



Habitat Restoration Project 2012
- Duffins Creek: Claremont, Ontario -

Transport Canada Pickering Airport Lands TD Tree Day Planting

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

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

Date Completed: *September 15, 2012*

The Lake Ontario Atlantic Salmon Restoration Program planted 250 potted shrubs along a berm that was built between a small wetland pond and the creek on the Transport Canada Pickering Airport Lands. The OFAH planned and ordered the planting material for this TD Tree Day Event. The trees and shrubs were planted by 60 TD Bank staff, family and friends who contributed 120 person-hours. Over 50m of berm shoreline was planted with native material. Pickering Councillor David Pickles was in attendance to support the efforts of TD FEF and OFAH by planting shrubs with the volunteers. We also had the OFAH/Broker Link Fish and Wildlife Intern and a Fleming College student help install, and remove a temporary foot bridge needed to get volunteers and materials onto the site. The stream is now flowing through a well-vegetated area shading the creek to cool the water before it enters the downstream Atlantic Salmon and Redside Dace (provincially endangered) coldwater habitat. The 219m² of planted area will primarily benefit Atlantic Salmon by providing vegetation that will absorb water at periods of high flow and release it slowly during dry periods to maintain a longer period of base flow conditions (level of water needed for fish to function and survive in a stream).



Figure 1: OFAH staff discussing the project with Pickering Councillor David Pickles.



Figure 2: A young TD volunteer planting a shrub.



Figure 3: OFAH planting leader talking about shrubs.



Figure 4: OFAH habitat truck ready on site with shovels, water and first aid kit.



Figure 5: TD's youngest little planter hard at work, telling the adults where to plant the shrubs.



Figure 6: TD Tree Days Site Leader and child carrying empty pots across the bridge, to the OFAH truck for recycling.



Figure 7: Planting site from the other side of the wetland, the stream is behind the volunteers.