

Summer program ? Register for CVC's Conservation Youth Corps

Registration for Credit Valley Conservation's (CVC) popular Conservation Youth Corps (CYC) program is now open. High school students can earn volunteer hours by participating in environmental stewardship activities. Spaces are limited, so students are encouraged to sign up now.

"CYC helped build my knowledge of nature," said Chandini Chandrabalan, CYC participant and student at Gordon Graydon Secondary School in Mississauga. "The program showed me different ways to help my community. I got the chance to develop my leadership, communication and work habits."

This is the eighth year CVC has offered the program to high school students in the Credit River watershed. Participants volunteer in groups of seven with CVC staff for one week of the summer. The first volunteer day consists of an orientation session at Terra Cotta Conservation Area. The remaining days are work days spent completing conservation, restoration and ecological monitoring projects. The program runs for nine weeks during the summer.

Each year, approximately 250 students work on a range of activities that benefit nature, while earning up to 35 of the 40 volunteer hours needed to graduate high school. Activities include tree planting, managing invasive species, aquatic and terrestrial monitoring, fish and wildlife habitat construction, community gardening, trail maintenance and much more.

Volunteers have an opportunity to learn about the environment through meaningful experiences, explore different areas of the Credit River watershed and meet new people. The CYC summer program also looks impressive on a resume as well as on college and university applications.

All training and tools are provided. The only thing volunteers need to bring is lunch, a refillable water bottle, appropriate footwear and a good attitude.

For more information about CYC and to register, visit www.creditvalleyca.ca/cyc or call CVC at 906-670-1615 or toll free at 1-800-668-5557.