THE HULLETT PROVINCIAL WILDLIFE AREA

A Prime Multi-Use Multi-Season Facility USER GUIDE 2019-2020



Clinton, Ontario • 519-482-7011 • www.hullettmarsh.com 🛛 🖪 🔟



... extends a warm welcome to all those visiting the Hullett Wildlife Area

While you're visiting the Hullett Wildlife Area, see everything else the Municipality of

Central Huron has to offer!

Be sure to come and visit today!





Two golf courses – Woodlands Links and Bluewater Golf Course!



From unique shops, a wide range of restaurants and local attractions such as the CNR School on Wheels, the historic Ball 's Bridge, and Racetrack Slots, or see our heritage coming to life in picturesque murals which decorate downtown Clinton.

We're proud to have this fine recreational area in our municipality, and proud of its ever-increasing use by people from across Ontario and the northern United States.

www.centralhuron.com

A Message from... The Board of Directors

n behalf of the Board of Directors of the Friends of Hullett I would like to welcome you to the Hullett Provincial Wildlife Area.

If it is your first time visiting the wildlife area, take some time to review the user guide so that you are familiar with the rules and regulations associated with HPWA. If you have been here before, please check the map section as well as the rules and regulation section located on pages 4 and 13 for any changes that may have taken place since your last visit. Also do not hesitate to check out our website for more information on the HPWA and upcoming events. You can also follow us on Facebook @HullettMarsh and on Instragram @Hullett Marsh!

The Friends of Hullett Inc. is a strictly volunteer group of men and women from around Southern Ontario who spend hundreds of hours outside of their regular jobs to direct the management of day-to-day operations at the wildlife area. The Board of Directors meet monthly and correspond almost daily.

The BOD administers a large agricultural contract, which along with generous donations from the public, provides the funds for maintenance of the marsh, grounds, buildings, the funding for new and exciting projects, as well as the hiring of employees.

Our employees are carefully chosen based on their educational background, patience, and insight. We have been most fortunate to have employees that are self-starters. The nature of their jobs necessitates the ability to not only see the work at hand, but to work outside a game plan. This year we were extremely lucky as we have renewed our contract with Marsh Manager Scott Austin who is a long time local resident and founding Director of the FOH. Assisting Scott since 2018 is Greg Urguhart a fish and wildlife graduate who is taking on the responsibility of various marsh tasks such as: Phragmites removal, GIS mapping, data collection and management, day-to-day maintenance tasks and other various endeavors.

Scott has also managed to obtain two summer student employees through Candada Summer Jobs. Julia Beaven, a recent high school graduate is dedicated to maintenance and upkeep around

of the Friends of Hullett

the marsh. She has been working on many priority jobs this summer such as replacing parking barriers, signage and extensive marsh clean-up. Cassie Eveland, our Recreation and Event Coordinator has designed this year's User Guide, coordinated volunteers, and provided quality interpretive programing for the community throughout the summer months. Partnered with the O.M.N.R.F and Ducks Unlimited Canada, the Board of Directors continues to manage this amazing 2,200 hectare wetland complex in Huron County. The success of our operation depends on much more than the three senior partners. Our employees are indispensable as are the volunteers that manage many of our projects at Hullett and show up for workdays, either impromptu or planned. If you have an idea for improvement to the area, or a program you might want to see at Hullett, do not hesitate to bring it to the attention of the staff or directors.

The senior partners, Board of Directors, our employees, and our volunteers all recognize Hullett as a "jewel" tucked away in Southern Ontario.

If you are new to the Hullett area, or are a frequent visitor, you can participate in the Hullett experience by: hiking, hunting, horseback riding, canoeing, birding, or simply volunteering some gratifying time to the marsh. Regardless, you will not be disappointed.

Duane Inkpen, Chairman

Hullett has been signed in accordance with the **Trespass to Property Act.** These signs have a yellow circle that is 10 cm in diameter. They will refer to prohibited activities within the marsh.

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Board Members				
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CTAEE				

Marsh Manager: Scott Austin

GIS & Wildlife Technician: Gregory Urguhart





Help Maintain the Marsh... Become a 'Friends of Hullett' Member Contact us for more information... office phone: 519-482-7011 web: www.hullettmarsh.com • e-mail: fohoffice@tcc.on.ca 41378 Hydro Line Road, PO Box 1520, Clinton, ON. NOM 1L0



General Regulations:

MOTORIZED VEHICLES

Motorized vehicles are permitted on maintained roads and parking lots **only**.

PARKING

Daily parking is permitted between the hours of 5:00 AM and 9:00 PM. Overnight parking is only permitted at 40874 Summerhill Road and camper trailers are not permitted. All hunters please see page 13 for addition parking regulations.

VEGETATION

No person shall remove or cut any plants or trees without permission from the OMNRF or Hullett Staff.

DOG TRAINING

Retriever training activities on water are **not permitted** in **ZONE A** between May 15 and August 1 or in **ZONE B** between May 15 and July 15. Dogs are to be leashed or under immediate control of the handler. If you use live birds for training you must obtain the appropriate permits from the OMNRF Vineland Area Office. You may need one or both of the following permits: 1. Authorization to Conduct Field Trials and Training during closed season; 2. Authorization to Release Wildlife Imported into Ontario Propagated from Stock Imported into Ontario. The OMNRF office issuing these permits may be contacted at 905-562-1177.

HORSE ACCESS

Horse access is **not permitted** in **ZONE A** from October 1 to May 1. Winter access for horses is available in **ZONE B**.

SNOWMOBILES

Snowmobiles are permitted **only** on marked OFSC snowmobile trails.

WATER ACCESS

Pond access is **not permitted** in **ZONE A** between May 15 and August 1, and in **ZONE B** between May 15 and July 15. This includes retriever training activities, kayaking, canoeing and wading. This is to minimize disturbances to nesting waterfowl.

BOOKING FOR GROUP ACTIVITIES

Booking for any groups (dog trials, training, bird watching, horseback riding, etc.) may be scheduled by contacting the Hullett Office at **519-482-7011**. Any large groups found on the property that have not scheduled an event will be asked to leave the marsh.

HUNTING AND FIREARMS

Please see page 13 for hunting and firearm regulations.







Prohibited Actions

ALCOHOL

Alcohol is **not allowed** on public lands under Ontario Liquor Licence Act.

CAMPING

Camping is not permitted unless special permission is received.

COMMERCIAL OPERATIONS

Commercial operations will not be located on the property. No monopolization of the area is permitted. All persons and/or groups are expected to remove any and all equipment they bring into the area.

ATV's

ATV's are NOT permitted within the HPWA; except for Friends of Hullett management purposes, under the permission of the FOH, and in accordance with guided Whitetail Swamp waterfowl hunts. ATV's are **extremely** damaging to the trails, vegetation, and the natural ecosystem of the property. The marsh is patrolled and charges will be laid.

LITTERING

DO NOT LITTER! You are responsible for the removal of your own garbage and property.

MOTORIZED BOATS

All motorized boats are **prohibited**, including those with electric motors.

