

**MAY 2017**



**LOCATION:**  
Oak Ridges Conservation Reserve, Humber River Watershed

**DATE:**  
Thursday May 11, 2017

**REGION/MUNICIPALITY:**  
York Region, Town of Richmond Hill

**PARTNERS:**  
Toronto and Region Conservation (TRCA), Urban Forestry Associates (UFORA), Richmond Hill Rotary Club, Town of Richmond Hill, Local Secondary and Elementary School Students



## Oak Ridges Conservation Reserve, Native Tree and Shrub Planting and Citizen Science YTMP Activity

TRCA in partnership with UFORA, Richmond Hill Rotary Club and students from local secondary and elementary schools, held a native tree and shrub planting at Oak Ridges Conservation Reserve.

Eager students gathered at the site to plant more than 1,500 native trees and shrubs and become citizen scientists collecting tree health data and measurements for TRCA's Young Tree Monitoring and Maintenance Program (YTMP). Participants were divided into groups, given a safety talk and a planting demonstration to ensure quality and quickly got under way.

A dedicated group of secondary school students from Bayview Secondary School took on the challenge of becoming citizen scientists to participate in YTMP. A percentage of plants are tagged with a unique ID number, measurements are taken and general observations recorded. Each year data is collected and maintenance performed to track success of the plants and restoration site.

Students were also treated to a bird of prey show featuring a great horned owl, golden and bald eagles, turkey vulture and more. Activities of this nature allow students to be involved in improving the overall health and function of the watershed and provide a greater appreciation and understanding of natural spaces within urbanized environments.



## POSITIVE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Vegetation Planted	# of Pieces Planted	Total Area Enhanced (square metres)	# of Participants	Participant Hrs Contributed
Trees	662	1,655	~ 350	1,750
Shrubs	875	1,315		
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,537</b>	<b>2,970</b>	<b>~ 350</b>	<b>1,750</b>

