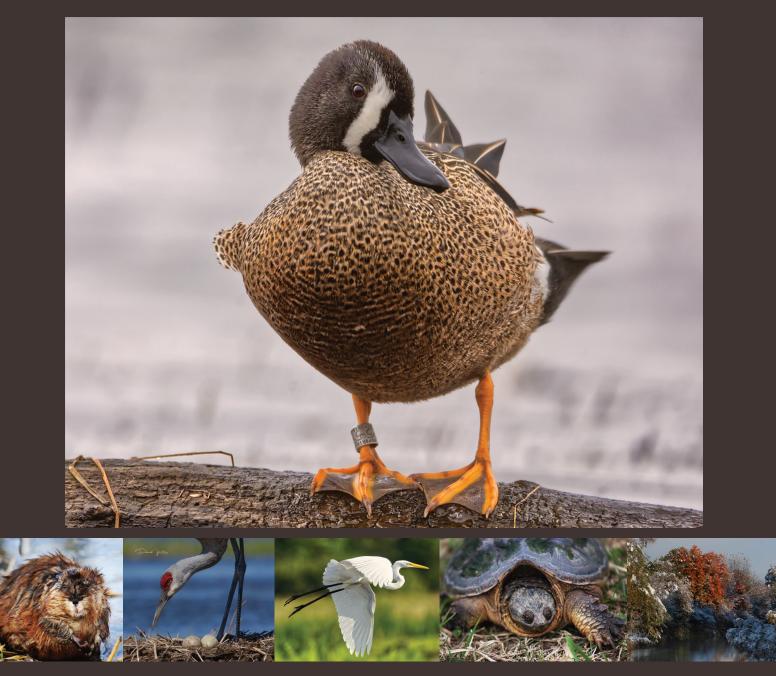
# FOH 25th Anniversary Hullett Provincial Wildlife Area

A Prime Multi-Use Multi-Season Facility USER GUIDE 2023-2024



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519-482-3997 info@centralhuron.com 23 Albert St. Clinton www.centralhuron.com

Stop by the School on Wheels museum! The traincar brought education to isolated communities in Ontario during the 20th century.



Check out the REACH Centre, a premier agricultural event facility. Explore next door to find live racing at Clinton Raceway, slots at Gateway Casinos, and hockey at Eastlink arena.



Visit Balls Bridge: a rare historical truss bridge spanning the beautiful Maitland River and known as "the bridge that love built"





Tour local breweries, wineries & distilleries!

2nd Streetlight Estate Winery River Road Brewing Bayfield Berry Farm Cowbell



Take a photo in the light tunnel next to town hall at 23 Albert St in Clinton.

#clintonlights

A Message from... The Board of Directors

On behalf of the Board of Directors (BOD) of the Friends of Hullett (FOH), I would like to welcome you to the Hullett Provincial Wildlife Area (HPWA). This year FOH celebrates 25 years of incorporation managing this unique property!

If it is your first time visiting the Hullett Marsh, take some time to review the User Guide so that you are familiar with the rules and regulations associated with HPWA. We would like to remind you that you are obligated to read and understand the User Guide regulations whether you are a hunter or non-hunter. Staff have also created "Tip Sheets" available on our website home page in PDF to help with your research of this self-serve property.

Partnered with the M.N.R.F. and Ducks Unlimited Canada, the volunteer Board of Directors manage this amazing 2,200-hectare (5,400 acre) wetland habitat complex in Huron County.

This multi-use public property is used by hikers, hunters, dog trainers, horseback riders, photographers, kayakers/canoeists, geocachers, nature groups, school groups, foragers and birdwatchers. Please be respectful to all types of property users when you are pursuing your interest at Hullett Marsh. We hope that you enjoy your time at the HPWA and consider supporting FOH with a membership to help us maintain the HPWA for your free use.

The BOD would like to wish Jim Bayne a happy retirement after serving on the Board for 23 years as a volunteer! We welcome Barb Orchard and Mark Penhale as our newest Board members in 2023.

### of the Friends of Hullett

Visit our website frequently for up to date information on the HPWA, public notices and upcoming events. You can also follow us on Facebook at Hullett Marsh and on Instagram @Hullett\_Marsh!

