

## MILL CREEK WORKDAY REPORT

APRIL 17, 2011

As many of you may know. We installed the first of our Mill Creek “Beaver Bafflers” at the spring source flowing through the road culvert on DeCewsville Road.

At that time, we found the clay bottom was, well “Bottomless”. We went from 4’ to 7’ “T” bars to anchor the head end of the 60” long conduit. We felt since the stream is 90% spring fed, that it rarely has flooding events. Despite that assumption, we did have a failure two weeks ago. Alerted by Annette Armstrong, we made plans for repairs ASAP, since we have posted a \$520 bond with the County. If they need to act, our bond would be forfeit. “Nuff said....

The earliest date possible was the day of our “Trout Unlimited Open House” event at Grindstone Angling in Waterdown. This event has been the source of most of our new members and with John Valk’s tremendous support, our chapter has flourished. The choice was obvious: Do the unthinkable; ask for volunteers to do the job on Palm Sunday, no less!

Asking for forgiveness, we did some good work for the environment. In three hours, nine of us dragged the unit out onto the road, dodging the curious church faithful, including Annette and hubby, Rick...we then added an 8’ filtered extension as planned last year. Three sets of the “Matt Eddy” design of barbed 8’ “T” bars and prefab cable slings secured the whole system. Beautiful, Matt! I think we were forgiven.

I KNOW we were a weary and self-satisfied bunch when we hurried home to our respective spouses. Very special thanks to: “Pounders” Matt Eddy, Robin Bennett, Vic Cairns and, Wade Dowling. Yours truly, with George Archibald, Fred Morris, Derek Betty (all the way from Mississauga) and Ted Coulson were effective “grunts”

Many thanks to Wade, he retrieved the conduit from Aldridge property and drilled 500 holes in it over the previous day. Matt’s prefabricated system is a model for any serious anchoring in this creek, with its unstable base. All these tireless volunteers along with the recent “Becker/Knott” award winner from HAFFT, Robin add muscle and inspiration to our crew.

Proudly,

Bill Christmas, Project Coordinator,  
Mill Creek Restoration Group,

Ted Knott Chapter,  
Trout Unlimited Canada