



Volunteer Month....Blue Mountain Birch Cove Lakes Regional Park Citizens Meeting....Earth Day

A big thank you to all the volunteers who help with our trails and pathways in the Mainland North area. Volunteers help with stewardship, filling doggie bag dispensers, clipping back those prickly rose bushes, replacing the occasional rotten board on the bridges, and leading walks and hikes. As we plan for trail activities for the spring and summer, let us know what you are interested in or how you can help on our great trails.

If you have been following the Blue Mountain Birch Cove Lakes Regional Park saga, you may want to attend an upcoming meeting at St Peters Church Hall (3 Dakin Drive, off Kearney Lake Road) for an update. Join us, along with other concerned citizens and supporters, on **April 12, 7-9 pm** for an **Open House**. Plans are underway to consider creating a 'Friends group' to support HRM staff and other decision makers. Share your ideas for next steps. You may

have some skills that will enable a volunteer group to move forward. Connect at [Eventbrite.ca](https://www.eventbrite.ca) to register and see more details. Presentation at 7:15 followed by Q&A.

You can participate in the upcoming **Earth Day cleanup** at Belchers Marsh Park and Trails. Grab some old clothes and rubber boots; you may get dirty! Families are encouraged to participate as we gather up the trash and treasures left behind over the winter months. Yes, we found a computer one year and lots of other curious discards. The aha! moment is that most of what is collected should have gone out on garbage day along with household garbage or recyclables. We can do better as a community but your help is still needed. Watch for the Glow signs with details for **Sunday, April 22**, Veterans Corner at (Parkland Drive & Langbrae). The Friends of Clayton Park are our partners in this annual event. If you cannot join us then, consider doing a cleanup at your convenience on a favourite trail or in your neighbourhood. HRM will come to pick up garbage bags & large items if needed; call 311.

Keshen Goodman Library is the home to 20 pairs of Nordic Poles. You may borrow these, like a book, for a 3-week period. Book a pair for yourself to try this new technique for a healthier lifestyle. Remind your walking partners to try them as well. In May and June, the Library will be hosting additional training workshops after the popular series held last summer. Watch for dates through the Library.

Remember to thank the volunteers in your neighbourhood, not just in April but all year! See you on the trails!

Wendy McDonald