#### 2023 Season Highlights

- Hiring of 3 funded summer students and 1 co-op placement student
- Road grading provided by the Municipality of Central Huron at no cost to FOH
- Return of the FOH fundraising **Dinner &** Auction at the Bluewater Golf Course
- Demolition and removal of a large **pheasant** flight pen at the office complex
- Year 7 of Phragmites control to save our wetland habitats
- Year 5 of protecting turtle nests
- Increased property use by dog clubs and **OPP** canine training sessions
- New shingles on the roof of the **accessible** viewing stand at the Orange Trail trailhead
- Reforestation planning, restoration and planting in the "Continuous Forest" project
- 1200 pheasants will be released this fall and we encourage you to support the Clinton **Sporting Goods/Sommers Generator** "Pheasant Challenge" raffle

Duane Inkpen, Chairman of the Board



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### **Board Members**

Chairman: Duane Inkpen Vice Chair: Mat Shetler Treasurer: Chris Ambrose Secretary: Trevor Latta Directors: Ryan Bayne, Mike Cardinal, Steve Dalrymple, Barbara Orchard, Mark Penhale

### Staff

Marsh Manager: Scott Austin Wildlife & GIS Technician: Ben Elliott Event Coordinator: Emily Dearing Maintenance Supervisor: Denver Fisher Maintenance Worker: Luke Wammes

Help maintain the marsh! Become a member for as little as \$35 per year!	MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION FORM Name:	Cover Photo Credits
There are three ways to become a member: 1. Cut out and mail the right side of this page to: Friends of Hullett PO Box 1520, Clinton, ON, NOM 1L0	Address:	<b>Blue-winged teal:</b> Doug Gordon <b>Muskrat:</b> Curtis Beach
<ol> <li>Email us at <u>fohoffice@tcc.on.ca</u></li> <li>Visit our website at <u>hullettmarsh.com</u></li> </ol>	Phone:	Sandhill crane: Deb Johnston
Memberships include emailed newsletters, a vehicle decal, voting rights at the AGM, and a tax receipt.	<b>Are you interested in volunteering?</b> — Yes  — No	<b>Great egret:</b> Curtis Beach
	Favourite activity at Hullett:	<b>Snapping turtle:</b> Doug Gordon
Payment options include e-transfer, cheque, and PayPal	Comments:	<b>Scenery:</b> Nancy Denham

# **Hullett Beginnings and 25th FOH Anniversary**

In the fall of 1994, the Wingham Area Office, Cambridge District of the **Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources** began facilitating meetings of people, agencies and associations representing known users of, and those with interests in, the Hullett Provincial Wildlife Area. The purpose was to initiate thoughts and discussions around **a new future for the Hullett property**.

In order to ensure the continued health and management of the Hullett Provincial Wildlife Area (HPWA), it was necessary that **new** and non-traditional business and cooperative approaches be examined. It was the stated objective of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources that the interest group should consider the challenge of taking on a more direct role in making many of the business decisions that affect the property.

**Twenty-five years ago**, on a cold, dark winter night, a large group of people convened in the old barn at the HPWA to determine the fate of this precious place, northeast of Clinton Ontario.

The group was comprised of duck hunters, retriever field trial clubs, upland bird dog clubs, local trail enthusiasts and others. Representatives of **Ducks Unlimited Canada** and what, at the time, was known as the **Ministry of Natural Resources** were present to explain to all gathered there that HPWA was in danger of being lost to the people of Ontario unless some action was taken to oversee the running and management of "**The Marsh**".

**DUC** and **MNR** explained to all present that the Province of Ontario was no longer going to be the primary facilitators and that one of the options to see the marsh survive was for a group of like minded people come together to **form an organization to find a way to keep the marsh alive**.

Set in the heart of Huron County and **strategically located on the pathway of two major waterfowl flyways**, Hullett Marsh is one of the **most spectacular wildlife habitat developments** in eastern Canada.

Reclaimed from farmland, this **2,200 hectare (5,400 acre)** site along the South Maitland River provides superb opportunities to see wildlife management at its best.

Over a period of several weeks and plenty of discussion, that initial large group of people was eventually pared down to a committee that began to form a plan that would be able to keep HPWA alive.

**Ron Bennett** and **Ken Maronets** of the MNR carefully steered the committee to establish a path forward to seeing the Hullett Provincial Wildlife Area survive into the future.

The committee formed at that time simply called themselves **"The Friends of Hullett"**, a name that went on to become the official, formal incorporated name on the soon to be established constitution.

Over that winter, the committee and the senior stakeholders held discussions on the best way forward, detailing the existing site agreements and formal contractual commitments and arrangements which were in place. At this time, **the committee became a board of directors** with the objectives of keeping the HPWA open and operating for the benefit of many; and to maintain and/or enhance recreational and educational opportunities. Also included, was the need to **recognize the multi-use history of the marsh**, keep the wetlands and other wildlife habitat productive, and maintain and enhance the productivity of the agricultural area.

The board of directors and the senior partners decided that a formal structure would recognize the **Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources** and **Ducks Unlimited Canada** as the senior partners with agencies such as the **Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority** and the **Maitland Valley Conservation Authority**, who would act as advisors to the BOD.

The **MNR** stated that they were no longer dedicating vast amounts of staff nor time to the Wildlife area as their priorities lay elsewhere with resource management. While they did state that **they would assist as much as possible**, it was clear to the BOD that **the bulk of the workload would be shifted to the users of the marsh** under the guidance of the board of directors.

