



The Pin Oak

Issue 7

The Newsletter of the Friends of Malcolmson Eco-Park

September 2008

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Quarterly and is Written by
the Friends of Malcolmson
Eco-Park**

Park News

Unfortunately this summer is coming to an end very soon. We hope you had an opportunity to visit the park this summer and enjoy nature. We are happy to report that Earth 2008 was successful with 50 volunteers participating in mulching trees, improving trails, removing garbage and planting trees. The Native Plant Sale was able to raise additional funds to be used on park projects. We were also able with the assistance of O'hara Trucking to remove a large bike jump area east of the greenhouse compound. This area was in very poor conditions with numerous trees cut or dying, limited groundcover, compacted soil and covered in garbage. We are happy to have dealt with this area. We would like to thank everyone for their help at the park during Earth Day.

This summer the Friends Advisory Committee has been working projects for the park. We have been fortunate enough to have secured funding for a trailhead sign for the park. The graphics are currently being designed and we hope install the trailhead sign in the park this fall or next spring. More information about this project will be available in the next newsletter.

The Friends of Malcolmson Eco-Park and Niagara Action for Animals have also secured funding for additional signage for the park. The signs were designed by Port Weller Public students with the purpose to educate **the public about these issues** and encourage park visitors to treat the park and its inhabitants with respect. These signs should be installed in the fall of this year.

The berm at the Water Fowl Pond was successfully repaired in early summer. A new culvert was added as an outlet and it has held up very well against the wet conditions of July. We hope that this is the last chapter in this project.

Finally, vandalism continues to be problem in the park. Please report any damage to the park to City of St.Catharines or the Friends of Malcolmson Eco-Park.



**New Website
www.fomep.com**

2008 Malcolmson Eco-Park Advisory Committee

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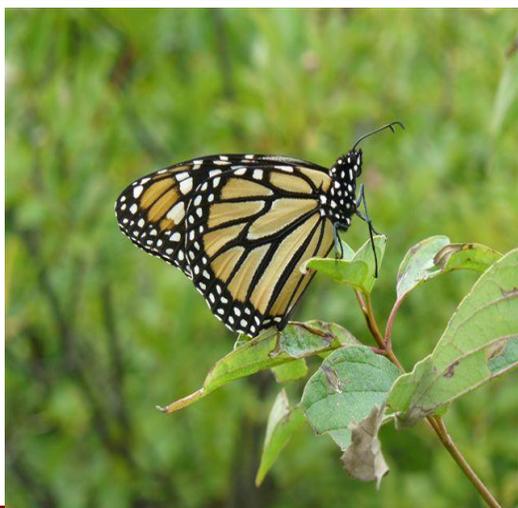
Cindy Bryson: Committee Member
Greg Eckardt: Committee Member
Maggie Skov: Committee Member
June Streadwick: Committee Member
Doug Woodard: Tall Grass Prairie Coordinator

Chris DiRaddo: Committee Member
Sandra Johnstone: Committee Member
Jim Streadwick: Committee Member
Claire Theijsmeijer: Outdoor Learning Area Coordinator

Earth Day 2008



Special Thanks To:
C.A.W., O'Hara Trucking, Star Bucks, Plant's Choice, St. Amand
& to all the volunteers!!!



The Monarch Butterfly: *Danaus plexippus*

The monarch or milkweed butter is a common visitor to Malcolmson Eco-Park. Like other butterflies, monarchs develop through several forms after they hatch from their eggs: caterpillar (also called larva) with five instars, chrysalis (also called pupa), adult butterfly. Eggs hatch after three to five days. Adults live from three weeks to seven months, depending of the generation and the season. The colouration of this butterfly serve as a warning to predators. The adults and caterpillars are highly distasteful owing to the toxic compounds that they obtain from their host plant the milkweed. The monarch is a famous migrant species travelling from Canada to California and the hilly regions of Mexico where it overwinters in vast numbers. Keep and an eye out for them at Malcolmson Eco-Park.

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