Park to participate in this community-led initiative which is open to everyone in the Great Lakes region. This enthusiastic group took part to collect garbage and debris from the shoreline and water in an effort to stand up for the health of the Great Lakes.

The volunteers collected a combined eight bags of garbage from around the shoreline along with kayakers collecting from Lake Ontario near Marie Curtis Park. Bottles and food wrappers were the main source of shoreline debris with a few metal wires and alcohol bottles thrown into the mix.

Water samples were taken to be analyzed for micro-plastics in an effort to better understand their volumes in water, effects and impacts.

This type of community activity allows residents to better understand the impacts of debris and contaminants to water bodies and effects to humans and wildlife health.



POSITIVE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

# of Garbage Bags	Total weight of garbage (lbs)	# of Participants	Participant Hrs Contributed
8	30 lbs.	7	21

