

# Carlington Hampton News

**December 2022**

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*The mid December storm provided the perfect snow for all sorts of sculptures! Decorate Hampton & Carlington with your masterpieces and send us your pix. Remember to use only natural materials!*



**Get your snow on!**

# Bye bye buckthorn!

It took five days to remove invasive buckthorn and honeysuckle from a small area in the Carlington Woods and replace them with native species.

Volunteers with the Friends of Carlington Woods, Friends of Hampton Park, Revel Academy students, and local neighbours took part.



We planted 43 shrubs and 2 trees but getting them in was quite a job. We had to contend with rocks, roots and rubbish and, in some cases, needed a pick axe!

We've numbered them so that we can more easily track their health. We see the potential of the site to contribute to several research areas, including soil health, entomology, climate change, and invasive species control.

In late December, we learned that we'd been chosen to present our project at the 2023 Ontario Invasive Plant Council conference.

<https://www.ontarioinvasiveplants.ca/>

*Common buckthorn (Rhamnus cathartica) puts down deep roots quickly and spreads out lateral roots up to 2-3 meters in length. It produces berries, which can germinate passively, or be spread by birds and rodents.*

*The work was made possible with a grant from the Invasive Species Centre ([www.invasivespeciescentre.ca/](http://www.invasivespeciescentre.ca/)), and the permission of the National Capital Commission.*



Invasive  
Species  
Centre

Common /Scientific Name	# on Map
Smooth serviceberry / <i>Amelanchier laevis</i>	16, 26, 28, 32, 34, 35, 44
Grey dogwood / <i>Cornus racemosa</i>	3, 4, 6, 7, 23, 25, 38
Red osier dogwood / <i>Cornus sericea</i>	8, 9, 10, 22, 29, 30, 39, 40
Ninebark / <i>Physocarpus opullifolius</i>	5, 11, 20, 21, 31, 43, 45
Nannyberry / <i>Viburnum lentago</i>	2, 12, 15, 16, 19, 27, 37
Bladdernut / <i>Staphylea trifolia</i>	1, 13, 14, 17, 18, 33, 36
Butternut / <i>Juglans cinerea</i>	42
Black cherry / <i>Prunus serotina</i>	24



Top: Before any removal. Middle: Invasives removed, ready to plant, root extractors pictured (orange equipment). Bottom: Numbered shrubs and trees.



## Invasive Controls Are Working

*Vincetoxicum nigrum*, better known as dog strangling vine (DSV) first appeared in Hampton about four years ago and was caught early enough that we were able to eradicate it from the fence line with Food Basics, and from the north part of the Meadow area.

A much larger patch had invaded the south Meadow. A dedicated team of volunteers first removed as much of the DSV as they could, then planted native species, including black-eyed Susans, New England asters, anise hyssop, false sunflowers, and swamp roses.

For two years, volunteers have returned in spring and late summer to clear new DSV growth, remove any flowering heads or seed pods, and plant more native species. Joe Pye weed was added this fall.

We also put burlap around and between some of the plants. Although DSV will still be able to grow under it, it'll be easier to spot and remove in spring.



DSV cleared in 2020



Native species planted in 2021



More plantings in 2022

## We don't want to jinx it, but we may have Japanese knotweed on the run

The largest colony of Japanese knotweed (*Reynoutria japonica*) runs parallel to the creek bed on the east side, and slopes up towards the sidewalk along Island Park Drive near the Merivale split. This colony has been controlled by volunteers for the last two years.

The first year, we planted some New England asters and false sunflowers in place of the knotweed we had cut down and dug out right by the sidewalk. With help from the native raspberry bushes that are already there, these species were tall enough and strong enough to combat knotweed regrowth, so we added more asters and a grey dogwood this summer.

We returned in October to cut down this year's regrowth and tarp more of the area. Big thanks to Nepean High students for doing the lion's share of the latter, and to the NCC for providing the geotextile and pegs.

We would have added more plants this fall, but when we went to shift an old tarp to make way for them, we discovered a small village of mice! With winter just around the corner, we decided to leave 'em be but did warn them that we're going to be doing a bit of renovating in spring!



*L-R: Grade 10 Nepean High students covered the largest of Hampton's knotweed colonies with geotextile to weaken the root systems. Before we cut the knotweed as seen from the Island Park Drive sidewalk. After cutting, as seen from below. Tarps control regrowth and give the native species time to take hold.*

# Winter Web Series

Join us for a weekly webinar that explores different aspects of our urban natural areas.

Guest speakers will share their expertise on topics such as urban forestry, local bird and insect species, and how to grow native wildflowers from seed.

All webinars will be recorded.



