



WINTER BULLETIN 2020

Snow blankets our trails and bids our visitors welcome to enjoy the quietness of a northern winter.



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Want to get Involved? There are currently spots available on the Board of Directors.
www.laurierwoods.com

Friends of Laurier Woods is the proud host of
www.foresttalkradio.ca

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – April 16 2020

Once again we are preparing for our Annual General Meeting. This is required under our charter and is open to all members of The Friends of Laurier Woods. This year we will again hold the meeting at the Rorab Shrine Club on Brooke Street starting with a reception at 6pm. Our Guest Speaker will be Dr. Jeffrey Dech, Associated Professor of biology and chemistry at Nipissing University. Jeffrey will discuss the studies he is conducting with his students on the aging of beaver ponds with reference to work they have done in Laurier Woods. (See attached poster for details.)

WOODLAND TREASURES



Following the popularity of the hunt for ghosts during the

2019 Halloween season, a 2nd hunt was held in December – this time searchers were seeking the Grinch! Kaye Edmonds, a long time supporter of the Friends of Laurier Woods, painted over 100 stone Grinches and hid them in the woods. Young and old joined in on the search; either re-hiding them, taking them home and/or posting a photo on our Facebook page. Thanks so much to Kaye for this woodland game. You can also view Kaye's awesome nature photography on our Facebook page.

JOIN IN OTHER LAURIER WOODS EVENTS

Many visitors attend our nature walks, led by a variety of knowledgeable guides. These walks begin in May and continue throughout the summer and fall. Watch for the upcoming 2020 schedule on our web site. Interested in guiding an interpretive outing?...Contact Fred Pinto fredpinto1@gmail.com

The **Louise de Kiriline Lawrence Nature Festival**, held the 3rd Saturday in August is another annual success. More and more people are attending this festival and enjoying a family day in the woods with activities for the children, interesting guest presenters, guided walks and much more. More details to come!

TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS

The trail committee worked hard to remove tripping hazards, and to improve trail drainage, spreading tons of wood chips and gravel to enhance our 12kms of trails. At the same time, our intention is to leave the forest as undisturbed as possible so visitors truly experience nature at its best. This spring will see some new and very exciting work connecting the purple trail in a loop that will mean a longer complete trail not requiring hikers to retrace their steps. More news on this project as it happens.

'HOUSEKEEPING'

Our Board of Directors is made up of a diversified and talented group of people who give freely of their time, out of an interest and passion for the woods. The work we do is not always glamorous or fun and not even always in the woods!

Our directors and the management of the North Bay-Mattawa Conservation Authority (NBMCA) spent many hours drafting a **new Management Agreement**. This agreement details the relationship between our two parties, and the decision-making process as it relates to trail development, maintenance, signage, promotion and special events. This stewardship is unique and provides the best approach for ensuring the protection of Laurier Woods for the benefit of future generations.

Our Board of Directors is currently in the process of **updating our Bylaws**. Jan Perfect spent her personal time reviewing the original bylaws that were conceived over 30 years ago when the FLW was established. After researching examples and current standards Jan has come up with a new, much more current set of by-laws. We are voting on them in the next month. Thanks for undertaking a fantastic and very important job Jan.