THE FRIENDS OF HULLETT WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE FOLLOWING DONORS FOR THEIR SUPPORT:



TD Friends of the **Environment Foundation**



Due to their generous contributions, Friends of Hullett is now more prepared to serve the community with interpretive events. New snowshoes, hiking poles, binoculars, butterfly nets, bug jars and more have helped us reach many families this year! That being said, FOH is looking for volunteers interested in leading interpretive events throughout the year!



Matt Schultz 37881 Crystal Springs Road R.R.1 Varna Ont. NOM 2R0

519-565-2385 matt@bluewatertaxidermy.com www.bluewatertaxidermy.com





223 HURON RD., GODERICH 214 JOSEPHINE ST., WINGHAM 665 PHILIP PL., KINCARDINE www.microagebasics.com

519-524-9863 519-357-1554 519-396-3274

IF YOU SEE A TICK, KNOW WHAT TO DO!





FEMALE WOOD/ DOG TICK



DOG TICK



There are several species of ticks in Huron County, but only an infected blacklegged tick can transmit the bacteria that causes Lyme disease. An infected blacklegged tick must be attached and feeding for at least 24-36 hours before the tick will start to transmit the bacteria, so early detection and removal of a tick is important.

The Huron County Health Unit conducts tick dragging in various locations throughout Huron County in the spring and fall; Hullett Marsh being one of them. This is done to help build a better understanding of the different tick populations in Huron County.

HOW TO REMOVE A TICK:

possíble.

Use fine-tipped tweezers. Grasp the tick as close to your skin as

Pull it straight out, gently but firmly. Clean the bite area thoroughly with

soap and water. Save the tick in a jar and bring it to the Health Unit or your doctor.

- Wear light-coloured, long-sleeved shirts, long pants, and close-toed shoes. Pull your socks over your pant legs. Conduct head-to-toe tick checks on all parties including children and
- pets.
- Apply an insect repellent, approved by Health Canada, to your skin and clothes and always read and follow the manufacturer's instructions. Shower after returning from the outdoors to wash off any loose ticks. Put your clothes into a dryer on high heat for 60 minutes to kill any
- possible ticks.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON LYME DISEASE AND WAYS TO PROTECT YOURSELF, VISIT WWW.HURONHEALTHUNIT.CA

Invasive Species: The Battle Within Hullett Marsh

The battle ground of Hullett Marsh; humans versus non-native, invasive species. A constant, endless battle of identification and removal. Invasive species "are plants, animals, and micro-organisms introduced by human action outside their natural past or present distribution whose introduction or spread threatens the environment, the economy, or society, including human health" (Government of Canada, 2004). Invasive species have many different names, such as: introduced, alien, exotic, foreign, non-indigenous or non-native species; however, they all refer to the same description. Separate from this description are naturalized species which "describes a species that was introduced to an area but that does not disrupt the native ecosystem" (Canadian Wildlife Federation, 2019). Hullett Marsh has clear examples of both invasive and naturalized species.

Beginning with an easier task, **naturalized species** include those which have been introduced and have not harmed the environment significantly (European Starlings), and those which have experienced a natural distribution range (Virginia Opossum and Ticks). In many cases, these species can become invasive if they begin to threaten the natural biodiversity of an area. Until they become invasive, these species are not an area of concern. On the battle ground, there are many more species to be worried about and to have the focus of humans.

Invasive species are adapted to overtake an environment. There are many *pathways* to move these species and introduce them to new area. Float planes, scuba diving, ballast water, live bait, hiking, unauthorized introductions, movement of wood, boating, horticulture and the pet trade are just a few of these ways. Human migration and transporting goods has led to many harmful movements of species that threaten our ecosystems. Most impactful to Hullett Marsh has been the ongoing battle with Phragmites. Phragmites (Phragmites australis subsp. australis) is an invasive perennial grass that came to North America from Eurasia. It is aggressive in its reproduction and spreads guickly, out competing native species for water and nutrients. Phragmites "releases toxins from its roots into the soil to hinder growth of and kill surrounding plants" (Ontario's Invading Species Awareness Program, n.d.). The impact of Phragmites is significant as it crowds out natural species including species at risk, grows extremely quickly, reduces water levels and affects society negatively in general. Hullett Marsh has spent the past three years in a war against Phragmites. With the help from Huron County Clean Water Project, Ausable Bayfield Conservation Area, Ducks Unlimited Canada, and many more, we have been successful in spraying and killing Phragmites around the marsh. Each year, new stands are found and targeted, as are stands sprayed in years previous which show new growth. A struggle currently is the lack of access to chemicals approved to spray Phragmites over water. Until these chemicals are created and approved, Hullett will continue its battle managing Phragmites.



Phragmites can grow over 12 feet tall as shown by these staff members.



Quickly, the battles within Hullett are growing. The Emerald Ash Borer (Argrilus planipennis) has ripped through Southern Ontario and other parts of Canada, killing every Ash tree in its path. The young larvae will tunnel through the tree's vascular system which delivers water, nutrients and sugars throughout the tree (Ontario's Invading Species Awareness Program, n.d.). Moved through humans transporting logs for fires and lumber, we can now no longer keep up with its damage. This devastating reality means an increased number of dead trees, posing a threat to human safety in our forests. However, you can still be hopeful for the return of Ash trees. When dying, the tree will produce a year or two of bumper crops (increased crop production) meaning it will produce double or triple the amount of normal seeds for the future years. To help maintain public safety, the Friends of Hullett have inquired into logging our forests. This would financially benefit the Friends of Hullett while also ensuring our users are safe from falling limbs.

The reality of invasive species is that there are many more than just these two discussed in detail. Purple Loosestrife, Eurasian Water-Milfoil, Oak Wilt, Dutch Elm Disease, Beech Bark Disease, Asian Long-horned Beetle, Wild Parsnip, Giant Hogweed, Himalayan Balsam, Garlic Mustard and Common Buckthorn are just a few of the many invasive species that threaten Hullett Marsh.

What does this all mean for the future of the marsh? In the future, the impact of invasive species will only become greater. Our battle is just beginning and is going to get worse before it gets better. There are many things that you can do to help! First, Friends of Hullett are always looking for help from volunteers, tasks such as pulling invasive species is a difficult task that our staff cannot accomplish alone. If you are in Hullett Marsh and

spot an invasive species, there are a variety of options you have! You can: contact the **Invasive Species Hotline at 1-800-563-7711 OR visit EDDMaps.org/Ontario/** or download the **EDDMapS** app on your IOS or Android compatible device to report your sightings. Alternatively, iNaturalist is a website and app that allows you to upload pictures of species where the public can identify them. Hullett Marsh is an active user on iNaturalist and it is listed as a place. You can also have an impact on invasive species through your daily actions. Please, do not transport wood between counties, clean your fishing and hunting gear between trips (including your shoes, clothes and hip waders!), clean off all watercraft between visits of waterways, and be aware of the species around you!

With this information, we hope you are more informed and ready to explore Hullett Marsh. Keep your eyes peeled for the amazing beauty of the natural species in this remarkable place, while also being aware of what invasive species may be hidden or right in front of your eyes.



The larvae of Emerald Ash Borers cut across the tree horizontally which kills it quickly, compared to native borers which travel vertically.

Phragmites begins as a green plant, as it seeds, it turns brown. You can clearly pick this species out from native species due to it's odd colouring in the winter.



