

YORK REGION

SUSTAINABLE WORKS

PUBLIC WORKS PARTNERING WITH OUR COMMUNITIES

Presentation to Regional Council

March 25, 2010

Erin Mahoney, Commissioner
Environmental Services

Kathleen Llewellyn-Thomas, Commissioner
Transportation Services



Water



Waste Management



Wastewater



Transit



Roads



Traffic



Forestry



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Agenda

1. Sustainable Works Overview
2. An investment in Sustainability
3. Overview of events included in Sustainable Works! months.
4. Additional events throughout the year



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April and May are Sustainable Works! Months in York Region

This 2nd annual campaign features community events and activities that raise public awareness of York Region's environmental initiatives and services.

Events and activities are coordinated and attended by Environmental and Transportation Services staff.

They provide residents with an opportunity to understand their impact on the environment and how they can contribute to a more sustainable York Region.

Thousands of residents will participate in over 25 community events throughout *Sustainable Works!*



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An Investment in Sustainability

Level Of Effort In Sustainable Works Events

Approximately 700 staff and volunteers involved
At an approximate cost of \$500,000 for all events

Resourced through various programs and initiatives in
Environmental Services and Transportation Services



Benefits

Supporting the overall objectives of Vision 2026
Enhanced Environment, Heritage and Culture
Infrastructure for a Growing Region

Promoting environmental sustainability through public works!



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Sustainable Works Events: In the News



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Water Efficient Gardening Seminars & Workshops



To educate residents about water efficient plants and local plant materials

Various locations throughout York Region

- garden centres, libraries, community halls

March 2, 6, 11, 16, 20, 25, 30

April 8, 10

May 13,

June 5, 13, 19

Available for all residents of York Region

Last year more than 1,100 residents learned about water efficient landscaping at 15 workshops held throughout the Region

MARCH							APRIL						
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MAY							JUNE						
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Earth Week April 19-23, 2010



Canada's Earth Day - April 22, 2010

Environmental Education and Awareness

Students from an elementary school take part in various interactive activities:

- In-school presentations by transit and forestry staff
- Tree planting and interactive sessions

Participating schools across York Region
Elementary school students in York Region

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Over 1,000 students participate in York Region's Earth Week activities promoting York Region's environmental initiatives and services



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YO! Youth On Board



Youth On Board Earth Week

Promoting Youth to use Transit

- Students visit transit displays in cafeteria
- Pick up a button and environmental facts about transit
- Students encouraged to wear button for next month
- Anyone spotted wearing button win an instant environmental prize.

Participating schools across York Region

April 19 - 23, 2010

High school students in York Region



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Currently 46 schools enrolled with over 120 school ambassadors



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Spring Forest Festival



Wrap up to Earth Week

- Tree planting, interactive displays and wagon rides

Eldred King Tract in the York Regional Forest

April 24, 2010

Available to all Regional residents

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In 2009, 400 trees planted with
80 community volunteers



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Adopt-A-Stream Crossing Program



Ten sites along Regional Roads

Throughout April and May 2010

Planting of native trees and shrubs
along streams at road crossings

Promoting environmental
education and awareness

Local schools and community groups



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In 2009, 1,335 trees and shrubs were planted
on 15 sites with more than 350 students from
across York Region ranging from Grade 5 to 12



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Compost Awareness Week



Composting Seminars and sale of composters during National Compost Awareness Week

Waste Management Centre, East Gwillimbury

May 1, 2010

Available to all residents of York Region

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In 2009, seminars were fully attended with over 80 participants and 150 composters sold



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Green Up – Clean Up at York Regional Forest Tracts



Cleaning up litter from the roads around the York Regional Forest

May 8, 2010

Available to all York Region residents

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100 garbage bags filled at last years event



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A one day family event to explore new and emerging environmental and sustainability programs

In partnership with TRCA

Focusing on the themes of:

