

# Wonderful Watershed Moments!

**MAY 2018**

## Heart Lake Road, Wetlands Wildlife Barrier



**LOCATION:**

Heart Lake Road, Etobicoke Creek Watershed

**DATE:**

May 11th and May 25th, 2018

**REGION/MUNICIPALITY:**

Region of Peel, City of Brampton,

**PARTNERS:**

Toronto and Region Conservation (TRCA), City of Brampton, Local Residents

TRCA staff met local residents along Heart Lake Conservation Area on two separate occasions to assist in creating natural barriers along the Heart Lake Road wetlands to prevent swans, geese and other waterfowl that use the wetlands, from accessing the road.

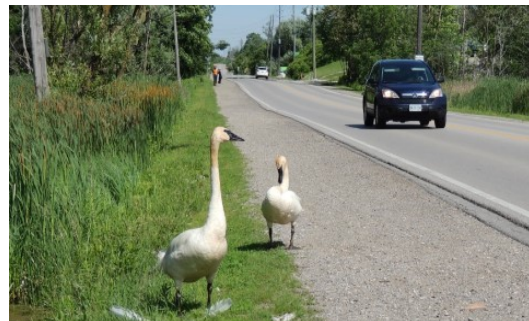
Heart Lake Road is surrounded by designated Provincially Significant Wetlands with an abundance of wildlife and diverse ecosystems. This area has been the site of a citizen science road ecology study since 2011, in partnership with City of Brampton, Ontario Road Ecology Group, York University and volunteer citizen scientists.

Over the years, data have been collected on wildlife-vehicle collisions (WVCs) resulting in a wildlife passage and directional wildlife fencing being installed in 2016, at the north wetlands in order to help safely guide animals under the road to access adjacent wetlands.

Staff and participants collected downed trees and branches from Heart Lake Conservation Area (HLCA) to build a series of natural barriers along the un-vegetated shorelines. This barrier, in combination with newly installed wildlife directional fencing at the south wetlands, will further assist in preventing wildlife from accessing the road which places them at risk of being struck by vehicles.

Future Watershed Wide Cleanup activities at this site will be scheduled with local residents and community groups to remove litter and debris from illegal dumping that also significantly impacts the wetlands and wildlife in these areas.

By participating in these type of stewardship activities, local residents and community groups are making significant and valuable contributions to enhancing these natural areas and gain a better understanding to the importance of these sensitive wetlands.



### Positive Environmental Impacts

Length of Barrier (m)	Materials Used	# of Participants	Participant Hrs Contributed
30	Fallen Trees & Branches	10	34

