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MORE TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS!

The trails are
always open!
Please continue to
practice Social
Distancing

If you have had the opportunity recently to traverse the stairs over the old train bridge leading to the green trail, you will have noticed that the stairs have undergone an upgrade. Drainage has been improved, stair supports replaced and a new rope handrail has been installed.

Recent Highlights:



TAUNTON ROAD PARKING LOT EXPANSION PROJECT

After the successful completion of the Ochonski Rd parking lot expansion project, the operations team was excited to continue on with another parking expansion project. We have been working with the Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry to ensure that the expansion will have minimal environmental impact while providing a safer access point for the trails. The project will triple the number of parking spots available in this lot. We have recently received approval to complete this work. Construction will tentatively begin on Nov 8, 2021 and will continue for a couple of days. Please be prepared to use an alternate parking lot during this time.

- A bit of unfortunate news which impacts completion of this project:
 - We had locked up a supply of (30) Mill sawn 12ft by 6" Hemlock boards for construction of the fence around the parking lot but persons unknown cut the lock and removed this wood.
 - Anyone who may have information is encouraged to reach out to Durham Regional Police and reference report # 2021-704233



TRAIL EXPANSION AND MAINTENANCE

“Look deep into nature,
and then you will
understand everything
better”

-Albert Einstein

Our team of volunteers have been continuing their work maintaining and improving the trail network. You will notice significant improvement along the green, orange and red trails this year. With the help of member donations we have purchased a new battery operated weed trimmer (which Brian demonstrates below) as well as a portable generator to utilize electric powered equipment for cutting, drilling, grinding on projects such as stair improvements, parking lot expansion, bridge repairs, etc.

Our goal is to keep the trails accessible for the enjoyment of the families visiting either occasionally or on a regular basis. We recognize the value in having the opportunity to spend time in nature and we hope that our members take advantage.

You may have noticed a new pink trail? Yes! we have recently added a loop from the purple trail which will guide you back to the Taunton parking lot giving some additional options for the signed trail network.



OCLT Board of Trustees



BACK TO THE BOARDROOM!

2021 has been another interesting year for the Orono Crown Lands Trust Board. After holding all of our board meetings either virtually or outdoors at the picnic shelter over the course of the year, we finally got to check out our renovated space in the basement of the Orono Town Hall for the October board meeting. Starting from the foreground and going around the table we have:

Larry Lunn (Chair)
Susan Aitken (Secretary)
Brian Thompson
John Windatt
Ron Boss
Lindsay Champagne (Treasurer)
Tim Hutchinson

Missing from this photo but very much engaged are:
Adrian Green, Harry Linton, Lauren McBride, Dirk Woudstra (Vice Chair)



- Unfortunately, we were once again not able to have our annual membership BBQ in August. This is our opportunity to meet with you, our members. We are very hopeful that we can do it next year! In the meantime, if you would like to renew your membership, you can use the attached form and pop it in the mail. We thank all of you for your ongoing support of the Orono Crown Lands Trust and its mandate. We are fortunate to have access to this beautiful piece of land that allows us to connect with nature. For further information or to volunteer, you can contact us at oronocrownlands7@gmail.com