



TOWN OF CALEDON

# Community Green Fund Showcase Report



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The Community Green Fund was established in 2006 to assist local Caledon, not-for-profit or volunteer groups to leverage provincial, federal or other funds to carry out important environmental work.



**Cover Photo Credit:**

Herb Campbell Public School Council "Eco Club Initiative".  
Shown in photo is Leslie Cauchi, First Project Coordinator.

**Green Fund Project Photo Credits:**

All Green Fund Project photos inside this report were  
provided by each of the Green Fund recipients.

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Project descriptions for Caledon Countryside Alliance's Sustainable Caledon Website, Cool Caledon's web hosting and the most recent 2008 projects (Green Tea AV Equipment, Caledon Countryside Alliance's Local Food initiatives and Caledon Environmental Advisory Committee's Caledon Community Map) have not been included in the Showcase Report since information was not available at time of printing.



## Mayor's Message

Approximately 58,000 people live in Caledon and we are proud of our environmental consciousness. The people of our community are committed to making a difference and seeing positive change. In 2006, the Town of Caledon established the Community Green Fund to provide funding to local groups involved in environmental initiatives.

The Community Green Fund assists Caledon not-for-profit or volunteer groups to leverage provincial, federal or other funds to carry out environmental work.

The Community Green Fund was a recommendation of the Town's Environmental Progress Action Plan, which was endorsed by Council in 2005. This Plan contains a series of recommendations for the Town to enhance its commitment to preserving and enhancing Caledon's environment. The Plan reflects consultations with Councillors, local environmental groups and municipal staff.

Given the extraordinary community commitment and participation in community and civic environmental initiatives, the Town continues to receive strong applications for worthwhile projects. The Town's staff Environment Committee evaluates each application based on criteria developed under the Green Fund Framework. Approved projects must deliver meaningful and measurable environmental results, engage the community and collaborate with stakeholders.

Since 2006, the Town has awarded 19 Green Fund grants. The successful recipients have relied on the Town grant to leverage more than \$100,000 in federal, provincial and other relevant external funding. I hope you will take the time to read about the many project accomplishments and success stories in this new Showcase Report. If you would like to consider the Green Fund for your next environmental project, information on the Green Fund eligibility criteria and application deadlines can be found on the back cover.

Sincerely,

Marolyn Morrison  
Mayor

# 2006 projects

## Belfountain Outdoor Education Program

### Organizational Background

Belfountain Public School has a new environmental focus where students in kindergarten to grade 6 will learn through highly meaningful interactions with and in the local Credit River Watershed.

### Project

The goal of this initiative was to enhance the Ontario education curriculum by combining environmental awareness with outdoor education experiences in the Belfountain area. This project engaged the community and built a human and natural resource database through the introduction of an outdoor/environmental school education program. This was followed by the creation of an advisory board of educators, community members and parents to support the development of the program as well as coordinate fundraising and awareness opportunities.

**Green Fund Contribution: \$800**

Other Contributions: \$17,200

*"This outdoor education program has given the entire Belfountain community a chance to further their environmental learning that would not have been possible without the Town of Caledon Community Green Fund."*

Peter Kendall, Belfountain Public School

### ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- In 2007, 46 students participated in the special outdoor education pilot.
- The grade 2/3 class focused on land-based ecosystems, animal adaptation and habitats while the grade 6 class studied the Credit River System's health and welfare.
- The grade 6 class spent a great deal of time in the Credit River identifying and counting species from which they calculated biodiversity indices.

## Humber River Naturalization Project

### Organizational Background

Bolton & District Horticultural Society is committed to Humber Naturalization in Bolton Mill Park. The goals of this multi-year project were to reduce erosion and improve water quality in the Humber River.

### Project

The project's objective was to increase the size of the wetland by:

- digging a channel along the base of the hill and diverting this water to the wetlands;
- excavating additional ponds and interconnecting these with earthen dikes and spill ways;
- removing non-native invasive species of trees;
- relocating native trees, shrubs and flowers that are currently on the site of the new ponds; and
- planting additional native species of trees, shrubs and wildflowers.

**Green Fund Contribution: \$5,000**

Other Contributions: \$17,000



*"The restoration and revitalization of habitat in Bolton Mill Park was completed through the tremendous support of the Town of Caledon Community Green Fund."*

Richard Hunt, Bolton District Horticultural Society

### ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- 36 mature deciduous and coniferous trees were planted.
- More funding was granted by the Toronto Region Conservation Authority for an additional expansion of the wetlands for summer 2008.
- The wetland doubled in size and depth creating a significant increase in aquatic life and tree coverage. The denser canopy will provide enhanced benefits to the wildlife and environment.