<p><b>Jan 5<sup>th</sup> 7:30 – 8:30 pm</b> Free, registration required</p>	<p><b>Ask Us Anything!</b> Learn more about our 2022 successes and what's on tap for 2023. <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84145226190?pwd=Ym4wQTdpd1lPcDZDa0hqYzFlbkdQUT09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84145226190?pwd=Ym4wQTdpd1lPcDZDa0hqYzFlbkdQUT09</a></p>
<p><b>Jan 11<sup>th</sup> 7:30 – 8:30 pm</b> Free, registration required</p>	<p><b>Urban Forestry</b> A panel discussion with foresters from the private sector and the National Capital Commission. <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUduyuqjgtE90_5_0KUT8AuJP2JG5PUEYj">https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUduyuqjgtE90_5_0KUT8AuJP2JG5PUEYj</a></p>
<p><b>Jan 18<sup>th</sup> 7:30 – 8:30 pm</b> Free, registration required</p>	<p><b>Weeding 101</b> What are the best ways to deal with unwanted plants? Tips &amp; tricks to keep your garden healthy this year. <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwrceGoqjlsE9CYmDIGUwJgz5HMY6BS9gjf">https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwrceGoqjlsE9CYmDIGUwJgz5HMY6BS9gjf</a></p>
<p><b>Jan 25<sup>th</sup> 7:30 – 8:30 pm</b> Free, registration required</p>	<p><b>Pollinator Pals</b> U of Ottawa PhD candidates Susan Gordon and Lydia Wong share their love of insects and some of their research findings. <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEtc-ivrzssGdXChVF7FGXqQXft3ElGb8tU">https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEtc-ivrzssGdXChVF7FGXqQXft3ElGb8tU</a></p>
<p><b>Feb 1<sup>st</sup> 7:30 – 8:30 pm</b> Free, registration required</p>	<p><b>The Birds of Mer Bleue</b> with NCC biologist Alex Stone. Bogs are an important habitat for many bird species, including ones found in Carlington and Hampton. <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAscu2trzgvHtSQzJ55LpEovkiuLuDqsZmz">https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAscu2trzgvHtSQzJ55LpEovkiuLuDqsZmz</a></p>
<p><b>Feb 8<sup>th</sup> 7:30 – 8:30 pm</b> Free, registration required</p>	<p><b>Small Spaces</b>, an interview with Carleton University Prof. Lenore Fahrig. Professor Fahrig's research shows how small ecosystems make a big difference to biodiversity. <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEpcOytrTguEtKzpdKEL1PbzSJmeox7I4fC">https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEpcOytrTguEtKzpdKEL1PbzSJmeox7I4fC</a></p>
<p><b>Feb 15<sup>th</sup> 7:30 – 8:30 pm</b> \$10, Registration required</p>	<p><b>Grow Native Wildflowers from Seed.</b> Demonstrations of germination techniques, and Q&amp;A with local experts. Proceeds will be split between the volunteer groups involved. To register or inquire about one of the free spots, email <a href="mailto:CarlingtonHampton@gmail.com">CarlingtonHampton@gmail.com</a> with the subject <b>SEEDS</b>.</p>
<p><b>Feb 22<sup>nd</sup> 7:30 – 8:30 pm</b> \$10, Registration required</p>	<p><b>Art online!</b> Local artist Suzanne Lamirande will teach drawing techniques. Proceeds will be split between the volunteer groups involved. To register or inquire about one of the free spots, email <a href="mailto:CarlingtonHampton@gmail.com">CarlingtonHampton@gmail.com</a> with the subject <b>DRAW</b>.</p>

# Local Contacts & Resources

Friends of Hampton Park [www.facebook.com/Friends-of-Hampton-Park-105498545119641/](https://www.facebook.com/Friends-of-Hampton-Park-105498545119641/)

Instagram: friends\_of\_hampton\_park

Friends of Carlington Woods

[www.facebook.com/groups/1105428122826947/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1105428122826947/)

Twitter: @CarlingtonHill

Hampton-Iona Community Group

<https://hamptoniona.wordpress.com/>

Carlington Community Association

[www.carlingtoncommunity.org/](http://www.carlingtoncommunity.org/)

If you'd like to get out into the Woods this winter but don't want to go alone, get in touch! We'll help tailor a walk to suit any group, age, ability or interest, and you can also book us for guided walks.

Email: [CarlingtonHampton@gmail.com](mailto:CarlingtonHampton@gmail.com)

**It's not too late to try winter sowing**

All you need is a bit of outdoor space, small pots, soil, and native seed.



Learn the basics at the Ottawa Wildflower Seed Library's YouTube channel  
<https://www.youtube.com/@ottawawildflowerseedlibrar8788>