At this time, the board recognized that **new partnerships and business ventures were needed to help maintain the facilities** and develop a more structured education program by continuing to work with, promote and enhance existing partnerships and programs such as waterfowl viewing, horseback riding, snow machine trails, waterfowl hunting stakes, sanctioned dog trials, wood duck nesting box program and the famous pheasant release program.

Also, at this time the board discussed implementing a **voluntary "funding" system through donations and corporate sponsors, gifts from participating clubs and annual membership fees** with all of the funds raised to be devoted to supporting the management of the Hullett property. In the following year, **FOH became a registered not for profit company known as The Friends of Hullett Inc.** and, in the year 2000, the constitution was created as the basis for our corporation By Laws with amendments applied in 2004, 2010 and 2023.

Since the inception of the FOH, so much has occurred over the past 25 years that a comprehensive list would require a book to detail all the accomplishments, but some of the highlights, in no particular order, are as follows:

1) **Continuation of the successful annual Pheasant Program**, which this year, will see the release of 1200 birds. The hunt is free of charge and one of the last such hunts in Ontario. The program is aided by hunters who help out by purchasing a **Pheasant Challenge lottery ticket** with all funds directed to the maintenance of the program. Sponsors donate major gifts and, at the end of the season, two lucky ticket holders could possibly win a shotgun or a generator.

2) Adding to the equipment inventory with the purchase of tractors, snowmobiles, ATV's, power tools brush cutters, mowers, hand tools and materials.

3) Managing the Agricultural Contract with respect to the 800 acres of productive farm land with an outside contractor. The funds from this deal are the basis for the major portion of our income which enables us to hire full time staff and maintain the necessary office as well as the above mentioned equipment.

4) The Annual Youth Waterfowl Clinic in celebration of the bygone Waterfowler Heritage Day

- 5) The annual **Dinner Auction fundraiser**.
- 6) Wood duck box and Mallard nesting tube programs.
- 7) **Timber harvest** which added another source of income.
- 8) Trail maintenance with a new bridge installed on the Blue Trail.

#### 9) Phragmites control.

10) Volunteer led turtle nest protection program which has been a great success.

11) Grassland Restoration Project; another successful program.

12) **Vanessa Palmer Award** which is given annually to a secondary school student displaying strong environmental and leadership qualities.

The list is much longer than that seen above, and over 25 years the **accomplishments have been numerous and varied** with the help and hard work of all those volunteers who have contributed.

We have been fortunate to have had several managers of the marsh who have used FOH as a stepping stone to further their careers with other important organizations in the environmental business.

Helping the managers have been an outstanding group of inspirational young people who have also gone on to greater things but, while they were at the Marsh their dedication and enthusiasm gave The Friends of Hullett a fresh perspective each and every day.

Hullett Marsh would not run without the help of all the volunteers and members and there are so many people who dedicate hours of their time to assist the marsh with financial, material and volunteer support. Our volunteers are extremely dedicated in a variety of ways from physical labour to fund raising.

Each individual volunteer brings a unique set of skills and their **help is invaluable for the future of this hidden jewel**. The community that surrounds Hullett is what keeps the 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**.

Thank you to the Board of Directors for volunteering time out of their busy schedules to keep the marsh running and in order. Hullett Marsh would not function without the help from all volunteers and members. To the staff and volunteers, thank you all so much!

New members and volunteers are always welcome and more information can be found by visiting us today at www.hullettmarsh.com, by liking us on **Facebook** @HullettMarsh or follow us on **Instagram** @Hullett\_Marsh.

# A Word from our Conservation Officers

Conservation Officers regularly patrol the Hullett Provincial Wildlife Area (HPWA). Officer Drew Pegrum and Officer Vanessa Rukas are responsible for Huron and Perth Counties which includes HPWA. Conservation Officers are part of the Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry in the Enforcement Branch. If you have an enforcement related question or see a natural resource violation you may contact the Conservation Officers directly using the cell phone numbers provided below. Conservation Officers are dedicated to protecting our natural resources and ensuring the safety of all HPWA users. The HPWA is extremely unique and with that comes a unique set of rules that must be adhered to while hunting or recreating within the boundaries. It is very important that all users read and understand the HPWA user guide. **Anyone planning on hunting should also review the general hunting regulations at:** 

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

Conservation Officers would like to remind everyone that all roads within the HPWA are considered to be maintained. It is unlawful to have a loaded firearm on the road or within eight meters of the road. It is important to understand that HPWA is a multi-use area. A wide variety of outdoor activities take place here and may overlap. Please respect all HPWA user groups. We appreciate that the majority of users adhere to the rules. Should you observe an activity or event that may be unlawful, please reach out by calling the Conservation Officers directly or using the Tips Line at **1-877-TIPS-MNR (1-877-847-7667)**. If you wish to remain anonymous, you may call Crime Stoppers at **1-800-265-8477**.