- water conservation
- waste reduction
- green energy
- revolution in transportation
- local foods/agriculture
- backyard greening
- habitat conservation

Bruce's Mill Conservation Area, Stouffville

May 8, 2010

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Available to residents and families throughout GTA



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12th Annual York Children's Water Festival

Educating children about water and the environment using over 50 interactive displays, games and activities
In partnership with TRCA

May 17 – 21, 2010

Opening Ceremonies - Tuesday, May 18th, 2010

Bruce's Mill Conservation Area



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5,000 York Region Grade 4 students participate annually



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National Public Works Week

May 15 – 21, 2010

Celebrated throughout North America to raise awareness of Public Works and the services we provide.

Youth Engagement All Week Long

- Contests for schools to participate and win prizes
- School tours of facilities for Grade 5 students
- New this Year – Grade 8 Water Systems Tour



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May 15, 2010

Family Fun Day - Open House

- Attended by over 500 York Region residents
- Charity BBQ, facility tours, displays, hands-on activities for children, games, face painting



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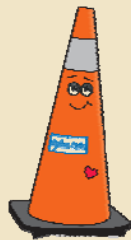
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National Public Works Week

May 17, 2010

Staff Appreciation Day

- Senior staff from TRN and ENV visit 10 work sites to greet staff in the morning
- An appreciation themed luncheon for over 450 TRN and ENV staff



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May 19, 2010

Municipal Challenge Day involving:

- Friendly challenge among local mayors and Regional Chair vying for Enbridge cup
- Staff skills competition (teams of 4 staff) compete for Miller cup



Available to Transportation Services and Environmental Services staff



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Rouge Watershed Days



Raising public awareness of the Rouge Watershed and the importance of protecting, restoring and enhancing its ecological and cultural integrity

In partnership with TRCA, Town of Markham, Town of Richmond Hill and Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville

May 26 – 29, 2010

Series of public events throughout the Rouge Park and along the Rouge River



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Rain Barrel Sales Event

Educate about water efficiency and conservation

Three locations in York Region, tentative sites include East Gwillimbury, Markham and Richmond Hill

In partnership with local municipalities

May 29, 2010

Available to all York Region residents



MAY						
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Over 3,750 barrels sold each year since the sale started in 2008.



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Something for Everyone		Water for Tomorrow Gardening Seminars	Earth Week - Displays	Earth Week – YOI	Forest Festivals	Adopt-A-Stream Crossing Program	Compost Seminar/Sale	Our Greener Side	Green Up, Clean Up	NPW – Family Fun Day	NPW – Municipal Challenge	Children's Water Festival	Rouge Watershed Days	Rain Barrel Sales	Waste Management Depot Collection Events
	Town of Aurora	●		●		●									●
	Town of East Gwillimbury	●		●			●			●				●	
	Town of Georgina	●		●											
	Township of King	●		●											
	Town of Markham	●		●									●	●	
	Town of Newmarket	●	●	●		●									
	Town of Richmond Hill	●		●							●		●	●	
	City of Vaughan	●		●											●
	Town of Whitby			●	●			●	●			●	●		
	Stouffville			●	●			●	●			●	●		

And throughout the rest of the year...

Forestry:

- Staff and natural heritage experts lead **hikes for the public** once a month
- Hosts internal and external **Tree Planting Events** between April to June
- Nature's Classroom** – 2 to 3 times a month June to December
- Hosts **Adopt-A-Stream** – September, October and November

YRT/Viva:

- Hosts **Customer Appreciation Days** – June and December
- Bus Rodeo** – June 13
- High School and College Orientation Events** – August – September

Waste Management:

- eWaste Event** – Stronach Aurora Recreation Complex - March 27
- Spring Cleaning Event** – Vaughan Community Environmental Centre – April 25
- Reuse Event** – Vaughan Community Environmental Centre – September
- Hosts Waste Reduction Week** – October 18 – 24, Waste Management Centre

Environment First Symposium – Date and location to be confirmed