

# WATERSHED *moments*

## Learn to Fish Program with Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

The “Learn to Fish” program at Heart Lake Conservation Area, is a collaborative program between Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA), and Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF). This year marked the third year of this popular program, teaching local residents the art of angling in a way that aligns with conservation ideals. Program leaders guide participants to learn about angling equipment and its proper use, rules regulations and licensing, and impart the lessons of sustainable fishing through the practice of catch-and-release. This approach allowed for the enjoyment of fishing while maintaining the goal of conservation and protection of fish populations. Learn to Fish classes were offered throughout the summer beginning the middle of June until the end of August.

Each week the Learn to Fish program welcomed local groups, some of which included; Carpe Diem Foster Care Agency, Peel Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Thistleoaks Child Care Centre, Peel Women’s Shelter, Learning Disabilities Association of Peel, Boys and Girls Club, YMCA of Greater Toronto, Regeneration Outreach Community, Kreative Kids Camp, Peel Family Shelter, and Camp Otzros. For the first time, the program also welcomed a French speaking group from East Mississauga Community Health, and program staff were able to present the curriculum in French.

In 2019, the Heart Lake Conservation Area Learn To Fish program once again had the highest number of participants of all host sites, welcoming more than 1,700 people over 88 sessions.

### Positive Environmental Impacts

# of Sessions/ Days	# of Groups	# of Participants	Participant Hrs Contributed
88	20	1,791	3,582



**LOCATION:**  
Heart Lake Conservation Area, Etobicoke Creek Watershed

**DATE:**  
June to August, 2019

**REGION/MUNICIPALITY:**  
Region of Peel - City of Brampton

**IN COLLABORATION WITH:**  
Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA),  
Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, Region of Peel and Local Residents



*In collaboration with:*

