



PRESS RELEASE

April 7, 2020

TREES FOR GUELPH is announcing that our 2020 Planting Program has been postponed until the fall. This is our 30th anniversary and we are planning for a stellar year. Our 2019 program was a great success and a summary report is attached.



Our 2020 program is supported by our major partners including the City of Guelph, Johnson and Johnson, Copernicus Educational Products, The Modern Bride, Home Depot, Rona, Grand River Conservation Authority, the Upper Grand District and the Wellington Catholic District School Board. This year we expect to plant thousands of trees, shrubs and wildflowers with the help of school children and other volunteers from local communities, business and industry.

For further information please contact James Taylor, President; (Treesforguelph@gmail.com) or Moritz Sanio, Project Coordinator (519.822.8219, moritzsanio@gmail.com)

2019 ANNUAL REPORT

Executive Summary

As we head into our 30th anniversary year, we are pleased to report on another productive and highly successful 2019 for TREES FOR GUELPH. We once again engaged with over 7,000 volunteers in our planting events!!! During the 2019 spring planting season a record number our volunteers and school children planted 9,500 trees, shrubs and wildflower plugs at 30 planting events!

This Executive Summary provides a brief overview:

- MISSION:** *To enhance Guelph's environment through tree planting and related projects, education and community leadership.* **TREES FOR GUELPH** is a not-for-profit organization with charitable status. Founded in 1990, TFG has facilitated the planting of over 150,000 trees in the City of Guelph. Our volunteer Board of Directors offers environmental, educational, forestry, landscape architecture, administration and accounting expertise. Our project coordinator, Moritz Sanio, has over 30 years experience working with communities in planting, naturalization and site maintenance.
- VOLUNTEERS:** The majority of our planters are students. This year we involved 21 Guelph schools and several community groups. Over 7,300 volunteers including students from both the elementary and the high school levels participated. Each student was provided instruction on the benefits of trees and how to plant them. We also had over numerous volunteer planters from industry, business and the community in Guelph. Many continue to be connected to their plantings through supplemental watering and other stewardship activities.
- SITES:** This year we conducted planting programmes at 26 different sites. We planted on public green spaces in coordination with City of Guelph staff and on school grounds.
- PLANTS:** We plant hardy, native species. We also develop naturalized landscapes that provide environmental benefits and have low maintenance requirements. This year, our volunteers planted native wildflower plugs and seeds at many of our sites to increase biodiversity beyond our 40 species woody plant inventory.
- PARTNERS:** Without our partners and financial supporters all this exciting work would not happen. The City of Guelph's support is fundamental to the success of TREES FOR GUELPH and we are a participant in the City's Urban Forestry Plan initiative. Copernicus Education Products, The Modern Bride, Johnson & Johnson, Home Depot, Rona, Grand River Conservation Authority, Upper Grand District School Board and Wellington Catholic District School Board have all played major roles in the continuing support of our programs.