



FRIENDS of
Laurier Woods

www.laurierwoods.com (see us on Facebook)

Spring Bulletin 2016



Laurier Woods blossoms with the spring. Read about the exciting events to come.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS for 2016

Pinto, Fred , President
Haist, David ,Vice President
Dick Tafel, Past President
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Theresa Haist, Secretary
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Troy Storms, NBMCA Rep

Osprey Platform Installed!

This past fall the Friends and the Conservation Authority, along with the much appreciated help of Canadore College student volunteers, erected an Osprey nesting platform on the southern portion of our new 100 acres (-79 25.97, 46 17.84). We are hopeful that a nesting pair of Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*) will arrive this spring.

Also called fish eagle, sea hawk, river hawk, and fish hawk Osprey are common throughout the area. A **fish-eating bird of prey** , active at night, Osprey can reach more than 60 cm (24 in) in length and 180 cm (71 in) across the wings. It is brown on the upperparts and predominantly greyish on the head and underparts. The Woods can provide a suitable nesting habitat given the proximity to beaver ponds, and nearby lakes with their abundant supply of food. This raptor's diet consists almost exclusively of fish. It possesses specialised physical characteristics and exhibits unique behaviour to assist in hunting and catching **prey**.



Annual General Meeting – April 6, 2016

About forty enthusiasts attended our AGM held at Rorab Shriners Club. Following the dinner our President Fred Pinto reviewed the past year followed by re-election and election of the Board of Directors. Dick Tafel, our guest speaker, provided a detailed history of Laurier Woods and the unrealized plans for the Georgian Bay Ship Canal in the early 1900's.

Children from King George's Earth Club presented their interest in protecting the local environment. They hope to raise \$1000 to steward an acre in Laurier Woods. As part of their fund-raising, they will host a family-friendly dance party at the Voyager on May 14th. 4-7pm. The Friends are grateful for the enthusiasm and support of these young people.

Marlene Wood spoke on behalf of Nipissing Serenity Hospice, describing plans for a walk they will be hosting in Laurier Woods on May 1st. Donations received will go to construction of the hospice, which will be in close proximity to Laurier Woods. The public is invited to participate. We wish them success and will be present in the woods to offer support.



Upcoming Guided Walks in the woods

As has been the case for many years, the Friends will be hosting May Walks. These are held each Saturday in May from 9:00 to 11:00 am, starting from our parking lot (off Brule Street). Dick Tafel will be hosting the first three highlighting the spring bird populations and Lori Beckerton will lead the last May walk focusing on spring plants and wild flowers.

For the second year in a row we will be conducting themed walks throughout the summer and fall. The schedule is below.

June 4th 10 am- noon	Topic: Lady slippers Guide: Maxine Lefebvre
July 2nd 10 am- noon	Topic: Plants/shrubs in Laurier Woods Guide: Lori Beckerton
August 6th 10 am- noon	Topic: Wetlands/family nature scavenger hunt Guide: Valerie Vaillancourt
Sept 3rd 6.30pm – 8.00 pm	Topic: Bats in Laurier Woods CA. Guide: Rebecca Geauvreau
October 1st 10 am- noon	Topic: Make natural cordage from wild fibers, Guide: Jeremy St.Onge
November 5th 10 am- noon	TBA
December 3rd 10 am- noon	TBA