

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Students Participate in Bluebird Recovery Program

A group of local high school students have come to the aid of a popular songbird.

39 students in the Construction Technology class at Westgate Collegiate and Vocational Institute have constructed Bluebird nest boxes for the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority. Some of the materials used for the boxes were donated by Chimo Building Centre.

Several of the nest boxes will be placed at Mission Island Marsh Conservation Area where they will become home to Eastern Bluebirds and other small birds such as tree swallows and chickadees.

Bluebird populations were critically reduced in the 1960's due to habitat destruction, the use of pesticides and natural predators. In 1988 the Thunder Bay Blue Bird Recovery Program was started and since that time volunteers have helped the local population to rebound. Jean Lister of the Thunder Bay Field Naturalists monitors the nest boxes and keeps data on their occupants.

“The work of these students in constructing the Bluebird nest boxes is a terrific example of the positive impact youth are making when it comes to environmental concerns and caring for our planet,” says LRCA Chairman, Bill Bartley.