

Trail Director and Trail Maintenance Coordinator Report for 2026 AGM

The major project completed this year was the removal of a bridge and main trail out of the deteriorating Boyne Valley flood plain. Unstable large trees destined to fall on bridges and boardwalks and increasingly severe ice jams and flooding make for unsafe conditions for hikers. The trail re-route takes a previous side trail out to 1st Line and north to rejoin the main trail within the park. The addition of Boyne Valley Rim Trail along the north edge of the valley provides various scenic loop trails within the park. Five YOU ARE HERE signs have been added at trail junctions to help hikers navigate the changes.

Another project involved moving the main trail east from 1st Line onto the BTC land purchased from Toronto District School Board in about 2007, providing a permanently secured trail.

Last year's ice storm damage opened up the tree canopy leading to rapid growth in many areas of the forest floor. Volunteers spent many hours cutting grass to keep the trail clearly defined and reduce the chance of ticks. Trail captains lopped branches to keep blazes visible and cleared fallen debris. These are ongoing processes that hikers truly appreciate when hiking DHL BT.

Carl Alexander