



City of Toronto

Education and Awareness Directory

The 2000 Essential Directory of Groups, Projects, Initiatives and more!



Association for Canadian Educational Resources (ACER)

ACER is a not-for-profit organization founded in 1987. Its members are leaders in education, the media, and business who initiate and facilitate the development, production, and promotion of Canadian materials to meet the needs of today's learners. Ideas are evaluated and material is produced and promoted for use by educators and other interested groups or agencies. ACER resources act as a bridge between the professional educator and the life-long learner. Funding comes from membership and donations. ACER has worked with Boards of Education across the country, organizations, and government ministries.

Programs

Envirowatch

Mission Statement/Key Messages: To develop or provide Canadian learning materials which meet the needs of teachers and group leaders.

Key Objectives: Community outreach through environmental monitoring.

Community Served: Ontario, especially the Greater Toronto Area school boards.

Clientele: The program is targeted toward educators and community volunteers.

Partner Organizations: The program has approximately 30 partner organizations. The program has received funding and in-kind donations.

Monitoring/Evaluation: There is some evaluation of the program's success. The program is continuing to train volunteers and establish reliable data collection systems for monitoring all life and conditions which are useful indicators for ecosystems. Currently, the program uses forest ecosystems with sample plots of one hectare. More forest biodiversity plots are being established. Schools and community groups are getting involved in the program through measuring the growth and health of trees in their back yards as well as assisting with the forest biodiversity plots.

Current Program Status: Expanding to include training volunteer leaders to undertake school and community tree inventories (e.g., cadet corps, naturalist groups).

Comments: The concept is useful in team building, problem-solving, and lends itself to the accurate quantitative collection of all types of environmental data to upload to government, agency, and municipal databases. Those involved feel they have learned useful skills and understand the need for baseline data in order to measure the effects of climate change. They also understand the need to examine their personal lifestyles to reduce their carbon footprint through planting trees and reducing their total energy consumption (i.e. of fossil fuels and the energy derived from them).

One Tree at a Time

Mission Statement/Key Messages: To develop and provide Canadian learning materials which meet the needs of teachers and group leaders.

Contact

Alice Casselman

Association for Canadian Educational Resources

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Category

NGO/Community group



Key Objectives: To facilitate or develop Canadian educational materials for all learners.

Community Served: Ontario

Monitoring/Evaluation: Monitoring takes place through Action 21 quarterly reports.

Current Program Status: Expanding to schoolyards, curriculum, and extension to municipality tree management system.



Action to Restore a Clean Humber (ARCH)

ARCH is a non-profit, non-government association whose purpose is to plan, promote, and carry out work for environmentally sound management of the Humber River watershed in cooperation with, and as a complement to, government agencies.

Programs

ARCH Streamwatch

Mission Statement/Key Messages: Community awareness and involvement in Humber watershed health.

Key Objectives: Train and organize community groups. Foster "Adopt your Creek." Raise awareness of the values and conditions of the Humber and its role in the wider ecosystem. Motivate community involvement and guide actions in prevention, restoration, advocacy, and monitoring.

Community Served: Humber Watershed, City wide

Partner Organizations: Schools, colleges, clubs

Monitoring/Evaluation: The success of the program is indicated by several joint programs with community groups and through local organizations adopting their reach of the Humber.

Current Program Status: Expanding

Contact

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Action to Restore a Clean Humber (ARCH)

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Category

NGO/Community Group



Black Creek Conservation Project of Toronto

The Black Creek Project is a community based, non-profit organization with the mandate of rehabilitating Black Creek. A fundamental aspect of the project is to involve the community in rehabilitation activities which fosters a feeling of stewardship, provides a greater appreciation of the environment, and increases public awareness regarding the link between the health of the creek and the health of the community. Projects include wetland creation, plantings, erosion control, and others.

Program

Caring for Your Watershed

Mission Statement/Key Messages: An association of individuals interested in the preservation and rehabilitation of the Black Creek through community involvement and education.

Key Objectives: To restore Black Creek while educating the public.

Community Served: Black Creek watershed (Jane St. and Hwy. 7 to Jane St. and Scarlett Rd.)

Partner Organizations: The City of Toronto, The Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, EcoAction 2000, Canada Trust, Ministry of Natural Resources, The Community Foundation, Local Schools

Monitoring/Evaluation: Currently taking an inventory of all Black Creek Project restoration projects undertaken over the past 17 years. A good indicator of the program's success is the growing number of volunteer efforts per year (e.g., 2500 people in 1998/99). Other indicators include the increase in naturalized areas and project size in the watershed, increased number of native trees and aquatic plants established, and the willingness of other organizations to partner and support the Black Creek Project initiatives.

Comments: The Black Creek Project should be a model for other non government organizations taking the conditions of their neighbourhoods into their own hands. This program seeks to restore the environment, while giving local residents of all ages and education the opportunity to receive a valuable learning and working experience in the environmental field and the opportunity to make positive changes within the community. This will help to secure the preservation of the river for now, and in the future.

Contact

Amy Maurer

Black Creek Conservation Project
of Toronto

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Canadian Auto Workers Union

Program

CAW Prevent Cancer Campaign

Mission Statement/Key Messages: By eliminating carcinogens from our workplaces, we will eliminate them from our environment.

Key Objectives: Preventing Cancer

Community Served: Canada

Partner Organizations: Occupational Health Clinics for Ontario Workers, Worker's Health and Safety Centre

Monitoring/Evaluation: Reports from workplaces about carcinogens that have been eliminated and replaced with safer substitutes.

Current Status: Expanding

Contact

Cathy Walker

Canadian Auto workers Union

205 Placer Court

Toronto, ON M2H 3H9

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Website: www.caw.ca

E-mail: walker@caw.ca

Category

Labour Union



Citizens Environment Watch

Key Objectives:

- To raise environmental awareness in communities across Ontario;
- To allow communities to become active in monitoring the health of their local environment through the provision of water quality test kits and educational resources.

Community Served: Ontario

Monitoring/Evaluation: Monitoring and evaluation is conducted internally by staff and by granting foundations. Feedback on the program is largely in the form of suggestions on how to improve or re-work the organization's structure.

Current Status: Restructuring

Contact

Natasha Amott

Citizens Environment Watch

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Website:

www.utoronto.ca/envstudy/cew/cew.htm

Category

NGO or Community Group



City of Toronto Works and Emergency Services

Energy Efficiency Office

Mission: To provide practical steps towards energy efficiency practices that everyone can apply in their daily lives.

To bring awareness to energy efficiency and its effects on the reduction of CO₂ emissions.

Contact

Richard Morris

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website: www.torontobbp.on.ca

Category

Municipal government



City of Toronto Works and Emergency Services

Programs

"Free" Downspout Disconnection Program

Mission Statement/Key Messages: To reduce the frequency of combined sewer overflows (CSO's).

Key Objective(s): Disconnect residents' downspout free or charge in order to reduce basement flooding and reduce pollution impact on rivers and lake.

Community Served: City-wide

Clientele: Property owners

Monitoring/Evaluation: A database tracks response rates to mailings, properties already disconnected by the homeowner, and properties disconnected by city contractors.

Status: Under review

Comments: The program has successfully increased awareness of CSO issues among homeowners. A school curriculum component on downspout disconnection was added to the water efficiency curriculum and delivered by city staff. Additional components will be added in the future.

Program Contact: Ted Bowering

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Water Efficiency School Curriculum

Mission Statement/Key Messages: Every Drop Counts

Key Objectives: To increase awareness of efficient use of water. To encourage behavioural changes in students regarding water use.

Community Served: Former City of Toronto

Clientele: K-Grade 8 students

Partner Organizations: Public and Separate school boards

Monitoring/Evaluation: Number of students per year.

Status: There is potential expansion to the amalgamated city.

Program Contact: Pamela Georgopoulos

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Contact

Pamela Georgopoulos

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Category

Municipality

**"Free" Rain Barrel Program**

Mission Statement/Key Messages: To keep rainwater out of the sewer system

Key Objectives: To capture water from a disconnected downspout and re-use the water for gardens. Potential water savings.

