

Waterways Monitoring York District High School



York DHS had been involved with the “Ribbons of Blue” project for ten years. Unfortunately, in 2010 funding for the Avon Region ceased. York DHS applied to Wheatbelt NRM for a Small Community Grant to enable students to continue monitoring Bland’s Brook, a tributary to the Avon River, in conjunction with the Avon River Conservation Society.

The ongoing aim of the project is to increase awareness of local natural resources and improve student knowledge of ways to protect these resources and ensure their sustainability. This was done by Saltwatch, where students and parents measured silt levels in the Avon River, with the results being published in local papers. River Protection Awareness Posters were created by students and displayed in the school and local library, the York show and various business around town.

**Wheatbelt NRM Small
Community Grants 2010**
Recipient: York District High School
Amount Funded: \$1,750

Classroom and community surveys were conducted before and after activities to determine improved knowledge. The Stormwater snapshot investigated and mapped local storm water channels . Unfortunately due low water levels in Bland’s Brook the Macro-invertebrate study was unable to be completed.

“The engagement of students in environmentally sustainable activities is crucial. Having young people involved and interested in the wonderful resource (Avon River) is vital to its health,” said Mike Mount-Bryson, project co-ordinator and Deputy Principal of

York DHS.

The Small Community Grant funded the purchase of, *“Two conductivity meters and other equipment needed to complete the snapshots on salinity, macro-invertebrates and storm water,”* said Margaret Hewitt.



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