

Wonderful Watershed Moments!

AUGUST 2018

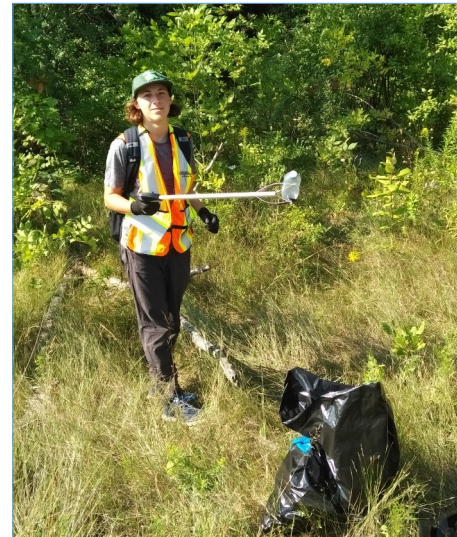


LOCATION:
Heart Lake Conservation Area, Etobicoke Creek Watershed

DATE:
Friday August 24, 2018

REGION/MUNICIPALITY:
Region of Peel, City of Brampton

PARTNERS:
Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA), Region of Peel, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, Peel Conservation Youth Corps Students



Heart Lake Road, Watershed Wide Cleanup and Learn to Fish with Conservation Youth Corps Students

Conservation Youth Corps (CYC) is a volunteer program that enriches the lives of young people through volunteering and learning about conservation and the environment. Teams of high school student volunteers work with conservation staff for one week, performing a variety of outdoor conservation activities.

This past summer, multiple groups of students participated in TRCA's Watershed Wide Clean-up program along Heart Lake Road between Sandalwood Pkwy and Coutryside Dr. During this particular outing, the CYC group collected over 900 pounds of garbage and 750 cigarette butts to prevent these contaminants entering the wetlands.

This stretch of Heart Lake Road is surrounded by designated Provincially Significant Wetlands with an abundance of wildlife and diverse ecosystems which is negatively impacted by illegal dumping of construction materials, household garbage and litter.

In the afternoon, the group were given the opportunity to participate in TRCA and Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry's Learn to Fish program where they learned rules and regulations of safe and sustainable fishing. Education on fish identification, tying lures to line and proper casting techniques were practiced. Students were better able to understand how cleanup efforts are necessary to protect aquatic species.

By participating in these types of stewardship activities, local residents and community groups contribute to enhancing natural areas and gain a better understanding to the importance of protecting these sensitive wetlands.



Positive Environmental Impacts

# of Garbage Bags	Total Weight collected (lbs)	# of Participants	Participant Hrs Contributed
73	934	33	165

