



Habitat Restoration Project 2012
- Bronte Creek: Burlington, Ontario -

Lowville Park Buffer Expansion Planting

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

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

Date Completed: *September 30, 2012*

The Lake Ontario Atlantic Salmon Restoration Program partnered with Trout Unlimited Canada (TUC) staff to plant 150 shrubs along Bronte Creek at Lowville Park (Burlington). Planting help came from a total of 22 volunteers from a local TD Bank and a Burlington Girl Guide group as the second part of an OFAH- hosted TD Tree Day Event. This planting project is separate from a larger planting project completed the same day and was done to supplement the vegetation already at this small site; live willow stakes planted the year before. The volunteers helped plant the shrubs for a total of 22 person-hours on September 30, 2012. A mixture of native shrub species were planted along the outer edge (along a trail) of a 17m long (80m² area) riparian buffer (vegetated area along the water's edge) to expand the size of the buffer that filters runoff from the park before it enters the stream. TUC redesigned the stream channel, creek banks, and live willow shrub staked two meters of bank, leaving the ground bare of woody-stemmed vegetation to the trails edge. This project provides an example for community members of good stream stewardship to the local community. For local TD volunteers, they can visit with family and friends to show off the great work they did and see the progress as the riparian buffer matures.



Figure 1: Planting site before restoration, volunteers just arriving to start planting.



Figure 2: Girl Guides and TD staff hard at work planting shrubs between the trail and creek.



Figure 3: The volunteers and TD Tree Day Event Leader (left), with the children showing off the TD FEF gift bags they received for participating.