Community Served: City-wide

Clientele: Property owners

Monitoring: The number of rainbarrels is recorded in a database.

Status: Under review with downspout programs.

Comments: Delivered in conjunction with the Downspout Disconnection Program. Free rainbarrels motivate property owners to allow a city contractor to perform the disconnection work.

Contact: Ted Bowering

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Email: tbowerin@city.toronto.on.ca



Community Bicycle Network

Programs

Open Roads

Mission Statement/Key Messages: Stimulates and links together mentor-based bike repair, bike recycling, and cycling skills initiatives. Share the goals of making bicycles accessible for all citizens, developing job and life skills, and promoting the bicycle as an economical, healthy, and environmentally friendly means of transportation.

Key Objectives: Educational and skills development project that provides learn to ride and repair workshops for women and children survivors of domestic violence. Help marginalized persons gain confidence using their bike for local transport.

Community Served: Downtown Toronto. City wide in the future.

Clientele: Shelters, government, community groups, individuals.

Partner Organizations: Nellie's, Stop 86, Human Resources Development Canada, City of Toronto

Monitoring/Evaluation: Surveys, feedback from shelters

Current Status: Stable

Other Comments: Looking for additional partnerships as well as funders and sponsors.

Youth Services Canada Mentoring Cycle

Mission Statement or Key Messages: Stimulates and links together community-based bike repair, bike recycling, and cycling skills initiatives for 15 at-risk youth. Share the goals of making bicycles accessible for all citizens, developing job and life skills, and promoting the bicycle as an economical, healthy, and environmentally friendly means of transportation.

Key Objectives: Uses bicycle-related programming as a tool to enhance personal achievement and to build self-directed learning skills. Helps youth discover and develop their own potential and that of their communities.

Community Served: Downtown Toronto. City wide in the future.

Clientele: Business, government, cyclists, mechanics, educators, community groups, individuals.

Partner Organizations: Human Resources Development Canada

Monitoring/Evaluation: Some evaluation of the project has taken place in its first year through participant feedback, and participant job opportunities at the end of the program.

Current Status: First year of the program in 1999. Under review.

Other Comments: Looking for educators, funders, and sponsors.

Contact

Martin Collier

Community Bicycle Network

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Website:
www.web.net/~detour/cbn

Email: cbn@connection.com

Category

NGO or Community Group

A Bike For Every Kid

Mission Statement or Key Messages: Stimulates and links together mentor-based bike repair. Share the goals of making bicycles accessible for all citizens, developing job and life skills, and promoting the bicycle as an economical, healthy, and environmentally friendly means of transportation.

Key Objectives: Provide opportunity for at-risk youth aged 20 to 29 to become mentors to at-risk youth between the ages of 8 to 16; gain management and goal setting experiences; build self-confidence through bike riding and repair; give back to the local community.

Community Served: Downtown Toronto. City wide in the future.

Clientele: Local community centres, cyclists, mechanics, educators, community groups, individuals.

Partner Organizations: Salvation Army

Current Status: A new program in 1999.

Other Comments: Looking for additional partnerships with community centres. Volunteers, educators, funders, and sponsors are also required.

CBN Bike Recycling Programs

Mission Statement or Key Messages: CBN works to stimulate and link together community- based bike repair, bike recycling, and cycling skills initiatives across the City of Toronto. CBN's member projects share the goals of making bicycles accessible for all citizens, developing job and life skills among marginalized communities, and promoting the bicycle as an economical, healthy, and environmentally friendly means of transportation.

Key Objectives: CBN initiated a bicycle recycling program in conjunction with six neighborhood bicycle clubs. By collecting used bikes, bike parts, and tools from the public that would otherwise be discarded, they channel them to their member clubs where volunteers use them to learn and teach bike repair. In the process of refurbishing an old bike, participants develop new job skills, build confidence, and earn their own "set of two wheels" with their volunteer labour. CBN bike clubs benefit people who cannot afford to buy a new bike, as well as those seeking skills development and community economic development opportunities

Community Served: Downtown Toronto. City wide in the future.

Clientele: Cyclists, mechanics, educators, community groups, individuals.

Partner Organizations: Clubs include Bleeker Street Bike Club, Brahms Bike Club, Cabbagetown Bike Club, TrailBlazers Bike Club, West End Bike Club. Other partners include Advocacy for Respect for Cyclists, Christian Resource Centre, Detour Publications, Dufferin Mall, Toronto City Cycling Committee, Transportation Options.

Monitoring/Evaluation: Evaluation is based on the number of volunteers and bicycles rebuilt. Although they cannot keep up with the number of bikes donated by the public (approx. 300/year), 200 bikes are rebuilt, 75 % of which are given away to volunteers; the balance are sold to the public for very low prices.

Current Status: Currently implementing strategies to ensure club self-sufficiency.

Other Comments: Looking for volunteer mechanics, individual, public, and private funders and/or sponsors.



Community Economic Development (CED) Programs

Mission Statement or Key Messages: CBN has expanded on their bike recycling concept by implementing several programs that provide green transportation services to the public and businesses. Services include a bike trailer rental program, a mobile bike repair workshop, a tool co-op as well as used bike sales, rentals, and repairs.

Key Objectives: CED programs are designed to create local jobs and generate funds for CBN. Through promotion and simply being "in the street," their programs educate business and the public about sustainable transportation alternatives that are good for the local economy and good for the environment.

Community Served: Downtown Toronto. City wide in the future.

Clientele: Business, government, cyclists, mechanics, educators, community groups, individuals.

Partner Organizations: Advocacy for Respect for Cyclists, Christian Resource Centre, Detour Publications, Toronto City Cycling Committee, Transportation Options.

Monitoring/Evaluation: Evaluation is based on sales and jobs created as well as CO2 emissions reduced in Toronto.

Current Status: Currently implementing new business plans for each CED Program area.

Other Comments: Looking for customers, partners, funders, and sponsors.



City of Toronto Works and Emergency Services Waste Watcher Volunteer Program

Mission:

To train volunteers with extensive background in many city environmental programs who then are available to assist schools, community centres, apartment buildings and ESL groups with Environmental projects in their own community.

We are also committed in promoting the 3R's education within the City. (Reduce-Reuse-Recycle)

Contact

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Sponsors/Partners

Intra-Departmental-S.W.D./

Parks and Recreation

Category

Municipal Agency



Conservation Educational Services Inc.

Program

Living Wise

Mission Statement/Key Messages: Saving resources, Building awareness, Shaping habits.

Key Objectives: To educate teachers, students, parents, and families about water and energy conservation and to foster sustainable habits.

Community Served: City wide

Clientele: School boards, grade 5 students

Partner Organizations: Enbridge Consumers Gas, Union Gas

Monitoring/Evaluation: Evaluation of the program is based on program evaluation forms (from teachers), showerhead flow rate tests (on returned showerheads), and letters from teachers and students.

Current Status: Under review for inclusion in the Toronto District School Board curriculum.

Other Comments: The program has been successfully implemented in Halton and Durham Regions for the past three years. It will be included in the Lambton Ken district Curriculum in Fall 2000. The program is supplied at no cost to schools.

Contact

Rick Rotman or Trevor Dixon

Conservation Educational Services Inc.

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Woodbridge, Ontario L4L 6A2

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Email: rickstah@hotmail.com

Category

Private business



Detour Publications

Mission Statement or Key Messages: To provide information and resources on sustainable transportation, urban ecology, and related issues to a worldwide audience.

Key Objectives: To become an established, reliable, one-stop source for a broad selection of books and materials on sustainable transportation and urban ecology, from "the most analytical report to the hippest 'zine"; to identify gaps in the market for particular subject matter, produce, in-house, and promote to the world relevant materials to help fill those gaps; to become a self-sustaining entity which will, in turn, help inform, inspire, and fund other like-minded projects and initiatives.

