

Clean up 800 pounds of garbage

SOS volunteers help troubled Black Creek

By LORI TAYLOR
Herald Staff Writer

The local chapter of Save Our Streams began its attempt to restore Black Creek to its natural state with a major clean-up Saturday.

The group, which included volunteers from the 8th Georgetown Scout Group and Hungry Hollow Hoboes, carried out what Warren Wright called an "initial clean-up" on the section of the stream running between the Eighth and Ninth Lines.

"We thought when we started it was clean and we'd only be pulling out pop cans and stuff," Mr. Wright said. "But we pulled out about 800 pounds of garbage, things like the hood from a car, old tires, some iron fencing that I don't know how it got in there."

The initial clean-up will be followed by a major clean-up

some time in the fall, when the heavier garbage will be hauled out and any blockages in the stream cleared out if necessary.

PILOT PROJECT

The local chapter of Save Our Streams was formed by the Halton Field Naturalists earlier this year. The Ontario organization evolved from a pilot project of the Toronto Anglers' and Hunters' Association in 1977. This in turn was based on an American group known as the Izaak Walton League.

The project is now being run with assistance from the Anglers' and Hunters' Association, the Federation of Ontario Naturalists and the Canadian National Sportsmen's Show.

The purpose of the Save Our Streams organization is to protect streams from pollution, encourage fish breeding and provide the best habitat for wildlife, Mr. Wright said.

When a local chapter is formed, it receives advice from the provincial organization on how to select a stream for a project and how to carry out the clean-up.

"Originally, the Field Naturalists formed a committee to study the streams in the area and we picked Black Creek," Mr. Wright said. "We decided to pick a stream that wasn't too much of a challenge for our pilot project."

SOUGHT APPROVAL

The group contacted the landowners along the length of the section they chose for their project to get their approval for the plans, because the project is completely voluntary.

The group is planning to do some planting along the shores of the stream next spring, and follow this with a maintenance program which will keep an eye on the stream to maintain its improved condition.

There is a core of eight people in the local chapter of Save Our Streams, Mr. Wright said. The group includes biologist Bryan Boyce and Grant Leigh, who is experienced in land-planning.

"I don't know how we would have operated without these two people, because you can alter the ecology of the stream just by pulling out a log that's jammed up the stream," Mr. Wright said.

For projects such as the clean-up the group recruits people to help. Scouts and members of the Hungry Hollow Hoboes are among the groups who have assisted. The Georgetown Horticultural Society has offered to help with the planting in the spring.

Mr. Wright said future prospects for the stream look "really good". The clean-up was a great success and the effects should become noticeable almost immediately, he said.



There was a lot of garbage in the section of Black Creek, which was the site of a Save Our Streams clean-up Saturday - about 800 pounds of garbage were hauled out by canoe, wheelbarrow and trailer. Among those who took part in the clean-up were Mike Ferris, Thelma Graydon, Bryan Boyce,

Warren Wright, Al and Joyce Rye, Sheila, Lou and David Ward, Grant Leigh, John Mitchell, Lydla Snow, Roy Angelow, and Hank, Michael and Rob from the 8th Georgetown Scouts. (Herald photo)



A hardy crew of volunteers braved the cool and damp Saturday to launch the clean-up of Black Creek between the Eighth and Ninth Lines. The clean-up was organized by the local chapter of Save Our Streams, a group dedicated to restoring streams and rivers to as close to natural conditions as possible and to protecting their quality. The group will conduct another major clean-up of the same section of the creek this fall. (Herald photo)

Society says thanks for supporting Terry

To the editor of The Herald:

On behalf of Terry Fox and the Local Unit of the Canadian Cancer Society, I would like to extend sincere thanks to the citizens of Halton Hills for their generous support of the "Marathon of Hope".

To date, \$12,500 has been received in Georgetown, and \$3,500 in Acton. Donations may still be made at the Recreation Department offices in Acton and Georgetown or by calling 877-1124.

Terry's message of hope reached beyond cancer patients to all who suffer and we were honored to have him in our midst and uplifted by his

courage - it more than made up for the delays, uncertainties and confusions we all experienced.

Let's do it in the 80's.
Claudette Smith
Campaign Chairman,
Canadian Cancer Society,
Halton Hills Unit.

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