### 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 offence such as civic address or simply where you are in the HPWA

1-877-TIPS-MNR

• Specifics about the event that you saw including date, time, persons involved if name known if not descriptions of people



Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

#### **Drew Pegrum**

Conservation Officer Bus: 519-482-3667 Cell: 519-766-8158

#### Vanessa Rukas

Conservation Officer Bus: 519-482-3811 Cell: 226-979-2691

### Benjamin Sumner

Sergeant Enforcement Operations Specialist 519-378-6308





Come visit our Farm Market & Winery/Cidery & Distillery for a cold beverage on the patio.

Also available: Fruits & Berries in Season, Baking, Preserves, Fruit Juices, etc.

> 519-482-1666 Email: <u>berryfarm@tcc.on.ca</u>

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# **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. Please see page 4 for additional parking regulations related to hunting. Do not park on roadways or in front of gates, cables, boat launches, bridges, and agricultural access points.

#### 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 can be contacted at 905-562-1177.

#### HORSE ACCESS

Horse access is **not permitted** in **ZONE A** from October 1 to April 30. 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 July 31, 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 and support successful breeding.

#### **RESTRICTED AREAS**

Areas found at Satellite Pond 14, Pintail Pool, and the White Tail Swamp are off limits to all users 365 days per year.

#### FORAGING

Foraging is permitted for personal consumption only. Please be mindful and respectful of the resources and only take what you need.

#### **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.



These signs are found at each of our twenty parking lots and refer to prohibited activities within the marsh. By passing these signs, you are agreeing that you will follow all rules and regulations at the HPWA. These signs have been installed in accordance with the Trespass to Property Act. Thank you for obeying the rules and helping to keep Hullett a safe and enjoyable space for all user groups.

# **Prohibited Actions:**

#### ALCOHOL

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

#### CAMPING

Camping is not permitted anywhere in the HPWA.

#### **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.

#### ATVs

ATVs are **NOT permitted** within the HPWA; except for Friends of Hullett management purposes, enforcement officers, and registered trappers for purposes approved by FOH. 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

You are responsible for the removal of your own garbage and property. Please note that there are no recycling bins or garbage cans within the HPWA.

#### **MOTORIZED BOATS**

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

# **Hunting 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 1020 ha (2520 acres) of land of which 680 ha (1680 acres) are flooded with shallow open water. The average depth within the five compartments in approximately 50 cm (20 in).

Within **Zone A**, there are 52 hunting stations (stakes) available.

#### The following regulations apply in **Zone A**:

- 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 visit the homepage of our website for updates.
- 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 (including spring turkey) in **Zone A** only if the following conditions are adhered to:

- 1. The season for migratory birds must be closed. This includes Mourning Doves.
- 2. All hunters must park in one of the designated parking lots (identified on the accompanying map) and position their vehicle in front of a barrier. There are unnumbered and numbered parking spaces, requirements specific to the numbered spaces only apply to hunting at the stake of the same number during Migratory Bird Hunting season. This parking space permits all hunters in the vehicle to hunt small game, outside of Migratory Bird Hunting season, anywhere in **Zone A**.

#### **BIG GAME HUNTING IS NOT PERMITTED IN ZONE A.**

#### Zone B Hunting Regulations

Zone B is a unit consisting of 1060 ha (2620 acres). This zone consists of agriculture fields, meadows, forests, tall grass prairies, marginal woodland, swamps, and ponds.

#### The Following Regulations Apply In Zone B:

- 1. All game for which there is an open season, and during that open season, may be hunted.
- 2. All hunters must park in one of the designated parking lots (identified on the accompanying map) and position their vehicle in front of a barrier. This parking space permits all hunters in the vehicle to hunt anywhere in **Zone B**.

#### **Pheasant Hunting**

For the 2023 pheasant season FOH has purchased 1200 ring-neck pheasants from **Uplands Pheasantry, Creekside Pheasantry, and Royal Game Birds** 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 **shotgun!** 

The future of the pheasant hunt is in the hands of the hunters based on the financial support. The 1200 birds for 2023 were the result of 2022 fundraising. Past releases were 1200 birds in 2022, 1000 birds in 2021, and 920 in 2020.

The **Pheasant Challenge** is sponsored by **Sommers Generator Systems & Clinton Sporting Goods** with our sincere thanks. Tickets are available at **Clinton Sporting Goods (519-606-3006)** or at **www.hullettmarsh.com** via PayPal.

