



Habitat Restoration Project 2011  
- Duffins Creek: Pickering, Ontario -

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### Greenwood Conservation Area Rodar Park 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 23, 2011*

The Lake Ontario Atlantic Salmon Restoration Program planted 500 live willow shrub stakes along Duffins Creek at the Greenwood Conservation Area, Rodar Park. We had help from one volunteer Whitby resident and the Community Stream Steward Program (CSSP). 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. The volunteer contributed a total of one person-hour of planting along 50m of stream on November 23, 2011. The area along the water's edge had been impacted by hikers and very little woody-stemmed vegetation was present so we planted a total area of 266m<sup>2</sup>. This project improved Atlantic Salmon habitat by providing shade for the coolwater creek, stabilizing the stream bank to reduce erosion as well as providing an example for community members of good stream stewardship.



Figure 1: The top end of the live staking site.



**Figure 2:** Bottom end of the project site, the stakes are not visible because they are pounded below ground to prevent frost heaving in the spring.