## Citizens for a Clean Caledon: Pesticide Exchange

### Organizational Background

Citizens for a Clean Caledon (CCC) is an environmental action group of volunteers established by the Town of Caledon in 1995. CCC promotes programs designed to enhance and protect Caledon's environment.

### Project

The Pesticide Exchange was a one day event where Caledon residents were invited to bring in their unused pesticides for safe disposal. This event reiterated that pesticides and their containers are hazardous materials that need to be disposed of appropriately. Through this program residents were also encouraged to use safe, alternative means of caring for their lawns and gardens.

**Green Fund Contribution: \$1,000**

### ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- With help from The Region of Peel and the Weedjee Kidz™ (volunteer youth program managed by Caledon Countryside Alliance and Healthy Lawns, Healthy People), the Pesticide Exchange encouraged residents to turn in their pesticides in exchange for a free CFL bulb and a chance to win a wagon full of garden items.
- On the day of the event 143 vehicles came to the Bolton Recycling Centre which is an increase from the 20 that usually participate on a regular Saturday.
- 493L of pesticides were collected as a result of this event.

*"The Pesticide Exchange's ability to collect almost 500L of pesticides demonstrates its great success and importance as a community initiative."*

Paddy Running-Horan, Citizens for Clean Caledon

## James Bolton Public School Project: Greening the School Yard

### Organizational Background

James Bolton Public School is a local elementary school where a dedicated school council member, Meredith Taylor, proposed the creation of an outdoor student learning space.



### Project

An outdoor learning centre and school garden allows students to see changes that occur in nature from day to day. Through the naturalization of the school gardens, the butterfly garden, weather centres, compost bed and outdoor classroom, there will be active student participation in the curriculum and a purpose and relevance to learning.

**Green Fund Contribution: \$3,750**

Other Contributions: \$6,180

### ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- 52 volunteers (parents, students, and staff) worked on the project over two weekends.
- The implementation of this school's garden promotes student environmental awareness and provides students with an enriching outdoor learning setting.
- The connection with nature, which many students did not have, is now encouraged.
- This garden allows students to connect with nature on a daily basis.
- Planting included three large trees, 84 small saplings, 126 shrubs, and 175 perennial plants
- 24 local businesses supported this project through donations or donations of goods.

*"The opportunity to create an outdoor learning space has allowed students to experience nature in a new way, bringing about environmental awareness that enriches their learning."*

**Meredith Taylor, James Bolton School Council**



## CEAC Project: Paint the Town Green through Community Mapping

### Organizational Background

This project is a collaboration between the Caledon Environmental Advisory Committee (CEAC), Caledon Countryside Alliance and Heritage Caledon.

### Project

The project's purpose was to create a community map that would give the land a voice through warm and inviting pieces of artwork and in doing so help residents better understand and love the place where they live. Information, stories and art were collected through town hall and kitchen table meetings, targeted presentations and a media campaign.

**Green Fund Contribution: \$3,750**

Other Contributions: \$47,000



### ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Organized, advertised and delivered 22 meetings and presentations. 334 people were reached and 111 community idea forms were received.
- The community map was launched on June 27, 2007 at the "Celebration in the Park" which also celebrated the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of CEAC.
- 10,000 maps and 500 posters were printed in June, 2007. 15 maps were plaqued which will be displayed at local community venues this summer.
- To date, over 9,000 maps have been distributed. Most of the remaining maps were delivered to schools and distributed at Fall local fairs.
- Presentations to seven elementary schools were conducted during September – November 2007.

*"Through the collaboration of the Caledon Environmental Advisory Committee, Caledon Countryside Alliance, Heritage Caledon and the Town of Caledon, a community map collected experiences and created a piece of art that helped residents understand and love the place where they live. The project's success is demonstrated by the fact that over 10,000 maps and 500 posters have been distributed to residents, schools and community organizations."*

**Karen Hutchinson, Caledon Countryside Alliance**



## Belfountain Community Organization Local Food Project

### Organizational Background

The Belfountain Community Organization (BCO) is an incorporated, not-for-profit, volunteer-founded and operated group. Their mandate includes working with residents, business owners and school children to educate and raise awareness about methods and practices to improve environmental sustainability.

### Project

The Local Food Project promoted squash in the yearly Salamander Festival. Belfountain school children grew squash on school grounds for use in the fall festival. To do this BCO created a garden, supplied gardening implements, and made arrangements for the garden to be watered and weeded over the summer months. Villagers were encouraged to grow their own squash and bake goods to be sold at the festival. This event also provided an opportunity to discuss the use of pesticides.

