

EAST SCARBOROUGH
STOREFRONT

building.

community.

together.

November 2012



Sky-O-Swale:

Noun

Origin: 2011 Kingston-Galloway/Orton Park

Made popular by: The Community Design Initiative

1. Innovative, complex system for storm water management, intended to harvest and filter rain water;
2. Structure designed to remove silt and pollution from surface runoff water.
3. A showcase of ingenuity designed and created by youth from a “priority neighbourhood”

Future: trending across the country

When we last saw our youth, they were hard at work planting and building modules to hold the sedums in place for the Sky-O-Swale.



Youth after a long day planting



Building modules for sedums



Since then, the sedums have taken root and continue to grow.
Can you see the difference in run-off after the rainstorm?



The idea of the Sky-O-Swale has garnered a lot of interest...



... with groups from across the city coming to hear the youth talk about how they've designed this unique storm-water management project.



In addition to learning about conservation and eco-systems, they youth have gained skills in public speaking and how to prepare presentations.



Look!
They're even smiling!

But wait until you see what
came next!





Building the frames
for the Sky-O-Swale
and the decking
modules to hold the
rain-water collection
barrels



Like any “real” construction project, there are a lot of supervisors! 😊



...but also a lot of hard work!



As you can see, we mean, a LOT of work.







After all the building, the youth were on to demolition! Tearing down the fence between Storefront and the adjacent property, the youth made way for the naturalization and tree planting.



They also took steps to help educate the public about the Highland Watershed by creating a school of fish at the community garden.



Very vibrant and visible to passers-by!!



Working in partnership with Scarborough ARTS, TRCA and Live Green Toronto, the Storefront design team supported GREEN learning at the Bridging Festival



To outsiders, they may look like regular youth...



...but we know their secret identities!!



Next, they will conquer the parking lot where children from the neighbouring buildings play...

CURRENT PHASE
TO BE CONSTRUCTED



...and transform it into a play pad next to the Sky-O-Swale and community garden!

Stay tuned for more stories of the
Community Design Initiative
and their adventures with
the Sky-O-Swale



scaping

Landscaping your garden is a great way to improve its appearance and make it more functional. There are many different ways to landscape, and you can choose the one that best suits your needs and budget. Some of the most popular landscaping techniques include:

- Planting trees and shrubs
- Installing a lawn
- Adding a garden path
- Creating a water feature
- Installing a pergola or gazebo

Landscaping can also help to improve the health of your garden. For example, planting trees and shrubs can help to shade your garden and reduce the amount of water that evaporates from the soil. This can help to keep your plants healthy and happy.

Beneficial Insects



Butterfly Gardens



Bird Gardens



Natural Neighbours



Highland Watershed Greening Project

THE HIGHLAND WATERSHED
The Highland Creek is the most developed (TRCA) jurisdiction. With heavy pressure on impacted by compromised water areas.

IMPORTANT?
by ecosystem
thetic k

Center
Highland
Water

