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October 2020 Newsletter

I can't believe we're into Fall already! What a beautiful season; I can't wait to get outside and hike the trails as the leaves change colour. Thank goodness Tropical Storm Teddy was a dud and didn't rip off all of our leaves! So get out there and enjoy the beauty of our province, just please remember to take care of our trails by [Leaving No Trace](#) and [Picking up after your pets!](#) We're trying out a new email format, so please let me know how it works for you by emailing hnwtacommunications@gmail.com. I'm not sure if you can just reply to this email and chat with me that way, so you can try that out too! :)



Belchers Marsh proudly showing off its fall colours. Check it out for yourself!
Photo Credit: Richard Vinson

Community Walks in October

There's still a few spaces left in our community walking group that is a part of [Hike Nova Scotia's](#) Fall Hiking Series. Our walking group meets every Tuesday in October starting at 1:30 pm. The meeting point is the Kesheh Goodman Public Library, and each day will take you on a different walking path through the neighbourhood. Registration is required, so please email hnwtacommunications@gmail.com if you would like to attend. Snacks are provided, so please indicate if you have any food allergies. With the leaves starting to change, these walks will really help you appreciate the beautiful nature found within the city.

Mainland Common Loop Work Party

Our ever popular Mainland Common Loop Work Party is being held on October 17th! Come out and help HNWTA clean up the trail, rake the old wood chips, spread new chips for the trail, and clean up the rowdy branches. Work begins at 9:30 am and we will meet in the parking lot at the end of Westridge Drive (by the dog park and ball field). If you are interested in helping with this event, please let us know by emailing Frank at sandf@ gmail.com. The loop and bog will be really beautiful at that time of year, so you'll get a double benefit, helping the trails group, and experiencing amazing fall colours in the heart of Clayton Park.

Halifax Municipal Election Reminder

As I'm sure you've all seen, our municipal election is soon upon us! Election Day is October 17th, so use the time before then to really get to know the prospective councillors in your district! Ask them their interest in trails and protecting green-space in your area. The [Ecology Action Centre](#) has created a [great document](#) to help you talk to your candidates about their goals for the environment and our city. More information about the election and the prospective councillors can be found on the [Halifax website](#). Online and telephone voting starts October 6th if you'd like to avoid the crowds of Election Day. Vote on October 17th (after our work party of course!) and make sure your opinion is heard!

Fall Fun on the Trails

I bet you've seen the bushes and shrubs that are turning red along our trails. Have you wondered what they are? They're most likely native Huckleberry and Blueberry. Have you seen the bushes with small red berries? Those are a native holly bush or if it's prickly, it may be a rose hip. If you're not sure, use the [Naturalist](#) app (and contribute to [our project](#) while you're there!) and it can confirm (through smart AI and other Nature Enthusiasts) what that shrub really was! For younger users, download the [Seek](#) app! Either way, get your camera out and check out what's on the trails! If you're looking for a new way to enjoy the trails, why not try out Nordic Pole walking? Remember that you can borrow Nordic Poles from the Kesheh Goodman Public Library just like you would a book! Once returned, the poles are sent to quarantine before the next user can borrow them.

Thank you!

We want to send out a special thank you to all our trail users and trail monitors that are out on the trails and are regularly picking up litter they find. Without your help our trails wouldn't be so beautiful! Thanks also to our volunteers who fill up the dog-poo bag dispensers. I'm sure all the dog owners out there appreciate the backup bag if they forget their own!

Join us!

Follow these links to learn more about projects and areas that we are always looking for volunteers to help us with!
[Naturalist HNWTA Project](#) [Calling all Volunteers!](#)
[Call for Board Members](#)

Coming on Monday, October 5: 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.

[Become a Member Now!](#)



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