**Green Fund Contribution: \$3,750**

### ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Improved awareness of the environmental and social benefits of local food.
- Better communication between the community and the school.
- Improved support for local food producers.



*“The success of our local food project was confirmed at the Salamander Festival, for which participants grew, harvested and baked with their own squash, thereby contributing to the festival’s focus on this versatile vegetable.”*

**Nicola Ross, Belfountain Community Organization**

## Citizens for a Clean Caledon: Youth Concert "Taking Back Suburbia Tour"

### Organizational Background

Citizens for a Clean Caledon (CCC) is an environmental action group of volunteers established by the Town of Caledon in 1995. CCC promotes programs designed to enhance and protect Caledon's environment. HITCH (Help Improve Transit in Caledon Hills) is a working group under the Citizens for a Clean Caledon that is dedicated to sustainable transportation.

### Project

CCC and HITCH targeted Caledon youth by organizing an all-day concert at the Albion-Bolton Community Centre. This event encouraged youth to consider sustainable transportation options and alternatives before they purchased their first car by:

- spreading awareness about air quality and health concerns in Caledon through music and art; and
- encouraging active transportation, walking and biking, among the youth of Caledon by offering free bicycle tune-ups and other incentives.

**Green Fund Contribution: \$1,000**

#### ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Through music and art, youth were engaged in positive environmental messages about participating in the community and the greater environment.
- Youth were encouraged to incorporate alternative transportation into their lifestyle.

*"The Town's Community Green Fund grant made it possible for youth to explore alternative transportation options through an informative and appealing all-day concert."*

**Vanessa Butterworth, HITCH Organizer**

## Ontario Streams

### Organizational Background

Ontario Streams is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to protect and rehabilitate the streams and wetlands of the Province of Ontario through education and community action.

### Project

This initiative involved the implementation of tree planting and in-stream restoration efforts on two important cold-water streams that run through the Town of Caledon. Centreville Creek provides key spawning and rearing habitat for local brook trout populations and Caledon Creek is known to provide historic habitat to the provincially threatened fish species. Both sites used rehabilitation of riparian zones to improve habitat for aquatic species.

**Green Fund Contribution: \$5,000**

Other Contributions: \$7,000 and \$40,100 in-kind



#### ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Planted 6000 seedlings, 1400 trees and 600 shrubs in partnership with the Toronto Region Conservation Authority at the Centreville Creek planting site.
- Volunteers helped install 25 nesting structures at the site with materials donated by TRCA.
- Planted 380 trees and shrubs in partnership with the Credit Valley Conservation at the Caledon Creek site.
- Completed approximately 150 metres of in-stream work on Centreville Creek and 380 metres of in-stream work on Caledon Creek.
- Approximately 242 volunteers contributed 882 hours of work towards this project.
- The in-stream restoration work has contributed to a long-term habitat improvement project within the Humber Credit watersheds.



*"This project was a huge success! With the Town's Community Green Fund contribution and other funding sources, we were able to plant a substantial amount of seedlings, trees and shrubs that will protect and rehabilitate the streams and wetlands in this area."*

**Christine Pritchard, Ontario Streams Project Coordinator**

# 2008 projects

## Green Tea

### Organizational Background

Green Tea is a not-for-profit community group based in Bolton. Each Green Tea event features presentations by several guest speakers focusing on an environmental topic. These events create environmental awareness within the community.



### Project

Green Tea sought funding as a way to strengthen their identity within the community and to enhance their ability to communicate information about their events, speakers and future projects. Funding was used to establish a logo, website, an electronic newsletter, and one year of website hosting, domain registration, a survey and an email newsletter.

**Green Fund Contribution: \$2,025**



*"With the help of the Town of Caledon Community Green Fund we were able to create a website that promotes environmental awareness within the community. I encourage everyone to check out the [www.greentaledon.ca](http://www.greentaledon.ca)"*

Green Tea seminar attendee



## Green Tea: Lawn Alternatives

### Project

Green Tea sought to expand the scope of their efforts to build environmental awareness locally by hosting a set of workshops that focus on lawn alternatives such as replacing grasses and using drought-resistant native plants and shrubbery. Green Tea used funds to pay for a workshop facilitator, room rentals and incidentals for the two workshops, and advertising costs.

