

Wonderful Watershed Moments!

JUNE 2018

Phyllis Rawlinson Park, Community Based Restoration with Chinese Family Services



LOCATION:
Phyllis Rawlinson Park, Rouge River Watershed

DATE:
Saturday June 9, 2018

REGION/MUNICIPALITY:
Town of Richmond Hill, York Region

PARTNERS:
Toronto and Region Conservation (TRCA), Town of Richmond Hill, Chinese Family Services

TRCA in partnership with the Town of Richmond Hill celebrating 20 years of Community Stewardship, and members of Chinese Family Services, hosted a native tree and shrub planting at Phyllis Rawlinson Park.

Chinese Family Services President Howard Yeung started the event with a welcome message to the group and awards ceremony in celebration of their 30th Anniversary. Following the ceremony, the group were given a safety talk by TRCA staff, a demonstration on planting protocols and quickly got underway to plant 200 native trees and shrubs placing a mulch mat and mulch around each piece.

This group worked diligently and were able to take on other activities including; extracting invasive buckthorn which out-competes and smothers native vegetation and participate as citizen scientists in TRCA's Young Tree and Shrub Monitoring and Maintenance Program (YTMP). Through YTMP, a percentage of plant material is tagged with a unique identification number and baseline measurements and general observations are recorded. This information is collected over a period of three years to track impacts of storm events, climate affects, insect infestation and wildlife browse. It also allows maintenance strategies to be put in place to assist in success at restoration sites.

Engaging local residents and community groups in enhancing natural areas provides a better understanding to the importance of greenspace. It also educates on the value of maintaining these areas through litter cleanups and returning to collect data on health and success of plants at the site.

Positive Environmental Impacts

Vegetation Planted	# of Pieces Planted	Total Area Enhanced (sq.m.)	# of Participants	Participant Hrs Contributed
Trees	70	175	~ 125	375
Shrubs	130	195		
Total	200	370	~ 125	375

