

# Wonderful Watershed Moments!

APRIL 2018



**LOCATION:**

William Foster Memorial Park, Humber River Watershed

**DATE:**

Thursday April 26, 2018

**REGION/MUNICIPALITY:**

York Region, City of Vaughan

**PARTNERS:**

Toronto and Region Conservation (TRCA), York Region, "Old Boys Club" and Kleinburg Public School Students and Teachers.



## William Foster Memorial Park, Native Tree and Shrub Planting with Kleinburg PS and "Kleinburg Old Boy's Club"

For several years, TRCA and members of Kleinburg's "Old Boys Club" have partnered with Kleinburg Public School to organize and deliver a community based restoration planting to enhance natural spaces within the community. This year a large group of 130 students and teachers attended and participated in a planting at William Foster Park.

Staff provided a safety talk and planting demonstration to ensure quality and quickly got underway to plant 120 native trees and shrubs, placing mulch mats around each piece. The students were also educated about invasive species and equipped with specialized equipment, engaged in activities to remove invasive buckthorn plants which outcompete native vegetation.

Some students became citizen scientists and assisted staff in collecting data for TRCA's Young Tree Monitoring and Maintenance Program (YTMP). Through this program a percentage of plants are tagged with a unique ID number, measurements are taken and general observations recorded. For a period of three to five years data will be collected and maintenance performed to track success of plants. This data is used to track health, monitor effects of storm events, wildlife browse, disease of plants and plan maintenance strategies for successful growth.

Ashley, one of the grade five teachers for Kleinburg PS had this to say about her students: "It's fun to see them learn how to get dirty. They don't really know what dirt is".

Mark from the "Old Boys' Club" made the following statement: "I was here for the first planting in 1991. If you look around now, those trees are 40 feet tall".

Activities of this nature engage participants 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 (sq.m.)	Invasives Removed	Garbage Collected	# of Participants	Participant Hrs Contributed
Trees	25	65	9 buckthorn	35 lbs	130	390
Shrubs	95	145				
<b>Total</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>35 lbs</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>390</b>

