



Friends of Lemoine Point

Newsletter

Fall 2009

Status of the Conservation Plan

The current process of preparing Lemoine Point's Conservation Plan has been somewhat delayed, though we hope to announce the final results here next spring.

The intent of that Conservation Plan is to identify key directions and priorities for Lemoine Point and to set a long-term workplan for achieving those.

Members of the Board of the Friends have been discussing issues and providing input to the CRCA. A main issue of discussion is where Lemoine Point should be on the continuum of possibilities ranging from being a typical urban park meant for public recreation to being a true conservation area focused on the long-term protection of its natural environment. If that continuum were rated from 1 to 10, the Board of the Friends, and presumably most of our members, would prefer 7 or 8 on that continuum; in other words, we favour the protection of Lemoine Point's natural qualities for future generations to enjoy while we do recognize the need to balance that with the ability of large numbers of current visitors to enjoy them now.

Look for specific details and measures in our spring 2010 issue!

How We Spend Your Money

Each year at our AGM, this year on November 18, the Board of the Friends gives an accounting of our finances, including how we spend your money. Especially for those of you who don't make it to the AGM, a brief explanation may be useful.

We have three main sources of funding for our programs and projects, i.e. membership fees, donations, as well as fundraising that consists primarily of the sale of the benches that you see at Lemoine Point. Our annual expenditures range from about \$8,000 to \$10,000 for our various programs and projects such as our reforestation projects, accessibility improvement, and helping support our Native Plant Nursery (the Nursery's finances are treated separately). All our labour (more than two person-years per annum) is totally volunteer and without cost. Our administrative costs are minimal, accounting for less than about eight percent of our expenditures, and that is largely for the cost of printing and mailing this newsletter. For details of the past fiscal year, check our website for our Annual Report that will be posted after our AGM.

In addition to that, we do some fundraising for special projects we work on jointly with the CRCA, such as by submitting grant applications to funders such as the City's Healthy Community Fund and the Community Foundation of Greater Kingston.



A Tree Planting Team on a Well Deserved Break

The GREAT GARLIC MUSTARD PULL

This is a special program open to all schools and youth groups. It provides a speaker to describe the problem of Invasive Species, presented at an age appropriate level, plus several hours of vigorous activity at the end of May pulling Garlic Mustard at Lemoine Point, with free bus transportation provided.

The event is held close to INTERNATIONAL BIODIVERSITY DAY, May 22nd.

It is organized and supported by the Friends of Lemoine Point Invasive Species Control Committee and the Ontario Biodiversity Education and Awareness Network.

For more information, please contact Chris as soon as possible at 613-389-8993 or hargreavescp@sympatico.ca, and/or check the BEAN website at www.biodiversityeducation.ca



Some of the 40 students and staff from the North Addington Education Centre, who cleared Garlic Mustard from along Trail 2, on May 22nd 2009.



North Access Trail

Several of Lemoine Point's walking trails were made accessible to visitors with mobility limitations through the Friends' efforts, but lately one section of the North Trail had actually become impassable for users of wheelchairs and walkers.

That is the stretch of trail leading south from the North Washroom, which was washed out earlier due to Collins Bay wave action and high water levels.



The CRCA has now re-routed that part of the trail to be further from the shore, so that the trail is again accessible and available to all visitors.

2009 Board of Directors

John Diemer, President
Peter Butler, Past President
Jane Murphy, Vice-President
Chris Hargreaves, Treasurer
David McMurray, Secretary

Members at Large

Millie Belyea
Darlene Cullimore
Larry McCurdy
Marie Surrige

Mailing address: Friends of Lemoine Point
c/o Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority
P.O. Box 160, Glenburnie, ON K0H 1S0

Phone messages received at: 546-4228 Ext. 306

E-mail: lemoine@cataraquiregion.ca

WebSite:

www.cataraquiregion.on.ca/lands/friendsoflemoine.html

Your Membership and Support

We greatly appreciate your membership and donations that make our programs and efforts possible. Your membership renewal form for 2009-10 is enclosed – the charitable receipt for donations will be sent to you early next year.

We are seeking to increase our membership base partly because it helps to demonstrate public support for our cause, and it is always surprising that so many people who regularly use Lemoine Point do not become members. If you know such people, consider urging them to join us ... perhaps remind them that membership means financial and moral support and not necessarily becoming a volunteer.

Again, thanks for your support!

Lyme Disease

Although Lemoine Point truly is a beautiful natural area, we should remember that it also still has elements of a wilderness area, including at least one drawback that we became aware of this summer, i.e. the possible threat of Lyme Disease.

The disease has become established in Eastern Ontario and confirmed in areas such as the Thousand Islands, and the blacklegged ticks (also called "deer ticks") that can carry and transmit the disease are found at Lemoine Point even though so far none have been proved to be carriers. Even though the risk at this point is still very small, if you go for walks at Lemoine Point you should be aware of the threat of the disease because getting it can, if not treated, lead to severe health problems.

The ticks typically cling to tall grasses or shrubs in grassy, bushy, or wooded areas and move to new hosts such as humans or dogs by them brushing up against such tall grasses or plants (the ticks do not jump or fly). They then bite and latch on and, if infected with Lyme Disease, can transmit it to that host.

The risk for Lyme Disease is greatest during the warm months of the year when the ticks are active, but when they are not readily noticed as they are at the nymph stage and still very small (they become larger after several days of feeding on the host). They must be attached for at least 18 hours before actually transmitting the disease, so that prompt detection and removal is important.

There are some precautions that you can take to protect against ticks:

- Walk in the middle of trails away from tall grass and bushes.
- Wear long-sleeved shirts and long-legged pants.
- Use insect repellent containing DEET, which repels ticks.
- After a walk with likely tick contact, check your body for possible ticks (they won't wash off in the shower), paying special attention to areas such as groin, scalp, armpits and behind the knees. Because a tick may be only the size of a poppy seed, perhaps look for "new freckles".



For more information about the disease including prevention and symptoms, see Kingston's Public Health handout or check www.kflpublichealth.ca/Files/Resources/023_lyme_disease.pdf.



Ian Hodson's family do the honours at the Sod-turning for our Nursery hoophouse

Friends of Lemoine Point

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, November 18, 7:30 pm

St. Andrew's By The Lake United Church
at 1 Redden St. in Reddendale.

From Front Rd. (west of Day's Road) take
Lakeview south, and turn left to end of Redden St.

Everyone Welcome!

PRESENTATION:

“GOLDENRODS & ASTERS of LEMOINE POINT”



**BY
DAVID McMURRAY**



An interesting talk on Lemoine Point's fall wildflowers by one of our own naturalists, which also will answer questions such as:

1. According to the man who (literally) wrote the book on Ontario asters, the only Asters in southern Ontario are cultivars. Where did all the wild ones go?
2. As Friends of Lemoine Point and its inhabitants, is there anything that we can do to help the Upland White Aster resolve its identity crisis?
3. What do goldenrods have to do with the Model T that Henry Ford gave to Thomas Edison?