

Sustainable Works 2011

Public Works Partnering with our Communities

Erin Mahoney, Commissioner
Environmental Services

March 9, 2011

Agenda



1. Sustainable Works 2011 Overview
2. An investment in Sustainability
3. Overview of events included in Sustainable Works months
4. Additional events throughout the year

April, May and June are Sustainable Works Months in York Region

This 3rd annual campaign features community events and activities that raise public awareness of York Region's environmental initiatives and services.

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

Provides 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 Garden Design Seminars



To educate residents about water efficient plants and local plant materials
This year we partnered with Toronto Region Conservation Authority to provide additional seminars at various locations throughout York Region

- garden centres, libraries, community halls

MARCH							APRIL						
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
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27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30

MAY							JUNE						
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29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30		

March 10, 15, 22, 23, 29, 30

April 5, 7, 12, 14, 27

May 18, 26 & June 4, 12, 18

Event open to all York Region residents

Last year more than 700 residents learned about water efficient landscaping at 13 seminars held throughout the Region.



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Earth Week



Earth Week April 18-22, 2011
York Region Earth Day Fair – April 19, 2011
Canada's Earth Day - April 22, 2011
Wrap Up Celebration and Tree Planting Challenge - May 5, 2011



Environmental Education and Awareness
 Students from an eco elementary school take part in interactive activities:

- Presentations by transit and forestry staff
- Tree planting and interactive sessions

APRIL							MAY						
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Students learn how to protect the environment and how they can help make every day an Earth Day celebration



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YO! Youth On Board



Youth On Board Earth Week

Promoting Youth to use Transit

- Students visit transit displays in cafeteria

Participating schools across York Region

April 18 - 22, 2011

Event open to High school students in York Region

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Over 30 schools enrolled with over 70 school ambassadors



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Spring Forest Festival



Wrap up to Earth Week
 • Tree planting, interactive displays and wagon rides

North Tract in the York Regional Forest

April 30, 2011

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Event open to all York Region residents

In 2010, 875 trees were planted by 347 volunteers



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Adopt-A-Stream Crossing Program



Ten sites along Regional Roads

Throughout April and May

Planting of native trees and shrubs along streams at road crossings

Promoting environmental education and awareness

Event open to all elementary schools and community groups



In 2010, 2,091 trees and shrubs were planted at 11 events by more than 250 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 7, 2011

Event open to all residents of York Region



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A backyard composter can divert roughly 159 kilograms of organic material a year!



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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 7, 2011

Event open to all York Region residents

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Last year 100 garbage bags were collected filling a 20 yard dumpster!



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13th Annual York Children's Water Festival



Educating children about water and the environment using over 50 interactive displays, games and activities
In partnership with Toronto Region Conservation Authority

May 16 – 20, 2011

Opening Ceremonies - Tuesday, May 17th, 2011

Bruce's Mill Conservation Area

Event open to Grade 4 students by registration only

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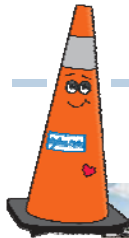


5,000 York Region Grade 4 students participate annually



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National Public Works Week

May 15 – 21, 2011

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
- Grade 8 Water Systems Tour



May 14, 2011

Family Fun Day - Open House

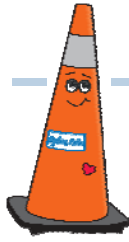
- Attended by over 1,500 York Region residents
- Charity BBQ, facility tours, displays, hands-on activities for children, games, face painting

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National Public Works Week

May 18, 2011

Municipal Challenge Day involving:

- Friendly challenge among local mayors and Regional Chair vying for Enbridge cup
- Staff skills competition with Miller cup going to be a winner



May 25, 2011

Staff Appreciation Day

- Senior staff from Transportation and Environmental Services visit 10 work sites to greet staff in the morning
- Appreciation themed luncheon for over 500 Transportation and Environmental Services staff
- Event open to Transportation and Environmental Services staff



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Public Works week celebrates the variety and importance of the services we deliver



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Our Greener Side Celebration

**Kortright Centre for Conservation, Woodbridge
May 28, 2011**

One day family event to explore new and emerging environmental and sustainability programs

In partnership with TRCA

Focusing on themes of:

- water conservation
- waste reduction
- green energy
- revolution in transportation
- local foods/agriculture
- habitat conservation
- green living
- Event FREE to residents and families throughout the GTA



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Rain Barrel Sales Event



JUNE						
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Education on water efficiency and conservation

In partnership with local municipalities

Three locations in York Region, tentative sites include East Gwillimbury, Aurora and Vaughan

June 4, 2011

4,000 subsidized rain barrels available to York Region residents

Event open to residents for York Region



Over 11,000 barrels have been purchased by residents since 2008.



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CELEBRATE
WHERE YOU
LIVE

Rouge Days

Rouge Days



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

June 8 – 11, 2011

Series of public events throughout the Rouge River

Initiated with:



Events open to York Region Residents



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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	NPWW – Family Fun Day	NPWW – 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 Whitchurch-Stouffville	●		●	●	●			●			●	●		



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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** – 5 to 10 times a month all year long
- Hosts **Adopt-A-Stream** – September, October and November

YRT/Viva:

- Hosts **Customer Appreciation Days** – June and October
- **Bus Rodeo** – June 5
- **High School and College Orientation Events** – August and September

Waste Management:

- **eWaste Event** – Aurora May 7 & Richmond Hill May 14
- **Reuse Event** – September
- **Elgin Mills Community Environmental Centre Grand Opening** – Fall
- Hosts **Waste Reduction Week** – October 17 - 23, Waste Management Centre



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