



Habitat Restoration Project 2011 - Cobourg Brook: Cobourg, Ontario -

Sinclair Park Conservation Area 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 26, 2011*

The Lake Ontario Atlantic Salmon Restoration Program planted 225 shrub stakes along Cobourg Brook at the Sinclair Park Conservation Area with planting help from six Scouts Canada Leaders and nine Scouts from the 1st Omemee and 6th Cobourg Troops. Willow and dogwood 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 end. These stakes are inserted into the ground before the frost and will start to grow in the spring. The volunteers helped cut the live stakes from a nearby private property and planted them on the downstream banks of the Harden Street Bridge for a total contribution of 30 person-hours on November 26, 2011. A mixture of native willow and dogwood species were planted along both banks of the 40m long stretch of stream bank that had been dug up to put in a pipeline. The site had very little vegetation at the water's edge and so we planted a total area of 397m². This project improved Atlantic Salmon habitat by providing future shade for the coldwater creek, stabilizing the stream bank to reduce erosion, and provided an example for community members of good stream stewardship.



Figure 1: Planting site before restoration with live stake bundles.



Figure 2: Scouts and leaders planting the live shrub stakes on one side of the creek.



Figure 3: Group photo of the Scouts Canada volunteers after the planting.