

# Carlington Hampton News

March 2023

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*Hilson Avenue Public School students spotted pileated woodpeckers, cardinals, chickadees, sparrows, goldfinches, Canada geese, and a Cooper's hawk during a bird walk in Hampton.*





# 2023 Winter Web Series Wraps Up

Thank you to all our speakers and guests!

If you missed any, find them on our YouTube channel:

[youtube.com/@friendsofcarlingtonhampton/videos](https://youtube.com/@friendsofcarlingtonhampton/videos)





**Spring Ephemerals** are a group of flowering plants that come up only in the spring, bloom, then die back into the soil for another year, leaving no trace that they were ever there.

Spring ephemerals are found in forests and on forest edges. They bloom at this time of year because they have enough sun before the trees around them fully leaf out. Once they finish blooming in June, all of the above-ground plant parts disappear back into the soil.

This is a problem in places like Hampton and Carlington. If people don't know where the colonies are, or there's no evidence of them, they could be damaging them without knowing it.

These species were once much more abundant in areas where knotweed dominated, or where new trails have been made. In some areas where the knotweed has been removed, however, there is evidence that some colonies are still alive.

**Do your part!** Look for these plants on your spring walks and remember where they are for later in the year when they're gone. Please stay on the trails, don't pick the flowers or the leaves, and don't dig any plants out. Some colonies of trout lily take seven years before they flower.

*Pictured: Trout lily (top), white trillium (bottom). Two species that are abundant in Hampton and Carlington are **yellow trout lily** (*Erythronium americanum*) and **white and red trilliums** (*Trillium grandiflorum* and *Trillium erectum*, respectively).*



# Volunteer this Earth Day!

On Saturday, April 22, 10 am to 4 pm, River Ward Councillor Riley Brockington will host an **electronic waste depot** at the government parking lot off of Laperriere & Coldrey Avenues. We'll be there, handing out free wildflower seed packets and providing more information about Carlington and Hampton.



See the Junk that Funk website for a list of what they'll accept:  
<https://junkthatfunk.com/our-e-waste-schedule/>.

**Thanks to the children at Evergreen Life Learning and St. Elizabeth Elementary School for putting the seed packets together!**

## 5 Volunteers Needed

**When:** Saturday April 22 (no rain date)

**Time:** 10 am to noon, or however long our seed packets last!

**Where:** 1451 Coldrey Avenue. Main building (pictured). Bathroom available.

**Task:** Hand out seed packets to those who come for the depot. Provide information or help answer questions about the Hampton Park and Carlington Woods. If the weather is decent, we'll have a solar cooker on hand so we may need someone to keep an eye on the cookies!

Email: [CarlingtonHampton@gmail.com](mailto:CarlingtonHampton@gmail.com) if you can help out. We need to provide the Councillor's office with a list of our volunteers ahead of time so that they can plan for snacks!

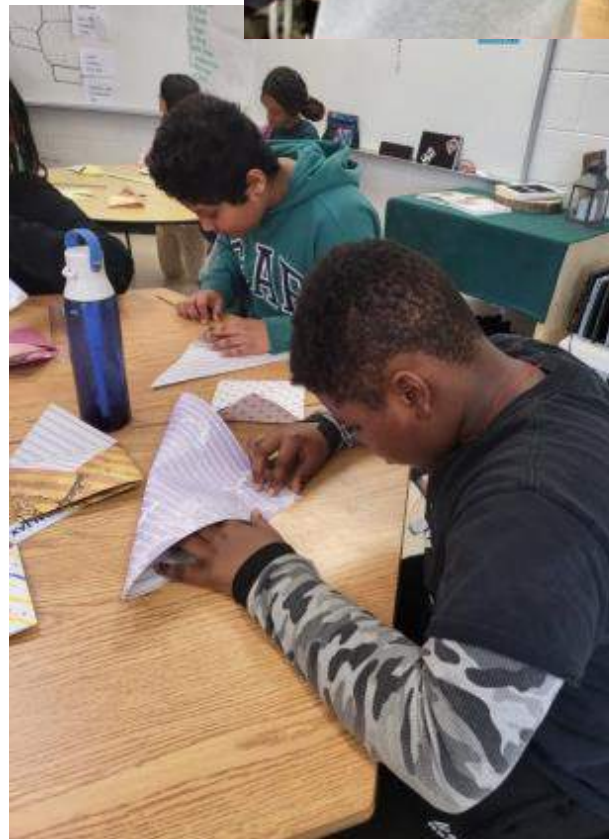




We recently teamed up with St. Elizabeth's Elementary School in Carlington to introduce students to the wonders of our Woods!

We started with a great walk in Hampton in February. In March the Grade 4, 5, and 6 students made wildflower envelopes for Earth Day, and seeded some native wildflowers. Thanks to teachers Faye Hughes, Alex Pilon, and OCSB consultant Neda Bernabo for making it happen, and for the pictures!

*The worm composter was donated by Friends of Hampton Park volunteer, Eileen Hunt. The compost will help their gardens grow.*



# Join us in our Spring Plans!

Spring is short and we've got a lot of site preparation, plants to move and plant, and maintenance duties to be done throughout May. We'll email the specific dates and times as they're scheduled, and watch for updates on our Facebook pages. You can also email us with the dates and times you'd be available. (See Contacts/Resources)

## In Carlington

Maintenance\* of 3 areas:

1. Clyde Bee and Butterfly Patch (CBBP), Clyde at Castle Hill. For this one only, if you want to volunteer email: [cccpollinator@gmail.com](mailto:cccpollinator@gmail.com)
2. New trees & shrubs planted behind the CBBP
3. Staircase Garden, Edgecliffe and Caldwell

New planting in 1 area: area behind the CBBP

## In Hampton

New plantings in 2 areas:

1. The Ridge, the sloped sandy area to the south of the creek bed.
2. The Meadow, parallel to Island Park Drive. Partnering with Ecology Ottawa this year to expand the native plantings in this area.

Invasive removal: Multiple areas to be checked for knotweed and dog strangling vine regrowth.

Maintenance\* in 1 area: Trees and shrubs planted in 2022 behind the snow fencing at Buell entrance.

*\*Maintenance = watering, pruning or weeding (if needed), repositioning rodent guards, litter clean up*

# Local Contacts & Resources

*If you'd like to get out into the Woods this spring 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.*

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

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/)

## Leave the Leaves!

Before you break out the rake, check the temperature! Hold off until daytime temperatures consistently reach 10°C (~50°F) to give the bugs time to bug out.

More tips on doing spring clean up without harming our insect buddies at Savvy Gardening:

<https://savvygardening.com/spring-garden-clean-done-right/>



*Bumble bee takes advantage of a flowering pussy willow shrub in early May 2022.*