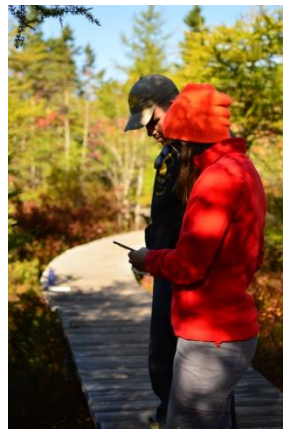


Bluff Trail Stewardship Program (BTSP) Highlights: Oct. 2017

Public Outreach Lecture at Dalhousie: On 10 Oct. 2017, BTSP Stewardship Coordinator, Fiona Brooks, presented a 40min lecture to approx. 60 students in a second-year course at the College of Sustainability at Dalhousie University. Students were introduced to The Bluff Wilderness Hiking Trail and the role of the BTSP in maintaining the trail.

NRET Collaboration & Data Collection: On 13 Oct. 2017, 8 students and 1 instructor from the NRET program at NSCC (Bridgewater campus) returned to The Bluff Trail to finish collecting baseline data on species diversity and channelling along the second boardwalk and trail widening along the Pot Lake Loop. This work began on 26 Sept. and a final report containing the data collected is forthcoming.



SJA Coop Student: On 24 Oct. 2017, Thomas MacLeod, a grade-twelve, coop student from SJA, began a work term with BTSP. His first day included an introduction to BTSP, stewardship training, and some hands-on remediation work including the refurbishment of 3 trail-spur barriers; construction of 2 trail-widening barriers; and, construction of 21 trail- braiding barriers. The coop student will complete 100 hrs of work with WRWEO and SMBSA by the end of January 2018.

BTSP Stewardship Day: On 29 Oct. 2017, BTSP held its 8th Stewardship Day. Three (3) previously trained stewards participated and two (2) new BTSP stewards were trained bringing the current total of stewards to 34. The day included the construction of 51 trail-braid barriers and 6 trail-spur barriers.



List of Acronyms: BTSP (Bluff Trail Stewardship Program); NRET (Natural Resources Environmental Technology); NSCC (Nova Scotia Community College); SJA (Sir John A. Macdonald High School); WRWEO (Woodens River Watershed Environmental Organization); SMBSA (St Margarets Bay Stewardship Association).

Bluff Trail Stewardship Program (BTSP) Highlights: Oct. 2017

BTSP Reports = 39

33 Trail Reports
6 Event Reports

**Total reports to date:
148**

Hours on Trail = 266

52 (19%) paid
214 (83%) unpaid*

**Total hrs to date: 1481
522 (35%) paid
959 (65%) unpaid**

Presence on Trail = 20/31 Days (65%)

20 days on Pot Lake Loop
15 days on Mi'kmaw Hill Loop
2 days on Bluff Loop &
3 days on Hay Marsh Loop

Total days to date: 102/304 (34%)

BTSP Stewards Trained = 3

1 Coop Student
2 BTSP Volunteers

Total stewards to date: 34

Check-Ins at LNT Sites

2 at Coyote/U'lukwej & Crow/Ka'qaquj;
1 at Moose/Tia'm

**Total to date: 29 at Coyote/U'lukwej & Crow/Ka'qaquj
13 at Squirrel/Atutu'wej & 10 at Moose/Tia'm**

People Count = 751

751 People Observed; 311 People Engaged (41%)

Total people to date: 2762 observed; 1124 engaged (41%)

Dog Count = 118

66 (56%) off leash
52 (44%) on leash

Total dogs to date: 510

In-Kind Contributions = \$6,558.03

On-Trail Labour: 214.12hrs @ \$20.10/hr** = \$4,303.81

Off-Trail Labour: 102.2hrs @ \$20.10/hr = \$2,054.22

Materials & Equipment*** = \$200.00

Total in-kind contribution to date: \$32,025.76

(On-Trail Labour \$19,266.86 + Off-trail Labour \$11,588.66 + M&E \$1,170.25)

Remediation & Repair

- 100 trail barriers & 14 spur barriers built/refurbished
- 8 trail signs posted
- 4 fire pits remediated

*Approximately 93 hours of unpaid, on-trail labour were part of paid contract work for WRWEO. The payment for these hours did not come out of the BTSP budget, and the BTSP work performed during that time was surplus to the paid work.

** WRWEO calculates the value of volunteer labour according to the 2015 study, *Working for a Living, Not Living for Work*, released by the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives – Nova Scotia in partnership with United Way – Halifax. The report used the Canadian Living Wage Framework to calculate the living wage for Halifax at \$20.10/hr.

***On 26 Sept and 13 Oct, the students and instructor from the NRET program at NSCC (Bridgewater campus) provided equipment including penetrometers, quadrats, and GPS units. Because much of the equipment provided was highly specialized and not available for rental, WRWEO estimates the value of the use of this equipment at \$100.00/day. This in-kind contribution was not included in the Sept summary; therefore, the value of two days use is included above (\$200.00).