



2022 Year in Review



To every one of you, our donors, we offer our heartfelt thanks. As a result of your efforts, TD Friends of the Environment Foundation (TD FEF) was able to support **570** environmental projects across Canada in 2022. What did we accomplish together? You helped improve parks and build community gardens, restore and enhance green spaces, and nurture respect for the natural world through a variety of learning experiences for Canadians of all ages.

This report highlights some of the organizations across Canada that are making positive impacts through TD FEF grants. For more than three decades, we've helped support communities in various ways — none of which would be possible without you.

Read on to discover how our grant recipients have been working toward a more vibrant planet in 2022.

Your contributions have helped us to support the goal of a more vibrant and sustainable planet for more than 30 years.

**TD Friends of the
Environment Foundation**

Green by the Numbers

How our collective efforts made a difference in 2022

TD Friends of the Environment Foundation (TD FEF) is committed to supporting the four drivers (Vibrant Planet, Financial Security, Better Health and Connected Communities) of [The TD Ready Commitment](#), the Bank's corporate citizenship platform aimed at helping to create a more sustainable and inclusive tomorrow. We're proud to be supporting organizations that are working to help protect our shared environment so that people, communities and economies have an opportunity to thrive. When you support TD FEF by donating, helping raise funds or volunteering your skills or time to events, you are genuinely helping to make an impact. Here's how:



\$3 million+

Total amount donated to TD FEF by TD customers, employees and other donors



\$2

Most common monthly donation amount to TD FEF



570

Number of local environmental projects supported by TD FEF across Canada



100

Percent of TD FEF's administrative costs covered by TD



\$1 million+

Additional support provided by TD to support TD FEF grants and programs like TD Tree Days



100

Percent of donations given to grassroots initiatives: every dollar goes directly to fund local environmental projects

Supporting Nature and Biodiversity Conservation Efforts



Biodiversity, which refers to all the different kinds of life found in an area, ranging from fungi and microorganisms to plants and animals, is essential to the health of the planet. Not only are biodiversity and the health of natural systems important in their own right, they are a key strategy in tackling climate change.¹ According to the UN Environment Programme, over one third of the greenhouse gas emission reductions required to limit warming to 1.5°C will need to be achieved through actions which halt or reverse nature loss.²

For over 30 years, TD FEF has been supporting Canadian organizations which are working to support biodiversity and address nature loss through such actions as ecological restoration and tree planting, nature conservation, and public education. Here are a few of these organizations that have been supported by the Foundation over the years, as described to TD FEF.

¹ World Bank Report 2022: www.worldbank.org/en/news/feature/2022/05/19/what-you-need-to-know-about-nature-based-solutions-to-climate-change#:~:text=Nature%2Dbased%20solutions%20are%20actions,well%2Dbeing%20and%20biodiversity%20benefits.

² United Nations Environment Programme. *The UN Environment Programme and nature-based solutions*. [online] Available at: www.unep.org/unep/our-position/unep-and-nature-based-solutions

Nature Trust of New Brunswick

Nature Trust of New Brunswick is a land conservation organization that protects over 10,000 acres of ecologically significant land in 70+ nature preserves. This group, founded over 35 years ago, has a history of undertaking biodiversity focused projects. Since first receiving TD FEF funding in 2005, Nature Trust of New Brunswick has undertaken projects ranging from Peregrine Falcon habitat stewardship to public education on biodiversity improvement and conservation.

Okanagan Nation Alliance

The Okanagan Nation Alliance (ONA) was formed in 1981 as the inaugural First Nations government in the Okanagan, which represents the eight member communities. The group's history with TD FEF goes back to 2014 with funding for projects that include regeneration of Painted Turtle species and planting native plant species. In 2022, they received funding from TD FEF for the stabilization of a floodplain, where invasive species were removed and native species planted through the help of volunteers. Their vision: restoring a self-sustaining creek-side ecosystem.

Association forestière des deux rives

L'Association forestière des deux rives, founded in 1958 at the Duchesnay Forestry Station, teaches local communities about the importance of forest ecosystems on the banks of the St. Lawrence River. Since 2012, TD FEF has supported a number of initiatives focused on education, conservation and the sustainable management of trees and forests for the maintenance of biodiversity and the well-being of the community. Most recently, in 2022 TD FEF helped to fund their educational initiative at the Ancient Forest of Mount Wright, an ecological heritage site that is home to one of the last examples of ancient forest on private land in eastern Quebec.



