

**Objective:** Otonabee Conservation's Land Stewardship Services advance and contribute to the maintenance of a healthy and resilient natural environment. This program focuses on providing advice and technical support to private and public landowners, enabling them to undertake land restoration and stewardship activities.

There is a strong relationship between land stewardship and environmental education. Many stewardship projects include an educational component that increases landowner awareness of watershed health and conservation.

Land Stewardship activities provide opportunities to inform, educate, communicate, and involve the watershed community while providing the opportunity to influence changes in behavior that contribute to a healthy watershed.

**Description:** Land Stewardship is the term often used to describe the responsible use and protection of the natural environment through conservation and sustainable best management practices. Otonabee Conservation's Land Stewardship Program undertakes projects that restore and prevent further environmental degradation, and enhance water quality, watershed health, and fish and wildlife habitat.

The Program currently includes a tree seedling sales program and provides opportunities for landowners to receive advice and technical support for undertaking projects on their property including tree planting, habitat enhancement, and shoreline naturalization. Tree planting activities include larger afforestation projects and smaller reforestation activities.

Otonabee Conservation delivers land stewardship projects in partnership with municipalities, educational institutions, public agencies, community groups and a variety of funding partners.

We facilitate access to funding, a key program component for stewardship projects by maintaining ongoing partnerships with funders including Tree Canada, One Tree Planted and TD Friends of the Environment Foundation.

Otonabee Conservation also participates in local initiatives including the East Central Farm Stewardship Collaborative and Alternative Land Use Services (ALUS) Peterborough to further our collective stewardship efforts.

**Table 1. Details of Land Stewardship Services in the Township of Douro-Dummer, 2017-2021**

Tree Planting	Shoreline Naturalization	Habitat Enhancement
5th Line Road North Dummer, 2017 (9000 trees)	Clintonia Park Shoreline Naturalization, 2021 (64 shrubs)	St. Joseph School Pollinator Garden, 2017 (36 plants, 2 shrubs)
5th Line Road North Dummer, 2019 (3900 trees)		Douro South Park Planting, 2021 (10 trees)
		Clintonia Park Planting, 2021 (17 trees)
		Douro-Dummer Municipal Office, 2019 (1 tree)



**Figure 1: Students participating in pollinator garden installation, 2017**



**Figure 2: Tree planted at Douro 5th Line Road North Dummer**