

# Ontario Stewardship Rangers Program 2010



# Program Objective

- **Local 17 year olds carrying out stewardship work in natural areas in their communities and on private lands**
- **Gives youth the opportunity to work outdoors, learn about environmental issues affecting their communities, and to acquire valuable work experience and skills applicable to future careers**

# Our Major Partners

- *Existing Partnerships*

- Toronto and Region Conservation
- Town of Newmarket
- Municipality of Clarington
- City of Brampton
- Region of Halton
- York Region (Forestry & Adopt-a-Stream Programs)
- Ontario Federation of Anglers & Hunters – Zone G
- Ontario Streams
- York Environmental Stewardship
- Ministry of Natural Resources

- *New 2010 Partnerships*

- Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nations
- Town of Aurora
- Town of East Gwillimbury

# 2010 Program Overview

6 Crews – 6 Team Leads & 24 Rangers

+ 2 exchange students from France

- o Newmarket Crew
- o Brampton Crew
- o Lake Simcoe Crew
- o Three Aurora Crews

## Work :

- o *Over 100 projects*
- o *1100 person days*
- o *8000 person hours*

# Projects Included:

- Trail Maintenance and Construction
- Invasive Species Removal
- Fish and Wildlife Habitat Construction and Improvement
- Electrofishing
- Aquatic Planting
- Stream Rehabilitation
- Erosion Control
- And many more!!

# Popular Projects → Electrofishing



# Popular Projects → Construction Projects



# Popular Projects → Stream Rehabilitation



Before



After

# Educational Opportunities → Fleming College Workshop



# Educational Opportunities → First Nations Cultural Awareness Day



# Educational Opportunities → Aggregates Site Visit



# Educational Opportunities → Algonquin Park



# A Great Summer of Hard Work, Learning and Lasting Friendships



# Quotes from 2010 OSR Summer

- Ranger → Ashley Hoskin → “We’re learning from nature, directly. You don’t have to go anywhere special. It can all be done right here at home. This is our environment, where we live.”
- Team Lead → Michelle Boogaard → “At the end of this program these students know that they’ve made a huge difference. That’s what it’s all about. We’re fighting the battle for biodiversity, for all species of plants and wildlife and it’s nice to see the students taking that seriously while still having loads of fun.”
- Ranger → Jonathan Poulakos → “This is amazing to be outdoors working with nature and I can put it on my resume. All of this hasn’t been touched by man. It’s all natural and I can help make it last”
- Team Lead → Alison Peterkin → “It’s a rewarding job and you see the results when we pack up our equipment at the end of the day.” “Every day is something different, from working with fish, trees, turtles and forest management.”
- Private Landowner → Lorrie Mackness → “Perseverance and teamwork were prevalent during the two days, where we were hammered by high heat and humidity, harassed by insects and tripped every few minutes by roots and vines. The cedar thicket looked like an impenetrable wall but it was breached by our overwhelming force. Thanks again gang!”