TD Tree Days³

In 2022, TD FEF supported 77 TD Tree Days initiatives in communities across Canada. This year, as we returned to in-person events, TD colleagues volunteered their time to plant trees and shrubs where support was requested. To date, 491,000 trees and shrubs have been planted through TD Tree Days, contributing to the TD goal of planting 1 million trees by 2030.

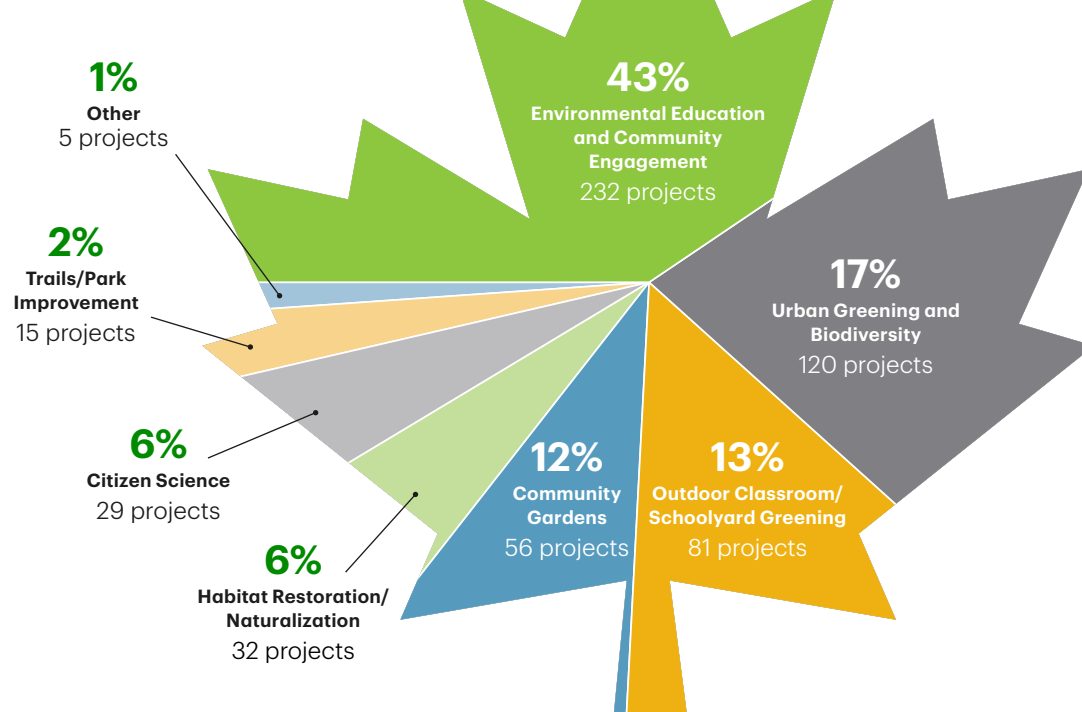
³ TD FEF continues to work with funded organizations to ensure that any events or activities comply with local public health advice and follow the most current safety guidelines regarding COVID-19.

Greening Where You Live in 2022

Thank you, donors! Your contributions have helped support **570** grassroots projects that are dedicated to creating more vibrant, green and sustainable communities across Canada. By the numbers, here's the impact your donations made through TD FEF grants.

Types of projects funded

A variety of local environmental improvements were made possible through your support of TD FEF.



