



WETLANDS & WILDLIFE

DECEMBER 2024



Celebrating our Successes...

To celebrate several milestones, members of FSM were joined by Todd McCarthy, Acting Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks, Jennifer French, MPP for Oshawa, Regional Chair John Henry, Oshawa Deputy Mayor Bob Chapman and Councillors Marimpietri, Gray and Giberson, as well as representatives from the General Motors Canada, Greater Oshawa Chamber of Commerce, Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority, Ontario Power Generation and the Rotary Club of Oshawa-Parkwood.



Thanks to Ontario's Great Lakes Local Action Fund (Round 2), FSM was able to manage 19 areas of Invasive Phragmites in the fall of 2023. The total area treated was 1.55 hectares (3.82 acres).



We also celebrated year one of the Love the Marsh! Campaign. This is a five-year \$500,000 fundraising campaign that was launched in October 2023. To date, Love the Marsh! has raised over \$50,000.

We concluded with the launch of our Love the Marsh Art! initiative. Thanks to the generosity of Oshawa Impressions of Nature artist, Terry Gill, we are fortunate to be the recipient of his original artwork to sell. We were able to thank Terry in person at the event.

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MEMBERSHIP FEES DUE

Have you renewed your membership?

Do you want to become a member?

Our membership period follows the calendar year, from January 1st to December 31st.

Please visit our website at www.secondmarsh.ca and sign up or renew here:

<https://www.secondmarsh.ca/support-us/become-a-member/>

Season's Greetings

Happy Holidays and best wishes for the New Year. Please note that the office will be closed from December 23, 2024 to January 3, 2025.



PLANT STEWARDSHIP - UPDATE

We had a very successful season of Plant Stewardship in 2024. Thanks to all those who came out and put their hands to the cause! We could not have done it without you.



These are our 2024 Plant Stewardship Highlights:

Season: April to November

Areas managed (3): Oshawa Second Marsh, McLaughlin Bay Wildlife Reserve, FSM property

Volunteer days: 30

Volunteer attendance: 140

Volunteer hours: 657 hours including 246 hours of field work (that's equivalent to \$16,000 of in-kind work!)

Dominant introduced plant species managed (9): Dog Strangling Vine, European Buckthorn, Garlic Mustard, Goutweed, Himalayan Balsam, Wild Parsnip, Woodland Angelica, Yellow Iris, Mock Strawberry

Preferred tree/shrub species planted (16): including White Oak, Eastern White Cedar, Sugar Maple, Nannyberry, Eastern Ninebark, Pagoda Dogwood et al.

Preferred herbaceous species planted or seeds started (41): including Blue Vervain, Grass-leaved Goldenrod, Wild Strawberry, Common Wood Sedge, Big Bluestem, Starry False Solomon's Seal et al.



Winter Sowing Workshop

Our Winter Sowing Workshop was a great success. Thanks to all of our volunteers, we have sown seeds for 26 species of native plants.

These seeds will be kept outdoors over the winter. We will be monitoring their growth. Once the seedlings are big enough, we will move them to the McLaughlin Bay Wildlife Reserve, to help improve biodiversity in this area.

PHRAGMITES MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

Cutting of Treated Phragmites - along Townline Road South and on McLaughlin Bay Wildlife Reserve

JANUARY 2025

MARK YOUR 2025 CALENDARS

There are lots of Plant Stewardship activities planned for 2025 to manage dominant introduced species and plant preferred species. The first activity is on March 1, 2025 -- Cold Sowing Workshop (indoor activity to sow native seeds in recycled containers). On-site activities begin in earnest in April.

Plan to join us and continue this great biodiversity restoration work with Friends of Second Marsh. More info to follow.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Friends of Second Marsh acknowledges that the Lands and Waters on which we live, work and play in Oshawa are located within the Traditional and Treaty Territories of the Michi Saagiig (Mississaugas) and Chippewa Anishinaabe Nations, which are covered by the Williams Treaties. We recognize that these Lands have been cared for by the ancestors of First Nations since time immemorial, and that efforts continue today by First Nations remaining vigilant and protecting the health and integrity of Lands for present and future generations. We offer our gratitude to the First Peoples for their care and teachings about Mother Earth, our relations and our responsibility to all life. May we respectfully honour all Indigenous Knowledge shared with us that we might help ensure that it is represented and recognized in our programs and services. We are all related.



Thank you to the City of Oshawa for the financial and in-kind support for 2024. Your commitment and support of Friends of Second Marsh is greatly appreciated.

WELCOME!



Friends of Second Marsh would like to welcome Amber Derby to the Board of Directors.

Amber is an Oshawa resident and is an outdoor enthusiast who has a love for her community.

Since 2022, Amber has held the position of

General Manager of the Holiday Inn Express & Suites Oshawa. She also has extensive experience serving on boards and committees across a wide range of organizations. She serves as a member of the Board of Directors for the Greater Oshawa Chamber of Commerce, Rotary Club of Oshawa (was 105th President of the Rotary Club of Oshawa), and Attractions Ontario. Additionally, as the Chair of the Oshawa Tourism Advisory Committee and Fundraising Chair for Community Living Oshawa Clarington.

Her favourite place to visit in Oshawa is the Second Marsh. Amber spent some time hiking the trails on McLaughlin Bay Wildlife Reserve during COVID.

Amber is thrilled to be on the Board of FSM. She is excited about the opportunity to contribute to the important work of FSM and support its mission. She is particularly drawn to FSM's focus on environmental stewardship and conservation. Overall, Amber is excited to be able to contribute to something near and dear to her heart. Photo: Amber's travels from Peru

FSM BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Peter Taylor, President
- Claudio Faria, Hamilton Oshawa Port Authority
- aj groen, Oshawa Environmental Advisory Committee
- Susan Sheehan, General Motors of Canada Company
- Helen Break, Whitby
- Suzanne Elston, Clarington
- Amber Derby, Oshawa
- Gwen Layton, Oshawa
- Jennifer Bilas, Oshawa

HONORARY BOARD MEMBERS

- Dr. Margaret Bain, Distinguished Ornithologist
- Hon. Ed Broadbent (2001 - 2024), P.C. C.C., Former Leader of the NDP of Canada
- Hon. David Crombie PC, Founding Chair of the Waterfront Regeneration Trust
- Noel Hutchinson, Former Director of Oshawa Parks Services
- Glen Loates, Noted Wildlife Artist
- Jim Richards, C.M., O.M.C., Founder & Executive Director, Second Marsh Defense Association & Friends of Second Marsh

ADVISORY COUNCIL

- Dr. Andrea Kirkwood, OntarioTech
- Dr. Doug Holdway, OntarioTech
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- Dr. Ross James
- James Kamstra
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