

# Impact Highlights – 2018

## Awareness:

- 554 children participated in the Kids Go Green Program pledging to reduce their GHG's by a total of 524,280 kg
- 59 youth participated in the educational and rewarding BGYN monthly gatherings and our Youth Program leader coordinated the Burlington Transit Youth Ambassador Program
- The Youth Leadership Council met monthly providing a valuable opportunity for eco-minded youth to play a key role in creating and providing impactful opportunities for other youth in Burlington to get involved in helping to make a positive difference in the community
- The Eco-Heroes presentation was delivered to 186 Grade 7 and 8 youth, engaging and empowering them about important, locally focused environmental issues, with the added benefit of linking them to related volunteer opportunities where they can demonstrate positive, solution-focused action.
- Local teachers participated in the new Eco-Educators workshop, bringing together environmental champions from across Burlington schools so they can learn about BurlingtonGreen's programs and action opportunities and to share ideas with each other.
- 217 residents attended our Eco-Film Festival, where they viewed 5 award-winning environmental documentaries, followed by solution-focused discussions on how the various issues can be tackled locally.
- BG welcomed almost 3000 visitors (2975) to our outreach booth at 26 events in Burlington, learning more about Eco-Action opportunities, events & programming. BG hosted events including an All Candidates event for the municipal election, a volunteer recognition event as well as workshops, attracting almost 700 people (686) within the community (not including Eco-Film Festival).
- The new Community Champions Network was launched, and held three meetings in 2018, with attendance of about 8 residents per meeting. This was an opportunity to connect residents to upcoming BG Eco-Action Opportunities, as well as a chance to network with eager individuals in the community.
- Approximately 30 businesses and community organizations are eager to participate in upcoming opportunities for their teams, including the new Eco-Solutions Challenge that will help organizations reduce their impact on the environment and participate in Eco-Action throughout the community.
- 373 individuals completed the "What's Your Eco-Score" quiz (eco calculator tool), discovering practical, locally-focused ways they can lower their impact on the environment.
- Our social media and mailing list grew to an audience of more than 8,200 and 22 informative newsletters were created and shared. Additionally, 2 new Eco-Educator newsletters were shared with eco-educators in Halton.
- We recognized 10 'Volunteers of the Month' and held a Volunteer Appreciation Night in November to celebrate the hard work of our many dedicated volunteers.
- The expanded "Make the Switch" program launched in June, engaging with 2,204 residents to raise awareness on active transportation options.



## Action:

- Coordinated and hosted the city-wide Community Clean Up event registering more than 13,911 people from 42 school groups, 52 community 17 businesses.
- Hosted the Green Up event with the City of Burlington at Tuck Park, planting 500 native tree species with 165 participating volunteers.
- BG volunteers and staff participated in an additional Habitat Restoration Events where 500 additional native trees were planted with Conservation Halton and 2000 Cattail plugs and 100 native grasses were planted with the Royal Botanical Gardens.
- 63 volunteers hand-sorted mountains of waste at 8 events and festivals resulting in the diversion of approx. 4.6 tonnes of waste from going to the landfill!
- Volunteers at our Grow to Give garden harvested 1208 lbs. of healthy, organic produce in 2018 bringing the total to more than 7000 lbs. distributed to local food banks
- Hosted three volunteer workshops (March, June, September) with a focus on building awareness on taking action for the environment (Waste Reduction, Habitat Restoration).



## Advocacy:



- Provided input to the City of Burlington on the Official Plan through delegations and written submissions.
- Submitted input to the Province on a Made-in-Ontario Climate Change Plan and Bill 4 - The Cap and Trade Cancellation Act.
- Hosted “Our Voice’18”, an All Candidates Meet and Greet and Mayoral Debate ahead of the municipal election with 400 Burlington residents enthusiastically participating.
- Continued collaborations/support for Trumpeter Swan Coalition and Tyandaga Environmental Coalition including an application for review to the Environmental Commissioner regarding the Meridian Quarry.
- Continued to serve on the City’s Community Energy Plan Community Engagement Committee.
- The Youth Council provided input to Environment and Climate Change Canada on Moving Canada towards Zero Waste
- Delegated on the Roseland Private-Tree Bylaw Pilot
- Provided input on proposed mixed-Use community at 901 Guelph Line and the advancement of smart communities

*Together we made a difference!*