

Wonderful Watershed Moments!

MAY 2018



LOCATION:
Valleywood Fernbrook Park, Etobicoke Creek Watershed

DATE:
Friday May 11, 2018

REGION/MUNICIPALITY:
Region of Peel, Town of Caledon

PARTNERS:
Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA), Louise Arbour Secondary School Students and Teachers



Valleywood Fernbrook Park, Community Based Restoration with Louise Arbour SS Students

Louise Arbour Secondary School Students worked with Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) staff to plant 60 native shrubs in Valleywood ravine as part of an ongoing restoration. This greenspace has recently undergone extensions of the pedestrian trail connecting Brampton and Caledon and the installation of two pedestrian bridges over Etobicoke Creek. Planting native vegetation helps stabilize creek slopes and naturalize the areas disturbed by the trail construction.

Several participants took on the role of citizen scientist to help collect data for TRCA's Young Tree and Shrub Monitoring and Maintenance Program (YTMP). A portion of plant material is tagged with a unique ID number and monitoring and maintenance of sites is undertaken over a three year period. Measurements are taken and general health observations of new plants are recorded. This information allows maintenance strategies to be put in place to assist with successful growth, manage invasive vegetation, track impacts of insect infestation, disease and effects from storms.

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	0	0	20	36
Shrubs	60	90		
Total	60	90	20	36