Species Profile Virginia Opossum (Didelphis virginiana)

Opossums are North America's only marsupial and while they often have a negative connotation associated with them, this species is vital for the biodiversity of Ontario and Hullett Marsh. With climate change, the Virginia Opossum is becoming a frequent inhabitant of Southern Ontario as we experience increasingly mild winters. Previously, winters were too cold to encourage opossum's survival as they do not have fur to cover their paws, face or tail and would suffer from frostbite. With their growing presence, it is important that we have greater knowledge

on this vital species. Often mistaken for "possums", Opossums have very unique characteristics which have led to them being one of earth's oldest surviving mammals, designed for adapting to their changing environments! When born, opossums are the size of



a black bean and are immediately placed into their mother's pouch to grow (similar to a kangaroo!). As they grow, they develop prehensile tails, designed for grabbing and wrapping around objects such as trees adapting to their preferred habitats – forests and marshes!

Part of the reason Opossums have a negative reputation is due to their daily activities. They are nocturnal and have adapted their diet to eat everything and anything (garbage, plants, and carrion). However society does not recognize the necessity of our garbage cleaners, because the most important aspect of their diet is that their favourite snack just happens to be... **TICKS**! The National Wildlife Federation suggests that these unsung heroes will eat up to 5,000 ticks in one summer season, they are also unable to get or transfer many diseases that threaten humans including West Nile and Lyme Disease.

It is not just their diet or physical adaptations that have made Opossums survive, but their behaviours as well. When threatened, their first instinct is to make a scene of running, growling, belching



and urinating to divert predators. Instinctively, they will also "play 'possum" by rolling over, going stiff, drooling and slowing their breathing to mimic being in a coma, a state that can last up to four hours. This coma will make many predators believe the Opossum is dead and will then leave them alone. These behavioural instincts have allowed Opossums to become a prominent mammal in our ecosystems. With this information, the next time

you see an Opossum, take the time to appreciate their hard fight through life and remember... **5,000 ticks**!

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JORGE PAREJO

Tel: 519-565-5817 Email: jparejo@tcc.on.ca

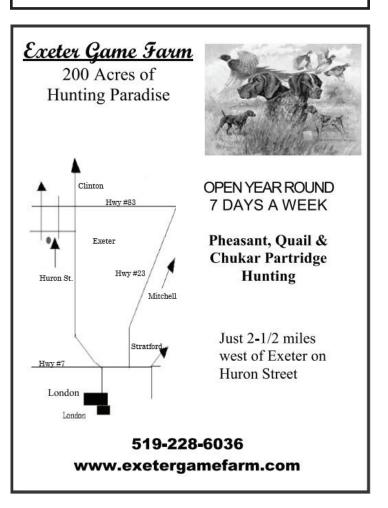




Photo Credit - Heaven's Wildlife Rescue Rehabilitation & Education Centre



Common Loon	□ Ring-necked Pheasant	Yellow-billed Cuckoo	Common Raven	Northern Parula
Red-necked Grebe	Ruffed Grouse	Eastern Screech-Owl	American Crow	Orange-crowned
Horned Grebe	Wild Turkey	Great Horned Owl	Black-capped Chickadee	Warbler
Pied-billed Grebe	Northern Bobwhite	Snowy Owl	Tufted Titmouse	Tennessee Warbler
Double-crested	🗆 Virginia Rail	Long-eared Owl	Red-breasted Nuthatch	Black-and-white
Cormorant	🗆 Sora	Northern Saw-whet	White-breasted	Warbler
American Bittern	Common Gallinule	Owl	Nuthatch	Wilson's Warbler
Least Bittern	American Coot	Common Nighthawk	Brown Creeper	🗆 Palm Warbler
Great Blue Heron	Sandhill Crane	Eastern Whip-poor-will	•	Pine Warbler
Black-crowned	Black-bellied Plover	□ Chimney Swift	🗆 Winter Wren	Mourning Warbler
Night-Heron	□ Semipalmated Plover	□ Ruby-throated	□ Sedge Wren	Canada Warbler
Trumpeter Swan	□ Killdeer	Hummingbird	□ Carolina Wren	□ American Redstart
Mute Swan	□ Greater Yellowlegs	Belted Kingfisher	□ Marsh Wren	□ Ovenbird
Tundra Swan	□ Lesser Yellowlegs	□ Red-headed	□ Golden-crowned Kinglet	□ Northern Waterthrush
Snow Goose	□ Solitary Sandpiper	Woodpecker	□ Ruby-crowned Kinglet	□ Common Yellowthroat
Greater White-	The second process of the second s	Red-bellied		
fronted Goose	Spotted Sandpiper		 Blue-gray Gnatcatcher Eastern Bluebird 	 Scarlet Tanager Northern Cardinal
Cackling Goose	Stilt Sandpiper	Woodpecker		
Canada Goose	Pectoral Sandpiper	Yellow-bellied		Evening Grosbeak
Wood Duck	□ Semipalmated	Woodpecker	Hermit Thrush	Rose-breasted
Green-winged Teal	Sandpiper	Downy Woodpecker	Swainson's Thrush	Grosbeak
Blue-winged Teal	U White-rumped	Hairy Woodpecker	Wood Thrush	Indigo Bunting
American Black Duck	Sandpiper	Northern Flicker	American Robin	Eastern Towhee
Mallard	Least Sandpiper	Pileated Woodpecker	Gray Catbird	American Tree Sparrow
Northern Pintail	Baird's Sandpiper	Olive-sided Flycatcher	Brown Thrasher	Clay-colored Sparrow
Northern Shoveler	Upland Sandpiper	Least Flycatcher	Northern Mockingbird	Chipping Sparrow
□ Gadwall	Dunlin	Alder Flycatcher	Bohemian Waxwing	Fox Sparrow
American Wigeon	□ Short-billed	Willow Flycatcher	Cedar Waxwing	Field Sparrow
Canvasback	Dowitcher	Yellow-bellied	American Pipit	Vesper Sparrow
□ Redhead	Wilson's Snipe	Flycatcher	European Starling	Savannah Sparrow
□ Ring-necked Duck	American Woodcock	Eastern Wood-Pewee	Philadelphia Vireo	Grasshopper Sparrow
Greater Scaup	Red-necked	Eastern Phoebe	Blue-headed Vireo	Song Sparrow
Lesser Scaup	Phalarope	Great Crested	Yellow-throated Vireo	Swamp Sparrow
Common Goldeneye	Wilson's Phalarope	Flycatcher	Warbling Vireo	White-crowned
Bufflehead	Bonaparte's Gull	Eastern Kingbird	Red-eyed Vireo	Sparrow
Hooded Merganser Common Morganser	□ Ring-billed Gull	Northern Shrike	□ Golden-winged Warbler	Nelson's Sparrow
 Common Merganser Red-breasted 	Herring Gull	Loggerhead Shrike	Blue-winged Warbler	Lincoln's Sparrow
	□ Great Black-backed	Horned Lark	Nashville Warbler	U White-throated
Merganser Ruddy Duck 	Gull	Purple Martin	Yellow Warbler	Sparrow
Turkey Vulture	Caspian Tern	Tree Swallow	Chestnut-sided Warbler	House Sparrow
	□ Forster's Tern	□ Northern Rough-	Magnolia Warbler	Dark-eyed Junco
□ Bald Eagle	Common Tern	winged Swallow	□ Yellow-rumped Warbler	□ Snow Bunting
□ Golden Eagle	□ Black Tern	□ Bank Swallow	□ Black-throated Green	□ Bobolink
□ Northern Harrier	□ Rock Pigeon	□ Cliff Swallow	Warbler	Red-winged Blackbird
□ Sharp-shinned Hawk	□ Mourning Dove	□ Barn Swallow	Bay-breasted Warbler	□ Eastern Meadowlark
 Cooper's Hawk 	□ Black-billed Cuckoo	□ Blue Jay	Cape May Warbler	Rusty Blackbird
□ Northern Goshawk		L Diuc Juy		Common Grackle
□ Red-tailed Hawk	Record your cightin	gs using eBird or iNatur	waliet ! This Mans all	□ Brown-headed
	Record your signing	ys using epira or invala	unsu; i mis accous acc	- Brown-nedueu

