



Habitat Restoration Project 2011

- Humber River: Bolton, Ontario -

Bolton Resource Management Tract Live Shrub Staking

Habitat Project Lead: *Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters*

Habitat Project Funding Lead: *TD Friends of the Environment Foundation*

Date Completed: *November 24, 2011*

The Lake Ontario Atlantic Salmon Restoration Program planted 1,000 live willow shrub stakes along the Humber River at the Bolton Resource Management Tract. This project is the third part of the revetment site at the Bolton Tract. We had help from one volunteer for two hours, a Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) employee and a Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR) staff member. Willow shrubs can be cut down to the base (leaving the roots) in the fall once they have gone dormant (dropped their leaves). The shrub stems can be cut into 30-60cm long stakes, flat at one end and cut at 45 degrees at the other. These stakes are inserted or pounded into the ground before the frost and will start to grow in the spring. Our volunteer and partnering staff planting live stakes along 55m of stream bank to create an area along the water's edge with woody stemmed vegetation with a total area of 344m². This project improved Atlantic Salmon habitat by providing shade for the coolwater creek and stabilizing the stream bank to reduce erosion.



Figure 1: The live willow staking site before installation.



Figure 2: Live willow stakes being installed by TRCA, MNRF and a local volunteer.



Figure 3: The crew inserting the live willow stakes on the lower and upper bank.