

## WATER, WATER, EVERYWHERE

Usually, I write a year end trail report that is published in the following Spring Newsletter. Instead, I'd rather let our members know what the Trails Dept. has been up to recently, or at least since the snow melted from the trails, which – as of this writing - was just 3 months ago.

Even though we had very little rain in May, we still had a very wet spring due to the tremendous amount of snow on the ground. The Main Trail through the Boyne Valley was closed for about a week after the Boyne River overflowed its banks.



Fortunately, the bridges and boardwalks were so well built that they weren't damaged. The two Side Trails east of the 1<sup>st</sup> Line parking lot were also closed for about two weeks due to the wet conditions. To counter some of this, 6 short re-routes were built on various trails to take the trail to higher – and drier – ground. In addition, two longer, more scenic Main Trail re-routes were built in the north – one by the Twin Silos, the other above Black Bank. Speaking of Black Bank, a major reconstruction effort was completed on the sidelogging west of Black Bank Creek. 20 22 foot cedars were cut, delimbed and debarked, and then slid, carried and dragged about 800 meters over land and through water to the work site, where they were put in place. Much thanks goes to Carl Alexander who was in charge of the lumber crew, Marlis Butcher who oversaw the sidelogging, and to the crew which included Norm Wingrove, James Griffin, Ian Shelton, Ralf Wroblewski, Ron Ritchie, Isabel Sheardown, Keith McEwen and me; who worked anywhere from one to five days on the project.

Some of you may have noticed the new cedar steps on the slopes in the Boyne Valley. Norm Wingrove – better know as the Step Father, due to his excellence at building steps – along with his nephew Koen and I have replaced 20 steps, and hope to have the rest of the job completed shortly.

A crew was also assembled to work on the staircase on the Carriage Trail in Mono Cliffs Park. Thanks goes to Jim Preyde, Brian Cornfield, Les Babbage, Ralf Wroblewski, Bob Collin and Carl Alexander for the fine job they did there.



And I suppose I should mention something about the grass, which is enjoying another banner year for growth. Once again I'm doing most of the cutting, but I'd like to thank Jim Preyde and James Griffin for helping me out; and Carl Alexander and Norm Wingrove for cutting the grass north of Mulmur's 20 Sideroad.

Hopefully I'll see you on the trail.

Carl Tafel  
Trail Director  
[highcounty@sympatico.ca](mailto:highcounty@sympatico.ca)