- Red-tailed Hawk
 Red-shouldered Hawk
- Broad-winged Hawk
- Rough-legged Hawk
- American Kestrel
- Peregrine Falcon
- Merlin

Record your sightings using eBird or iNaturalist! This allows all users and staff to keep a record of when and where birds are seen. They are free apps you can download on IOS, Android and Google Play. You do not need data on your phone to record on the spot but can record and submit digitally another time!

Cowbird

□ Purple Finch

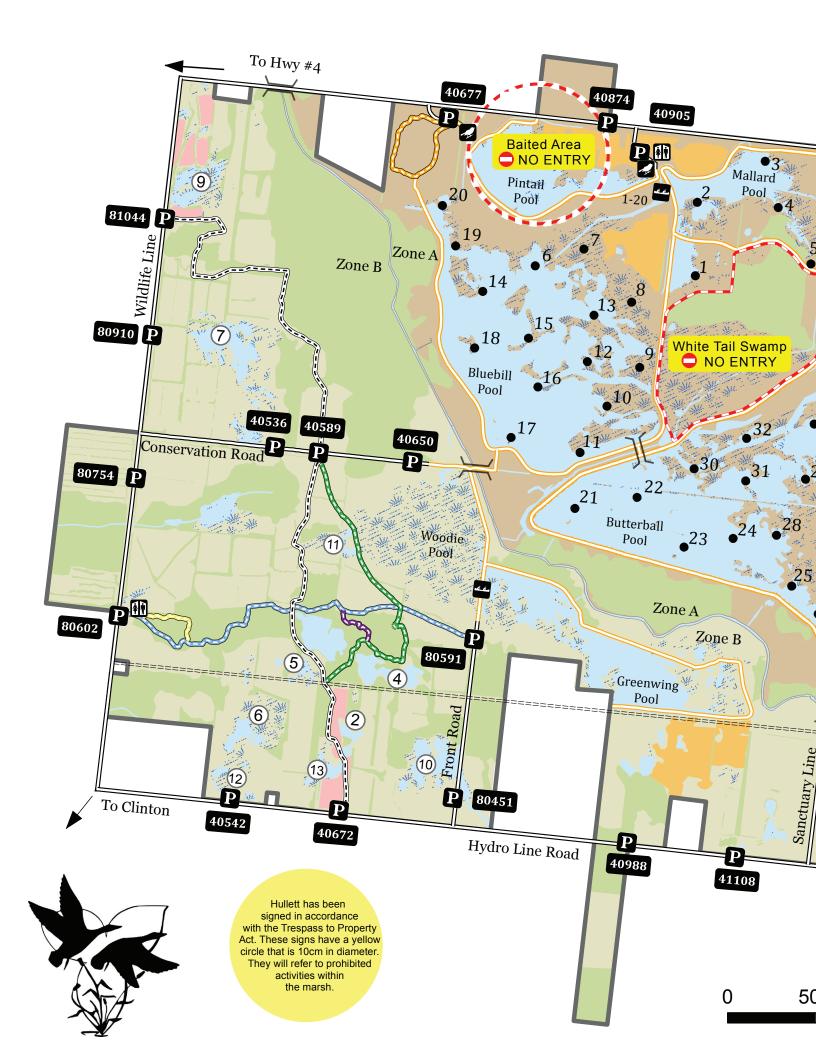
□ House Finch

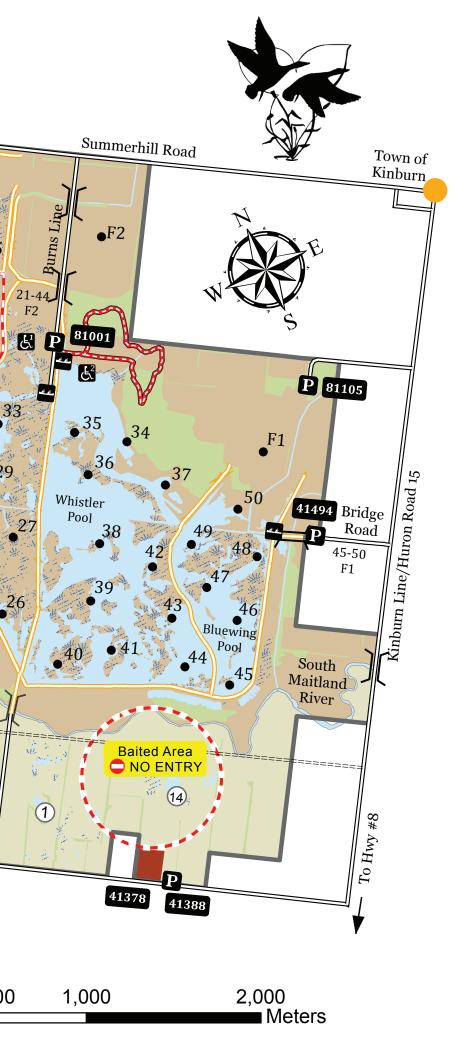
D Pine Siskin

□ Orchard Oriole

□ Baltimore Oriole

Lapland Longspur







CONTRACT.	Strate 2 P. State	
<u>GPS H</u>	UNTING STAKES	FOR "A" ZONE
Stake	Latitude	Longitude
1	38' 14.071"	27' 24.831"
2	38' 26.261"	27' 16.535"
3	38' 27.917"	26' 56.393"
4	38' 19.104"	26' 58.276"
5	38' 7.066"	26' 56.767"
6		28' 0.920"
4	38' 28.097"	
7	38' 27.145"	27' 47.880"
8	38' 14.493"	27' 42.472"
9	38' 2.900"	27' 47.560"
10	37' 58.675"	27' 58.327"
11	37' 53.13"	28' 10.472"
12	38' 7.493"	27' 58.083"
13	38' 14.646"	27' 52.783"
14	38' 28.423"	28' 16.277"
15	38' 16.454"	28' 10.248"
16	38' 7.463"	28' 13.257"
17	38' 1.030"	28' 24.855"
18	38' 18.937"	28' 23.77"
19	38' 37.632"	28' 17.347"
20	38' 45.474"	28' 16.053"
21	37' 44.107"	28' 17.582"
22	37' 41.124"	28' 2.029"
23	37' 29.153"	27' 56.448"
24	37' 26.804"	27' 44.070"
25	37' 14.197"	27' 35.585"
26	37' 7.435"	27' 32.410"
27	37' 19.569"	27' 21.660"
28	37' 23.962"	27' 33.651"
29	37' 31.176"	27' 20.989"
30	37' 41.579"	27' 45.745"
31	37' 35.528"	27' 35.034"
32	37' 42.646"	27' 30.268"
33	37' 39.797"	27' 13.066"
34	37' 26.811"	26' 45.214"
35	37' 32.473"	26' 56.233"
36	37' 24.299"	26' 57.600"
37	37' 16.553"	26' 40.766"
38	37' 11.801"	27' 2.326"
39	37' 2.790"	27' 10.513"
40	36' 54.694"	27' 24.907"
41	36' 52.902"	27' 10.929"
42	37' 3.769"	26' 52.450"
43	36' 53.619"	26' 53.490"
44	36' 44.405"	26' 55.608"
45	36' 37.843"	26' 47.209"
46	36' 47.100"	26' 38.000"
47	36' 56.094"	26' 42.087"
48	36' 57.352"	26' 27.150"
49	37' 4.238"	26' 40.273"
50	37' 6.848"	26' 26.513"
F1	37' 14.543"	26' 14.47"
F2	38' 3.386"	26' 29.118"
PAREN		

WATERFOWL OPENING DAY FOR DUCKS

Hunters are required to participate in a draw conducted by the FOH and the OMNRF (does not apply to early goose season). The purpose of this draw is to ensure an equitable allocation of hunting opportunities and encourage safe hunting for everyone.

The draw takes place the Friday before opening day at noon.

To participate in the draw, waterfowl hunters must park in front of a numbered barrier in parking lot 40874 Summerhill Road, and be present with the vehicle until the time of registration. Registration time begins at 10:00 AM on the Friday morning and the draw is made at 12:00 PM.

The draw determines the order of choice for hunting stakes, not the stake itself.

The first 52 motor vehicles will qualify for the draw (unoccupied vehicles are not eligible).

In the event that all 52 stakes are not taken in the draw, the remaining stakes will be allocated on a first come, first serve basis.

Two people may occupy a hunting stake but only one draw per vehicle will be permitted.

Upon registration, hunters will receive a Hunter Validation/Harvest Card (HV/HC), at which time hunters are to deposit a piece of identification (NOT any licence required to hunt, possess firearms, or operate a vehicle) with the parking lot operator. Identification will be returned to the hunter at the conclusion of the hunt after their daily harvest has been checked. Information collected on birds checked is used for managing waterfowl in Ontario.

The HV/HC MUST be displayed in a manner so that it can be easily seen, preferably on the dash of the vehicle.

Hunting in **ZONE A** After the Opening Day

To provide a fair and equal opportunity to all hunters after opening weekend of waterfowl season, hunters that arrive before 5:00 AM must:

- Line up in the overflow parking lot (40874 Summerhill Road) on a first come, first serve basis at one of the numbered parking barrier that corresponds to one of 52 hunting stakes.
- 2. After 5:00 AM, hunters must proceed to the parking lot corresponding with the stake number they have selected to hunt from.

Handicap Accessible Blinds

There are two handicap accessible blinds for your convenience at the Hullett Marsh. Please refer to the accompanying map for locations. Use of these facilities are to be reserved by calling the FOH Office at 519-482-7011 during normal business hours prior to your hunt.

Additional Comments

Trail and channel markers are placed to help you find some stakes. The markers and stake numbers will show up in the beam of a flashlight.

We urge all hunters to scout the area ahead of time and take a compass with you. Many stakes will be almost impossible to find in the dark unless you know the area well. Please refer to GPS data for stakes.

Stakes numbered 1 – 50 are permanent locations. Stakes F1 and F2 are field hunting stakes and are placed after crop harvest.

Wading in unfamiliar waters can be extremely dangerous. Chest waders will be required in most cases. Keep in mind that open water can mean deep water, especially near dykes.

Sky-busting shows poor sportsmanship and results in crippled birds. This is strongly discouraged at Hullett. Know your shotgun and its limitations.

Due to management practices, water levels may fluctuate and shorelines may change.

Some stakes may be closed at the OMNRF's discretion during certain periods to restrict hunting activity near waterfowl banding sites and special events such as youth hunts. If done, notices will be posted at the parking space for that stake.

Access to Hunting Stakes

Walk-in (chest waders highly recommended): 1-9, 11, 22, 27, 32, 33, 42, 46, 48-50. The water level within the ponds are actively managed by Ducks Unlimited Canada and the FOH. Access will change from year to year and season to season.

NOTE: Some stakes may be shut down during early goose season for waterfowl leg banding.

Hunting at Hullett Rules & Regulations

The Boundary between **ZONE A** and **ZONE B** is the South Maitland River

ZONE A Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations:

ZONE A is a unit consisting of 1,020 ha (2,520 acres) of land of which 680 ha (1,680 acres) are flooded with shallow open water. The average depth within the five compartments is approximately 50 cm (20 in). Within **ZONE A**, there are 52 hunting stations (stakes) available.

The following regulations apply:

- 1. To lawfully hunt migratory birds, during their open season, you must park one vehicle in a numbered space in a designated parking lot. The number of your space permits you to hunt at the stake with the same number. Stake locations are shown on the user guide map. Please refer to Waterfowl Hunting Draw Procedure and Stake Selection in **ZONE A** to learn how to get your stake for waterfowl hunting.
- 2. Hunters must keep their firearms unloaded and encased except while occupying the blind or stake.
- 3. Only two people are permitted at any stake including non-hunters.
- 4. The two people must hunt within 30 metres of the blind or stake that is marked with the same number as the vehicles parking space.
- 5. Portable blinds may be used. No person shall cut any vegetation, nor erect and leave a blind of any fashion.
- 6. Stake numbers F1 and F2 are field hunting stakes. These stakes will be open for hunting once crops are harvested. Please refer to the hunting page on our website for details.
- 7. There are two accessible blinds available for your convenience. Please refer to the accompanying map for locations. The use of these blinds are to be reserved by calling the FOH Office at 519-482-7011 prior to your hunt.

ZONE A Small Game Hunting Regulations

It is lawful to hunt small game in **ZONE A** only if the following conditions are adhered to:

- 1. The season for migratory birds must be **closed**.
- 2. The vehicle arrived in must be parked in a designated lot for **ZONE A** but not in a parking space designated for a waterfowl stake.

BIG GAME HUNTING IS NOT PERMITTED IN ZONE A.

ZONE B is South/West of the South Maitland River

ZONE B is a unit consisting of 1,060 ha (2,620 acres)

This zone consists of agriculture fields, meadows, forests, tall grass prairies, marginal woodland, swamps, and ponds.

- All game for which there is an open season, and during that open season, may be hunted under the following conditions:
- All hunters must park in one of the designated parking lots and position their vehicle in front of an unnumbered barrier. This parking space permits all

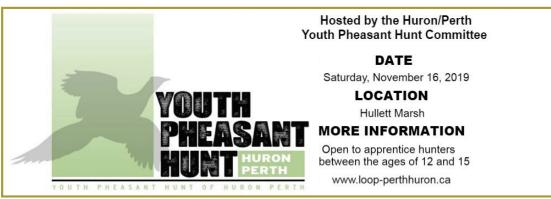
hunters in the vehicle to hunt anywhere in **ZONE B**.

