

Wonderful Watershed Moments!

JULY 2018



LOCATION:
Valleywood Newhouse Park, Etobicoke Creek Watershed

DATE:
Thursday July 26, 2018

REGION/MUNICIPALITY:
Region of Peel, Town of Caledon

PARTNERS:
Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA), Region of Peel, Peel Region Conservation Youth Corps (CYC) Students



Valleywood Newhouse Park, Young Tree and Shrub Monitoring and Maintenance Program with Peel CYC Students

TRCA's Peel Region Conservation Youth Corps (CYC) students met at Valleywood Newhouse Park to perform maintenance and monitoring within the valleyland restoration area. The CYC program engages secondary school students in Peel and York Region to gain environmental awareness and field experience. These activities provide students with 35 hours of curriculum based volunteerism they are required to achieve throughout secondary school studies.

Valleywood Park has recently undergone enhancement through a trail expansion including the installation of two pedestrian bridges and extended Etobicoke Creek pedestrian trails connecting Brampton and Caledon.

TRCA's Young Tree and Shrub Monitoring and Maintenance Program (YTMP), engages students in a range of activities including plant identification, collecting data by measuring recently planted vegetation and recording general observations related to impacts of insect infestation, disease, wildlife browse and damage from storm events. Data collected through YTMP provides valuable input choosing species for restoration sites and allows maintenance strategies to be implemented to assist with plant growth and survival.

Students also removed 70 invasive burdock plants and weeds which outcompete native plants. Using a pump and hose system to draw water from the creek, students assisted in watering vegetation established during a recent community based restoration.

These community engagement activities provide participants with a greater appreciation and understanding of natural spaces within urbanized environments.



Positive Environmental Impacts

# of Pieces Monitored & Maintained	Total Area Enhanced (sq.m.)	# of Participants	Participant Hrs Contributed	Burdock Removed
1,490	3,370	40	220	70 plants