#### **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: www.mnr.gov.on.ca/en/Business/FW/ Publication/MNR\_E001275P/html

2			
	<b>GPS H</b>	UNTING STAKES	FOR "A" ZONE
a la	Stake	Latitude	Longitude
P.	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"
1	5	38' 7.066"	26' 56.767"
r.	6	38' 28.097"	28' 0.920"
i.	7	38' 27.145"	27' 47.880"
R.	8	38' 14.493"	27' 42.472"
	9	38' 2.900"	27' 47.560"
4	10	37' 58.675"	27' 58.327"
ł	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"
A.	16	38' 7.463"	28' 13.257"
4	17	38' 1.030"	28' 24.855"
	18	38' 18.937"	28' 23.77"
	19	38' 37.632"	28' 17.347"
1	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"
1	24	37' 26.804"	27' 44.070"
	25	37' 14.197"	27' 35.585"
	26	37' 7.435"	27' 32.410"
2	27	37' 19.569"	27' 21.660"
	28	37' 23.962"	27' 33.651"
	29 30	37' 31.176" 37' 41.579"	27' 20.989" 27' 45.745"
	31	37' 35.528"	27' 45.745
	32	37 35.528	27' 30.268"
and	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"
ALL D	37	37' 16.553"	26' 40.766"
and and	38	37' 11.801"	27' 2.326"
一方の	39	37' 2.790"	27' 10.513"
THE PARTY	40	36' 54.694"	27' 24.907"
E Contraction	41	36' 52.902"	27' 10.929"
and	42	37' 3.769"	26' 52.450"
	43	36' 53.619"	26' 53.490"
No. IN	44	36' 44.405"	26' 55.608"
のない	45	36' 37.843"	26' 47.209"
1	46	36' 46.808"	26' 37.781"
	47	36' 56.094"	26' 42.087"
the second	48	36' 57.352"	26' 27.150"
たち	49	37' 4.238"	26' 40.273"
	50	37' 6.848"	26' 26.513"
14.7	F1	37' 14.543"	26' 14.47"
No.	F2	38' 3.386"	26' 29.118"
14	1年大四十万	The state of the s	CONTRACTOR SALES

#### WATERFOWL OPENING DAY FOR DUCKS

Hunters are required to participate in a draw conducted by the FOH and the MNRF (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 AM.

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.

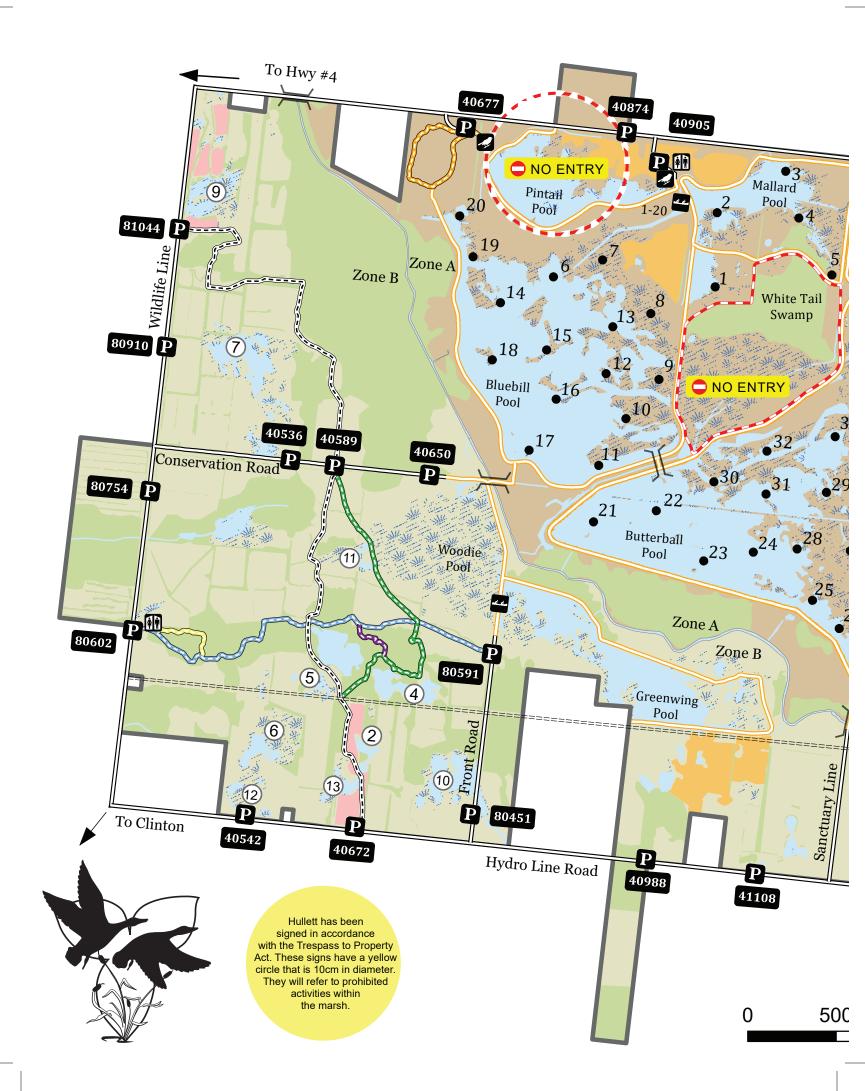
Sky-busting shows poor sportsmanship and results in crippled birds. This is strongly discouraged at Hullett. Know your shotgun and its limitations.

