

SEPTEMBER 2017



LOCATION:
Heart Lake Road, Etobicoke Creek Watershed

DATE:
Saturday September 30 2017

REGION/MUNICIPALITY:
Region of Peel, City of Brampton

PARTNERS:
Toronto and Region Conservation, Region of Peel, City of Brampton, Local Residents



Watershed Wide Cleanup Campaign at Heart Lake Road with Local Residents

A group of very enthusiastic local residents joined TRCA staff at Heart Lake Conservation Area for the annual fall TRCA Watershed Wide Cleanup Campaign along Heart Lake Road.

The group were advised of safety protocols, outfitted in safety clothing and paired off to cover a large area of Heart Lake Rd from Sandalwood Pkwy to Mayfield Road. This area is surrounded by designated Provincially Significant Wetlands and home to a diverse variety of wildlife.

Over a period of four hours, participants collected 36 bags of trash and larger debris from this sensitive ecosystem. Items included; hundreds of plastic water bottles, coffee cups, food wrappers, children's toys, clothing and as always, thousands of cigarette butts. A reoccurring item at this location are plastic bags filled with grass, leaf debris and/or soil. On this occasion, approximately 15 bags of this type of dumped material was found. Participants opened the bags and spread this organic matter to allow it to naturally disperse to the environment and disposed of the plastic bags.

Clean-ups of this nature assist in removing contaminants from the sensitive waterways along Heart Lake Road to help protect these wetlands. Being involved in these activities improve the overall health and function of the watershed and provide a greater appreciation and understanding of natural spaces within urbanized environments.



POSITIVE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

# of Garbage Bags	Weight of Garbage	# of Participants	Participant Hrs Contributed
36	~ 1,850 lbs	9	40