Community Served: Global

Clientele: Professional, institutional, community, political.

Partner Organizations: Transportation Options

Current Status: Detour receives requests for catalogues and orders from around the world. Detour is in the process of expanding their marketing initiatives and instituting on-line sales via our website, with e-commerce application to be launched in the summer of 1999.

Other Comments: Together with the Moving the Economy Conference organizers, Detour is distributing the 1998 MTE Conference Proceedings and the MTE on-line inventory.

Contact

Ken Ashdown

Detour Publications

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Email: detour@web.net

Category

Not-for-profit collective/corporation



Don Watershed Regeneration Council

The Don Watershed Regeneration Council is a subcommittee of The Toronto and Region Conservation Authority's Watershed Management Advisory Board. It consists of municipal representatives, community members, environmental groups, agencies, and the Chair of the TRCA. The Council works to implement and monitor the success of *Forty Steps to a New Don*, a watershed management strategy for the Don River.

Programs

Don Watershed Education Program

Mission Statement/Key Messages: To make the Don a living part of the watershed's schools.

Key Objectives: The goal is to encourage teachers to become familiar with the Don watershed and to use it as an integral part of their program.

Community Served: The Don Watershed

Clientele: Previously aimed at Grade 7, now supporting the new Grade 7-12 Science Curriculum.

Partner Organizations: School Boards within the Don, York University -Faculty of Education.

Monitoring/Evaluation: Regular meetings are held to assess the program. The Committee is working on getting better feedback from teachers who attended workshops on the education program. An interactive computer program, Map Reflections, has been developed by York University and is used at two high schools. It allows the storing and sharing of data by participating schools, provides background information, parameters, and more.

Current Status: Expanding into more schools.

Contact

Marta Soucek

Don Watershed Regeneration Council

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Category

Other



Earthroots

Programs

Escarpment Ancient Cedars Project

Mission Statement/Key Messages: Protection of ancient cliff cedars.

Key Objectives: To raise awareness of the ancient cliff cedars through public presentations, pamphlets, and posters.

Community Served: City wide

Current Status: New campaign - Summer 1999

Tall Pines Project

Mission Statement/Key Messages: Preservation of Ontario's Remaining Red and White Pine

Key Objectives: Preservation of Red and White Pine stands in Temagami

Community Served: City wide

Monitoring/Evaluation: There has been no logging in the Temagami area since 1996

Current Status: Ancient red and white pine stands are under threat in the current forest management plan.

Other Comments: Conduct public education talks, have a volunteer action group, conduct forest awareness tours, conduct civil disobedience workshops.

Environmental Impacts of Mining Project

Key Objectives: To prevent mining in parks and ecologically sensitive areas.

Community Served: City wide

Current Status: New campaign - Summer 1999

Contact

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Earthroots

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Category

NGO or community group



Econexus

Program

The Periwinkle Project

Mission Statement/Key Messages: Education for Environmental Literacy

Key Objectives: To ensure that there are environmentally literate classroom teachers and that Boards of Education make Outdoor and Environmental Education a priority.

Community Served: International

Clientele: Teachers (including pre-service) and students

Partner Organizations: Boards of Education/Universities

Monitoring/Evaluation: The program has gone coast to coast and internationally as an awareness raiser and positive action model. Return and expanding user groups and clients.

Current Status: Expanding

Other Comments: The project began in 1988. Several school boards began associate projects, particularly the former North York Board. After amalgamation, Periwinkle was trademarked in 1998 as the non-profit division of Econexus.

Contact

Skid Crease

Econexus

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Bolton, ON L7E 1V6

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Category

NGO, Private Incorporated Company



Environmental Student's Union

Program

Promotions and Public Events

Mission Statement/Key Messages: To raise environmental awareness on campus and provide meaningful services to University of Toronto students.

Community Served: University of Toronto campus

Clientele: Undergraduate students

Partners: OPIRG-Toronto

Other Comments: ENSU's many publicity initiatives include recruiting volunteers, hosting academic and career related workshops on environmental studies, and distributing "green products" such as portable coffee mugs, "One Earth, Two Sides" stickers, RCO recycled pencils, etc.

Contact

Environmental Student's Union

University of Toronto

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www.utoronto.ca/envstudy/ensu

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Category

Student/Community Group



The Evergreen Foundation

The Evergreen Foundation's mission is to engage people in establishing and maintaining healthy, dynamic outdoor environments at schools and in communities. We achieve our mission by raising awareness, developing resources, providing training, and facilitating community action. Evergreen believes that working collaboratively to transform local outdoor spaces fosters place-based thinking, community action, and environmental stewardship. Ultimately, our goal is to bring communities and nature together.

Program

Common Grounds, Learning Grounds, and Home Grounds

Key Objectives: The Evergreen Foundation embraces an integrated vision that encompasses health, education, community, and environment as a means of building healthier communities.

Community Served: Two national offices serve Toronto and Vancouver

Clientele: Schools, communities

Partner Organizations: Millennium Bureau, Volunteer Action Online, Waterfront Regeneration Trust, Ontario Hydro, Consumers Gas, Toronto Parks and Recreation, Environment Canada, private foundations, Communities in Bloom, Atlantis Broadcasting - HGTV, and many other sponsors.

Monitoring/Evaluation: For Common Grounds: The Foundation is currently working on developing a precise evaluation criteria, but for one of the programs within CG (Where Edges Meet) we do a quarterly report on the program's success for Eco-Action. For work completed in conjunction with the City's Parks and Recreation Services, they complete a report looking at the impact of specific projects. In the Learning Grounds program, for each school there is an evaluation done with the stakeholders in the project. Evergreen is also in the process of developing a national registry (on their website) to be able to monitor projects and to research trends in schools grounds and highlight key issues.

Current Status: Expanding

Contact

Janet McCausland

The Evergreen Foundation

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Category

NGO/Community Group



Federation of Ontario Naturalists

Mission Statement: To provide educational resources to teachers, student teachers, and youth leaders (guides, scouts) to help connect children with nature. These resources provide information about Ontario wildlife and habitats and suggest ways students can become involved in their protection.

Key Messages: We are all part of the environment. What we do on a daily basis has an impact on wildlife and habitats. Ontario wildlife and habitats are worth protecting and there are ways you can become involved.

Key Objectives: To provide resources that contain lesson plans and hands-on activities to teachers, student teachers, and youth leaders to help students learn about and protect Ontario wildlife and habitats. Lessons and activities are tied to the Ontario Curriculum and are cross-curricular-science, language, art, math, history, and geography.

Community Served: Ontario and Canada

Partner Organizations: Affiliated FON clubs

Monitoring/Evaluation: Each resource has a team of technical and educational reviewers during production. Each resource contains a feedback form within it for on-going review. Resources have also been reviewed in Teachers' Journals.

Current Status: FON is currently developing two new resources - Wildlife in Jeopardy Educational Kit (2nd. Edition) for grades 4 to 10 and Introducing Mammals Teachers Guide for grades 1 to 8. FON has also developed curriculum links for the Ontario Curriculum and FON Educational Resources.

Other Comments: FON's resources can be reviewed on their website <www.ontarionature.org>

Teaching Naturally Workshops

Mission Statement/Key Messages: To provide natural history information to teachers and students to help connect children with nature and encourage them to protect Ontario wildlife and habitats.

Community Served: Greater Toronto and Area and communities where FON affiliated clubs are active.

Clientele: Teachers and student teachers

Partner Organizations: Affiliated FON clubs

Monitoring/Evaluation: Each participant fills out an evaluation form

Current Status: Under review

Contact

Helen Gault

Federation of Ontario Naturalists

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Toronto, ON

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Email: heleng@ontarionature.org

Category

NGO

**Nature Notes**

Mission Statement: To provide fun and factual information about Ontario wildlife and habitats in a four page format.

Key Messages: Ontario wildlife and habitats are interesting and there are ways you can protect them.

Community Served: Ontario and Canada

Clientele: Students, teachers, members of FON, and general public

Partner Organizations: Affiliated FON clubs

Current Status: Stable, published four times yearly with Seasons - to library, family, and life members. Nature Notes can be purchased separately from the FON's office or website.

Ask-the-Naturalist Service

Mission Statement/ Key Messages: To answer nature/environmental inquiries from students, teachers, and members of the public.

Key Objectives: To provide nature, environmental information

Community Served: City-wide, Ontario, and Canada

Clientele: Students, teachers, members of FON and the public

Partner Organizations: Affiliated FON Clubs

Current Status: Stable, answering about 45 inquiries per month. The most popular topics being birds, FON's education resources, naturalization, mammals, and endangered species.

Other Comments: FON answer's nature/environmental questions and directs calls to other organizations.



The Green Group

Programs

Eco-Pals Program

Mission Statement/Key Messages: Environmental Education

Key Objectives: An educational pen-pal program where students are "twinned" to share information, resources, concerns, and actions regarding the environment.

Community-Served: Canada

Monitoring/Evaluation: Evaluation takes place through annual surveys

Status: Stable

Contact

Rita Banach

The Green Group

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Email: grgr@sympatico.ca

Category

NGO/Community Group



Green Teacher

Programs

Green Teacher Magazine

Mission Statement/Key Messages: To provide ideas and inspiration to assist educators and parents in promoting environmental literacy amongst young people.

Community Served: North America

Clientele: Teachers, parents, community educators

Partner Organizations: Hundreds of non-profits, school districts, and publishers

Monitoring/Evaluation: Comments and requests from readership

Current Status: Stable-expanding

Contact

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Green Teacher

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Category

NGO



Healthy City Office

A healthy City is one that now only has a clean, safe physical environment and access to food, shelter, and adequate income, but is also one that provides satisfying work, good governance and accessible and fair opportunities for all its citizens. It provides an open and responsible government that involves people in making decisions about their own lives. The Healthy city Office convenes and supports partnerships with businesses, all levels of government, non-government organizations and local communities to identify and act upon complex urban problems in an integrated way. The themes are always linked in Healthy City activities: economy, environment and equity.

The Toronto Healthy City Office was created in 1989. With the amalgamation of all the municipalities and the Regional municipality of Metropolitan Toronto into the new City of Toronto in 1998, the Healthy City Office is charged with and expanded mandate to promote the Healthy City concept across the new city.

The Office is working on several initiatives to forward the goals of the Healthy City Project and to follow up on the recommendations contained in the 1988 Healthy Toronto 2000 Report. The Healthy City Office publishes a newsletter, the Toronto Healthy City News, which provides regular updates on the work of the Office and its partners.

The Healthy City Office has carried out a number of transportation related projects, and produced a number of reports including Evaluating the Role of the Automobile and Smog: Make It or Break It.

Current sustainable transportation related initiatives include:

- Smog Prevention and Reduction Strategy
- Co-ordinating and facilitating the City of Toronto's Smog Reduction Work Group, a subcommittee of the Toronto Interdepartmental Environment (TIE) team
- Supporting the Transportation Management Association (TMA) Pilot Project

Contact

Lisa Salsberg

Healthy City Office

City of Toronto

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Toronto, ON

416-392-0099

Fax: 416-392-0089

E-mail: Lsalsbe@city.toronto.on.ca

OR

hco@city.toronto.on.ca

Website:

www.city.toronto.on.ca/healthycity

Category

Municipal Government



High Park Citizens' Advisory Committee

The High Park Citizen's Advisory committee is a volunteer group made up of a broad range of park users, including individuals and organized groups. The Advisory Committee provides public input on park policies, goals, and objectives; helps facilitate volunteer involvement in park initiatives; and promotes public awareness and responsible stewardship of the park. Meetings are open to the general public.

Programs

Walking Tours

Mission Statement/Key Messages: Educate the public on the natural and human history of the park.

Key Objectives: To build awareness of the need to protect the natural environment, enrich experience in the park, and build support for restoration efforts.

Community Served: Participants are local, city-wide, and tourists.

Partner Organizations: Colborne Lodge (Heritage Toronto) and City of Toronto Parks and Recreation Services.

Monitoring/Evaluation: Approximately 40 walks per year, average attendance is approximately 30 people. The feedback received both informally and through feedback forms has been very positive.

Current Status: Stable

Program Contact: Ron Allan, 416-763-5170

Volunteer Stewardship Program

Mission Statement/ Key Messages: To support natural restoration programs in High Park.

Key Objectives: To restore natural areas to pre-settlement conditions, participate in seed collection, planting, weeding, and other activities. To serve as a role model to other groups.

Community Served: Volunteers come from across the city.

Partner Organizations: City of Toronto Parks and Recreation Services.

Monitoring/Evaluation: Over 200 registered volunteers. The success of restoration sites is also monitored.

Current Status: Expanding

Other Comments: The program plays an essential role in the management and restoration of High Park.

Project Contact: Christopher Harris, 416-718-6326

Contact

High Park Citizens' Advisory
Committee

c/o Swansea Town Hall, P.O. Box
108, 95 Lavina Avenue

Toronto, Ontario M6S 3H9
Tel: 416-392-1748

Category

Community Group

**Park Watch**

Mission Statement/Key Messages: Trained volunteers who patrol the park to provide directions and information, explain park rules, and work with park staff and the police to address safety concerns.

Key Objectives: To provide a human presence and make visits to the park safer and more responsible.

Community Served: Park Users

Partner Organizations: City of Toronto Parks and Recreation Services, Division 11 (Police).

Monitoring/Evaluation: Detailed logs of encounters with the public.

Current Status: Expanding

Program Contact: Nadine Harris, 416-766-7754

Natural Environment Subcommittee

Mission Statement/Key Messages: To advise the City of Toronto on responsible stewardship of the natural environment of the park.

Key Objectives: To provide input and direction to comprehensive Park management and operations practices. To build community support for sound environmental practices, behaviours, and experiences within the Park.

Community Served: High Park

Partner Organizations: City of Toronto Parks and Recreation Services, report through the High Park Citizens Advisory Committee.

Monitoring/Evaluation: Informal evaluation of our impact on City policies and practices and the health of the park.

Current Status: Stable

Program Contact: Karen Yukich, 416-769-4344



Humber Arboretum

Humber Arboretum is a non-profit organization jointly managed by the City of Toronto, Humber College, and The Toronto and Region Conservation Authority.

Programs

Nature Studies Program

This program includes School Programs, Community Programs, Public Events, and a Summer Nature Camp. Programs include nature walks, pond life, ecology, naturalization, insect studies, woodland native people, and more.

Mission Statement or Key Messages: Provide interactive experiences in nature for groups of all ages to help participants gain a better understanding of their environment and explore ways they can help enhance and sustain the environment.

Key Objectives: To provide opportunities for participants to learn the following: the components of an urban natural environment and urban wildlife habitats; wildlife habitats that exist in urban areas and the wildlife that depend on them; the value of urban wildlife habitats; the importance of trees and other vegetation in an urban environment; ways in which people are connected to urban wildlife habitats and the natural environment, for example, river systems, parks, backyards; and ways in which people can be stewards of the environment in their own spaces to help ensure a sustainable environment, for example, naturalization, stream rehabilitation, tree planting, and disuse of pesticides.

Community Served: Etobicoke, but participants come from the Greater Toronto Area.

Clientele: Public, Separate, and Private Schools (mainly elementary); community groups including guides and scouts, senior citizens, special interest groups; general public including local ethnic communities, adults, and families from the Greater Toronto Area.

Partner Organizations: City of Toronto, The Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, and Humber College.

Monitoring/Evaluation: Written evaluations and informal feedback. Feedback has been very positive. Schools return year after year. Since the new curriculum, teachers are particularly anxious to bring their students to the Humber Arboretum programs because they fill many new curriculum needs. Schools use these programs to introduce or supplement environmental projects including naturalization. Participants of the Community, Summer Nature Camp, and Public events also give positive feedback and return frequently.

Current Status: Stable and many clients, but always under the threat of cutbacks and under funded. Hoping to expand into other areas of interest, e.g., implementing programs related to climate change. If the Arboretum had the financial resources, they could offer more adult workshops and regular public programs.

Contact

Humber Arboretum

205 Humber College Blvd.

Etobicoke, Ontario M9W 5L7

Tel: 416-675-5009

Fax: 416-675-6357

Email: cray@attcanada.net

Category

Municipal Agency/Committee



Other Comments: This program does not receive operations funding from any of the partners. The program is funded through program fees, some "in-kind" services from the managing partners, fundraising, grants, and sponsorships. There is only one full time staff operating the Nature Studies program.

Program Contact: Carol Ray or Christine Fraser



Humber Heritage Committee

The Humber Heritage Committee was formed in 1984 and is made up of representatives of Heritage groups throughout the Humber Watershed. Its objects are the recognition, protection and preservation of the Humber River, its watershed, its history and natural feature.

On September 24th, 1999 the Humber was designated by ceremonies at Etienne Brule park as Canada's twenty sixth Heritage River, with a strong spiritual presence and participation by the Aboriginal Peoples, including the Mississaugas of the new Credit First Nation.

The Humber Heritage Committee conducts walks and events such as the annual re-enactment of Lieutenant Governor Simcoe's September 25th, 1793 first day's journey up the Toronto Carrying Place.

The Committee is involved in partnership generation of migratory fish passages on the River for the restoration of indigenous species, particularly the Atlantic Salmon.

The Committee is also involved in restoration and protection of indigenous flora and fauna.

A primary aim is protection of the River's headwaters in the Moraine and Escarpment as well as the responsible public use of this beautiful watershed for recreational and educational purposes, based on its recognized importance to the People of Canada.

The Committee has produced a full colour brochure about the Humber which is available on request to educators and interested public.

Partners: Toronto Federation of Naturalists (TFN); L.A.C.A.C.; Historical Societies for Museums; Toronto Regional Conservation Authority (TRCA).

Contact

Madeleine McDowell, Chair
Humber Heritage Committee
163 Humbercrest Blvd.
Toronto, Ontario M6S 4L5
Phone: 416-767-7633
Fax: 416-767-7191

Category

Non-profit organization; Other.



LEAF: Local Enhancement and Appreciation of Forests

Project

Backyard Tree Planting Program

Mission Statement/Key Messages: To enhance Toronto's urban forest by offering native trees for backyard planting at a subsidized price.

Key Objectives: Improved air quality, household energy conservation (shade and windbreak), native species restoration, habitat creation, homeowner education on proper tree care, global climate change, and air quality issues.

Community Served: City Wide

Clientele: Homeowners

Partners: Toronto Hydro, City of Toronto - Urban Forestry, Toronto Atmospheric Fund

Monitoring/Evaluation: Follow up inspections of trees planted in previous years. Homeowner/participant feedback through questionnaires.

Status: Stable

Other Comments: The program is offered to Toronto homeowners with sufficient backyard space. A site visit and tree planting service are included. Cost to homeowners ranges from \$35-\$55 per tree. Native shrubs are also available.

Contact

Janet McKay

LEAF: Local Enhancement and Appreciation of Forests

590 Jarvis Street, Suite 200

Toronto, ON M4Y 2J4

Tel: 416-413-9244

Fax: 416-413-9177

Website:
www.web.net/~pcwf/leaf.htm

Category

NGO



Ontario Clean Air Alliance

Program-Ontario Clean Air

Mission Statement: A coalition of health, environmental and consumer organizations, utilities municipalities and individuals working for cleaner air through strict emission limits and a phase-out of coal in the electricity sector.

Contact

Jack Gibbons

517 College Street

Toronto, Ontario

M6G 4A2

Tel: 416-923-3529

Fax:416-923-5949

E-mail: ocaa@web.net

Website: www.cleanair.web.net

Sponsors/Partners

Partner organizations represent more than 4.5 million Ontarians

Category

NGO/Community Group



Ontario Forestry Association

Programs

Ontario Envirothon

Mission Statement/Key Objectives: To build environmental awareness and leadership among young people through practical, hands-on educational experiences enabling them to make informed responsible decisions regarding the environment.

Community Served: Schools, Community groups within Ontario

Clientele: Youth in grades 9-OAC

Monitoring/Evaluation: Annual survey of participating students and teachers. The program has received very high scores.

Status: Expanding

Other Comments: Envirothon currently has 102 schools involved across the province. They are given resources, field days, and a chance to compete in an "environmental olympics" competition. Current themes are forestry, aquatics, soils, wildlife, and wetlands.

Focus on Forests and Focus on Fire

Key Objectives: To create a better understanding and appreciation of forests and forest management in Ontario and ensure a lifelong interest in the wise use of forest resources. The focus series fosters awareness of and sensitivity to forest resources in Ontario.

Community Served: Province wide

Clientele: Teachers

Partners: Canadian Wildlife Federation

Other Comments: The focus series is a manual based program. Workshops are given to educators for use with school and non school groups.

Contact

Dawna Wastesicoot

Ontario Forestry Association

200 Consumers Road , Suite 307

North York, Ontario M2J 4R4

Tel: 416-493-4565

Fax: 416-493-4608

Website: www.oforest.on.ca

Email: forestry@oforest.on.ca



Ontario Parks Association

Program

Community Parks Week

Mission Statement or Key Messages: An initiative that encourages individuals and communities to protect and restore our environment through participation in a variety of outdoor physical activities and experiences, which respect and protect the natural environment.

Community Served: Ontario

Clientele: Communities

Current Status: Expanding

Contact

Kim Creelman

Ontario Parks Association

1185 Eglinton Avenue East, Suite
404

Toronto, Ontario M3C 3C6

Tel: 416-426-7157

Fax: 416-426-7366

Website: www.opassoc.on.ca

Email: kd@opassoc.on.ca

Category

NGO



Recycling Council of Ontario

Programs

Waste Reduction Week (first week of November)

Mission Statement/Key Messages: To educate society about the need for waste reduction.

Key Objectives: To promote the 3Rs (reduce, reuse, recycle). To educate and involve schools, communities, businesses, and individuals in waste reduction initiatives.

Community Served: Ontario

Contact

Cora Hallsworth

Recycling Council of Ontario

489 College Street, Suite 504

Toronto, Ontario

Website: www.rco.on.ca

Tel: 416-960-1025

Fax: 416-960-8053

Email: cora@rco.on.ca

Category

NGO



RiverSides

Program

Community Water Clearinghouse Initiative

Mission Statement/Key Messages: To establish a neutral, community-based information resource dedicated to promoting community access to information on water quality issues, thereby promoting sustainable municipal, provincial, national, and international policies and programs on urban and rural water quality.

Key Objectives: Provide data collection, dissemination, public participation, facilitation, and research into urban and rural water pollution issues. Essentially a body of information made accessible to the community in print and on the internet; act as a bridge between community groups, ENGO's, government, and sectoral interest on water quality issues and management; provide support for informed participation in the planning and implementation of water quality policies and activities. Such issues include: non-point-source pollution, surface water quality enhancement, watershed regeneration, municipal infrastructure, water export, non-structural and natural systems source control and flow management, and pollution source identification.

Community Served: Toronto

Clientele: Community groups, concerned citizens, ENGOs

Partner Organizations: Toronto Environmental Alliance

Current Status: Expanding

Other Comments: In order to ensure that the project fulfills the needs of the community, RiverSides is currently soliciting input from potential users and partners as to the form and content the Clearinghouse should have.

Project Contact: Natasha Bone, Marlene Cashin

Contact

RiverSides

519 Jarvis Street, 2nd Floor

Toronto, Ontario

Tel: 416-392-1983

Website: www.web.net/~rsides

Email: rsides@web.net

Category

NGO



Rouge Valley Foundation

Key Objectives: To preserve and enhance the Rouge Valley through restoration and educational programs.

Community Served: Greater Toronto Area

Monitoring/Evaluation: Teachers and participants who become involved fill in evaluation forms.

Status: Expanding

Other Comments: Undertaking programs in the upper Rouge. Plans are underway to establish a conservation centre in the upper Rouge.

Program Contact: Bill Lewis or Steve Gahbauer

Contact

Rouge Valley Foundation

124 Crockford Blvd.

Scarborough, Ontario M1R 3C3

Tel: 416-265-1719

Fax: 416-282-5231

Category

NGO/Charitable Foundation



Royal Ontario Museum

Program

Hands-on Biodiversity Gallery

Mission Statement or Key Messages: To offer visitors a dynamic, interactive, hands-on environment that invites them to discover and investigate the themes and issues surrounding biodiversity. To encourage visitors to develop an appreciation of, and conservation ethic for, the diversity of life that surrounds us.

Key Objectives: 1. To examine the concepts, ideas, and issues surrounding biodiversity; 2. To cultivate a conservation ethic among our audience; 3. To provide a unique learning experience for the public; 4. To profile curatorial research from the ROM's Centre for Biodiversity and Conservation Biology, and discover ROM's role in researching biodiversity; 5. To provide a springboard for programming on related topics.

Community Served: Toronto and surrounding areas

Clientele: Families with children; school groups, grades 1-8 primarily, with extensions for senior and OAC; environmentalists/naturalists, post secondary students and other adults with a particular interest in biodiversity.

Partner Organizations: The gallery will feature rotating exhibits from external environmental organizations.

Monitoring/Evaluation: The first year of the gallery's operation will provide important feedback for refining gallery programming. Formal evaluations will be conducted by school groups (school visits assessment surveys), and on occasion by the general public. The ROM will also be able to measure the gallery's success and track gallery attendance with the number of group bookings it generates over time. The ROM's environmental partners will also be invited to provide feedback on their experiences in the gallery.

Status: The Gallery is open 7 days a week, during Museum hours.

Contact

Rochelle Strauss

Coordinator

Hands-on Biodiversity Gallery

Royal Ontario Museum

100 Queen's Park

Toronto, Ontario M5S 2C6

Tel: 416-586-5797

Fax: 416-586-5562

Website: www.rom.on.ca

Email: rochelle@rom.on.ca

Category

Government Agency



Save the Rouge Valley System Inc.

Program

High School/College Co-op

Mission Statement/Key Messages: To protect, restore, and enhance the Rouge watershed.

Key Objectives: To attend planning meetings, administration, event coordination

Community Served: Rouge Watershed

Partners: Rouge Valley Foundation

Status: Expanding

Project Contact: Linda Joseph, Director of Administration

Contact

Save the Rouge Valley System
Inc.

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 88005, Cliffcrest Plaza
P.O.

2975 Kingston Road

Scarborough, Ontario M1M 3W1

Office Address:

Pearse House Conservation
Centre

1749 Meadowvale Road

Scarborough, Ontario M1B 5W8

Tel: 416-282-9983

Fax: 416-282-5231

Website: web.onramp.ca/rivernen

Email: svs@netcom.ca

Category

NGO or Community Group



The Student Environment Network

The Student Environment Network is a coalition of Toronto high school students working to co-ordinate environmental initiatives, activities, as well as to act as a liaison between students and the environmental community.

Program

Our Schools Our Environment Conference

Mission Statement/Key Messages: To link students in the Toronto area together for environmental awareness and activism.

Key Objectives: To improve communication between high school students and environmental clubs; to inform students about environmental issues; to encourage students and school environmental clubs to become more active.

Community Served: High school students within the city.

Partner Organizations: Youth Challenge International

Monitoring/Evaluation: Feedback surveys were completed by conference delegates and reviewed by members of SEN.

Current Status: Stable

Other Comments: This conference is part of SEN's goal to encourage and support environmental clubs in schools. It is followed by the "cool schools" challenge organized by YCI. The accomplishments of participating schools are then recognized at the Green Summit (of the YCI) in the Spring.

Contacts

Alex or Fraser Thomson,
416-487-0420

Rebecca Osolen, 416-924-4487

Eleanor Dudar, 416-397-3786

The Student Environment Network

Website:
www.geocities.com/RainForest/Andes/5241



Sustainability Network

Mission Statement/Key Messages: The Sustainability Network builds organizational capacity by providing management training to environmental non-profits around the province.

Key Objectives: Organize training workshops, networking, breakfasts, online fundraising, and training.

Community Served: Environmental non-profits across the province.

Partner Organizations: Funders-foundations, government beneficiaries are non-profits around the province.

Monitoring/Evaluation: Annual evaluation takes place. It is largely qualitative: interviews, surveys, case studies. Some quantitative monitoring also takes place: attendance at events, competition for funds.

Status: Stable with possible moderate expansion.

Contact

Paul Bubelis

Sustainability Network

365 Bloor Street East, Suite 2000

Toronto, Ontario

Tel: 416-760-8602

Fax: 416-760-9842

Website: sustain.web.net

Email: bubelis@switchtech.net



Toronto Atmospheric Fund

The Toronto Atmospheric Fund was established in 1992 to help Toronto meet its goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 20 percent by 2005. The fund is used to finance projects that save energy and money; cut emissions that are changing the climate; create jobs; and make the city a healthier place to live and work.

Program

Cool Schools Program

Mission Statement/Key Messages: Rewards schools (through grants) that introduce climate change curriculum, promote transportation to school, and enhance their school ground greenspace.

Community Served: Toronto

Clientele: Schools

Status: Cool Schools program is expanding, possibly into other areas.

Contact

Jennifer Morrow

Toronto Atmospheric Fund

City Hall, 100 Queen Street West

Toronto, Ontario M5H 2N2

Tel: 416-392-0271

Fax: 416-392-0029

Website: www.city.toronto.on.ca/taf

Email: jmorrow@city.toronto.on.ca

Category

Municipal agency/committee



Toronto Chinese Health Education Committee - Environmental Sub-Committee

Program

Environmental Sub-Committee

Key Objectives: To enhance the environmental awareness within the Chinese community toward urban environmental issues by promoting environmentally-sensitive behaviour through education initiatives.

Clientele: Chinese community

Status: Stable

Contact

Margaret Chiu

Toronto Chinese Health Education
Committee - Environmental Sub-
Committee

168 Bathurst Street

Toronto, ON M5V 2R4

Phone: 416-703-9602, ext. 105

Fax: 416-703-7832

Category

Community Group



The Toronto Community Garden Network

The Toronto Community Garden Network is working to encourage a vibrant citywide community gardening movement, linking and supporting Toronto's community gardeners.

We facilitate the start-up of new community gardens, host monthly workshops for gardeners, publish a weekly e-mail newsletter, and advocate more community gardens throughout Toronto.

Contact

Toronto Community Garden Network

c/o FoodShare Toronto

238 Queen Street West

Toronto, Ontario

M5V 1Z7

Contact: Laura Berman

Tel: 416-392-1668

Fax: 416-392-6650

Web address:
cgnetwork@foodshare.net/grow.htm

Partner Organizations

Evergreen, Greenest City, Toronto
Food Policy Council

Category

NGO or Community Group



Toronto District School Board Network for Environmental and Sustainability Education

Programs

Parents' Environmental Network

Key Objectives: Advocacy for environmental education policy and the consistent inclusion of environmental education, sustainability education, and ecological stewardship as basics of public education across grade levels and subject areas.

Community Served: Toronto

Clientele: Parents

Partner Organization: Toronto District School Board

Current Status: Expanded to the amalgamated public board.

Contact

Elise Houghton

Parents' Environmental Network

155 College Street

c/o Curriculum, 6th Floor

Toronto, Ontario M5T 1P6

Email: eshough@yorku.ca

Tel: 416-960-5495

Fax: 416-960-5495

Category

Community Group



Toronto Public Health Health Promotion and Environmental Protection Office

The mandate of Health Promotion and Environmental Protection Office (HP & EPO) is to promote enhanced environmental quality, and to prevent or reduce adverse health effects in Toronto residents from chemical, physical or biological agents in the environment. HP & EPO is comprised of a multidisciplinary team with expertise in toxicology, epidemiology, social sciences, program evaluation and health promotion.

Key Objectives:

- To promote health and protect the environment through education, awareness, and advocacy initiatives such as our Smog Alert Campaign;
- To conduct primary and secondary research on environmental health issues, and develop policies that promote health and protect the environment;
- To monitor and respond to emerging environmental issues that have a potential for adverse impact on human health and the environment;
- To develop progressive strategies to address environmental issues raised by the community, the Board of Health, and City Council;
- To review and comment on guidelines, policies and proposed legislation by provincial and federal governments concerning issues such as air, drinking water, soil and groundwater quality
- To provide technical, policy, and educational support, and work collaboratively with staff in other units of Public Health and other divisions in the City;
- To work collaboratively with senior levels of government, the private sector, Non-Governmental organizations, and community to support environmental health initiatives.
- To participate in staff development and student education (such as educational placements and guest lecturing).

Community Served: City-wide

Contact

Toronto Public Health

Health Promotion & Environmental
Protection Office

277 Victoria Street, 7th Floor

Toronto, Ontario M5B 1W2

Tel: 416-392-6788

Fax: 416-392-7418

www.city.toronto.on.ca

Category

Municipality



Toronto Renewable Energy Cooperative

Mission Statement/Key Messages: TREC and its affiliated organizations foresee a Toronto community of member-consumers who will generate and share electricity from safe, environmentally benign, and sustainable sources at a reasonable cost.

Key Objectives: 1. To create non-profit renewable energy cooperatives open to all electricity consumers in Toronto; 2. Provide demand side management services to our members; 3. Promote energy conservation amongst our members; 4. Develop a model of renewable energy and energy conservation services that can be replicated; 5. Assist other communities in the replication of the TREC approach to community-based, cooperatively owned, renewable energy, DSM, and conservation; 6. Carry out all activities in a manner that is environmentally benign, sustainable, equitable, and respectful of the health and safety of human and non-human species.

Community Served: Toronto

Partner Organizations: North Toronto Green Community, Toronto Community Foundation, Canada Trust Friends of the Environment Foundation, Lever Pond's Environment Foundation, the Schad Foundation.

Monitoring/Evaluation: Some York University Environmental Studies students have been monitoring TREC's community process. Many different stakeholders who would be impacted by the turbine are watching the project. Involved in three levels of environmental assessment: Federal, provincial, and local.

Current Status: Stable

Contact

Deborah Doncaster

Toronto Renewable Energy

Cooperative

401 Richmond Street West

Suite 380

Toronto, ON M5V 3A8

Tel: 416-977-5093

Fax: 416-977-7411

E-mail: info@trec.on.ca

Website: www.trec.on.ca



The Toronto and Region Conservation Authority

Programs

The Yellow Fish Road Storm Draining Marking Program

Key Objectives: To prevent pollutants from entering our waterways by educating communities about proper disposal of household hazardous wastes. Youth volunteers paint yellow fish symbols beside storm drains to remind neighbourhoods that what goes down a storm drain ends up where fish live.

Partner Organizations: Trout Unlimited Canada

Monitoring/Evaluation: Volunteers submit a summary form indicating the number of storm drains marked, number of homes that receive an informative leaflet, and the number of volunteers participating. All results are then summarized.

Current Status: Expanding

Other Comments: The program offers an informative presentation to volunteer groups and provides all necessary materials. This program is available at no charge. The ideal age of volunteers is seven and older.

Program Contact: Michelle Homes, 905-832-2289, kcc@interlog.com

Community Development for Multi-cultural Environmental Stewardship Project.

Mission Statement/Key Messages: To encourage visible minorities to take an active role in the environmental management of their communities.

Key Objectives: 1. Improving the quality of life in communities by addressing environmental concerns. 2. Identifying and eliminating barriers that limit the participation of minority communities in environmental management activities. 3. Developing skills in facilitation, ecological restoration, and site planning. 4. Increasing opportunity for employment. 5. Ecologically restoring and rehabilitating identified Community Action Sites.

Partners: The Trillium Foundation, Environment Canada-Action 21.

Community Served: Toronto and Region Conservation's watersheds

Program Contact: Chandra Sharma, 416-661-6600, ext. 5237, csharma@trca.on.ca

Contact

The Toronto and Region
Conservation Authority

5 Shoreham Drive

Downsview, Ontario M3N 1S4

Tel: 416-661-6600

Fax: 416-661-6898

Website: www.trca.on.ca

Category

Agency

**Kortright Centre for Conservation**

Mission Statement/Key Messages: Environmental Awareness

Key Objectives: To provide visitors with the opportunity to observe, and wherever possible, to experience intimately, the various aspects of human involvement with the renewable natural resources of this part of Southern Ontario.

Community Served: Toronto and Region

Clientele: Schools

Partner Organizations: Conservation Foundation, Sportsman Show, Ontario Hydro, Federal and Provincial Governments

Monitoring: For student visits - through teacher evaluation forms.

Status: Expanding

Comments: Over 140,000 visitors per year.

Contact: Kortright Centre for Conservation, tel: 905-832-2289, fax: 905-832-8238.



Toronto Zoo

Programs

Amphibian/Reptile Distribution and Habitat Conservation

Mission Statement/Key Messages: How to construct critical habitats (i.e. snake hibernaculum). Mapping of amphibian and reptile distribution in Toronto.

Key Objectives: Maintain/expand amphibian/reptile populations and critical habitat in urban areas.

Community Served: Toronto

Partner Organizations: The Toronto and Region Conservation Authority

Monitoring/Evaluation: Publication of distribution data.

Status: Stable

Program Contact: Bob Johnson

Massasauga Rattlesnake Conservation

Mission Statement/Key Messages: How to live with wildlife; safety information; how to move rattlesnakes and to anticipate their behaviours.

Key Objectives: Conservation education leading to recovery of threatened species; snake and rattlesnake identification; and factual information on natural history.

Community Served: Toronto residents who have concerns about snakes or who holiday in rattlesnake areas.

Partners: Canadian Wildlife Service; Ministry of Natural Resources

Monitoring/Evaluation: Mail and phone surveys.

Status: Expanding

Other Comments: Zoo heads education outreach group of Massasauga Rattlesnake Recovery Team.

Program Contact: Bob Johnson--bjohnson@zoo.metrotor.on.ca, or Andrew Lentini--alentini@zoo.metrotor.on.ca

Contact

Toronto Zoo

361A Old Finch Avenue

Scarborough, Ontario M1B 5K7

Tel: 416-392-5900

Fax: 416-392-4979



Natural Habitat Restoration Program

Mission Statement/Key Messages: Exhibits to experience local natural habitats; learn of their intriguing diversity and ecological functions in the landscape.

Key Objectives: Public outreach/involvement in programs (volunteer participation). Public awareness of habitat destruction in Southern Ontario and habitat creation techniques (butterfly meadows, ponds, wetlands).

Community Served: City-wide

Partners: Ducks Unlimited, YAY, Trees, EYC, SEED

Monitoring/Evaluation: Meet the keeper/horticulturalist, daily 1 hour sessions with the public. Feedback is received daily from the public.

Status: Expanding.

Program Contact: John Ambrose, jambrose@zoo.metrotor.on.ca

Frogwatch-Ontario Amphibian Monitoring Programme

Mission Statement/Key Messages: 1. Encourage community members of all ages to take an interest in their local environment. 2. Collect data on the distribution of amphibian species across the province. 3. Provide a fun and educational opportunity to check the health of wetlands.

Key Objectives: Frogwatch Ontario is an amphibian monitoring programme for community members of all ages, all across Ontario.

Community Served: Ontario

Partners: Environment Canada: Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Network and Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources: Natural Heritage Information Centre.

Monitoring/Evaluation: A survey is being developed to assess the success of Frogwatch Ontario for distribution to community members and educators. Assessment will determine if the programme initiated further wetland conservation action by participants.

Status: Expanding

Other Comments: Frogwatch is expanding to include more provincial amphibian programs across Canada. Currently, a program is being developed for British Columbia. In addition to Frogwatch Ontario, Frogwatch-Nova Scotia monitors spring peepers in that province.

Program Contact: Heather Passmore

Program Website: www.cciw.ca/frogwatching/



Adopt-a-Pond Wetland Conservation Programme

Mission Statement/Key Messages: To Conserve Wetland Biodiversity

Key Objectives: 1. To provide opportunity for individual action within communities; 2. Educate community members of all ages on the importance of wetlands and the species that depend on them; 3. Restore, protect, and create local wetlands.

Community Served: The Adopt-a-Pond programme is currently collaborating, and providing educational materials regionally, provincially, nationally and internationally.

Partner Organizations: Toronto Public and Separate School Boards, The Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, and the Rouge Park Alliance.

Monitoring/Evaluation: We are currently developing a survey to assess the success of the Adopt-a-Pond programme, for distribution to educators and community members.

Status: Expanding

Program Contact: Heather Passmore, Bob Johnson

Backyard Conservation

Mission Statement/Key Messages: To demonstrate companion gardening, composting methods, native plants.

Community Served: Southern Ontario

Status: Stable

Program Contact: Jill Moncarz

Wetlands Interpretation (kiosk)

Mission Statement/Key Messages: To introduce visitors to the wonders, complexity, and importance of wetlands.

Community Served: Southern Ontario

Partner Organizations: Ducks Unlimited, Zoo Volunteers

Current Status: Stable

Contact Person: Jill Moncarz

Zoo Camp

Mission Statement/Key Messages: Day Camp for 6-15 year olds to create interest in, and awareness of, the natural world and to have fun.



Community Served: Toronto area

Monitoring/Evaluation: Direct feedback from the participants and their parents.

Status: Stable

Program Contact: Jill Moncarz

Conservation Connection Centre

Mission Statement/Key Messages: Provides an opportunity for visitors to learn more about personal ways to help the environment as well as learn about conservation programs.

Community Served: Southern Ontario

Partner Organizations: Rotary Clubs of Scarborough, Hewlett Packard

Monitoring/Evaluation: There is a comment book.

Status: Stable, but improvements made regularly.

Program Contact: Jill Moncarz

Volunteer Program

Mission Statement or Key Messages: To train people with an interest in people and conservation to pass on their knowledge and enthusiasm about nature to others.

Community Served: Zoo and the Greater Toronto Area

Partner Organizations: Zoological Society

Monitoring/Evaluation: Through evaluation forms.

Status: Slightly expanding (restricted by available resources)

Other Comments: Volunteers undergo a 12 day training course final exam and apprenticeship period before volunteering.

Program Contact: Jill Moncarz



United Food and Commercial Workers Union

Program

Earth Day Poster Contest

Mission Statement/Key Messages: Increase awareness about earth day and ways to help the planet.

Key Objectives: To involve school children.

Community Served: Canada

Monitoring/Evaluation: The participation rate is monitored. Comments are received from staff, educators, and others.

Status: Under review.

Other Comments: Show and Tell - what earth day means to you.

Program Contact: Cheryl Mumford, cmumford@ufcw.ca

Contact

United Food and Commercial Workers Union

300-61 International Blvd.

Toronto, Ontario M9W 6K4

Tel: 416-675-1104

Fax: 416-675-6919

Website: www.ufcw.ca

Category

Trade Union



The Wildlands League

Program

Carolinian Restoration Weekend

Mission Statement/Key Messages: The native Carolinian habitat of south western Ontario is currently under threat. Restoration projects are a means to conserve the biodiversity of this important area. The Wildlands League wants to educate people about this significant area and get them involved in protecting it.

Key Objectives: To carry out restoration projects in the Long Point area (i.e. tree planting, fence construction). To educate participants about conservation issues in southern Ontario, and restoration ecology.

Monitoring/Evaluation: A report is produced for funders and for the Wildlands League board. Staff and board members discuss how the program can be improved based on each years' results and feedback from participants.

Community Served: Southern Ontario, particularly targeting people in Toronto

Status: Stable

Other Comments: Every May, the Wildlands League hosts a Carolinian Restoration Weekend at Long Point on Lake Erie. The weekend allows people to get hands-on experience in the restoration of native tall-grass prairie and Carolinian forest habitat. Activities typically include tree planting, construction of fences, and removal of exotic species. The weekend is also an opportunity for people to learn about restoration ecology and natural history. This is achieved through a slide show, discussions, and interpretative walks.

Program Contact: Bruce MacKenzie

Contact

The Wildlands League

401 Richmond Street West, Suite 380

Toronto, Ontario M5V 3A8

Tel: 416-971-9453

Fax: 416-979-3155

Website: www.wildlandsleague.org

Email: info@wildlandsleague.org

Category

NGO



University of Toronto

81 St. Mary St., Toronto, Ontario, M5S 1J4

Beginning September 2000, the department for the Study of Religion will offer two undergraduate courses in the area of Religion and the Environment. These courses are offered to all post-secondary school students and adults.

The Centre for the Study of Religion will offer a graduate course in the same field. This course is offered to all graduate students and adults.

Contact

Stephen Scharper

Tel: 416-926-1300 Ext. 3288

Fax: 416-926-7270

Type of Activity

Credit course for university degree

Category

Education



World Wildlife Fund, Canada

WWF is the largest, independent conservation organization in the world, with nearly five million supporters, 27 national organizations, and activities in 96 countries. All of World Wildlife Fund's conservation work is driven by a three part mission designed to protect the Earth's biological diversity by:

- 1) preserving genetic, species, and ecosystem diversity;
- 2) ensuring that the use of renewable natural resources is sustainable now and in the longer term, for the benefit of all life on Earth;
- 3) promoting actions to reduce, to a minimum, pollution and the wasteful exploitation and consumption of resources and energy.

WWF's ultimate goal is to stop, and eventually reverse, the accelerating degradation of our planet's natural environment, and to help build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature.

Program

Schools for Wildlife

Key Objectives: To provide the best conservation/wildlife educational material for use in schools and youth group settings.

Community Served: National

Clientele: Teachers and youth leaders

Monitoring/Evaluation: Takes place through surveys, peer review, and funder review

Status: Stable. There are a growing number of classes/groups in the program.

Contact

Kim Bilous

World Wildlife Fund, Canada

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Email: kbilous@wwfcanada.org



Youth Action Network

Youth Action Network was established by a small group of enthusiastic young people in 1989. It is a non-profit organization dedicated to motivating and empowering youth to take action on social justice and environmental issues. YAN believes very strongly that youth have an integral role to play in our communities.

Programs

Youth Action Connection

Mission Statement/ Key Messages: YAC is a free newsletter distributed to high schools, youth groups, and community centres in the Greater Toronto Area. It keeps youth informed about volunteer and activism opportunities in their local community. The newsletter posts notices and updates about events, volunteer projects, and campaigns focused on issues of concern to young people.

Key Objectives: Notices of environmental, social, local volunteering opportunities

Community Served: Greater Toronto Area

Partner Organizations: Toronto District School Board, City of Toronto Parks and Recreation Services, HOBY

Monitoring/Evaluation: Internal evaluation, analyzing success in the past

Status: Expanding

Program Contact: Karen

Youth Action Forum Magazine

Mission Statement/Key Messages: Forum is a tri-annual magazine devoted to getting the voices of young people heard on issues of national and global importance. Forum is nationally distributed free to over 2,500 community centres, activist groups, schools, and libraries.

Key Objectives: Discussion, research, action, alternative research, viewpoints

Community Served: Canada

Status: Stable and expanding

Contact

Youth Action Network

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Fax: 416-368-8354

Email: yan@activist.com

Category

NGO