

JULY 2017



LOCATION:
Stormwater Mgt Pond #5101, Secretariat Court, Etobicoke Creek Watershed

DATE:
Thursday July 19, 2017

REGION/MUNICIPALITY:
Region of Peel, City of Mississauga

PARTNERS:
Toronto and Region Conservation (TRCA), Region of Peel, City of Mississauga, Conservation Youth Corps (CYC)



Young Tree and Shrub Monitoring and Maintenance Program (YTMP), Stormwater Management Pond #5101

Through TRCA's Conservation Youth Corps (CYC) program, TRCA staff engaged twenty-six students in an environmental day at a Stormwater Management Pond located on Secretariat Ct. Students were instructed on protocols of TRCA's Young Tree and Shrub Monitoring and Maintenance Program (YTMP). Activities included; native plant identification, data collection protocols, site maintenance techniques and a litter cleanup.

This program is a citizen scientist based activity engaging participants in remonitoring plant material at restoration sites and performing maintenance such as removing invasive vegetation which competes with native plant growth. The group also contributed to TRCA's Watershed Wide Cleanup Campaign by removing six large bags of litter and garbage from the site.

YTMP involves tagging a percentage of plant material with a unique ID number, measurements are taken and general observations recorded. Each year data will be collected and maintenance performed to track success of the plants. This information provides valuable data on plant health, effects from storm events, insect infestation, disease and wildlife browse allowing planners to choose plant species for sites and develop management strategies for success.

Activities of this nature allow youth to be involved in improving the overall health and function of the watershed and provides a greater appreciation and understanding of natural spaces within urbanized environments.



POSITIVE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Vegetation Monitored	Garbage Collected	Total Area Enhanced (square metres)	# of Participants	Participant Hrs Contributed
204 pieces	6 bags	281	26	130