





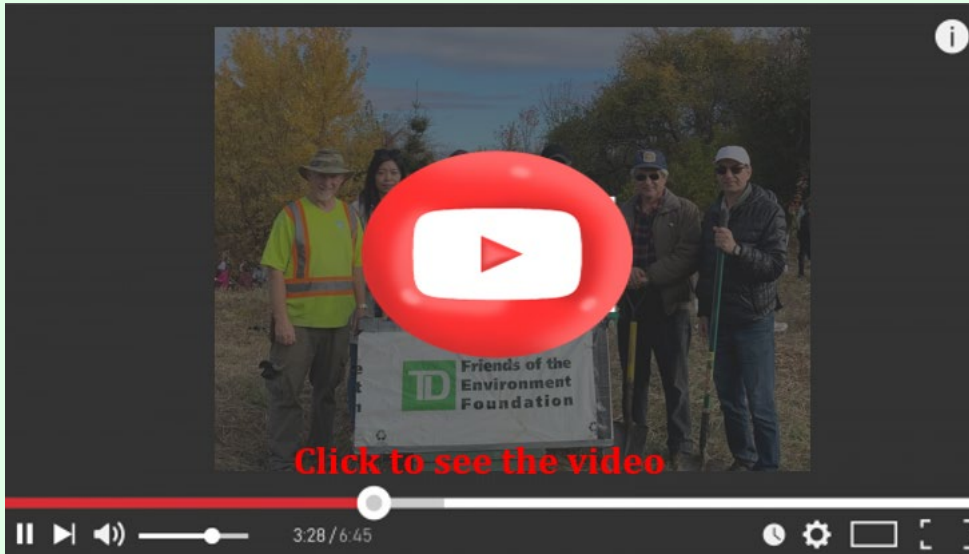
accompanied by seven dedicated teachers, who collectively planted approximately 350 trees and shrubs under the expert guidance from Urban Forest Associates (UFA). The day was enriched by a special



presentation from Shawna of the Canadian Raptor Conservancy, who demonstrated to the students how their tree-planting efforts would help regenerate natural habitats for local birds of prey. This hands-on learning experience helped students understand the direct connection between their actions and wildlife conservation. The City of Richmond Hill supported this initiative by providing fresh mulch, while UFA supplied the necessary tools and planting expertise. Earlier this month, club members participated in an inspiring nature walk to observe the remarkable transformation of previous planting sites. The walk revealed impressive growth and natural renewal in



areas where students had planted trees over the past fifteen years. This visual testament to our sustained efforts demonstrates how today's plantings will create tomorrow's forests. As event organizer Eric Nejat emphasized, these initiatives embody two core principles of our mission: "EDUCATING YOUNGSTERS IS OUR DUTY" and "ENVIRONMENT IS OUR FUTURE." The success of this year's event not only contributes to local environmental restoration but also instills environmental stewardship values in the next generation.



This annual tradition has now contributed thousands of trees to the Oak Ridges Moraine Corridor Park over its 16-year history, creating a lasting legacy of environmental improvement and youth engagement in our community.

### **RMCC Table at District 7070 Conference**

The 2024 District 7070 Conference was successfully held at the Nottawasaga Inn Resort on October 26 & 27, 2024. RMCC maintained a presence with an information table promoting the group's activities. Rotarians Fabrizio Burroni and Renata Pancini represented RMCC, establishing valuable connections with Rotarians from other clubs.



David Miller, former mayor of Toronto, delivered a keynote speech highlighting the inspiring climate control activities of the world's 40 largest cities.

## **2. Climate Change Facts**

### **Health Risks Due to Climate Change Are Rising Dangerously, Lancet Report Concludes**

The 2024 Lancet Countdown report, released in November 2024, presents concerning findings about the increasing health risks from climate change. The comprehensive study, conducted by 122 researchers from UN agencies and academic institutions worldwide, highlights several critical developments:

**Heat's Growing Impact:** Heat-related mortality in people over 65 has increased by 167% compared to the 1990s. The average person now faces 1,512 hours yearly when outdoor heat poses at least a moderate health risk - a 28% increase from the 1990s average.

**Food Security Concerns:** The combination of increased heatwaves and drought has led to moderate or severe food insecurity affecting an additional 151 million people across 124 countries, compared to historical averages.

**Disease Transmission:** Climate conditions favorable for disease-carrying mosquitoes have increased by 46% for some species compared to the 1950s, leading to rising cases of dengue fever and other mosquito-borne diseases globally.

**Economic Impact:** In 2023, heat exposure resulted in the loss of 512 billion potential work hours globally - a 49% increase from the 1990s average, with the agricultural sector being most affected.

The report's findings underscore the urgent need for stronger climate action to protect public health. However, there is some positive news: deaths from outdoor air pollution related to fossil fuel combustion have decreased by 7% between 2016 and 2021, demonstrating that positive change is possible with concerted action.

Source: *Canada's National Observer* (CNO), "Health risks due to climate change are rising dangerously, Lancet report concludes," November 6, 2024

<https://www.nationalobserver.com/2024/11/06/news/health-risks-climate-change-rising-dangerously>

RMCC (Rotarians Mitigating Climate Change) is a group of dedicated Rotarians working together to combat climate change. We collaborate with community leaders, raise public awareness, and implement effective strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and promote sustainability.

Join us in our mission to create a greener, more resilient future. Together, we can drive significant, lasting change and build a better world for generations to come.

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