



Habitat Restoration Project 2017
- Humber River: Nashville, Ontario -

Nashville Conservation Reserve - Humberview SS planting

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

Habitat Project Funding: TD Friends of the Environment Foundation

Date Completed: October 21, 2017

UTM: 606604m E, 4857498m N

The LOASRP hosted a TD Tree Days event on the Nashville Conservation Reserve, located between Bolton and Kleinburg, ON. This property is owned and managed by the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, and the property contains several kilometres of the Upper Humber River's main branch. This section of the Humber flows through a re-naturalizing area that contains a mix of dense forest and open meadows. Some sections of Nashville Conservation Reserve were used for agriculture, resulting in the removal of woody plants throughout a large area. When these areas are adjacent to the Humber River, eroded and unstable stream banks are present. The planting site for 2017 was chosen to try and reinforce a particularly eroded section of the Humber River. Stabilizing this stream bank will improve habitat conditions for Atlantic Salmon in the Humber River.

The LOASRP hosted an additional planting event at this location which included students from the Humberview Secondary School Environmental Specialist High Skills Major program. This group consisted of 12 students and one teacher, which planted 100 shrubs along a 355m² patch of riparian habitat along the Humber River. The event lasted two hours, allowing the students to contribute 26 hours of volunteer time.

The location of Nashville Conservation Reserve and the Humberview SS planting event is shown in Figure 1. Photos from the TD Tree Days event are shown in Figures 2-5.



Figure 1: An aerial view of the Nashville Conservation Reserve planting site. The intersection of Huntington Road and Kirby Road is seen to the bottom right. The red polygon indicates the location of the Humberview SS planting event.



Figure 2: Students from Humberview Secondary School begin to plant shrubs along the Humber River.



Figure 3: The students from Humberview Secondary School planted about 100 shrubs in a little over an hour.



Figure 4: The Humberview Secondary School students were also given a demonstration on benthic invertebrate monitoring.



Figure 5: The eroded banks of the Humber River prior to the planting event. This erosion is due to high stream flows impacting a stream bank that lacks root support from woody plants.