

Spring 2025

"Preserving a ribbon of wilderness, for everyone, forever."

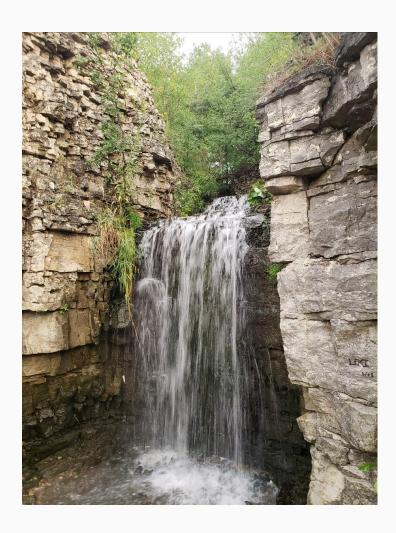


Image: Kathrin König

April Showers bring May Flowers!

Welcome to the spring edition of the Iroquoia Bruce Trail Club Newsletter!

The snow has fully melted giving way to potentially muddy adventures. The Bruce Trail is slowly coming alive with the popping colours of delicate spring ephemerals. This is truly a magical time to explore the trail. The abundance of snow and rain has given us an incredible waterfall season and lush greenery awaits those venturing out.

As you wander along the Bruce Trail, keep an eye out for the delicate Hepatica pushing its way through the forest floor. It is also almost time for Ontario's provincial flower, the Trillium, to create a glowing carpet of blooms along the trail.

Here's what you'll find in this edition of our newsletter:

- <u>Iroquoia Bruce Trail Club AGM</u> Come to our Annual General Meeting to learn more about what your club has been up to and see a presentation by Mark Harris, author of "Waterfalls of Ontario"
- <u>Trail Maintenance and Species Preservation</u> Saving protected species while keeping the trail safe for all
- Land Stewardship Plans in motion for this year's restoration projects
- Join Our Team! There is always room for more
- <u>Trail Treats</u> Calling all bakers!
- Hikes, Events and more! There are so many fun ways to join us on the trail
- <u>2025 Bruce Trail Hike-a-thon</u> Do what you love, while raising funds to help protect what you love
- New Badges to collect! Share your love of the Bruce Trail and collect badges
- Explore Crawford Lake at a discount! BTC Membership has its benefits. Don't miss out!

Happy trails!
The Iroquoia Bruce Trail Club

It's recommended to View this email in your browser

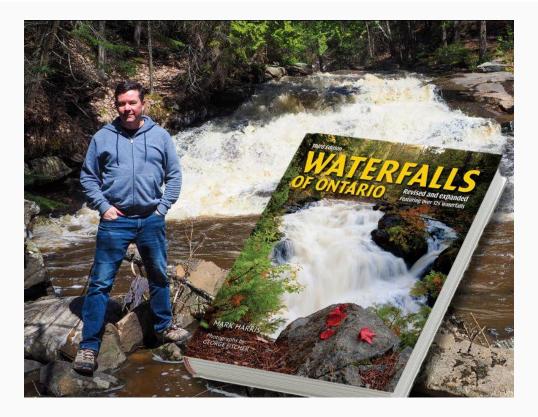
Waterfalls and the 2025 IBTC AGM

The 2025 Iroquoia Bruce Trail Club Annual General Meeting is happening on Saturday, May 10th and promises to be another exciting event!

This year's AGM events will include our first ever Meet-And-Greet! This is your chance to connect with your Trail Community while learning more about what your Club is up to. The hot lunch will be catered by Sweet Paradise Bakery & Delicatessen and is sure to be a palate pleaser. Our AGM and Volunteer Awards presentation will be held after lunch and the day will culminate with a presentation by our Guest Speaker: Mark Harris, author of "Waterfalls of Ontario".

To find out more information and register for the event, please click on the link below.

AGM Details and Registration



Mark Harris, author of "Waterfalls of Ontario"

Preserving Protected Species

The ability to recognize protected species such as the Eastern Flowering Dogwood and Butternut are critical to the maintenance of the trail. Especially when it comes to removing hazardous trees. A dead Ash tree recently fell and landed in the joint of a Butternut Tree just off the Adam Dopko Side Trail. This happened right near the BTC information sign outlining the significance and value of protecting Butternut trees.

The cutting of the fallen limb was too risky for Iroquoia volunteer cutters and private arbourist John Flatt was contracted to remove the fallen tree. The tree was successfully removed and both the sign and Butternut were saved.

Thank you to everyone for all your hard work!



Trees, Trees, and more Trees!

This winter definitely proved challenging for our TD&M Team!

The changing temperatures, late snowfalls and wind storms created a number of challenges for everyone. Between January and March, over 56 trees were removed by 29 volunteers, totaling 156 hours of work. The number of trees only includes those that were formally reported, the actual number is much higher.









Submitted by Peter Rumble, TD&M Director

Land Stewardship

Iroquoia Bruce Trail Club land stewards look after 390 acres of BTC managed land. This includes owned land and easements. With the arrival of spring, and the ground beginning to thaw, planning for conservation and restoration projects is underway. This includes planting of native species as well as invasive species pulling.

Want to find out more about our land stewardship projects and newly acquired properties? Stop by the Land Steward display at this year's AGM.

Cynthia Archer, Land Stewardship Director



McNally seed orchard in winter

Volunteer Opportunities



Volunteer with us!