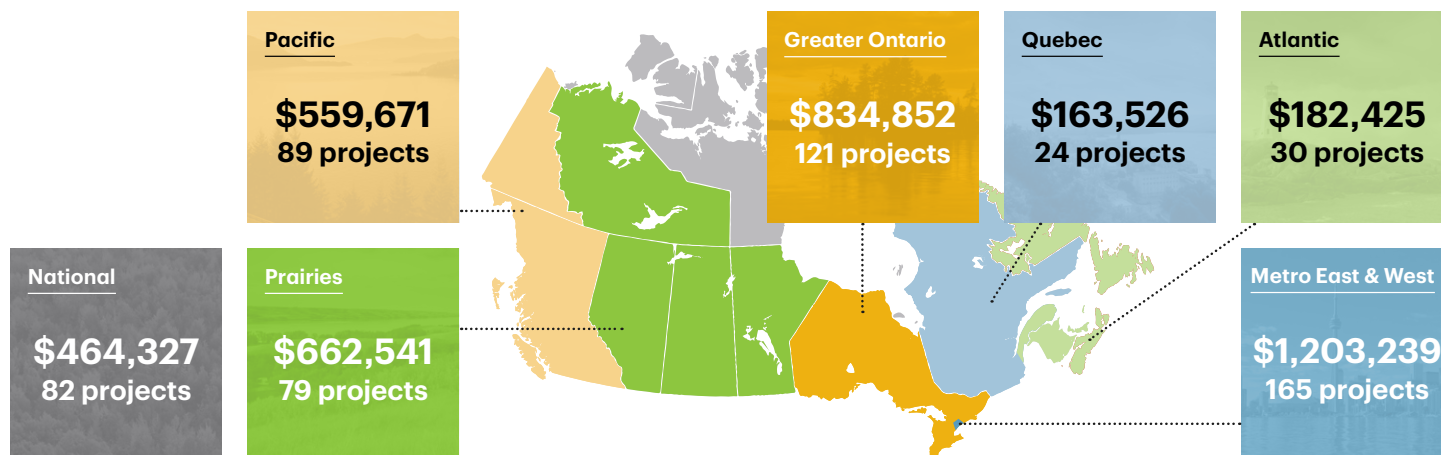
Total grants

\$4,070,581

570 Projects

Grants by region

Total amount rounded to the nearest whole dollar.



Your donations at Work:

Environmental Education



Your donations helped fund
232
projects with
\$1,750,094
in grants.

Binoculars to borrow

Parc Downsview Park

Metro Ontario Region

A TD FEF grant helped this park-focused organization purchase 22 pairs of quality binoculars, which were used through a variety of community programs, particularly birdwatching. Free community nature programs were also expanded through these grants so that more than 1,100 people could participate in forest walks, junior forest explorer sessions, a moth count and an expert-led talk on bats.

“We have a greater appreciation of the various trees, the birds and our natural vegetation. It made us realize that everything has its use in our world. Now when we see the birds in our neighbourhood we look at them with a sense of wonder.”

– Downsview Park nature program participant



Bringing climate education to families

Ecology North

Prairie Region (includes Northern Canada)

More than 80 families in the Northwest Territories received interactive take-home kits from Ecology North offering a variety of activities about local species at risk, gardening, water stewardship, composting, and alternative energy solutions.

Indigenous land-based learning

Lakehead District School Board

Greater Ontario Region

Twenty students at a Thunder Bay high school took part in a land-based learning program designed by members of a local Indigenous community, gaining hands-on experience in greening their school grounds through the installation of a medicine garden and the planting of trees and shrubs.



Connecting with nature

Earthwise Society

Pacific Region

More than 100 participants took part in this program at the 57-acre Earthwise Agassiz Outdoor School located in British Columbia, home to a variety of ecosystems. Hands-on learning activities included sustainable farming, bugs and soil, food and culture, native and invasive species, and seeds and seed saving.

Your donations at Work:

Parks & Green Spaces



Your donations helped fund
120
green spaces with
\$703,922
in grants.

Making trail improvements

Nature Conservancy of Canada

Greater Ontario Region

Trail users enjoyed improvements at Milburn Creek, including updated boardwalks, boulders placed to prevent motorized vehicles on trails, a turnstile for easier access, and new signage, plus a new kiosk created by local grade 11 woodworking students.

“The Milburn Creek property now offers regular users and new visitors a safer, more educational experience. We were also able to engage with more volunteers and many students in the process and this made this project even more special!”

– Coordinator, conservation biology,
Nature Conservancy of Canada

Learning in nature’s classroom

Groupe uni des éducateurs-naturalistes et professionnels en environnement (GUEPE)

Quebec Region

Naturalist-educators from GUEPE met with more than 230 students and teachers in green spaces like a mature maple grove. Through hands-on activities, the students deepened their understanding of biodiversity around them, and learned what actions they could take in the classroom and their own lives.



