

# WATERSHED *moments*



**LOCATION:**  
Humber Gateway, Humber River Watershed

**DATE:**  
Wednesday May 29, 2019

**REGION/MUNICIPALITY:**  
Region of York, City of Richmond Hill

**IN COLLABORATION WITH:**  
Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA),  
City of Richmond Hill and York Region Conservation  
Youth Corps Students



## Humber Gateway Native Wildflower Planting with York Conservation Youth Corps Students (CYC)

Toronto and Region Conservation Authority's (TRCA's) CYC program engages secondary school students in Peel and York Region, with hands-on field experience in environmental activities. These activities provide students with 35 hours of volunteerism they are required to achieve as part of the secondary school curriculum.

In 2019, activities are taking place throughout the Humber River Watershed to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of Humber's Canadian Heritage River designation. TRCA in collaboration with the City of Richmond Hill, engaged an enthusiastic group of CYC students to establish a wildflower plot around a commemorative plaque located at Humber Gateway.

After an introduction and a safety talk by TRCA staff, the participants set out to prepare the area, plant 200 native wildflowers and install a landscape protective border around the perimeter to prevent damage to plant material from storm events.

The group also removed litter and debris from the site, which is directly adjacent to Lake Wilcox Channel and is home to abundant wildlife. This litter poses significant threats to both human and wildlife health due to pollutants and contaminants leaching into the water.

These types of activities enhance natural areas and provide a better understanding to the importance of greenspace. It also educates on the value of maintaining these areas through regular litter cleanups.

### Positive Environmental Impacts

Vegetation Planted	# of Pieces Planted	Total Area Enhanced (sq.m.)	Litter Removed	# of Participants	Participant Hrs Contributed
Wildflowers	200	50	~20 lbs	12	36