**Green Fund Contribution: \$1,600**

*"My wife and I found the latest Green Tea Alternative Lawns workshop perfectly timed and exactly what we were looking for in making our Bolton home more environmentally sensitive but still aesthetically pleasing. Until now, this is something we've been doing by "gut feel". Now that we've been fortunate enough to be introduced to Green Tea and their workshops, we have a resource of locally specific environmental information, like-minded residents and professionals."*

Gordon Ruder, Bolton

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- 22 people were in attendance for this event.
- Participants learned how to perform soil sample of the dirt in their yards.
- These workshops have taught attendees the benefits of an alternative lawn as well as elements of landscape design and about environmentally-friendly plant and material choices.
- From a survey that was distributed to participants 100% of respondents indicated a positive experience and that they would recommend future events to friends.
- 100% of respondents indicated that they understand the benefits of an alternative lawn versus a traditional grass lawn, from both an environmental and a cost-saving point of view.
- 95% of respondents said the workshops had inspired them to transform all, or a portion, of their grass lawn into a low-maintenance, environmentally-friendly naturalized space.

## Caledon Headwaters Rehabilitation Initiative

### Organizational Background

Ontario Streams is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to protect and rehabilitate the streams and wetlands of the Province of Ontario. Caledon Headwaters Rehabilitation Initiative, has four project components: 1) mitigation of physical and thermal barriers, 2) in-stream habitat rehabilitation, 3) riparian regeneration and 4) fisheries monitoring. The result of their efforts will be an improvement of key fisheries habitat critical to the Ministry of Natural Resources Atlantic salmon restocking efforts that will commence in 2010.

### Project

This project is mitigating four small barriers that were blocking priority habitat integral to the reintroduction and success of the Atlantic salmon within the Humber River. Rocky ramp fishways were constructed and will turn the one large drop into a series of two or more small drops that will be navigable by all fish species. In-stream rehabilitation complimented the barrier mitigation through the installation of habitat structures and erosion control methods. Riparian regeneration will consist of native tree planting along a 400m section of the ephemeral tributary to the Main Humber. As well, cattle fencing, alternate watering systems for livestock and slope stabilization has occurred.

As a result of this work, brook trout have moved upstream past a barrier they mitigated in 2006 and have been re-established in a portion of their historic range. Also, Atlantic Salmon are back in the Humber watershed for the first time in approximately 150 years.

### Green Fund Contribution: \$5,000

Other Contributions: \$37,000

*“Through funding from the Town of Caledon Community Green Fund and others, this initiative was able to take on a wide breadth of rehabilitation options to improve fisheries habitat in Caledon.”*

**Christine Pritchard, Ontario Streams Project Co-ordinator**

## Melville Church Composting Toilet

### Organizational Background

Belfountain Heritage Society (BHS) is an organization that wishes to research, retain, preserve and present historical data pertaining to the hamlet of Belfountain and its district.



### Proposed Project

The Melville White Church is a pioneer structure which has retained a very small environmental footprint. Since the church's restoration, it has provided space for public meetings, ceremonies and other events. As a result, the Belfountain Heritage Society was required to provide better facilities in the form of portable chemical toilets. The BHS deemed these toilets unsightly and producers of toxic effluent.

The BHS proposed to build a new outhouse using a spruce and cedar structure that was architecturally consistent with the church. They sought funding to purchase the mechanical components for an outhouse composting toilet. This modern technology avoids using water from the local aquifer to flush toilet waste into an expensive and potentially polluting groundwater septic system. The addition of composting toilets to this heritage site is an important step towards sustainability and viability as a public venue and will enhance its current status as a heritage site.

### Green Fund Contribution: \$3,000

Other Contributions: \$4,000

### ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Eliminated the need for portable chemical toilets by providing well designed composting toilets.
- This historical site can now cater to more groups and events.
- Demonstrated that composting toilets are a feasible alternative.

*“Melville Church is now able to provide modern space for public meetings, wedding ceremonies and other events due to the improved facilities on the property.”*

**Peter Probst, Belfountain Heritage Society**

# 2008 projects



8

## Herb Campbell Public School Council "ECO Club Initiative"

### Organizational Background

The Peel District School Board believes that student success is the main focus of effective schools. The actions of their school council focus on activities that help young people succeed in school and acquire real-life knowledge to use when making life decisions.

### Project

Herb Campbell Public School is committed to educating children about the environmental challenges that face our planet and using that to encourage further independent exploration of environmental issues. As one of six show case schools in Peel and Halton who are implementing the Association for Canadian Educational Resources' (ACER) Planting for Change program

with funding from EcoAction's Community Funding Program and TD Friends of the Environment Fund, this project has three initiatives.

The first initiative of Herb Campbell's ECO Club was to designate a part of the school's front yard to be available for biodiversity monitoring. This mini-climate lab represented an important step forward in engaging youth in environmental action. A second initiative under the umbrella of the ECO Club was to create a butterfly garden. This will give students the opportunity to explore their impact on the natural world, identify ways to limit their impact and discuss how changes to the climate affect the environment. The third initiative is the creation of windbreaks and shady spots to decrease the harsh weather for students on the property. To do this, the school wishes to purchase sapling and mature trees.

