



Communities for Nature



Upper Thames Conservation Authority

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Community groups, private landowners and businesses are doing good things for nature and their community.

The Upper Thames River Conservation Authority staff meet with local partners to identify sites that can be restored, then coordinate community involvement in planting trees, shrubs, aquatic plants, wildflower meadows and prairies. Projects range from small neighbourhood sites to large multi-year corporate and municipal initiatives.

Communities for Nature benefits nature and local communities by:

- Improving water and air quality.
- Providing wildlife habitat.
- Protecting endangered species.
- Increasing biodiversity.
- Working with friends and neighbours.
- Providing opportunities for students to get involved in their community and to learn that their efforts can make a difference.

Communities for Nature offers a choice of three activities: Community Forestry, Aquatic Connections and Spreading Like Wildflowers. These programs can be done separately or in combination, depending on each project's scope and site design.

Community Forestry establishes native tree and wildlife shrub communities in parks, along watercourses and on industrial and commercial properties. Since 1991 the Community Forestry program in the City of London has completed 224 projects, planted 118,615 trees and shrubs on 196 acres with the help of 49,211 students and local residents.

Aquatic Connections restores streams and wetlands throughout the watershed by planting native wetland species and bio-engineering.

Spreading Like Wildflowers creates native wildflower meadows and prairies by planting wildflower and grass plugs and spreading seeds.



Over the years, the Communities for Nature program has created an environmentally responsible citizenry that act as ecological watchdogs to ensure that sustainable development is always first and foremost in Stratford's environmental planning, management and stewardship.

Ted Blowes, Former Mayor, City of Stratford
National Chair, Communities in Bloom



For more information:

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