



MEDIA ADVISORY

GreenUP to install eight rain gardens to address flooding in Avenues neighbourhood in Peterborough

Peterborough, ON (September 22, 2017) The GreenUP Ready for Rain Peterborough program is installing eight rain gardens in The Avenues and Bolivar Street neighbourhood, in partnership with Green Communities Canada, City of Peterborough, Basterfield Landscape Architects, and Peterborough citizens, with funding from the Ontario Trillium Foundation.

WHO? After working together for over a year to determine optimal locations for flood mitigation in The Avenues and Bolivar Street areas, neighbours, friends, students, and representatives from partnership organizations will work together to install eight rain gardens. Neighbourhood residents have organized volunteers to help with the planting, invited their entire street to come learn through the experience, and have even opened their kitchens to help feed hungry volunteers.

WHAT? At each rain garden location the area will be excavated, curb cuts will be made to allow water flow, soil will be added, rain barrels will be connected, and almost 400 plant species will be planted! These gardens offer rain and runoff an eco-friendly, alternative space to gather (rather than in storm drains), where rain can flow naturally, preventing flooding.

WHEN & WHERE? Media is invited to attend any of the eight installations on all four dates for photo opportunities, and interviews / testimonials with residents, organizers, and volunteers.

- Wed, September 27th | 4-7pm | 304 and 313 Elias Ave
- Sat, September 30th | 10am-3pm | 311 Pearl Ave, 566 Sherbrooke St, 317 Frederick Ave
- Sun, October 1st | 1-4pm | 537 Bolivar St and 273 John St
- Wed, October 4th | 11am-4pm | Corner of Park St and Charlotte St

WHY? Installing a rain garden is one of the most proven alternative methods of improving the health of our watersheds and reducing runoff and soaking up rain, especially in an urban environment where flooding and runoff are prevalent. A small rain garden can divert as much as 50,000 m³ from a single storm event and can also help to naturally filter and clean water, and reduce flooding.

Rain gardens also have many benefits outside of storm water management including beautification, educational opportunities, and providing habitat for local wildlife.

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