• As of January 1, 2014 an OMNRF licence is no longer required to hunt raccoon at night but a licensed dog is still required. Coordination with, and notification to, the FOH is requested in order to verify reports of shooting on the property at night.

Pheasant Hunting

During pheasant season, FOH purchases 1,000 Ring-neck Pheasants from Upland Pheasantry for the purpose of hunting in **ZONE B only**. Pheasants are released at intervals during the open season and are not scheduled to specific days. FOH staff are not authorized to inform hunters of release locations, dates or times. The birds released are provided without charge to the public but it is highly recommended that hunters support the Friends of Hullett **Pheasant Challenge**. With the purchase of a ticket you are entered into a draw to win a **portable generator** or **Over-Under Shotgun**! 20% of the birds are banded before release and you can win a small prize when you return your birds band.

The **Pheasant Challenge** is sponsored by **Ideal Supply** and **Clinton Sporting Goods** with our sincere thanks. Tickets are available at the *Exeter, Goderich, Mitchell, Seaforth, Stratford, Wingham, and St. Marys* Ideal Supply locations. You may also purchase tickets, by chance, at the Hullett Office Complex and *Clinton Sporting Goods (519-606-3006)*. If you harvest a banded pheasant please contact the Hullett Office to claim your prize at fohoffice@tcc.on.ca or 519-482-7011. ****For additional hunting regulations at Hullett, please visit http://www.hullettmarsh.com/hunting.html**



General Hunting Rules

Firearms

All roadways within Hullett are considered maintained. It is illegal to have a loaded firearm within eight (8) meters of a maintained road. **Hunters are not exempt from any federal or provincial laws regarding firearms while hunting in Hullett.**

Hunting

Hunting is not permitted near maintenance buildings, or on neighbouring private land, without the permission of the landowner.

A retriever, waders or canoe will be necessary to ensure retrieval of all birds shot. Hunters are required by the Migratory Birds Convention Act to retrieve downed game.

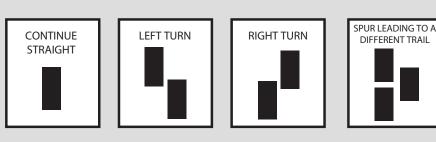
Hunting is prohibited within 400 metres of waterfowl baiting locations. Bait sites are marked on the user guide map and are signed on the property.

From June 1 to September 1, **hunting is prohibited** on or near the nature trails.

Consult the Hunting Regulations Summary for a more detailed listing of Ontario's Hunting regulations or view the summary online at: https://www.ontario.ca/document/o ntario-hunting-regulations-summary

Hullett Nature Trails

The HPWA consists of seven different coloured trails, and our dyke systems. A large variety of ecosystems, wildlife, vistas and plants can be seen on our trails and viewing stands. Our trails have all been blazed according to a standardized method used across North America (see right). The colour of the paint blaze corresponds to the colour of the trail on the map.



Purple Trail: Zone B

Length: 0.3 km Difficulty: Easy Time: 5-10 min. Slope: 0-3% Min. EL: 304 m Max. EL: 307 m Only accessible by the connected Blue and Green trails, in this short trail section you will find mixed ecosystems and a large number of beech trees, whose trunk resembles elephant legs.

White Trail: Zone B

Length: 4.7 km Difficulty: Medium Time: 60-90 min. **Slope:** 0-9% Min. EL: 300 m Max. EL: 313 m The longest trail in Hullett, running across the entirely of the marsh, you visit nearly all habitats seen in the marsh! View the different wildlife within each habitat and see their individual importance.

Blue Trail: Zone B

Length: 2.3 km Difficulty: Medium Time: 30-50 min. Slope: 0-8% Min. EL: 298 m Max. EL: 309 m This trail meanders through both woodland and meadow habitats while connecting to all other trails in Zone B. Great for all wildlife, especially wildflowers, birds and amphibians!

Length: 0.4 km Difficulty: Easy Time: 10-15 min. **Slope:** 0-4.5% Min. EL: 299 m Max. EL: 304 m Connecting to Blue Trail, this path has been devastatingly hit by the invasive species Emerald Ash Borer creating a unique habitat where the forest floor is flourishing with an abundance of species.

Green Trail: Zone B

Length: 2.4 km Difficulty: Medium Time: 30-50 min. **Slope:** 0-8% Min. EL: 299 m Max. EL: 313 m With a mix of woodlands and meadows there is an even mix of sun and shade on this trail. Raptor nests and Wood Duck boxes are just small highlights to be seen on this trail.







Dyke System

With over **17 km** of dyke systems throughout the marsh, you will always have somewhere new to explore! These dykes are present in both zones, are often flat and easy hikes. There is minimal tree coverage, but a lot of beautiful, open water. Be on the lookout for waterfowl and wetland bird species and many other types of wildlife!

Photo Credit: Conrad Kuiper

Orange Trail: Zone A

Length: 1.2 km Difficulty: Medium Time: 20-30 min. Slope: 0-8% Min. EL: 303 m Max. EL: 315 m With access to the highest point in the marsh, this trail is located on old agricultural fields which have grown into forests. Beautiful views of

Bluebill and Pintail pools with access to the dyke systems.

Message From The Marsh Hello Hullett Users, my name is Scott Austin and I have been fortunate enough to be the care-taker of this great property since care/2012, Habitat care public was and

Length: 2.2 km Difficulty: Medium Time: 30-50 min.

Red Trail: Zone A

Min. EL: 298 m Max. EL: 303 m

The newest trail to Hullett, this path goes through mature forests and fallow fields. Please be aware that this trail is lined with Poison Ivy in places,

including vines winding up trees.

the care-taker of this great property since early 2013. Habitat care, public use and

community involvement are major priorities in the management of the Hullett Provincial Wildlife Area. Working as our GIS and Wildlife Technician for the second year is Greg Urguhart. Greg's skills and passion have made a huge difference in the HPWA in 2018 and 2019! 2019 Season Highlights

- Hiring of 2 summer students with funding provided by the Federal Government. With this hiring we were able to produce interpretive events for the community and maintain the FOH property.
- 500 tonnes of gravel placed and graded on Hullett roads, agricultural access points and parking lots by the Municipality of Central Huron at no cost to FOH.
- Planning and implementation of the 4th annual Hullett Marsh Youth Waterfowl Clinic in celebration of Waterfowl Heritage Day.

Slope: 0-3%

- Continued rebuilding of parking lot barriers in Zone B.
- Phragmites removal, targeting all known sites on the property for another year. This large project is to support additional clean-up of areas sprayed in 2018. Funding has been provided by the Huron County Clean Water Project.
- Signing of five year agricultural agreement.
- · Volunteer led turtle nest protector project with 16 Snapping Turtle nests successfully protected.
- Repairs to the Greenwing Dyke completed by Ducks Unlimited Canada.
- The 6th annual Dinner and Auction was a huge success, raising more than \$10,000!
- 1,000 pheasants will be released this fall and we encourage you to support the Ideal Supply Pheasant Challenge raffle in 2019 to provide funds for the 2020 release. In 2019, the prizes remain the same: a lovely shotgun as the first prize donated by Clinton Sporting Goods and a generator as the second prize donated once again by Ideal Supply.

