

WATERSHED *moments*



Alfred Kuehne, Watershed Wide Cleanup with Partners in Project Green

Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA), with support from the City of Brampton hosted a fall watershed-wide cleanup event as part of the Partners in Project Green's "People Power Challenge" program. The turn-key employee engagement program gives businesses ways to engage their staff and drive sustainability results. This friendly competition runs for four months, with each month focusing on a specific theme. This year's themes included energy and low carbon transportation, water stewardship, waste management and environmental innovation.

As part of the challenge, a watershed clean-up activity was organized along a neglected section of the Etobicoke Creek, in an industrialized area within the City of Brampton. Staff welcomed the group, and following a safety talk and a short introduction, the enthusiastic group worked their way along the banks of the creek. These efforts resulted in the collection of 26 bags of garbage and a variety of larger items weighing just over 573 pounds.

Removing litter and debris from waterways and natural areas is important due to its negative impact to water quality, which negatively affects both wildlife and human health. Plastics persist and do not fully break down, and if not removed quickly, get smaller over time becoming what is known as microplastics. These small microplastics are difficult to remove from the water system and are often mistaken as a food source to wildlife. When ingested, these small particles can prove to be fatal.

These types of activities also help raise awareness of products used and when inappropriately disposed of, compromise sensitive waterways and ecosystems.



LOCATION:
Alfred Kuehne, Etobicoke Creek Watershed

DATE:
Friday, September 20, 2019

REGION/MUNICIPALITY:
Region of Peel and City of Toronto

IN COLLABORATION WITH:
Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA),
Partners in Project Green (PPG), Local Businesses

Positive Environmental Impacts

# of Participants	# of Garbage Bags	Total Weight (lbs)	Total Area Enhanced (sq.m.)
25	26	573.5	500

In collaboration with:

