

WATERSHED *moments*



Invasive Species Control with Friends of Humber Bay Park at Humber Bay Park East

Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA), working with the City of Toronto and Friends of Humber Bay Park, conducted a community-based invasive species control and maintenance activity at Humber Bay Park East.

An area of the park had become overrun with invasive burdock plants negatively impacting some birds that migrate through the area, local wildlife and outcompeting native plants. Burdock plants spread quickly and produce small to medium sized burs that can attach themselves to feathers and fur, and can entangle small birds. Once entangled, the birds are unable to free themselves and this can result in fatalities. Once burdock has been removed, native trees and shrubs are planted to help enhance the local habitat and reduce obstacles to wildlife.

A local, dedicated and enthusiastic group of participants attended this activity. Using shovels and loppers, participants removed burdock plants by the roots from an area over 225 sq.m. This is the second season of removing burdock from this natural area and continuing this maintenance to remove invasive species creates a better opportunity for local trees and shrubs to thrive. The long-term plan is to continue monitoring burdock growth and engage local community residents for the next two to five years until the native plants have established and burdock has been suppressed.

Engaging local residents and community groups in enhancing natural area provides a better understanding of the importance of greenspace. It also educates on the value of maintaining these areas through litter cleanups and returning to collect data on the health and success of plants at the site.

Positive Environmental Impacts

Invasive Species Removed	# of Invasive Plants Removed	Total Area Enhanced (sq.m.)	# of Participants	Participant Hrs Contributed
Burdock	300	225	9	27
Total	300	225	9	27



LOCATION:
Humber Bay Park East, Mimico Creek Watershed

DATE:
Sunday June 16, 2019

REGION/MUNICIPALITY:
City of Toronto

IN COLLABORATION WITH:
Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA),
City of Toronto, Friends of Humber Bay Park and
Local Residents