Please contact us by email at fohoffice@tcc.on.ca with your ideas, comments and concerns. We would also welcome you as a volunteer to help us in varied tasks that are rewarding for you!

Scott Austin, Marsh Manager

Conservation It's more than just Hunting By: Chris Ambrose & Jason Bayne

Conservation is defined as the act of preserving, guarding and protecting. When talking about a single animal, **hunting** doesn't fit the definition. It's only in a broader sense—where **conservation** refers to protecting and preserving biodiversity, the environment and natural resources—does **hunting** have value.



When hunters are questioned about our justifications for hunting we often state the benefits to conservation. While it is true that purchasing Migratory Game Bird а Permit Hunting with a Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp along with other hunting licences contribute monetarily to conservation, is this enough on our part as hunters or should we be doing more?

Chris Ambrose

The animals we hunt are a very small part of the much larger ecosystems in which both humans, plants, and animals interact. Think back to the last hike you took; how many of the various plants and animals that you encountered on your trip could you properly identify and what could you do to help them thrive?

Wood Duck boxes and Mallard nesting tubes are common programs in which hunters often volunteer their time. Some would consider that this is a selfish focus as it is an act which hopes to specifically increase the numbers of the animals we pursue. Hunters often plant specific food plots for deer, focusing only on the plants that deer are attracted to. Do these plants serve any other ecological purposes besides attracting and growing deer? Do many of us help with other habitat programs for animals we can't hunt? Although programs that focus on non-game species are not as popular among hunter-conservationists, they provide significant benefits to the ecosystem as a whole. In addition to our duck nesting programs, Hullett has programs such as Eastern Bluebird nesting boxes and turtle nest site monitoring.

Habitat is another area where we as hunters focus. Do our improvements benefit more than the target species? Are we native helping plants or spreading invasive non-natives? We need to find ways to help more than what we hunt. Promoting and participating in conservation and protection of all our native plants and animals could be vital to not only the future of hunting, but the future of the planets ecosystem as a whole.



Jason Bayne

Youth Waterfowl Clinic

Every September, Friends of Hullett host a Youth Waterfowl Clinic where young waterfowl hunters are paired up with an experienced member of the public to gain knowledge and skills on waterfowl hunting. This is a two weekend event where youth experience first a day of conservation, learning about the Wood Duck and Mallard nesting programs, as well as a nesting seminar and other field work. The next weekend, the youth get a guided hunting experience with their mentor. Many subjects are discussed such as: firearm safety, ethics, waterfowl ID, decoy placement, concealment, calling and cleaning. In 2018, 30 ducks were harvested including six different species. This year we once again have a full registration list of 10 youth and 10 mentors. If you are interested in participating in 2020, please contact Friends of Hullett office by calling 519-482-7011 or emailing fohoffice@tcc.on.ca.



"I had a lot of fun, I got to go outside and wake up early and see all the wildlife in the morning. I got to shoot a Blue-winged Teal. I had a wonderful mentor who taught me a lot about being patient and to watch out for Blue Herons. It was truly an amazing experience and I hope to go again next year. Thank you very much for providing me with this opportunity." – **Deborah, Youth 2018**

"This year was my second year doing the clinic and I still look forward to it every year. It is an extremely useful and informative clinic that not only taught me most of the things I know about waterfowl hunting but also really got me into hunting ducks and geese."

 Luke, Youth 2017 & 2018, Mentor 2019



"Friends of Hullett Youth Waterfowl Clinic was an amazing experience for all of us. It was an opportunity for learning and excelling, guided by outstanding mentors who encourage us in every aspect. From learning how to protect bird species to target practice and the hunt. I'd like to thank all Hullett members for an awesome time. I would recommend the Youth Waterfowl Clinic to anyone!" – **Cody, Youth 2018**

A Word from our Conservation Officers

DREW PEGRUM and VANESSA RUKAS are **Conservation Officers** that patrol the Hullett Provincial Wildlife Area (HPWA) along with Huron and Perth Counties, including Minto Township within Wellington County. We are part of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources & Forestry in the Enforcement Branch - Guelph Enforcement Unit. If you have any enforcement related questions, feel free to contact either of us, our phone numbers are at the bottom of this article. We hope you have an awesome adventure during your time at this great outdoor learning facility!

The HPWA is a multi-use outdoor recreational based area. The HPWA always seems to have lots of activities going on; with a bit of co-operation and understanding the area can be appreciated by all. Thank you for picking up one of the user guides. Please make sure you read and understand what types of activities are allowed as well as when and where they are allowed.

A large part of our job involves encountering resource users to ensure they are in compliance with the variety of laws that are in place. Remember that these laws are there to protect the fish, wildlife, habitat, environment as well as you and us. We appreciate your adherence to the laws. Should you observe an activity that you believe is not allowed or you know is contrary to the law, we strongly encourage you to pass on your observations.

This can be done by calling our OMNRF Tips line at **1-877-TIPS-MNR** (1-877-847-7667) or if you wish to remain anonymous call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-265-8477. The important thing is that you call and let someone know, because it is you that can help us to keep the HPWA the really awesome place that it is to visit and share your experiences with others.

The majority of the people we encounter are in compliance with the laws and are just out to have a relaxing and enjoyable day in the outdoors. Sometimes we do encounter those that are committing a violation of a law that falls within our mandate. We encourage you to read and understand the resource user guide and if you are involved in hunting we strongly encourage you to review the provincial hunting summary prior to coming to Hullett. This summary can be found digitally at:

http://www.ontario.ca/document/ontario-hunting-regulations-summary

PLEASE REPORT NATURAL RESOURCE VIOLATIONS BY CALLING 1-877-847-7667

You can assist a Conservation Officer by calling our natural resources call line with the following information.

- Nature of the violation (hunting, fishing, species at risk, unlawful harvesting, etc...)
- Vehicle information such as; licence plate, color, make & model of vehicle
- Location of the offence such as civic address or simply where you are in Hullett Marsh
- Specifics about the event that you saw including date, time, persons involved if name known if not descriptions of people

VILL IN THE Y

1-877-TIPS-MNR

Some of the more common types of activities that we investigate are: illegal hunting of deer; by day and night, hunting non-game birds such as shorebirds or grebes, and having loaded firearms in or on vehicles or roadways. We also encourage those that are shooting at game to ensure they know the limits of the firearm and ammunition that they are using.

All roads within the HPWA are considered to be maintained and therefore it is illegal to have a loaded firearm while on the road or within eight meters of the road. This is a safety hazard and we have no tolerance for this type of activity.

The staff and volunteers have worked very hard to place signage around the area to advise you of acceptable uses and therefore to assist you to have a safe and enjoyable outdoor adventure. Please obey all of the signs, especially the Private Lands and Yellow Dot signs that will indicate what activities are allowed. We have a low tolerance for violations of this type. If you have any questions always ask before you make a mistake.

As you are out enjoying your activity in this public land area, you will no doubt encounter other resource users. We hope you take the time to get to know each other as you likely have similar interests in this great outdoor area.

