

WATERSHED *moments*

Elm Creek Park Community Based Planting Hosted and Environmental Event

The City of Mississauga working with Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA), hosted local residents to participate in a community planting and environmental event at Elm Creek Park.

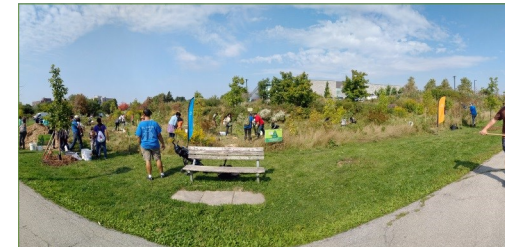
TRCA provided an educational booth to introduce attendees to introduce participants on TRCA's Young Tree and Shrub Monitoring and Maintenance Program (YTMP). Through YTMP, volunteers are engaged as citizen scientists to assist staff in collecting data at newly planted sites. A maintenance strategy is put in place for three to five years and each year plants are remeasured, data is collected on effects of storm events, insect infestation, disease and wildlife browse, and invasive vegetation control is conducted, in order to track success at sites.

Participants were also provided the opportunity to learn how to identify native trees and shrubs by the bud, leaf, branch and cone, through examples mounted in a display. They also learned the important role vegetation plays in creek/river bank stabilization, and how planting native trees and shrubs along watercourses provides soil stability, assists in reducing erosion, helps filter contaminants carried by storm events and provides habitat for local wildlife.

Engaging local residents and community groups in community based restoration activities provides a better appreciation of these natural areas. 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

Display Booth	# of Participants	Participant Hrs Contributed
Young Tree and Shrub Monitoring and Maintenance Program	74	222
Tree and Shrub Identification by bud, branch, leaf, cone		



LOCATION:
Elm Creek Park, Mimico Creek Watershed

DATE:
Saturday September 21, 2019

REGION/MUNICIPALITY:
Region of Peel, City of Mississauga

IN COLLABORATION WITH:
Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA),
Region of Peel, City of Mississauga and Local
Residents

In collaboration with:

