

Ontario Wildlife Foundation Interim Report

Organization: The Corporation of the City of Mississauga

Project: Wahoosh Falls Restoration

Work Completed in 2021:

1. Due to COVID-19, one planting event was completed instead of the planned two events (pictures from event below). The planting event featured the planting of 150 native trees and shrubs in planting polygons 2 and 3. The planting breakdown is as follows:
 - o Hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*): 20
 - o Basswood (*Tilia americana*): 20
 - o Choke cherry (*Prunus virginiana*): 25
 - o Black cherry (*Prunus serotina*): 10
 - o Witch hazel (*Hamamelis virginiana*): 20
 - o Red-Osier dogwood (*Cornus sericea*): 10
 - o Alternate-leaved dogwood (*Cornus alterifolia*): 15
 - o Sugar maple (*Acer saccharum*): 20
 - o Red maple (*Acer rubrum*): 10
 - o **Total: 150**
2. Original plans for restoration in the meadow area were to plant a variety of meadow species to assess their establishment success and guide future plantings. On a site visit in July, to the surprise of City of Mississauga staff, many meadow species were flourishing in the area where the former house was located. Native species identified included wild bergamot, beebalm, purple coneflower, common milkweed, butterfly milkweed, spotted jewelweed, aster species, and goldenrod species. Among the native species were the invasive species burdock, garlic mustard, and buckthorn. The identification of many native meadow wildflower species eliminated the need to test certain species for establishment success.

Work To Be Completed in 2022:

1. Two planting events are being planned to plant the remaining 425 native trees and shrubs as part of the grant. One event is expected to take place in spring and continue to infill areas 2 and 3 as well as begin polygon 4 (200 units total). The second event will take place in fall and complete planting of polygon 4 and polygon 1 after invasive species removal occurs (225 units total).
2. A staff workday is planned when seasonal staff begin in late March/early April to remove invasive species throughout the woodlot. Removals will focus on polygon 1 to create space for planting in fall. Staff will be focusing on woody invasive species found on site including buckthorn, Manitoba maple, and honeysuckle.
3. A fall workday is planned for City of Mississauga staff to remove invasive species in the meadow area and plant wildflowers where invasive species removal occurs.

2021 Planting Photos:



Figure 1: Trees and shrubs planted in polygon 2



Figure 2: Trees and shrubs planted to the south of polygon 3