Planting trees for wildlife

10,000 Trees for the Rouge

Metro Ontario Region

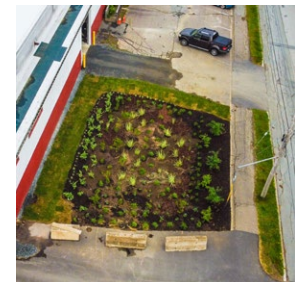
To support and increase core habitat for regionally rare turtles, amphibians and endangered fish species, more than 900 volunteers learned about good planting techniques and then planted 2,880 trees, 970 shrubs and 750 wildflowers in a valleyland and natural floodplain.

Building a rain garden

Bluenose Coastal Action Foundation

Atlantic Region

As part of the Depave Paradise project, 125 participants removed 215 square metres of underused pavement and turned the area into a rain garden with more than 250 native plants, improving stormwater management and creating a recreational green space.



Your donations at Work:

Community Gardens



Your donations helped fund
56
gardens with
\$498,516
in grants.

Providing for pollinators

Flemingdon Park Ministry

Metro Ontario Region

Fifty species of native plants and two beneficial insect houses were added to Common Table Farm to establish a pollinator garden that blooms spring, summer and fall. More than 100 children participated in hands-on learning workshops about the importance of pollinators.

“We are so grateful to have been involved in these Common Table Farm workshops. They are a welcome and necessary escape into nature from this big-city life!”

– Workshop participant



Gardening together

Western Environment Centre

Atlantic Region

More than 500 participants helped establish a new community garden and upgrade two others in Corner Brook, NL. These three gardens are the first step in a long-term plan to create neighbourhood hubs—green spaces that foster environmentally responsible living and community interaction.

Growing fresh food and medicine

West Broadway Development Corporation

Prairie Region

By assisting at the Deer Spirit Permaculture Garden in Winnipeg, 200 community members learned about Indigenous agricultural practices from a local Elder, while taking part in environmental stewardship, urban gardening, plant identification and mulching. They also took home fresh produce, teas and medicinal plants from the garden.



Seeds to share

David Douglas Botanical Garden Society

Pacific Region

At the new Prince George Community Seed Library, community members “signed out” 2,681 packages of 48 varieties of vegetables, herbs and pollinator-friendly flowers to plant. Then, once the plants

have grown and bloomed, seeds from these plants were harvested in conjunction with seed-harvesting workshops and donated back to the library for others to use.

Your donations at Work: **Citizen Science**



Your donations helped fund
29
initiatives with
\$226,135
in grants.

Searching for an invasive crab Sea to Sky Invasive Species Council

Pacific Region

Nine volunteers were recruited and trained to join “crab teams” which set traps to monitor the highly invasive European Green Crab in Howe Sound, northwest of Vancouver. This crab species is very disruptive to local marine ecosystems so it was fortunate that over five months, 90 traps and three sites, no European Green Crabs were found.

“This summer I volunteered with @SSinvasives to see if the invasive European Green crab had made it to Howe Sound. Great news — none were detected!”

– Crab team volunteer

Monitoring butterflies

Heartland Forest Nature Experience

Metro Ontario Region

More than 2,400 participants assisted with butterfly monitoring projects, including a Monarch caterpillar survey, a Spicebush Swallowtail and Prometheus Silk Moth survey. They also planted milkweed seeds and plants as a source of food and installed butterfly feeders.



Learning about endangered species

Saint-Lawrence Valley Natural History Society

Quebec Region

Ecomuseum Zoo created a new virtual presentation so elementary school children could learn more about endangered species. As part of the

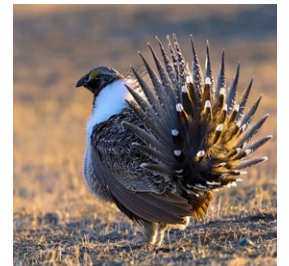
project, zoologists made 250 virtual presentations in 72 different schools, reaching several thousand students.

Collecting data on birds

Birds Canada

Prairie Region

Across Saskatchewan, 101 volunteer participants and nine staff logged a total of 4,182 hours collecting bird species checklists and conducting 4,669 surveys where birds were counted in a specific time frame. The result: the data collection for the Saskatchewan Breeding Bird Atlas was completed on schedule, providing a valuable resource for scientists.



Your donations at Work:

Schools



Your donations helped fund
81
school-based initiatives with
\$532,428
in grants.

Discovering water conservation

DreamRider Productions

Quebec Region

More than 280 students tuned in to see the interactive digital program “Planet Protector Academy: H2WHOA!” (L’académie des gardiens de la planète: H2Ohh!), encouraging them to be agents of change who protect the planet, with a focus on water protection and conservation.

