



WETLANDS & WILDLIFE

JANUARY 2025



WORLD WETLANDS DAY WALKS



We had beautiful blue skies and sunny days for our Winter Walks. FSM held these walks in celebration of World Wetlands Day, which is observed on February 2 of each year. Thanks to everyone that participated. We hope that you learned a little bit about the Second Marsh and the McLaughlin Bay Wildlife Reserve and how alive these areas are in the winter season. To keep warm, our participants had an opportunity to try cedar tea and enjoy some hot chocolate.

FSM gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the Durham Community Foundation.



World Wetlands Day
2 February 2025



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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/>



This year, make Oshawa Second Marsh your Valentine and donate to our Love the Marsh! Campaign.

To date, Friends of Second Marsh has raised over \$50,000 with a promise of more donations and materials to come.

Support the work that we do! To learn more or to donate, please visit: <https://www.secondmarsh.ca/love-the-marsh-campaign/>



COLD SOWING WORKSHOP

Beat the winter blues with visions of green and Friends of Second Marsh!

Looking forward to spring? So are we! Plan to join Friends of Second Marsh on **Saturday, March 1, 2025** and start native plants from seed at our indoor Cold Sowing Workshop.

Did you know that you can start seeds in recycled containers and put them **OUTSIDE** to germinate? Yes, you can! Come learn about this low maintenance technique, native plants and help Friends of Second Marsh sow seeds in containers for transplanting out to McLaughlin Bay Wildlife Reserve. All supplies are provided for this activity.

We are thinking warmly of how much fun we will have with our volunteers getting our hands dirty after the chilly weeks of winter!

Register here: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/cold-sowing-workshop-tickets-1222260497049?aff=oddtcreator>



TEAM BUILDING IN NATURE

Calling all Durham businesses... are you looking for a team building activity in the spring and want to help a good cause?

Join Friends of Second Marsh for their Plant Stewardship Wednesdays (or another day that meets your schedule). Help us manage dominant introduced (invasive) plant species with your workmates. For more information, please contact Wioletta.



Metrolinx Staff spading Invasive Phragmites



SAVE THE DATE | Monday, February 24– Sunday, March 2

Invasive Species Awareness Week

Join the conversation on social media using the hashtag **#InvSpWk** to promote awareness of and work together to prevent and manage invasive species! Help protect our environment, economy and society from invasive species.



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.

A CHALLENGE

As the founder of the Second Marsh Defence Association that led the battle to “save the marsh”, in the 1960’s-80’s, and responsible for the transition to “Friends of Second Marsh” in the early 1980’s.....

I would like to promote a challenge to all “Friends” members/supporters.

In the first year (2024) of the multi-year campaign to raise \$500K, the organization was able to generate just over half of the first year (\$100K) target. A great accomplishment.

I would like to commend all those who donated to the cause and send “thanks” to all regardless of the amount you were comfortable donating at that time.

I would like to challenge all members/followers/supporters to support the hard-working staff and Board of Directors and the future of Friends, to make a tax-deductible donation to the campaign in 2025.

I would especially like to ask ‘old’ supporters from the 1960s’ - 80’s who were instrumental in seeing this precious wetland preserved to once again come to the call.

Not unlike myself, I’m appealing to a group ‘getting on in years’ and ‘facing the hardships of daily living’. However, any donation big or small is significant if Friends is to realize the final dream.

You came to the rescue 50-60 years ago, please consider doing it again.

Sincere and warm regards - Jim Richards

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
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- Suzanne Elston, Clarington
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- Noel Hutchinson, Former Director of Oshawa Parks Services
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- Jim Richards, C.M., O.M.C., Founder & Executive Director, Second Marsh Defense Association & Friends of Second Marsh

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