

Wonderful Watershed Moments!

JULY 2018

Pollinator Plot Restoration Project at Arsenal Lands



More than 100 community residents participated in a Monarch Butterfly and Pollinator Restoration Project activity at the Arsenal Lands adjacent to Lake Ontario in the City of Mississauga. The Arsenal Lands have historically been an area abundant in native wildflowers attracting monarch butterflies and local native pollinator species. In recent years human activity and changes in vegetation species has resulted in a visible reduction in habitat and sightings of pollinators.

TRCA staff provided a safety talk, some background about the natural features of the site and a planting demonstration to ensure quality. Through this effort, more than 400 native wildflowers were planted which included 100 milkweed, the host plant for Monarch butterflies, and 130 native trees and shrubs surrounding the plot. Other activities included an interpretive nature hike and educational booth, where participants were able to familiarize themselves with local flora and fauna.

To aid in giving the plants a healthy start, water was drawn from the nearby pond using a pump and hose allowing participants to fill buckets and saturate the area. TRCA staff also installed a fence around the wildflowers to allow them to establish and be protected from wildlife browse.

Small Arms Society members provided a barbecue lunch for the participants as a thank you for their hard work.

Activities of this nature allow residents to become involved in improving the overall health and function of the watershed and provides a greater appreciation and understanding of the importance of natural spaces within urbanized settings.



LOCATION:
Arsenal Lands, Etobicoke Creek Watershed

DATE:
Saturday, July 7, 2018

REGION/MUNICIPALITY:
Region Peel, City of Mississauga

PARTNERS:
Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA), Credit Valley Conservation, Small Arms Society and Local Community Residents

Positive Environmental Impacts

Vegetation Planted	# of Pieces Planted	Total Area Enhanced (sq.m.)	# of Participants	Participant Hrs Contributed
Trees	30	45	~100	~200
Shrubs	100	250		
Wildflowers	400	30		
Total	530	325	~100	~200