Whether you are on a trail observing wildlife and birds or actively taking part in one of the allowable regulatory harvests, let's all be responsible for helping to safeguard our wonderful natural resources here in Ontario.

Drew Pegrum



Conservation Officer Bus: 519-482-3667 Cell: 519-766-8158 Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry Vanessa Rukas Conservation Officer Bus: 519-482-3811 Cell: 226-979-2698



PHOTO CONTEST 20 We want to see your pictures of Hullett Marsh!

From nature walks to family fun, scenery, wildlife, and hunting shots, Hullett wants to see your best.

1st Place:Free Hullett Membership AND
Photo on the cover of the next user guide2nd-6th:Photos showcased on the cover of the next User Guide

Images must:

- Depict safe practices
- Not contain gore
- Contain the name of the person entering the photo (John_Smith.jpg for example)
- Send us your pictures of Hullett Marsh to fohoffice@tcc.on.on

By entering your photos you give Friends of Hullett the rights to use them in media posts, presentations, and public displays (with photo credit)







Environmental crimes cause significant damage to our world, costing approximately \$40 billion per year worldwide. Local wildlife crimes include poaching, harvesting of endangered animals & dumping waste. If you have information about any of these crimes, please contact Crime Stoppers and be eligible for a cash reward.

Thank You Hullett Supporters!

Every year Friends of Hullett get a chance to reminisce about the activities and improvements from the previous year, and this year was one of the best! There are so many people who dedicate hours of their time to assist the marsh with financial, material and volunteer support. The community that surrounds Hullett is what keeps this place thriving. From our membership, the user guide advertisers, community hour students, Pheasant Challenge participants and donors are all a large part of the success of Hullett Marsh.

Our volunteers are extremely dedicated in a variety of ways from physical labour to fundraising and proofing our publications. Each individual volunteer brings a unique set of skills and their help is invaluable for the future of this hidden jewel. There are a number of spectacular partnerships we must recognize:

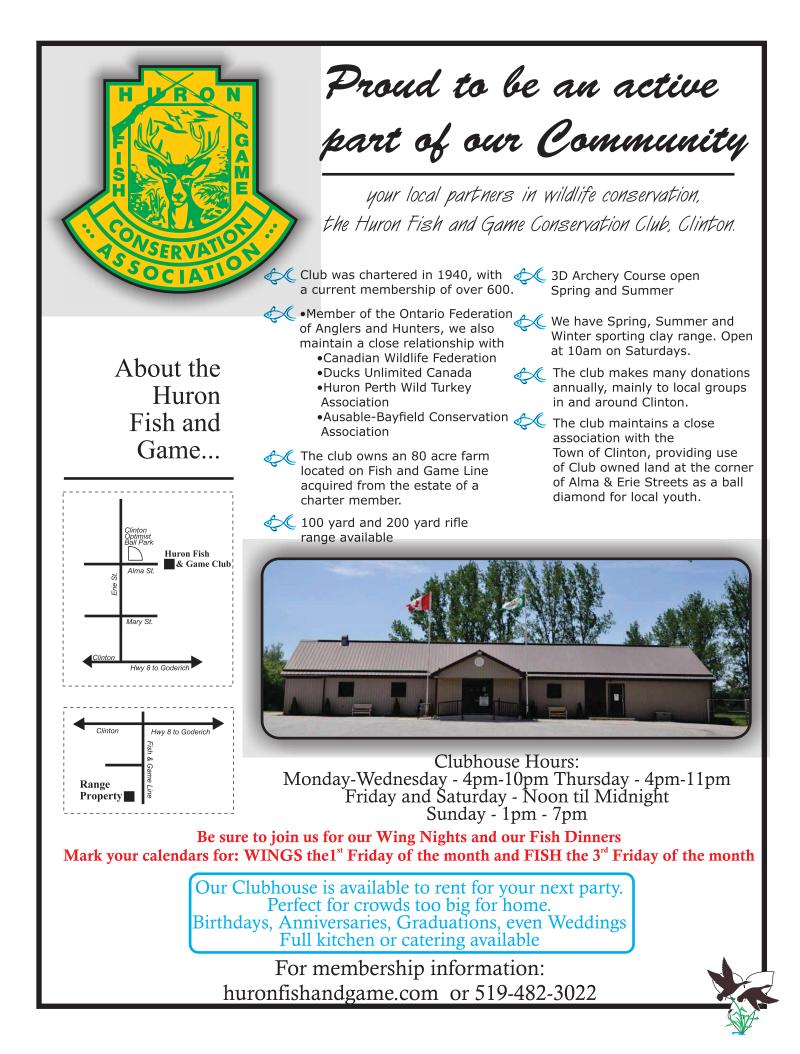
- The Municipality of Central Huron is a constant instrumental supporter of Hullett Marsh. From the Central Huron Donation Fund, to the donation of 500 tonnes of gravel for our road ways and parking lots, Hullett Marsh depends on the support from this amazing Municipality.
- A huge thank you goes to Hill & Hill Farms, and Varna Grain for their donation of corn for our baited areas.
- Tim MacDonald of Ideal Supply is constantly donating tools, supplies, safety equipment and of course the donation of the generator prize for the Pheasant Challenge.
- Greg Roetcisoender from Clinton Sporting Goods for his constant support including donating various goods such as our first place Pheasant Challenge prize.
- Also, thank you to the Bluewater Golf Course for hosting the 6th annual Charity Dinner and Auction. A special thank you to Chef Devin Tabor of Bon Vivant Catering for the delicious meal!
- Thank you to the Board of Directors for volunteering time out of their busy schedules to keep this place running and in order.

Hullett Marsh would not run without the help from all volunteers and members! Thank you all so much! Visit us today at www.hullettmarsh.com, by liking us on Facebook @Hullett Marsh, or follow us on Instagram @Hullett_Marsh. Be the first to know about new events and updates from the marsh!

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Help maintain the marsh! Become a **MEMBERSHIP & REGISTRATION FORM** member for only \$25 per year! Name: ______ If you want to become a member, you have Full Address: _____ three options! 1. Cut out and mail the right side of this page to: **Friends of Hullett** Email: PO Box 1520, Clinton, ON, NOM 1L0 Phone: 2. Email us at: fohoffice@tcc.on.ca Are you a hunter or non-hunter? 3. Go to our website and pay with PAYPAL! www.hullettmarsh.com/contact us.html Prefer to hunt: Would you be interested in volunteering? Memberships includes emailed newsletters, a Yes 🗌 No vehicle decal, voting rights at the AGM and What is your favourite activity at Hullett? income tax receipts (\$25 donation or over). Payment options: INTERAC e-transfers, cheques, debit/credit in Comments: the office and PAYPAL!





C) IdealSupply

Pheasant Challenge at Hullett Provincial Wildlife Area

From Opening Day to the End of Pheasant Hunting Season ENTRY COST \$10.00



Veal Suppl

Tickets available at Hullett Office or Goderich, Wingham, St Marys, Exeter, Stratford, Mitchell & Seaforth Ideal Supply locations

Receive a Blaze Orange Ball Cap for Every Band Returned

GUNS, AMMO, HUNTING ACCESSORIES, RELOADING SUPPLIES, CROSSBOWS, SCOPES, WORMS, SPAWN, RODS AND REELS



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