

**OCTOBER 2017**

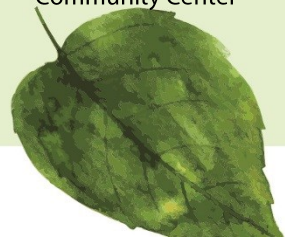


**LOCATION:**  
Heart Lake Conservation Area, Etobicoke Creek Watershed

**DATE:**  
Saturday October 7, 2017

**REGION/MUNICIPALITY:**  
Region of Peel, City of Brampton

**PARTNERS:**  
Toronto and Region Conservation (TRCA), Region of Peel, Ministry of Natural Resources (MNRF), Oakdale Community Center



## Heart Lake Conservation Area, Learn to Fish Activity with Oakdale Community Center Youth

TRCA in partnership with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) hosted a Learn to Fish program at Heart Lake Conservation Area (HLCA) in order to bring awareness to safe and recreational angling.

A Youth Outreach group from the Oakdale Community Centre made a special trip out to HLCA to learn rules and regulations of fishing, participate in hands-on teaching of knot tying and how to safely cast a rod and reel.

TRCA staff assisted in presenting important information to teach new and future anglers how to fish legally, successfully, safely and sustainably. Prizes were also handed out to each of the three groups to encourage future fishing trips. Youth anglers and Outreach staff spent the remainder of the day along the shoreline of Heart Lake practicing safe protocols of fishing.

Youth outreach worker and event organizer Shane Jeremiah had this to say about the program: "We very much want to make this a bi-annual trip! There's practically nothing I would change, everything on TRCA's end was great. TRCA staff were amazing, very efficient at untangling rods and very friendly and informative. Youth were very open to asking them questions and learning – they loved it. They weren't boring, and got right to the point, explained the regulations, reviewed the fish species present in the lake, it was great".

The very popular annual Learn to Fish event was once again, a huge success with catch numbers being some of the highest the program had ever experienced throughout 2017.



## POSITIVE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Fish Species	Number of Fish Caught	Number of Participants	Participant Hrs Contributed
Pumpkinseed	13	31	124
Rock Bass	6		
Largemouth Bass	5		
Rainbow trout	1		
<b>Total</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>124</b>

