

Wonderful Watershed Moments!

SEPTEMBER 2018



LOCATION:
Oak Ridges Conservation Reserve, Humber River Watershed

DATE:
Sunday September 30, 2018

REGION/MUNICIPALITY:
York Region, Town of Richmond Hill

PARTNERS:
Toronto and Region Conservation (TRCA), Living City Foundation, Town of Richmond Hill, TD Employees and Families



Oak Ridges Conservation Reserve (ORCR), Community Based Restoration for TD Tree Days

TRCA staff worked with TD Bank employees and their families to celebrate TD Tree Days at the Oak Ridges Conservation Reserve restoration site.

A large group of over 130 participants were provided with a safety talk, planting demonstration and got underway to plant 750 native trees and shrubs, placing a mulch mat and mulch around each piece.

Several small wildlife were observed including a cottontail rabbit while staff were setting plant material in place, a juvenile northern red-bellied snake, (pictured left), an eastern garter snake and a spotted salamander.

Some of the participants took part in citizen scientist activities as part of 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 to five years to track impacts of storm events, climate affects, insect infestation and wildlife browse. It allows maintenance strategies to be put in place to assist in success at restoration sites.

These activities provide a better understanding of greenspace and value as wildlife habitat and recreational areas in urban settings. It also educates on the importance of maintaining these areas through litter cleanups and returning to collect data on health and success of plants.



Positive Environmental Impacts

Vegetation Planted	# of Pieces Planted	Total Area Enhanced (sq.m.)	# of Participants	Participant Hrs Contributed
Trees & Shrubs	750	1,875	~ 150	450
Total	750	1,875	~ 150	450

