



Earth Day Weekend Celebration of the Biodiversity of Swan Lake Park
by Fred Peters

Earth Day was Wednesday, April 22, but Friends of Swan Lake Park and many neighbours couldn't wait, so on Saturday, April 18 and Sunday, April 19, we filled the park to celebrate and explore its biodiversity, undeterred by the cool, damp weather.

Activities included "Critter Tally," our effort to find some of the 15 wetland species found in the park, a bird walk led by Kathleen Elizabeth Noel, a Forest Bathing Walk led by Sheniz Janmohamed, plus providing some volunteers to support the Markham Lions' cleanup of the park.

One of our invasive plant tours was led by Marta Donnelly, a leader with the Toronto Nature Stewards, a volunteer group active in removing invasive plants in over 40 Toronto parks.

FOSLP is seeking permission from Markham to remove invasive plants from the park, so our volunteers started by placing stakes along the Amica pathway to mark the areas we hope to work this summer.

Thank you to Cindy Fowler and Martin Silver for leading our Critter Tally outings and for the photos. □



Sheniz Janmohamed
Leading Forest
Bathing Walk



Marta Donnelly (in vest) and
invasive plant volunteers



Participants in our Critter Tally



Richard Pearce



Regional Councillor Alan Ho and other invasive plant volunteers