

Public Information Session

Rattray Marsh Restoration Update

Date: Tuesday, May 5, 2015

Time: 7 – 9 p.m.

Location: Green Glade Sr. Public School, 1550 Green Glade, Mississauga

Q & A

Why are you cutting down what appears to be healthy ash trees?

- The trees look healthy but in as little as 12 months the roots are completely dead. We are also removing the trees in order to protect the public's safety.

Are the trees with the red dots being injected?

- I think those trees are boundary trees but there are a lot of different markings that mean different things. We can find out what the markings mean and get back to you.

Are other tree species being cut due to EAB?

- No. We have a team that monitors all the tree species in the area but only ash trees are being removed due to the emerald ash borer (EAB).

What tree species are being planted to replace the ash trees?

- Native tree species are planted – either current or historically native species.

List of tree species to be planted at Rattray Marsh Conservation Area:

- | | | |
|-------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| ○ Sugar maple | ○ White pine | ○ Smooth serviceberry |
| ○ Red oak | ○ White cedar | ○ White oak |
| ○ Black cherry | ○ Cottonwood | ○ Elderberry |
| ○ Choke cherry | ○ Round leaved dogwood | ○ Red osier dogwood |
| ○ Silver maple | ○ Leaved dogwood | |
| ○ White birch | ○ Nannyberry | |
| ○ Trembling aspen | | |
| ○ Pussy willow | | |

How do you select the ash trees that are going to be injected?

- CVC has a team that goes out and evaluates the ash trees. They determine what stage of infestation the tree is in, the tree's overall health, size and form. If the tree has bad form and is small, it most likely won't be there for much longer and isn't worth saving. If we feel the tree is a good investment and can be there for a long time, then we will treat it with injection.

You said you use ash tree chips, is it disinfected so the EAB larvae won't infest somewhere else?

- The chips are not dangerous. Many studies have been done on the use of ash tree chips. We use a very small size on our chipper, which kills 99.9% of the larvae. If some larvae are left in the chips, exposure to the elements and sun will eventually kill what was left.

Will all injected ash trees live?

- If the tree is injected early enough, it has a high probability of surviving.

Is EAB likely to jump to another tree species?

- We are monitoring EAB but we have not seen this.

We knew about EAB so we called an arborist and they said there are two ash trees by our house.

Who should I get in contact with to remove the trees? Does CVC do this?

- It depends on where your property line is. If it is CVC property then we will remove the trees. We would have to see the property to determine where the trees are exactly..

How are you coordinating with the City of Mississauga? What is the connection between the City of Mississauga and CVC?

- For managing the ash trees in Rattray Marsh, we have no connection with the City of Mississauga. We own and manage the marsh, so it is our responsibility. The City has its own ash tree management program for its properties. However, Mississauga is helping by allowing us to dispose of ash trees at their facilities. We work with them but it comes down to the land owner having the primary responsibility.

Can you please clarify what you mean by contaminated soils in the marsh?

- MOECC has fill project regulations for how you can take soil from one area and use it in another. If the project doesn't meet the guidelines for the parkland fill, then you are legally not allowed to use the soil. The list is very long and can be found on MOECC's website.

What kind of turtle species do you see in the marsh?

- Snapping, painted, map and blanding's turtles.

Are you trying to get rid of carp in the marsh?

- We are trying to reduce the number of carp that are using the wetland. We are trying to restrict the fish from accessing the two main basins of the marsh.

Why isn't fishing allowed to help remove some of the carp?

- Rattray Marsh is very sensitive and if people are out fishing they are going to trample over or interfere with wetland vegetation. This is a critical time for the marsh as it established new wetland plants. We can't have wetland areas being wiped out by anglers right now. The



boardwalk is also very busy right now and if we start to allow fishing, many local residents would not like this.

From the back of our house we have a view of a large pile of woodchips and people are making paths through them. Is there a plan to stop this and direct people to the boardwalk?

- This is something we are aware of and are managing. We are going to put fencing in and plant trees so people can't walk through the piles. We are still planting so when more trees get planted this will help people move back to the boardwalk.

The signage in the marsh is very helpful and I think you are doing a great job informing people. Will you be adding more signage around the marsh when the restoration is all finished?

- If you feel there are messages missing in terms of signage, we are happy to discuss this with you. We are always open to ideas and improving the ways we communicate information to the public.

What is the purpose of the sunning logs?

- Sunning logs provide perches for birds and turtles. The logs are anchored down with rocks. They also provide habitat and protection for juvenile fish. We also collect old Christmas trees which we place along the shoreline to help reduce erosion. The Region of Peel donates Christmas trees to us and we also go around the community and pick them up from curbs. We are always looking for new ways to repurpose old materials.

If you have any questions regarding the material presented in this overview, please contact:
Kimberley Holt-Behrend (Marketing and Communications) at kholt-behrend@creditvalleyca.ca.