



Partners in Parks program

Short-term stewardship activity: Plant salvaging

Salvaging and transplanting native vegetation provides an opportunity to educate residents about woodland / wetland plants and a sense of ownership and community stewardship, which is a key component to managing and protecting Waterloo's natural areas.



Plants may be harvested from either of two locations:

- well-established storm water management ponds where the salvaged shoreline plants are then transplanted to another pond that requires vegetation
- natural areas on public greenspace (i.e. woodlands) designated to be developed may be considered. Vegetation is best transplanted onto the participant's own property so that plants are well-maintained, increasing their survival rate

Responsibilities

The City of Waterloo and Group Leader work together to determine the project location, timing and appropriate species to be harvested. Responsibilities include:

- City of Waterloo obtains utility locate clearance, provides required equipment, hand tools and staff assistance on the day of the event and provides orientation and monitoring during the activity
- Group Leader engages community involvement and ensuring participants are wearing personal protective equipment (outlined below), have read and signed the Informed Consent Agreement and are directly supervised with suitable project tasks. Transportation to the activity site is the sole responsibility of the participants.

Group participants

- Group Leader must be 18 years of age or older to coordinate the activity with City staff
- geared to ages 14 years and up in good physical condition as moderate physical activity may be required such as bending, walking, digging and lifting
- skilled gardeners are encouraged
- ideally 10 to 15 participants to minimize trampling of the natural area

Direct supervision

Group Leader directly supervises group participants during the activity. Parent or guardian of any under-age-18 participant must sign the Informed Consent Agreement for the minors' participation and supervise them with suitable project tasks.



Partners in Parks program

Short-term stewardship activity: Plant salvaging

Orientation

City of Waterloo will provide instruction, a tool safety talk and will monitor the activity to ensure tasks are completed safely and of the highest standard.

Time and place

- Approved natural area on public parkland in Waterloo
- Early spring or fall for woodland plants and May to June for wetland plants
- Evenings directly after 4 p.m. or Saturday between 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. (no statutory holidays)

Personal protective equipment

All group participants shall wear:

- closed-toe footwear which must be fully laced to provide full support and to prevent accidents
- clothing appropriate for outdoor weather and natural area conditions including long pants, hats, sunglasses, as well as sunscreen, insect repellent and bottled water, as required
- cloth gloves, supplied by the City, where they may be exposed to the hazard of injury from contact of skin with a sharp or jagged object which may puncture, cut or abrade the skin

Acceptable tools and supplies

cloth or rubber gloves

short-handled shovels

bins or bags to carry harvested plants

wheelbarrows

chest waders for wetland transplanting

