



## Habitat Restoration Project 2016

- Duffins Creek: Pickering, Ontario -

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### Brock Ridge Community Park - Earth Day Stream Clean-up

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

Habitat Project Funding Lead: *Ontario Power Generation*

Date Completed: *April 15, 2016*

The Lake Ontario Atlantic Salmon Restoration Program hosted an Earth Week Clean-Up event at Brock Ridge Community Park in Pickering, ON. Support for this event was provided by Ontario Power Generation, and volunteer students were provided by Bayview Heights Public School. A group of 40 students cleaned up garbage along 1,030m of Duffins Creek. The clean-up event lasted two hours, meaning the students contributed 80 hours of volunteer time altogether. Small groups of students were organized by team leads from Ontario Power Generation, the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, Fleming College and the OFAH. The students picked up garbage along the stream bank with the help of adults (staff and volunteer), while heavy or unsafe items are marked for removal by trained park staff. Clearing litter from Brock Ridge Park reduces the amount of garbage that enters Duffins Creek. Keeping litter out of Duffins Creek prevents the deterioration of in-stream habitat. An additional benefit of this activity is the public awareness raised amongst the students, creating a greater appreciation for local watershed health.



**Figure 1:** Students from Bayview Heights Public School cleaning litter from the banks of Duffins Creek. 1



**Figure 2:** Students from Bayview Heights Public School filling their garbage bags with litter collected from Brock Ridge Community Park.



**Figure 3:** Team leads from OFAH and Fleming College stand behind the litter accumulated by the student volunteers.