

Carlington Hampton News

December 2023

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Fungi with fall colours. Photo: PA Richer

Trees, Trees, Trees!

This fall we planted 30 trees in Hampton, all native species that were donated to us by Ecology Ottawa in 2022.

Among the species planted were bur oaks, red maples, white spruce, white pine, elderberry, tamarack, and yellow and gray birch.

Top: Amita helps put in the regeneration sign.
Bottom left: One of five white spruces planted near the Buell entrance.

Middle: Eight deciduous trees planted at the base of the main hill.

Right: A yellow birch and an Eastern white pine join their cousins in the small central woods above the escarpment.



*Photos by PA Richer,
C. Earnshaw, S.
Boddy*

Birds & Buckthorn

Thanks to James and Lindsay for hosting a bird walk in Carlington this October. Despite the cool, rainy weather, which was not conducive to bird watching, we did find a salamander!



Ottawa conservation group, woodworkers find second life for invasive tree

Volunteers removing invasive, noxious buckthorn in Carlington Woods

Posted: October 17, 2023 4:00 AM EDT

Last Updated: 6 hours ago

Natalia Goodwin, CBC News

An unwanted visitor has taken root in a large forested area in Ottawa's west end, and the conservation group that helps care

Thanks as well to the Ottawa Tool Library and the CBC for helping us spread the word about the buckthorn we removed from the Carlington Woods. Although it's invasive (not noxious, contrary to the headline!), buckthorn can be used for many different woodworking projects.

An architecture student at Carleton University plans to use it to build her design models. An artist plans to use it in a community housing art program. The possibilities are only limited by your imagination!



Top Left: Red winged blackbird (L. Kearnan, 2022). Right: CBC coverage of the buckthorn giveaway. Bottom Left: Likely a blue-spotted salamander, found in the south Carlington Woods (L. Kearnan). Right: What could you do with a bucket of buckthorn discs. Make coasters for gnomes? A mobile? (PA Richer).

Working with the National Capital Commission

NCC biologist Alex Stone worked with Friends of Hampton Park on several projects this year, including supplying more than 90 shrubs for planting. Among the species is staghorn sumac (*Rhus typhina*), which had been extirpated in this park. A big thanks to the Grade 9s at Nepean High for their planting help!



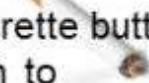
Top: Common witch-hazel. Bottom Left: Shrubs ready for planting. (Photos S. Boddy)
Middle: Alex chats with some students (Photo C. Earnshaw). Right: One of the partnerships we have is with Canterbury High School students to draw plants and birds. Alex was so impressed with their drawings that he used them to create the NCC's official Birds of Mer Bleue Bog booklet.



Know the facts, and pass 'em on!

Please don't throw cigarette butts on the ground. We're trying to get the rabbits to quit and the nicotine patches don't stick to their fur.

Butt Facts



One cigarette butt is enough to contaminate 1,000 litres of water

Butts contain 7000 toxic chemicals, including known carcinogens

Butts are the largest single type of litter by count in international coastal and urban clean ups

Butts are not biodegradable and contain plasticized cellulose acetate



News

On behalf of the two Friends Groups, I met with other local community group leaders in November to talk about the challenges facing community gardens and what we can do about it. I volunteered to be part of the Maintenance subgroup that will try to work with the City of Ottawa to improve park, urban forest, and other greenspace maintenance procedures. The subgroup has requested a meeting in January with relevant staff and we submitted a one-page document designed to spur that initial conversation. I hope to have more to report in early 2024. – Cheers, Sharon Boddy

See the next page for details on our larger discussion.

Needs

Christmas trees!

Sunday January 7, 2024

***Drop off ONLY between 10 & 11 am at the Buell entrance,
two blocks from Kirkwood Avenue***



Please remove ALL decorative material from the tree. Drop it in the area behind the NCC Japanese knotweed control sign – we'll have it well marked!

There is short-term parking available at the end of Buell for easy access.

Why are we doing it? With the NCC's blessing, the trees will be part of an experiment to see what impact adding this type of organic matter in the area behind the snow fencing has on returning vegetation. Volunteers will cut and spread the trees where they're needed. Let us know if you can give us a hand on the day – we'll need saws, pruners, and loppers to split them into manageable pieces.

Nice-to-haves

A Little Nature Library would be stocked with nature-related books, although we wouldn't turn our nose up at fiction! Lots of us have old field guides and other books that we could use to stock it initially, and it'd be a nice perk for park visitors.

If anyone is interested in exploring the idea of installing a Little Nature Library on the City or NCC side of the park, or both, get in touch! CarlingtonHampton@gmail.com.

Local Contacts & Resources

Friends of Hampton Park

[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

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

Twitter: @CarlingtonHill

Email for both groups:

CarlingtonHampton@gmail.com

Hampton-Iona Community Group

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

Carlington Community Association

carlingtoncommunity.org/

Subscribe to our YouTube Channel at [youtube.com/@friendsofcarlingtonhampton/](https://www.youtube.com/@friendsofcarlingtonhampton/) and check out our **One Minute Walk** series!

Attention Pollinator Supporters

Recently, members of Wild Pollinator Partners met to talk about how Ottawa can better protect and increase its native biodiversity and pollinator habitat.

The Friends of Hampton Park and the Friends of Carlington Woods joined the meeting, along with 15 others, representing about 8 community groups. We discussed priority challenges, and brainstormed potential solutions and next steps.

If you or your group is involved with promoting and distributing native plants for private and public gardens, planting community habitat and pollinator gardens, invasive removal, or native regeneration projects, don't reinvent the wheel! Get in touch! Email info@wildpollinators-pollinisateurssauvages.ca for more information or visit their website: wildpollinators-pollinisateurssauvages.ca/



Hey, you!

Snapped a pic of cool plant, animal, insect, or fungi in Hampton or Carlington? Email pix you'd like to share to Myrica.gale22@gmail.com. We'll feature as many as we can in the next issue. Please indicate where the photo was taken in the subject line.



Photo
by N. Lee