

# Wonderful Watershed Moments!

OCTOBER 2018



**LOCATION:**  
Humber Bay Park, Mimico Creek Watershed

**DATE:**  
Sunday October 21, 2018

**REGION/MUNICIPALITY:**  
City of Toronto

**PARTNERS:**  
Friends of Humber Bay Park, City of Toronto, Local Residents and Toronto and Region Conservation (TRCA)



## Humber Bay Park, Watershed Wide Cleanup with Community Residents

TRCA in partnership with the Friends of Humber Bay Park along with local residents came out to participate in TRCA's Watershed Wide Cleanup Campaign to remove litter and debris from Mimico Creek, Humber Bay Park shoreline and surrounding natural areas.

Although the weather conditions were unfavorable, 35 dedicated people participated in the clean up activity. A total of 49 large bags of litter were collected weighing over 330 pounds. Styrofoam was the most common type of garbage collected, with discarded beverage containers being the second most common garbage item collected.

Removing litter and garbage from waterways and natural areas is important due to negative impacts to water quality which affect both wildlife and human health. Plastics persist and do not fully break down and if not removed quickly, get smaller over time and become what are known as microplastics and more difficult to collect. These microplastics are often mistaken as a food source to wildlife and when ingested can prove to be fatal.

Removing illegal waste and litter is an important engagement opportunity to improve the overall health and function of our watershed and provide learning opportunities to the importance of disposing garbage properly. It allows community residents a greater understanding and appreciation of natural areas.



## Positive Environmental Impacts

| # of Participants | # of Garbage Bags Collected | Total Weight Collected (lbs) | Participant Hrs Contributed |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 35                | 49                          | ~ 340                        | 105                         |

