



The Friends of Ojibway Prairie

5200 Matchette Road, Windsor, Ontario N9C 4E8

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Visit our web site at:

www.ojibway.ca

Over 100 web pages of information on the *Friends*, Ojibway, wildlife, prairie wildflowers, birding and upcoming events.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT: Bonnie Ross
VICE-PRESIDENT: Andy Simko
SECRETARY: Larry Onysko
TREASURER: Shirley Grondin

BOARD MEMBERS

June Hurley
Russ Munro
Janet Tuite
Claire McAllister

FOOP News & Notes



Writers Do Apply

Do you have something to say about your experiences with Ojibway, or with volunteering?

Do you have an interest in learning more about the *Friends* and the events they are a part of? Do you like to write and would you like to see your words and thoughts in the newsletter? Do you already attend a lot of the *Friends* events and feel you could summarize what went on?

If you replied, “yes” to any of the previous questions please consider volunteering to write an article or two for the FOOP Newsletter. We have made up a list of events, celebrations and notable activities that need to be reported on. So if you have a flare for writing and would like to improve your computer skills, please give us a call at the Nature Centre at 519-966-5852.

Volunteers Needed

We have a variety of weekly and special events scheduled. There are many opportunities ranging from seed collecting, cleaning and packaging, food sales at seasonal festivals, native seed planting, writing articles for the newsletter, participating in spring and fall cleanups, and being part of the Board of Directors. Join us and meet some new friends!

New Nature Centre Underway!



Concept drawing

Ojibway's new Nature Centre is well underway. Currently the walls are up, the roof is on and the exterior masonry is complete. Next on the list is construction of the floor.

Here are some highlights of the past few months (more pictures can be seen at www.ojibway.ca):

June 30, 2010 Foundation work for new building.



July 23, 2010 Load bearing masonry work.



August 24, 2010 – View of front of building



Earth Day April 25, 2010

It was chilly and a little damp but over a thousand people attended this year's Earth Day celebrations at Mic Mac Park. New this year, vermi-composting workshops were held, attracting 100s of people, and thousands of red wigglers were adopted! The silent action and loonie toss helped raise funds for next year. Friends' members manned our display, answering questions, selling native prairie seeds and promoting our group while other members fed the hungry participants!



Plant Sale Success!

There were no opportunities for plant sales at the Nature Centre this year due to the construction so the Friends participated in a plant sale at the downtown market this summer. Many native plants were sold but many more people were introduced to the benefits of native species gardening! It was a great success!

Caution -Exotic Species Removal Volunteers

Every year the park staff and Friends members remove a variety of exotic and invasive species from the Ojibway Prairie Complex. The attached handout is important information about one such species, Wild Parsnip, which does occur at Ojibway.

FOOP Volunteer Opportunities

Throughout the year there are also jobs that are ongoing. If any of these opportunities spark your interest please call us and we will make an arrangement (time and day of the week) that fits into both of our schedules. Again, please call us if you are looking for something to do that will make a difference for a non-profit group. Of special note, all of the activities on this list can be used to fulfill the 40 hr. volunteer requirements for high school students.

- **Prairie Planters** Using our startup kit help to grow prairie plants for Native Tree & Plant Sales in the spring and fall and for prairie restoration plantings.
- **Newsletter Journalist** Write an article about a *Friends* event you attended; Submit your thoughts on a nature/prairie topic; an ideas list is available; learn or improve computer skills, compile articles for Newsletters.
- **Display Design** Brainstorm; develop and revamp existing *Friends* displays.
- **Board of Directors** Attend monthly meetings, plan *Friends* events; make important decisions regarding the *Friends*.
- **Grant Writing** Assist in writing grants for publications, special events, projects.
- **Nature News clipper** Clip articles from the paper or magazines you read – nature related topics, articles that mention Ojibway or articles that have a quote from Ojibway Naturalists.

Time to renew your membership?

We need you and your support for the Ojibway Prairie Complex to fulfill the Friends' goals. Please fill out this form and return it to the Ojibway Nature Centre to retain your benefits of being a Friend. Thank you in advance.



Yes, I wish to renew with the Friends of Ojibway Prairie and continue to support their efforts to assist the Ojibway Prairie Complex.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

Postal Code: _____ Email: _____

- SENIOR \$7 INDIVIDUAL \$10 FAMILY \$15
 CLUB/ORGANIZATION \$20 CORPORATE \$50
 ADDITIONAL DONATION \$ _____

(Please make cheques payable to The Friends of Ojibway Prairie)

Ojibway Nature Centre, 5200 Matchette Road, Windsor, Ontario N9C 4E8 (519) 966-5852

Thank you for your membership!

FOOP Volunteer Schedule

It is our hope that this list of volunteer opportunities will have something for everyone. Of special note, all of the activities on this list can be used to fulfill the 40 hr. volunteer requirements for high school students. If you are interested in helping or bringing out a group of friends to help, please contact us at the Ojibway Nature Centre: **519-966-5852** or ojibway@city.windsor.on.ca.

September- November

Seed Collecting	Tuesday	1pm	drinks, bags
Park Cleanup	Tues. & Sat.	1pm	bags and gloves

December

Seed Cleaning and Packaging	Tuesdays	1pm	hot drinks
Park Cleanup	Tues. & Sat.	1pm	bags and gloves

- Seed collecting, cleaning, packaging, scouting, and planting are all a part of the *Friends* Prairie Restoration Efforts.
- All activities begin at **Ojibway Nature Centre**, 5200 Matchette Road, Windsor (519-966-5852) unless otherwise indicated.
- Children under the age of sixteen must be accompanied by an adult.

FAMILY PROGRAMS AT OJIBWAY

Thrilling Thursdays! New!

From March through October Ojibway Nature Centre will be open in the evening on the 3rd Thursday of each month Below is the schedule of special programs we will be offering.

Please sign up early to avoid disappointment!

September 16 - Family - Bugs, Bats and Beyond - 7:00-8:30pm - \$6/adult, \$5/child

October 21 - Family - Out of this World (Astronomy) - call for time - \$6/adult, \$5/child

ADULT PROGRAMS AT OJIBWAY

Fall Hiking at Ojibway

Exercise your body and brain! These brisk morning walks with one of Ojibway Nature Centre's naturalists will introduce you to the many plants and animals in our area. Explore the Ojibway Prairie Complex and meet new friends. Senior discount available.

September 7- November 23, Tuesday 10:00 - 11:00 am, \$51/12 weeks

Fall Bird Migration Field Course

A series of morning field trips to observe the incredible variety of birds that migrate through Southwestern Ontario each fall. Saturday morning field trips (8:30 am - noon) to Point Pelee (Sunday for Holiday Beach in Nov). \$15 each (dates are tentative)

Oct 2, (Saturday) meet at the Point Pelee Visitor Centre

Oct 16, (Saturday) meet at the Tip parking lot, Point Pelee

Oct 30, (Saturday) meet at the Tip parking lot, Point Pelee

Nov 14, (Sunday) meet at the Hawk Tower, Holiday Beach C.A.

Dec 04, (Saturday) meet at the Tip parking lot, Point Pelee



For more information call 519-966-5852 or visit www.ojibway.ca