

Carlington Hampton News

September 2025

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A pile of cut buckthorn measuring about 8 feet high.

Buckthorn Blitz!

Buckthorn Removal & Replacement in Carlington

Volunteers have been removing buckthorn and honeysuckle shrubs from the edge of the Carlington Woods, along Clyde Avenue South.

Our goal is to stop the spread of these invasive species into the Woods, and to replace the unwanted species with a greater variety of native ones. A biodiverse ecosystem supports a far greater number of plant, insect, animal, and fungi species.

Our thanks to all of our volunteers and partners for helping us continue this important work!

**We begin replanting in
October! See Volunteer
Opportunities for dates.**



Invasive Species Centre

Provided a grant for Friends to buy native plant species.



canadensis
The Garden of Canada
Le Jardin du Canada

*Donated native tree species for planting.
We'll have more to report on their
generous donation in the coming weeks!*

To see us in action, check out our YouTube channel, and subscribe so that you don't miss a thing! youtube.com/@friendsofcarlingtonhampton

The Clyde Bee & Butterfly Patch

Despite the very dry summer we had we hardly had to water the pollinator garden. That's because, when planning the garden in 2020, we chose native species that can tolerate drought and poor soil, and prefer full sun. We didn't want them to be dependent on people to water them.

Plants adapt to dry environments in various ways, including using smaller, hairier or lighter coloured leaves to protect the plant from or to reflect light. Some may have deep fleshy roots that make use of deeper water, or shallow fibrous ones that can grab surface water fast.



How did the Clyde Patch do?

While some may look a bit shabby at the moment, the native species listed below, and many others, survived and should come back next year. If any particular plant doesn't, there's a good chance their seeds survived and will replace them.

Rough blazing star • Little bluestem grass • Switchgrass • Upland white goldenrod • Pale coneflower • Purple prairie clover • Lance-leaf coreopsis • Common yarrow • Hoary vervain • New England aster • Shrubby cinquefoil • Tall prairie cinquefoil • Wild bergamot • Bluestem goldenrod • Zigzag goldenrod • Blue-eyed grass • Pearly everlasting • Prairie smoke

Wildlife Sightings!



Digger Wasp on Goldenrod at the Clyde Bee & Butterfly Patch
Grasshopper on burdock burs in Hampton
Luna moth in the South Carlington Woods
One of the resident Cooper's Hawks in Hampton