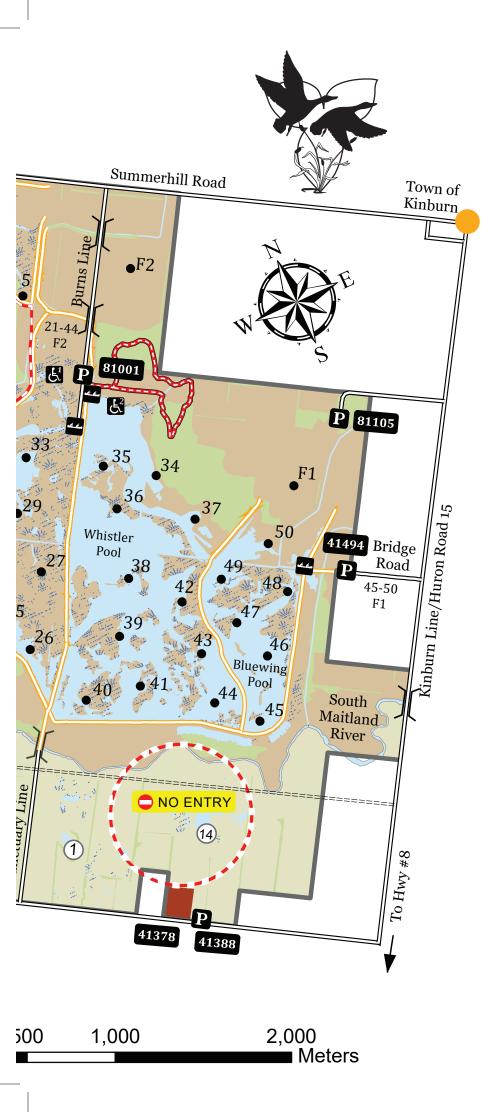
Due to management practices, water levels may fluctuate and shorelines may change.

Some stakes may be closed at the MNRF'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.



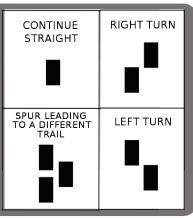




<b>Red Trail</b>	Length: 2.2km Difficulty: Hard Time: 30-50 min Slope: 0-3% Min. EL: 298m Max. EL: 303m	This trail is for adventurous hikers looking for a challenge. There is lots of poison ivy. The Red Trail goes through mature forests and fallow fields. FOH staff will be working to improve this trail in the future.
<b>Orange Trail</b>	Length: 1.2km Difficulty: Medium Time: 20-30 min Slope: 0-8% Min. EL: 303m Max. EL: 315m	This trail has access to the dyke systems and will lead you to the highest point in the HPWA for great views. This trail is recommended if you are new to Hullett Marsh and forms a loop back to the parking lot.
<b>Yellow Trail</b>	Length: 0.4km Difficulty: Easy Time: 10-15 min Slope: 0-4.5% Min. EL: 299m Max. EL: 304m	This trail connects to the Blue Trail and offers a great short loop if you don't want to hike the entire Blue Trail. The forest floor flourishes here, after several Ash trees were lost.
<b>Green Trail</b>	Length: 2.4km Difficulty: Medium Time: 30-50 min Slope: 0-8% Min. EL: 299m Max. EL: 313m	Woodlands and meadows offer a nice balance between sunshine and shade while raptor nests and duck boxes offer great sights to see. This trail intersects Blue, Purple, and White Trails.
<b>Blue Trail</b>	Length: 2.3km Difficulty: Medium Time: 30-50 min Slope: 0-8% Min. EL: 298m Max. EL: 309m	This trail stretches from Wildlife Line to Front Road and is full of wildlife and wildflowers in both woodland and meadow habitats. It intersects Yellow, White, Purple, and Green Trails.
Purple Trail	Length: 0.3km Difficulty: Easy Time: 5-10 min Slope: 0-3% Min. EL: 304m Max. EL: 307m	This trail is accessible through either the Blue or Green Trail. Along it you will find a variety of ecosystems and a large number of Beech trees, whose smooth trunks resemble elephant legs.
White Trail	Length: 4.7km Difficulty: Medium Time: 60-90 min Slope: 0-9% Min. EL: 300m Max. EL: 313m	This is the longest trail in the HPWA, spanning from one side to the other. It allows you to experience a wide variety of habitats and wildlife, showing the importance of biodiversity.

### **Dyke System**

Our 17km of dykes offer relatively flat, even hikes and can be found all over the marsh. There's minimal tree coverage but great views of open water, wildflowers, and wildlife. Each of Hullett's seven trails has been marked using to the standardized blazing method used across North America. The colour of the paint on the blaze corresponds to the colour of the trail on the map.











