



WETLANDS & WILDLIFE

FEBRUARY 2023



Celebrating World Wetlands Day



Did you know that **World Wetlands Day** is recognized on February 2 of each year and it is meant to highlight the importance of wetlands and the role they play in the ecosystem. In celebration of this day, FSM staff organized some winter walks to showcase Oshawa Second Marsh, our local wetland.

What is a wetland? Wetlands are areas of land that are seasonally or permanently flooded with water. The depth and saturation of the water varies seasonally. Plants that live in wetlands are uniquely adapted to the wet conditions. Some examples of common Ontario wetlands are: marshes, swamps, bogs and fens.

To learn more, please see page 2.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Friends of Second Marsh staff are busy planning interpretive and educational hikes and volunteer community stewardship activities for 2023. Please watch our website and social media for notices of upcoming events to our 2023 schedule.

LET'S DE-PHRAG THE MARSH!

It is hard to believe that we are entering into Year 4 of our Let's De-Phrag the Marsh project. We have our funding secure to do Invasive Phragmites management for 2023, thanks to the Great Lakes Local Action Fund provided by the Ontario Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks. Staff are currently busy preparing for spring. Please watch your emails, our website and social media, as volunteers will be needed to help with various parts of this project.

On January 18, FSM staff Wioletta Walancik and Board Member Susan Ellis staff attended and presented at the Ontario Invasive Plant Council conference: Building Resilient Communities - to foster a community approach to invasive plant management. The presentation was recorded. We will let you know when the presentation is available for viewing.



Funding for Year 4 of the Let's De-Phrag the Marsh! project is provided by the Ontario Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks.



AJ GROEN

Oshawa Second Marsh is a 137 hectare coastal wetland on Lake Ontario - a hidden gem in an urban setting. It is designated as a Provincially Significant Wetland (PSW), a Provincially Significant Area of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI) and has been designated by Oshawa City Council under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act for its Cultural Heritage Value. In combination with the adjacent McLaughlin Bay Wildlife Reserve and Darlington Provincial Park, it is a significant ecological area comprising 400 hectares of accessible waterfront open space.

Wetlands...

Why are wetlands important?

- Wetland plants help to clean the water by removing pollutants and excess nutrients.
- Wetlands act as carbon sinks and help to settle out pollutants.
- Wetlands act as sponges and help to mitigate against storms.
- Wetlands are also one of the most diverse habitats and they provide a home for a vast number of species.

To learn more, please take a look at these websites:

www.worldwetlandsday.org
www.ramsar.org

World Wetlands Day
2 February 2023



THANK YOU!

Friends of Second Marsh was selected as one of the charities for the Hamilton Oshawa Port Authority (HOPA Ports) Annual Fundraising Golf

Tournament this past fall. Just over \$11,000 was raised for Friends of Second Marsh. Thank you for supporting the work that we do.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Second Marsh and McLaughlin Bay Wildlife Reserve are on the Treaty and Traditional Territory of the Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation of the Mississauga Nation.

We respectfully honour the knowledge and understanding of the Indigenous stewards of these ancestral lands, and work to ensure that the voices of the first peoples are represented in our collections, programs and services.

Learn more about the Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation here:

<https://www.scugogfirstnation.com>



Welcome to our newest Board Member, Claudio Faria.

Claudio Faria is a Port Manager for HOPA (Oshawa) who excels at organizing and managing complex projects as well as problem solving. Claudio creates environments that foster teamwork rooted on respect, empathy and common goals.

Claudio has led various teams at GM Canada, Bombardier, Boeing, ATS Automation in diagnosing, root causing and solving some of the most complex technical and administrative problems. This body of work has spanned the globe, numerous supply chains and 20 years of practice. Additionally, Claudio has consulted on specific applications for medical equipment manufacture, various production line retrofits as well as manufacturing applications for the United States Navy and NASA.

Claudio has lived in Brooklin with wife and 3 children for the last 18 years. Over the last few years, Claudio has purposely slowed down from the fast pace and travel of manufacturing to spend more time with family and give back to the community.

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