Volunteering with the IBTC is sure to be a rewarding experience. Whether it is at an Info Booth, pulling invasive species, trail maintenance, there's always room for more!

Our Bruce Trail volunteers enjoy:

- Meeting like-minded people
- Helping the club by sharing their skills and talents
- Contributing to our mission of preserving a ribbon of wilderness, for everyone, forever.

There's a place for you at the Iroquoia Club!

Current Open Positions

Interested in applying? Volunteer applications can be submitted via the BTC volunteer application form at Apply Online To Volunteer | Bruce Trail Conservancy Please indicate your area of interest when completing the form.

We are currently looking a **Badge Keeper**. If you're interested in helping oversee the functions and operations related to the purchase, distribution, and supply of badges, please email Parvinder Sachdeva at parviysingh@gmail.com.

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Full details on website.

www.letshike.com

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Click here for more details!

Trail Treats



Calling all bakers!

The collection of recipes has begun for our recipe booklet. If you have a recipe for a trail treat that you would like to share, please email it to: brucetrailtreats@gmail.com

Come Hike with Us!

From Challenge Hikes to Fundraising Events - there's something for everyone!

There are so many exciting ways to participate in various types of club activities this year. Here are some of the upcoming hikes and events:

Registration is open for the Iroquoia End to End in 4!

Happening September 20/21 and 27/28, this E2E is sure to challenge you! A newly designed badge is available for those who complete the four days (approximately 30 to 35 km each day). For more details and to register, please visit: <u>Iroquoia E2E in 4</u>

Save the date! Steeltown Stomp - October 4, 2025

Looking for a distance and strength challenge? This is the event you've been waiting for! Climb up and down approximately 2,000 steps of the escarpment stairs, and hike 20 km of the Iroquoia Bruce Trail. Keep an eye on our Social Media for registration details!

City of Waterfalls Challenge - Various dates

There is still space available for the <u>City of Waterfalls Challenge Hike on April 26/27</u>. You can also add yourself to the waitlist for the weekend of May 3/4. This series of hikes is designed to highlight the abundance of beautiful waterfalls that flow over the escarpment in the Iroquoia section of the Bruce Trail. And yes, there is a newly designed badge!



Rainbow Hikes

Rainbow Hikes are offered periodically and are open to 2SLGBTQ+ folx and allies. The BTC Pride Badge featuring the colours of the Progressive Pride Flag, is complimentary. Our next two Rainbow Hikes are scheduled for May 17 and May 28 (evening hike). Please visit hikes.brucetrail.org for more information.

Bruce Trail Day - October 5 - Save the Date!

Bruce Trail Day is an annual celebration of the Bruce Trail and the wonders of the Niagara Escarpment. Keep an eye on our Social Media for more details as they become available. You can also visit <u>Bruce Trail Day 2025</u> for details on activities, as they become available.

Bruce Trail Hike-a-thon

The Bruce Trail Hike-a-thon is a month-long, self-led, hiking and fundraising event in support of the Bruce Trail Conservancy mission: Preserving a ribbon of wilderness, for everyone, forever.

Register, set a hiking goal, and seek donations from friends and family while hitting the trail in the month of May! Best part? All funds raised through Hike-a-thon 2025 will be matched!

Registration is now open: Bruce Trail Hike-a-thon



Membership Referral Program



New this year is the Bruce Trail Membership Referral Program

Now, you can share your love for the Bruce Trail and collect badges! It's easy as 1-2-3

- 1. Get your referral coupon code
- 2. Refer your friends and family
- 3. Receive benefits for both you and the person using your code

You can find more details here.

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Your Ad Here!

As one of the largest Bruce Trail Conservancy Clubs, we have a circulation of approximately 4000 subscribers. The eNotes newsletter is distributed quarterly by email.

Please contact Jessica Clark Barrow, Director of Fundraising at jessicaclarkbarrow@gmail.com to secure your space in our next publication

The Many Benefits of Membership

Membership has many benefits. The most important, of course, is that your membership fees will help the Bruce Trail Conservancy in their mission to "*Preserve a ribbon of wilderness, for everyone, forever.*"

But, did you know that your Bruce Trail membership also comes with a number of other benefits such as a **50% discount on your Conservation Halton Annual Membership**. The Bruce Trail Conservancy and Conservation Halton have a longstanding relationship, working together to protect the land along the Bruce Trail in the Halton watershed and encouraging people to explore the Niagara Escarpment.

To find more details on this generous offer, and additional benefits of a BTC Membership, please click on the link below.

BCT Member Benefits



The Sculpture Trail at Crawford Lake Conservation Area, one of 9 areas to explore and enjoy with your Conservation Halton Membership.

Photo: Kathrin König

Share your hike photos and experiences with us

We want to hear from you!

Instagram page: <u>iroquoiabrucetrailclub</u> and Facebook page: <u>Iroquoia Bruce Trail Club</u>.

E-Mail: info@iroquoia.on.ca

Let's do our part to respect and protect nature by staying on the marked trails and leaving plants, trees and wildlife untouched for others to discover and admire. Please leave the trails, forests, meadows and wetlands as you find them.

Sign up for the Iroquoia E-notes.

Iroquoia E-notes are for members and non-members. Our E-notes are sent out by email to your inbox regularly. Signing up is easy; go to the Club webpage www.iroquoia.on.ca, scroll to the bottom and you will see where you can sign up on the left hand side.









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