

BLACK CREEK



Brown Trout Raised by Chaminade College School for Release in Local Streams

Project Goal

Black Creek is an urbanized water body in the lower portion of the Humber River watershed. Portions of the creek have been lined with concrete structures, yet other reaches remain in a more natural state. This project aimed to start an initiative with Chaminade College School that would rehabilitate Black Creek, making the habitat suitable for native fish species.



Chaminade College's Classroom Hatchery

THE NEED

Black Creek flows through an extremely urbanized area in the City of Toronto. It is highly impacted by human activity and infrastructure. To improve aquatic habitat, eroding stream banks needed to be protected and local residents needed to be educated on the historical importance of the stream for native fish.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Work completed by Chaminade College School had shown that portions of Black Creek were capable of supporting Brown Trout populations. Thus, the school's environmental club, in partnership with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (OMNRF) and Ontario Streams, set up a classroom hatchery. The students proceeded to raise Brown Trout for local stocking efforts. The school also provided valuable help in the rehabilitation of eroding shorelines along Black Creek and the removal of debris and litter.

Chaminade College School's stewardship of Black Creek continues to this day as the first Ontario Streams Adopt-A-Stream group. Fundraising, public

education, trout stocking, garbage cleanups, tree plantings, species inventories, and erosion control projects have all been completed due to their significant volunteer efforts. Because of their impressive involvement, they won the 2007 Green Toronto Award in the Youth category and the 1998 Mel Lastman's North York Award.

PARTNERS

This project was completed with the help of The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, students from Chaminade College School and the Chaminade Environmental Organization.