

Upcoming Volunteer Activities with The Couchiching Conservancy

Mark your calendar for some fun volunteer activities

Wildlife Preservation Canada's Grassland Bird Survey: various locations ~ Mid-April to July
Based on the Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas, this program will focus on monitoring grasslands throughout the region. Register by March 19th contact 1-800-956-6608 (toll free) or gbs@wildlifepreservation.ca.

Invasive Species Identification & Volunteer Training ~ March 28th

Lead by the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters, come and learn about invasive species that are encroaching into the area. 10:00 am start, lunch provided. Training will also be available for those interested in Volunteer Property Stewardship.

Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters Roadside Invasive Species Monitoring ~TBD

Apply your newly honed skills from the workshop and assist OFAH the discovery of invasive species throughout the community.

Volunteer Training ~ April 14th (evening)

Interested in becoming a Volunteer Property Steward, but not sure what it entails? This evening training session is an excellent opportunity to learn more about how to become involved in assisting with the protection of our properties.

Grant's Woods: Orillia ~ Anytime you are available

We are going to attempt to control the periwinkle that has spread into the forest around the Grant House. Anytime you come by for a walk and have a few minutes to spare, please leave some periwinkle in the containers left at the site for this purpose.

Species at Risk & Volunteer Training ~ April 17th

Lead by Ssscensational Snakes, learn about the Species at Risk that you may find in this area. Training will also be available for those interested in Volunteer Property Stewardship. 9:00 am start.

CELEBRATE INTERNATIONAL BIODIVERSITY WEEK MAY 15 to 23rd

Wetland Restoration Project: Carden ~ May 12th

As part of our effort to reduce the impact of cattle grazing on wetlands, we will be installing a fence and restoring a wetland in Carden. Get your boots and shovels out for a day of native tree planting.

Garlic Mustard removal The Church Woods property: Shanty Bay ~ May 30th and June 2nd

Throughout the spring volunteers are going to be removing invasive Garlic Mustard from the property. Additional dates may be available, contact Betty for details.

Garlic Mustard Removal from Elliott Woods: Craighurst ~ June 8th, June 23rd and July 24th

Enjoy wildflowers while removing invasive species on this beautiful Oro Moraine property.

Wetland Restoration Project on Grant's Wetland/Hewetson Property: Orillia ~ June 9th

This property is located in the heart of Orillia, and we will be removing non-native species from the property, including garlic mustard, purple loosestrife and monitor for re-emergence of European buckthorn.

McGee Creek and Cranberry Wetland Dog Strangling Vine Control: Carden ~ June 10th

One of the most prolific invasive species to be found in this area, come and help control dog strangling vine, the main invasive species threat to Carden.

Wolf Run Alvar "Bio-Blitz": Carden ~ June 16th

Come out and be one of the first to step foot on one of The Conservancy's latest properties- before it even closes! Join a group to help be the eyes and ears while conducting a biological inventory of the Wolf Run Alvar.

Turtle Habitat Restoration Project: Severn Bridge ~ Date TBD

Come out and help the Conservancy with a turtle habitat improvement project along the Trent-Severn Waterway. Volunteer to monitor nests are also needed through June.

Sixth Annual Carden Challenge ~ Friday, June 18th to June 19th, 2010

You can participate in a birding challenge of a lifetime. Teams of 4 traverse the Carden Alvar for 24 hours in search of the most bird species. Featuring recreational and professional team divisions. This year's celebrity birder is author Graeme Gibson.

Easement Monitoring: Scout's Valley: Orillia ~ July 7th (afternoon)

Learn how The Couchiching Conservancy monitors its easements on the Scout Valley Conservation Easement. During this ½ day outing, we'll traverse the trails and monitor for any changes to the property since the last visit.

East Coulson Purple Loosestrife Control ~ July 14th

Help out with an adventurous day of paddling and pulling to remove purple loosestrife from the East Coulson Swamp.

Phragmites removal on McGee Creek and Cranberry Lake Wetland ~ July 31st

Had enough of invasive species yet? Come out and help with the control of Phragmites on one of the newest Conservancy managed property.

Alexander Hope Smith Nature Reserve Purple Loosestrife Control: Washago ~ August 7th

If you thought the paddling and pulling adventure was fun in July, come and help us out again for a fun filled day paddling Boyd's Creek through the Alexander Hope Smith Nature Reserve.

Don't forget to register for the Carden Nature Festival, June 4, 5, and 6th, volunteer Marshals are still needed for some activities, contact Gayle@couchconservancy.ca.

For dates and more information about these activities or to express interest in being involved in volunteering with the Conservancy, please contact Kyra Howes, the Stewardship Coordinator at 326-4643, steward@couchconservancy.ca or Betty Forward, our Volunteer Coordinator at 329-4571.

*The Couchiching
Conservancy* 