



Habitat Restoration Project 2014

- Duffins Creek: Ajax, Ontario -

Ajax TD Tree Day Planting (Brock Lands)

Habitat Project Lead: *Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters (OFAH)*

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

Date Completed: *September 6, 2014*

On September 6, 2014, we started the first planting activity associated with the pond decommissioning at the Brock Lands. The OFAH planned and ordered the planting material for this Ajax TD Tree Day event. The planting area is a field adjacent to the stream ravine at the Greenwood Conservation Lands, Brock North portion. The 700 trees were planted by 100 TD Bank staff, family, and friends who contributed 300 person-hours. The riparian buffer (vegetated area along the water's edge) was expanded in size to filter runoff from the road before it enters the stream. The stream is now flowing through a well-vegetated valley area, which also shades the creek to cool the water before it enters the downstream Atlantic Salmon and historical Redside Dace (provincially endangered) coldwater habitat. The 2,718m² of planted area also benefits Atlantic Salmon by providing vegetation that will absorb water when it rains 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 truck at Ajax TD Tree Day site before volunteers arrived.



Figure 2: Owner of Green Side Up Environmental Services nursery delivering the trees for the Ajax TD Tree Day.



Figure 3: TD Tree day volunteers starting to sign in and plant the trees at Ajax event.



Figure 4: Young TD FEF volunteer taking a break from planting at the Ajax TD Tree Day.



Figure 5: Ajax TD Tree Day planting volunteers.



Figure 6: Ajax TD Tree Day youth volunteers planting a white pine tree.