

Wonderful Watershed Moments!

NOVEMBER 2018



LOCATION:

Marie Curtis and Maurice J Breen Parks, Etobicoke Creek Watershed

DATE:

Wednesday November 14, 2018

REGION/MUNICIPALITY:

City of Toronto, Toronto

PARTNERS:

Toronto and Region Conservation (TRCA), City of Toronto, local Watershed Champion Alan, KAPP Infrastructure, Inc., B.W Haggart Crane Rentals, On Track Safety Ltd. And City of Toronto Ravines Group



Marie Curtis and Maurice J Breen Parks, Culvert and Large Debris Removal with KAPP Infrastructure Inc.

A local resident and TRCA Watershed Champion Alan, assists TRCA throughout the year conducting clean-ups along the Etobicoke and Mimico Creeks as part of TRCA's Watershed Wide Clean-up Campaign. Alan, along with the help of other volunteers, removes thousands of pounds of litter and trash each year that can be picked up and placed in garbage bags as well as larger items that are still able to be handled by individuals and placed near a road or trail for pick up.

Despite these community efforts, there are often pieces of debris that require specialized equipment in order to be removed. In conducting these annual cleanups, Alan had located a couple of large rusted steel culverts that he had observed for several years near the Lake Shore Blvd. bridge at Maurice J Breen and Marie Curtis Parks and provided location details to TRCA staff.

TRCA staff reached out to contacts at the City of Toronto and in the construction community to see if they could assist with removing these culverts. The challenge was graciously accepted and KAPP Infrastructure provided equipment and staff time, B.W Haggart Crane Rentals provided a crane and operator, TRCA staff obtained a road closure permit, On Track Safety Ltd. managed traffic and Toronto Parks, Forestry and Recreation lent additional support and supplies. Also on hand were the City of Toronto Ravines Group to lend additional support. This group expanded the cleanup and removed steel bars, T-bars and other metal debris.

Participating in cleanup activities improve the overall health and function of watersheds. They provide valuable learning opportunities in disposing of litter properly and preventing pollutants and contaminants from entering waterbodies which pose health risks to both humans and wildlife.