# 2024 PHOTO CONTEST

Show us your pictures of Hullett Marsh! From scenery and wildlife, to hunting, horseback riding, and family fun, FOH wants to see it all! Email your submissions to fohoffice@tcc.on.ca

#### **Images MUST:**

- Be taken at the HPWA
- Depict safe, rule abiding practices
- Not contain any gore
- Include photographer's name in the file name (eg. John\_Smith.jpg)

#### **1st Place Prize:**

Free Hullett Membership and Photo featured on the cover of the **2024/2025** User Guide

#### 2nd - 6th Place Prize:

Photo showcased on the cover of the **2024/2025** User Guide

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

## Hullett Marsh Geocaching

8 registered geocaches hidden within the marsh!



Visit our website at hullettmarsh.com and click on the Activities tab for a PDF download of clues and coordinates.



# **Birding at Hullett Marsh**

Over 200 species of birds have been spotted at the Hullett Provincial Wildlife Area. Which will you find?



Visit our website at hullettmarsh.com and click on the Activities tab for a PDF download of our Birding Checklist!



2023 - 2024 SEASON • WWW.HULLETTMARSH.COM

# VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



We are always looking for passionate volunteers to help with various tasks around the marsh! You can help out with trail maintenanc, nesting programs, painting, pruning, and so much more!

To learn more, email us at fohoffice@tcc.on.ca





### **PROUD PARTNER**

### **OPEN TO SERVE YOU**

Blyth - 6:00 AM Clinton - 5:00 AM Seaforth - 5:00 AM







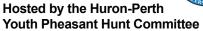
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## www.microagebasics.com





WHEN: Saturday November 18, 2023

WHERE: Hullett Marsh

WHO: Open to apprentice hunters 12 to 16 years of age.

MORE INFO AT WWW.LOOP-PERTHHURON.CA

### 2023 - 2024 SEASON • WWW.HULLETTMARSH.COM

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# Questions? Visit our Website!

### hullettmarsh.com

- Rules & Regulations
- Hiking & Hunting Tips
- Digital User Guide
- Pheasant Challenge Tickets
- Membership Registration Form
- Information on Activities
- History of the HPWA
- Contact Information

You can also follow us on Instagram @hullett\_marsh or Facebook @HullettMarsh



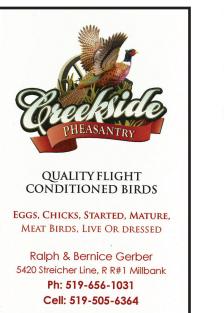
#### Accommodations

On 115 acres of private land situated on Summerhill Rd. directly across from Hullett Provincial Wildlife Area Booking by appointment only- no walkins Serene Westfield Tiny Cabin-yr round

294 square foot with 1 queen bed, full kitchen, 3 piece bathroom, Bedding, Linens, towels, BBQ, Chiminea, 2 Porches, Patio furniture **Eastside Pond View Campsite** Accommodates a full size trailer or tents Running water, Portable toilet with handwashing station, BBQ, firepit with cooking grill, Gazebo with fridge, food prep table

Indoor and outdoor furniture Indoor Swimspa/Hot tub available, and lots of extras Check us out for more info

> Website: NRGSanctuary.com Phone: 519-482-9318 Text: 519-441-3433 Email: nrgsanctuary@gmail.com



**Closed Sundays** 







each office independently owned & operated



# **Hullett Marsh:** A wetland combining natural infrastructure, wildlife habitat and trails for all to enjoy!

It's been said that if you build it, they WILL COME. When it comes to creation of Hullett Marsh, that's absolutely the case with all manner of birds, mammals and amphibians calling the wetlands home. It's also a favorite hiking destination with trails of all kinds for people to get out into nature.

Hullett Marsh is a spectacular complex of wetlands measuring 5,420 acres (2,000 hectares). It's been under provincial management since the late 1970s. Just east of Lake Huron, Hullett Marsh is a vital migration path for a several species of waterfowl and is home to hundreds of species of plants and wildlife, including the threatened snapping turtle.

In the early 1980s, following the designation of the Hullett Wildlife Management Area by the Province of Ontario, Ducks Unlimited Canada (DUC) worked with its partners to transform the former agricultural landscape with eight large wetland restorations. Large wetland projects require engineered infrastructure to maintain water levels that support healthy wetland plants to feed wildlife and create habitat they need for survival.