**Green Fund Contribution: \$3,750**

Other Contributions: \$12,000 plus in-kind

### ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Initiating young school children into working in the soil, planting and protecting the environment through action.
- Providing a vehicle for all students to play a role in protecting their ecosystems and participating in environmental stewardship.
- Learning how all species are inter-dependent, and how the loss of a species through pollution and climate change has a wide-spread impact.

*"This initiative provided a great opportunity for students to take an active role in protecting their own environment."*

**Marilyn Matis Co-Chair, Herb Campbell School Council**



## ENVIRONMENTAL PRINTING – IT’S MORE THAN RECYCLED PAPER.™

### Environmental Digital Printing Summary

The following summarizes the state-of-the-art environmental practices that have been incorporated into the Town of Caledon Community Green Fund Showcase Report.

### Terrachoice-EcoLogo Certification

*Environmental certification by the Government of Canada*

The Town of Caledon Community Green Fund Showcase Report was printed by an EcoLogo certified printer. This program recognizes manufacturers and suppliers of environmentally preferable products and services.

### Bullfrog Power

*Clean, Reliable Electricity*

The Town of Caledon Community Green Fund Showcase Report was produced utilizing Bullfrog Power to power the digital printing. Bullfrog Power generates power exclusively from wind and low-impact water power generators and meet or exceed the federal government’s EcoLogo standards for renewable electricity.

### Environmentally Friendly Paper (Recycled Paper)

The Town of Caledon Community Green Fund Showcase Report was digitally printed on ChorusArt paper which is FSC Certified, 50% recycled content (25% post consumer) and is process-chlorine-free and acid free.

### Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) Certification

The Town of Caledon Community Green Fund Showcase Report was digitally printed on paper and by a printer that is Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certified. FSC promotes environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial and economically viable management of the world’s forests.

### ISO 14001

The Town of Caledon Community Green Fund Showcase Report was produced by an ISO 14001 certified printer. Fully committed to continuous improvements in waste reduction and pollution prevention, the printer has a comprehensive environmental management system that integrates sound business practices with environmental, health, safety and quality control practices.



# TOWN OF CALEDON

## Community Green Fund

### Fund Mandate

The Community Green Fund was established in 2006 to assist local Caledon, not-for-profit or volunteer groups to leverage provincial, federal or other funds to carry out important environmental work.

### Application Criteria

- applicants must be Caledon not-for-profit or volunteer organizations
- organizations must operate under a formal organizational structure with an active Board of Directors
- applicants may not apply for the Town's Municipal Agricultural and/or Community Organization Grants for the same project

### Eligibility

- a clear environmental focus
- community engagement
- clear, specific deliverables
- include plans for monitoring and evaluation
- provide measurable results (i.e. greenhouse gas reduction, energy savings, citizens engaged, etc.)
- support the Town of Caledon's environmental policies (i.e. Environmental Progress Action Plan, Healthy Horticultural Landscapes By-Law)

Note: Collaboration with other like-minded groups is encouraged, however it is not a requirement for funding eligibility.

### For more information, please contact:

**Sara Peckford**

Environmental Progress Officer, Town of Caledon

905.584.2272 x4269 or [sara.peckford@caledon.ca](mailto:sara.peckford@caledon.ca)

### Grant Type and Selection Procedures

#### F A S T T R A C K

- maximum request: \$1,000
- one-stage application process; letter of intent is not required
- applies to smaller projects or events with time constraints

#### Selection Procedures

- Town's Environment Committee will review eligible applications with checklist
- upon review, a recommendation may be presented to Council for final approval
- 2-3 week expected turnaround time

#### P R O J E C T

- maximum request: \$5,000
- two-stage application process; letter of intent is required before full application is accepted
- funding is for program delivery or fee for service

#### Selection Procedures

- letter of intent is required
- eligible applicants will be invited to submit full application within 3 weeks
- Town's Environment Committee will review applications with point matrix
- upon review, a recommendation may be presented to Council for final approval
- 4-6 week expected turnaround time

#### 2 0 0 9 D U E D A T E S

### Project Funding Letter of Intent

Application deadline: March 28, 2009

### Fast Track Grant Material

Application deadline: March 28, 2009

If funds permit, there will be a fall application deadline of October 1, 2009 for Project and Fast Track grant material.



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Visit [www.caledon.ca](http://www.caledon.ca)  
to obtain the Community Green Fund application package