

WATERSHED *moments*




LOCATION:
Dixie 407 Park, Etobicoke Creek Watershed

DATE:
Thursday August 1, 2019

REGION/MUNICIPALITY:
Region of Peel, City of Brampton

IN COLLABORATION WITH:
Toronto and Region Conservation (TRCA),
Region of Peel and Peel Region Conservation Youth
Corps (CYC) Students



Dixie 407 Park, Young Tree and Shrub Monitoring and Maintenance Program with Peel CYC Students

Toronto and Region Conservation Authority's (TRCA) Peel Region Conservation Youth Corps (CYC) students gathered at Dixie 407 Park to perform maintenance and monitoring at a recently planted community-based restoration site.

The CYC program engages Peel and York Region high school students in environmental and outdoor experiences. Students who participate in the program acquire 35 hours of community service to add to their volunteer efforts as part of the secondary school curriculum.

A group of 35 students participated as citizen scientists in TRCA's Young Tree and Shrub Monitoring and Maintenance Program (YTMP). Through YTMP, a portion of plant material is tagged with a unique identification number and measurements are taken at time of planting. A maintenance strategy is put in place for three to five years, and staff and volunteers return to: conduct invasive vegetation control, remeasure plants, and collect data on overall plant health, impacts related to insect infestation, disease, wildlife browse, and effects from storm events.

The group also learned how to identify plants through leaf, stem and key ID features, observed wildlife, and were introduced to pollinator species through an insect study.

These activities provide a better understanding of diverse ecosystems in natural areas. Participants gain heightened awareness to the importance removing litter and debris to prevent contaminants from entering waterbodies, which pose health threats to both humans and wildlife.



Positive Environmental Impacts

# of Pieces Invasive Vegetation Removed	Total Area Enhanced (sq.m.)	# of Participants	Participant Hrs Contributed
150	1,365	35	210

In collaboration with:

