

Wonderful Watershed Moments!

AUGUST 2018



LOCATION:
Heart Lake Conservation Area, Etobicoke Creek Watershed

DATE:
Wednesday August 1, 2018

REGION/MUNICIPALITY:
Region of Peel, City of Brampton,

PARTNERS:
Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) Staff



Heart Lake Conservation Area, TRCA Staff Invasive Species Removal

TRCA staff discovered a patch of dog strangling vine (DSV), an aggressive invasive species, at Heart Lake Conservation Area and performed control measures to prevent encroachment to adjacent pollinator plots.

DSV is a non-native plant originating from Eurasia in the mid 1800's. It is an invasive vine-like species (image top right on fence), with long pods and pink to purple flowers (images left) that spreads rapidly along the ground creating thick dense mats and wraps around and smothers native vegetation.

Using methods outlined in the Government of Ontario's Best Management Practices Guide, staff set to work cutting off seed pods to prevent the pods from opening and spreading seeds and placed them in plastic garbage bags. Once the seed pods were removed, the plants including roots were dug from the ground and disposed of in garbage bags and placed in an area to smother.

TRCA educates and engages local residents, school, community and corporate groups in enhancing natural areas and invasive species awareness, to assist in ensuring native vegetation is successful at restoration sites. These stewardship activities provide an understanding to the importance of greenspace and educate on the value of maintaining these areas through further invasive species management and litter cleanups through TRCA's Watershed Wide Cleanup Campaign.



Positive Environmental Impacts

Vegetation Removed	# of Pieces Removed	Total Area Enhanced (sq.m.)
Dog Strangling Vine	500	20
Total	500	20