Hullett Marsh was a powerful vision that was literally brought to life by the arrival of waterfowl and other wildlife by the thousands. A vibrant landscape awaits you:

- Trails and waterways
- Healthy wetland dynamics
- Habitat for 18 species of waterfowl

Since 2010, DUC has invested more than \$1 million to replace, upgrade or rebuild the infrastructure that is critical to maintaining Hullett Marsh's wetlands. Each wetland "cell" is equipped with water-level controls that allow us to mimic natural wetland dynamics and manage high waters from the spring melt along the South Maitland River. This infrastructure has a limited lifespan and must be repaired or replaced as time passes to avoid future loss of vital habitats. DUC and its partners have invested substantially to replace, upgrade and rebuild the infrastructure at Hullett Marsh to keep the habitat thriving-including recent repairs to the infrastructure at Greenwing Pool. DUC delivers wetland conservation that

benefits everyone. We save wildlife and special natural places. We use science to find solutions to the most important environmental issues of the day, and we collaborate with people who are helping create a healthier world. The wetlands that we save aren't just for ducksthey're for all of us. Get out and explore all the wonders Hullett Marsh has to offer!



What's good for ducks is also good for hundreds of Ontario's wildlife species! Wetlands provide food and shelter for wildlife in all seasons. The habitat that ducks love is also home to dragonflies, turtles, frogs, birds and animals.















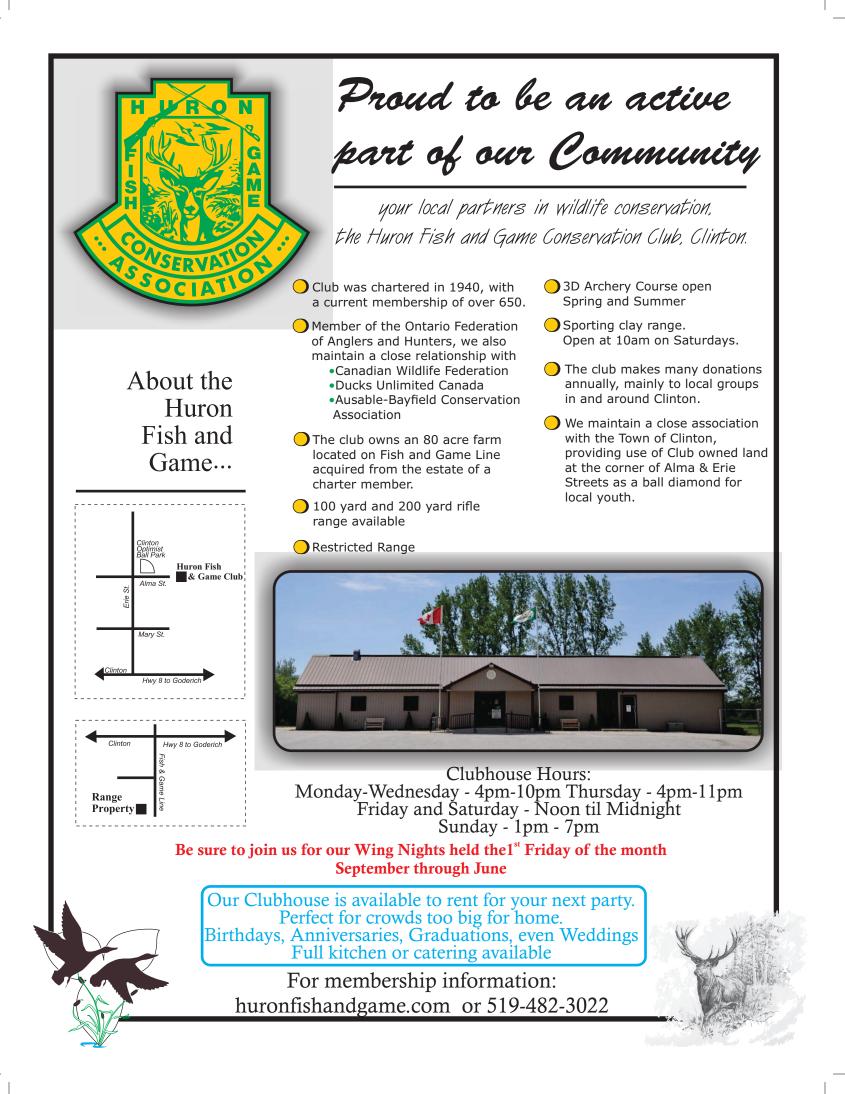
## **ADVENTURE AWAITS!** BE A CITIZEN SCIENTIST

Help wetland conservation by logging your dragonfly observations. Scan the QR code to join Project Dragonfly on iNaturalist or search it on the iNaturalist app!

- A fun outdoor adventure for people of all ages and skill levels
- Get species identification help from the iNaturalist community
- Help grow needed data and raise awareness for conservation

Learn more at ducks.ca/project-dragonfly







**Generator Systems** 

From Opening Day to the End of Pheasant Hunting Season Ticket Cost \$10.00

of the 2023 Pheasant Challenge & Wish all Participants Good Luck!!

Sommers Generator Systems is a Proud Supporter

heasant Challenge at Hullett Provincial Wildlife Area

Tickets available at hullettmarsh.com and Clinton Sporting Goods

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