

[View this email in your browser](#)



Happy Holidays are here already!

This year has certainly flown by! It's hard to believe we're into December already! We hope that you have been able to enjoy the simple things in life this year, and that you gained a newfound appreciation for our beautiful Maritime Bubble. All the best from HNWTA to you and your family, and we hope to see you on the trails in the New Year!



Winter Tree for the Squirrels???

Who are we to limit our tasty treats to just the birds?? Our Winter Tree for the Birds event was a great success again this year, thanks to our volunteers and the over 40 hearty neighbours who came out to safely make bird (and squirrel!) feeders on the Mainland Common Loop. Ducks Unlimited was there with display items and animal track casts to take home and paint! It was a great day all around, and we're so thankful that we were able to hold the event again this year. Make sure to check out our [Facebook album](#) for all the amazing photos from the day!

311 Contact Info has Changed

Any time you see something on any trail in the Halifax Area that needs to be repaired or improved, please reach out to Halifax by contacting 311! You can call 311 from your phone, or send an email to their new email address: ContactUs@311.halifax.ca. Make sure to take note of the case number provided to you so you can follow up if need be. No suggestion is too small! I requested a garbage can be installed in a park where there was always a lot of garbage, and a little while later, a garbage can was put in! I always say, Halifax doesn't know what needs to be fixed if we don't tell them!



Looking for gift ideas?

With the Holidays upon us and gift giving season in the air, it's time to start thinking about what to give our loved ones! A great idea is making a donation to nature organizations or trails groups in your area. The Nature Conservancy of Canada is having a [one day donation matching event](#) December 1, and [NS Trails](#) makes it easy to donate to any trail organization you want to support. This is to name only a few of the great organizations you could donate to. If you'd like to, you can donate to HNWTA through the NS Trails link. If you'd like a physical item to gift, [Halifax Trails](#) and [Hike Nova Scotia](#) have some great online shops! I actually really love our blow-up solar lantern from Hike NS. Great stocking stuffer idea! Another great idea is to buy a membership to HNWTA for a friend! Our new online form allows you to buy memberships for other people. Follow the link at the bottom of the newsletter to try it out!

Volunteer Opportunity for Amateur Environmentalists!

Do you know someone who is interested in environmental science and is looking for a volunteer opportunity? HNWTA along with Saint Mary's University has been monitoring the water at Belchers Marsh and Little Belchers Pond, and we need volunteers when the spring comes to help continue this monitoring! There is an online training and some equipment to borrow, but then you're on your way loading your data onto the [Atlantic Data Stream](#) website; an open hub for sharing water data. Keep this opportunity in mind if you are interested! We'll reach out again closer to the beginning of spring.



Project FeederWatch for Backyard Science!

Do you enjoy watching the birds in your backyard? Do you have a bird feeder? [Project FeederWatch](#) may be just the education and research project for you! Check out their website to find out more and to enroll in the program. This research has been ongoing for many years and is sponsored by [Birds Canada](#) and the [Cornell Lab of Ornithology](#). You will get to know the names of the local birds and enjoy their antics around the feeders! Another gift idea? A bird feeder & black sunflower seeds makes a great holiday gift for anyone who will be spending more time in Nova Scotia this winter! One of our group members had a cardinal at their feeder this year! Definitely worth keeping an eye out for those beautiful birds!

Share this newsletter with your friends!

If you enjoy this newsletter and the information that you get from it, please

consider forwarding this to your friends and family!
For the new people: Hello! You can click the button below to go to our website.
On the right-hand side of the page you will see a form that you can fill in to sign up on our mailing list and receive our monthly newsletters full of fun nature, trails, and events information. Hope to be hearing from you soon!!

[Signup for the Newsletter here!](#)

Join us!

Follow these links to learn more about projects and areas that we are always looking for volunteers to help us with!

[Naturalist HNWTVA Project](#)
[Call for Board Members](#)

[Calling all Volunteers!](#)

Use the button below to become a member and use our NEW online membership option! You can now fill out a registration form and pay your membership fees online

[Online Membership Application](#)



Copyright © 2020 Halifax North West Trails Association. All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

