



Turtle River Watershed

TURTLE RIVER WATERSHED CONSERVATION District (TRW-CD), created in 1975, covers about 900 square miles between the Riding Mountain Escarpment and Dauphin Lake. This critical watershed is situated along a major highway leading north to Dauphin, Manitoba. The District is comprised of seven rural municipalities—Alonsa, Dauphin, Lawrence, McCreary, Ochre River, Rosedale and Ste. Rose.

The TRWCD was established in accordance with the provisions of the Conservation Districts Act which places the planning, management and control of land, water and related resources in the District under the jurisdiction of a local authority. This encourages local decision making at a grassroots level.

Tree planting is helping to promote and protect the soil, water, wildlife and fisheries programs in Manitoba. Forest restoration can provide multiple benefits in this area, such as erosion control, alluvial fan stabilization, wildlife and fisheries enhancement, riparian stewardship and recreation and public education initiatives. The 2015 summer project supported by UPS is a critical step in the watershed management plan for the Dauphin Lake watershed.

Planting began on May 5, utilizing professional First Nation tree planters from Fort Alexander. The 50,000 white spruce trees were shipped to the location from the Pineland Forest Nursery, and from there, the project spanned approximately five days. The seedling trees were planted at 2-meter spacing in a plantation grid design throughout the 100 hectare parcel of hay and native grassland.

The 2015 tree planting program will provide multiple benefits including snow retention, shelter from winds and noise/dust reduction from vehicle traffic. The UPS trees planted in these field areas will also provide habitat and food for wildlife, wildlife corridors, watershed protection, recreational benefits, carbon sequestration and clean air for all Manitobans.