“A parent told me how her daughter has been super positively impacted by the program. It’s an interactive resource for teaching environmental awareness.”

– Teacher participant, Edgewater Elementary, Pincourt, QC



Going to class outside

Queen’s University

Greater Ontario Region

A new outdoor classroom at Queen’s University’s environmental outreach centre in Eastern Ontario is now open for public events, school groups and summer camp. A teacher toolkit was also developed so that teachers

can create outdoor classrooms at their own schools and share engaging activities with their students.

Creating a medicine wheel garden

Alexander Elementary School

Pacific Region

About 250 students and environmental stewards used newly purchased garden tools, mulch, soil and plants to install an accessible medicine wheel garden and coastal/Garry Oak ecosystem on their school grounds in Duncan, BC. A local knowledge keeper from the Indigenous community also taught them about culturally important plant species and how they could be integrated into the project.



Growing traditional foods

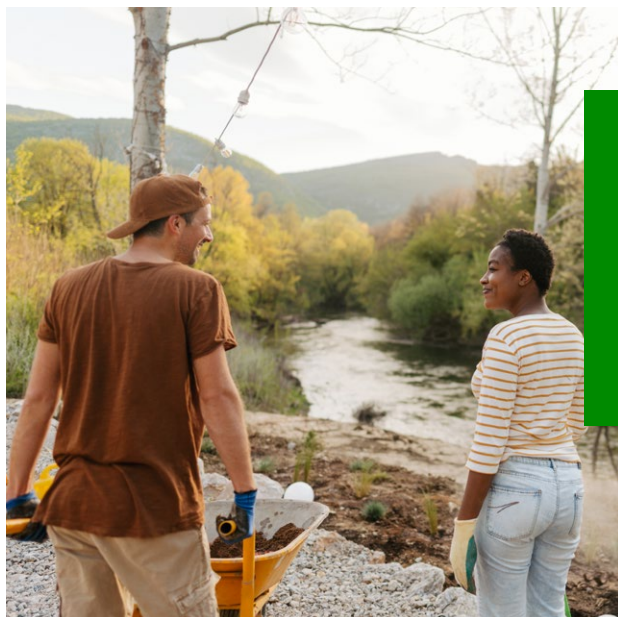
Muskowekwan School

Prairie Region

This First Nation school added six benches to their outdoor culture/learning the land area which is used for outdoor classes, recess and quiet reflection. Two garden boxes were also constructed, which 130 students helped fill with soil and then planted with sage, corn, squash and beans.

Your donations at Work:

Biodiversity and Nature Loss



Your donations helped fund
47
initiatives with
\$330,317
in grants.

Improving riverside habitat

Elk River Alliance

Pacific Region

Through restoration events, staff and 35 community volunteers planted 750 native shrubs and groundcover to improve biodiversity and habitat on a riverside conservation property in southern British Columbia.

“It is our responsibility to care for the environment on which we depend, so this was a great opportunity to give back to the community and participate in a restoration project.”

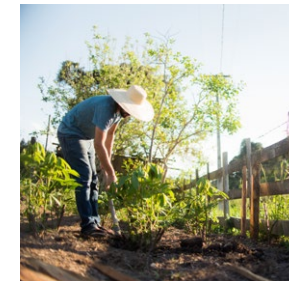
– Elk River Alliance volunteer

Restoring green space

Toronto Artscape Foundation

Metro Ontario Region

This naturalized green space has been part of a Toronto neighbourhood since the 1990s and had become degraded over time. As part of this project, volunteers worked to restore and enhance the site through the planting of pollinator-friendly native plants and trees.



Tree-planting projects

Rotary Club of Belleville

Greater Ontario Region

Volunteers planted more than 7,000 trees in the Belleville area. These trees green areas deforested by invasive Emerald Ash Borer insects, help prevent contaminant runoff into waterways, shade recreational park trails, and assist in the restoration of natural shoreline.

Invasive species removal

Conseil régional de l'environnement de la Montérégie

Quebec Region

Local experts and volunteers were trained by the organization in combatting invasive species. They removed invasive plants and planted nearly 150 non-invasive shrubs. In total, 10 natural environments covering 358 acres that are home to species-at-risk have benefited, while a further nine areas are being monitored.