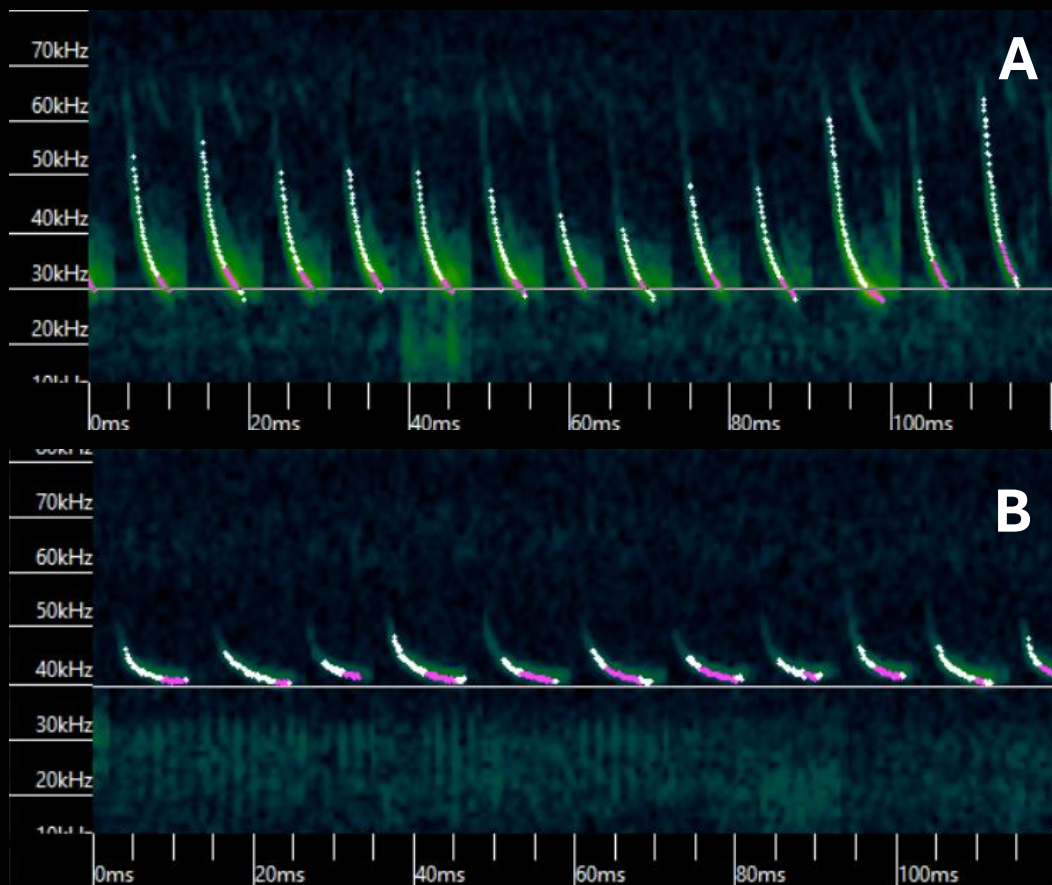
Photos: M. Roppovalente and S. Boddy



If you use iNaturalist, help us keep our species inventories up to date by tagging HAMPTON PARK or CARLINGTON WOODS when you upload your observations.

LET'S GET BATTY IN HAMPTON!

On July 16th, NCC biologist Alex Stone led a well-attended bat walk in Hampton Park. Alex, accompanied by several student biologists, walked with detectors that can record bat calls. A special detector is needed because bat calls are ultrasonic- meaning they occur at a higher frequency than can be heard by human ears. Each bat species has a unique call. Using characteristics such as the difference in frequency and the shape and duration of the call, bat calls can be analyzed to determine which species of bat made that call. The images to the right show what different bat calls can “look” like as displayed on a handheld detector or using analysis software.



Notice the differences between the calls in images A and B: the calls in A are very straight and vertical while the calls in B are more curved and horizontal. A is likely a big brown bat and B is likely a tri-coloured bat.

Volunteer Opportunities & Events

Carlington

👐 Buckthorn control; replanting

👐 October 1, 10 to noon

👐 October 3, 10 to noon

👐 October 5, 10 to noon

Hampton

👐 Japanese knotweed control; replanting

👐 October 11, 10 am to 1 pm

👐 *Rain date October 12, same times*

Email CarlingtonHampton@gmail.com to RSVP for any of these dates, and for additional details

Save the date! October 25 Tree Health Walk with the Friends of Hampton Park & special guest, Ottawa Field-Naturalists Club President, Owen Clarkin. Details to come.

We sign for student volunteer hours.

Notices of additional events or volunteer needs are sent as they are scheduled.

Contacts & Resources

Worth a watch

The North American Native Plant Society free webinar, *Cities are the Place to Bee*.

Thursday October 16, 2025, 6 pm.

Registration info:

<https://nanps.org/category/all-speakers-workshops/>

Worth a read

Make a wattle fence

<https://www.hometalk.com/diy/outdoor/turning-dreaded-buckthorn-into-an-english-wattle-fence-41462604>

Dog pee: Why it's bad for plants, by Anna Gibbs

<https://slate.com/technology/2023/10/dog-pee-plants-new-york-city-bad-cars.html>

CarlingtonHampton@gmail.com

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@friendsofcarlingtonhampton>

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New videos uploaded regularly!

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