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UPDATE

September 2016

Next Meeting of HPNEC – TBD
We have been advised by our Formerly/National Environment Committee that the Fall meeting will be held in a different format, post, as a meeting has not yet been scheduled. In the meantime, here are some updates and upcoming events.

Prescribed Burn
A fall burn site tour will be held in October for City staff and Councillors to view the burn sites from the spring of 2016 burn sites (High Park), and an overview of proposed 2017 burn sites (High Park and Lambton Park).

Dredging Work at Lower Duck Pond
Preparations are underway to dredge the Lower Duck Pond. For more information see the Grenadier Pond website and blog. Toronto Water is responsible for this project and has consulted with Nature.

City of Toronto Fishing Meeting & Ongoing Concerns
The City of Toronto Fishing Working Group meets at Toronto City Hall committee room 40 on Tuesday, September 27 from 7-9 pm. Nature will be represented at the meeting by Ian Ross. The agenda includes presentations from TRCA on Wildlife Management, Aquatic Management and the GTA Fishing Plan. TRCA/City of Toronto will also provide an update on the existing and future installations of the fishing nodes.

Several NEC members are planning to attend and to express ongoing concerns regarding the impacts of fishing on wildlife, especially discarded fishing lines at Grenadier Pond. Nature will be there to support.

Non-compliance with fishing area restrictions and discarded fishing line continues to be a serious concern at Grenadier Pond. Nature has written to the Minister of Natural Resources Resolution regarding these concerns and in particular, to recommend that this interactive event for any future fishing promotion events, and to question the future of fishing in Grenadier Pond in its current state.

We have also recently written to the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters to comment on and correct a misguided editorial about fishing at Grenadier Pond (copy available on request).

Reducing the Impacts of Dogs on Wildlife in Natural Areas
Over the last few months members of the NPNEC have been working with representatives from other Toronto nature groups, including Toronto Field Naturalists and the Toronto Ornithological Club, to address the serious threat to wildlife posed by off-leash dogs. As a result of this new organization, PointsNature-ON, we have produced an information handout (see attached), a more detailed document for City staff and Councillors, and a request of City representatives to determine what measures are already underway and what more could be done. Our goal is to work with the City in building a "culture of compliance".

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY: If you can help set up a simple website for this organization, please contact exec@highparknature.org.

Ontario Nature Regional Meeting
The Fall regional meeting is set for Saturday, October 29 (morning & afternoon) at the Whitby Library. The Durham Nature Club has offered to host a tour of Whitby Harbour and Port Perry's Greenbelt Land Trust. An agenda will be available soon. Please contact exec@highparknature.org if you'd like to represent High Park Nature.

Insect Counts
The Toronto Nature Centre Butterfly Count was held on July 9. The results/photos results from the High Park count are posted here on our website. There have been a few migrating monarchs in the last few weeks.
The annual High Park Moth Night was held on July 26. The results/photos results from the count are posted here on our High Park. The all time list and other info are posted here.

High Park Kwek Watch
The High Park Kwek Watch is underway and will run until Nov. 30. Drop by Kwek Hill to see the active (especially on sunny days) Kwek Hill Kwek and other wildlife. The regular will be glad to answer questions and take reports.

High Park Stewards
Over the summer, volunteers have been busy planting, weeding and seed collecting, as well as removing the Buckthorn Berries.

See the High Park Nature website for more details of upcoming events and volunteer opportunities.

High Park Nature promotes awareness and responsible enjoyment of the park's natural heritage. It is a joint initiative of the High Park Nature Committee and the Friends of High Park. We do this by: providing a forum for the exchange of information and ideas; promoting other related fora in and of High Park; and the High Park Stewards plant, action seek and protect Toronto species from extinction roles; hold an annual native plant sale; and conduct educational events. This newsletter reports highlights from NEC meetings and other pertinent news.