

# HULLETT NEWS



FALL 2024

## Board of Directors

### *Message from the Board*

#### Hello FOH members:

As with most years, this summer has flown by as we **enter into one of the favourite seasons for many Hullett users... Fall!** With extra help from our summer students and volunteers, we finished many priority jobs. For example, water structures received an intensive removal of vegetative growth, parking lots received a make over, a new roof was put on to the accessible viewing stand, turtle nesting protectors were placed, and our Dinner and Auction experienced continued success. On top of this, **Emily Dearing, our Event Coordinator/Maintenance Supervisor**, completed a wonderful new **Hullett User Guide** for another year. We are very thankful for the funding from the **Municipality of Central Huron's Donation Fund**, which helped fund the Hullett User Guide.

**Please remember to visit our website homepage often to stay up to date and informed with many clickable links and PDF downloads!**

As we jump into the fall season, also known as hunting season, the FOH are increasingly busy as the number of users grows each day. We would like to remind all users to keep safe while hunting by following all Hullett, Provincial, and Federal hunting regulations. It is important to consider that there are users within the marsh not there to hunt. Please stay off the trail systems while hunting and keep your eyes open. **We strongly recommend that all users of Hullett Marsh wear bright colours to increase visibility while enjoying this space.**

We hope you enjoy this newsletter and if you have any questions, comments or concerns, please let staff know by emailing [fohoffice@tcc.on.ca](mailto:fohoffice@tcc.on.ca). We hope you enjoy your time here at Hullett Marsh.

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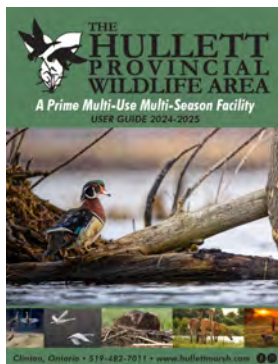


## Horse Access

Hullett Marsh is a beautiful place to enjoy a long walk with your equine friend. As fall and winter are approaching, restrictions are in place to protect the integrity of our marsh and dyke systems. **From October 1<sup>st</sup> to April 30<sup>th</sup>, horse access is prohibited in Zone A, however Zone B is open to riders year round.** Please abide by the rules and regulations to help maintain the HPWA and reduce wear on the trails and dyke systems as well as prevent injury to either yourself or your horse.

## User Guide

Emily Dearing worked very hard this summer to produce the Hullett Marsh User Guide for 2024-2025.



Without the help of many, the User Guide would not exist. A huge thank you goes to **Blyth Printers** for their help with design and their consistent editing of numerous drafts!

**\$2100 of funding was provided by the Municipality of Central Huron through their "Donation Fund". This contribution allows us to print 5,000 copies of the Hullett User Guide for the public.**

Finally, a huge thank you to all of the local businesses who supported the User Guide by purchasing an advertisement: Artech, China Palace, Nature's Rejuvenating Garden Sanctuary, Bayfield Berry Farm, Bluewater Taxidermy, Clinton Sporting Goods, Ducks Unlimited Canada, Exeter Game Farm, Hill & Hill Farms, Varna Grain, Huron Fish & Game Conservation Club, Huron/Perth Youth Pheasant Hunt Committee, Kelly Auto Service, Maelstrom Winery, MicroAge Basics, the Municipality of Central Huron, Munro Honey & Meadery, Nahuel Painting, Nature's Nest, Sommers Generator Systems, Tim Hortons, Blyth Printers, Millroad Manufacturing, Excalibur Insurance, The Ashwood Inn, The Old Mill Blyth, Creekside Pheantry, and Royal Game Birds!

Keep an eye out for the new **User Guide** in our map boxes this fall! You can also download a digital copy from our website by clicking on the book icon on the home page.

## Pheasant Challenge

Each year, FOH sells tickets to our Pheasant Challenge raffle in order to support the next year's release of pheasants in the marsh. This year is no exception!

Tickets are **\$10 each** and can be purchased at Clinton Sporting Goods or at [hullettmarsh.com](http://hullettmarsh.com). First prize for the draw is a **Churchill 512 SxS 3" 12ga** shotgun provided by Clinton Sporting Goods and second prize is a **Briggs & Stratton 2200W portable inverter generator** donated by Sommers Generator Systems!

Without the financial support received from the Pheasant Challenge, FOH would not be able to meet our goal of **releasing 1,000 birds** each year. This year **we were able to release 1,000 birds!** We thank everyone who has bought tickets for their overwhelming support and encourage you to spread the word. The future of the pheasant hunt is in your hands!

## Thank You Sommers Generator Systems!

We would like to extend a huge thank you to Sommers Generator Systems. Sommers Generator Systems has donated a 2200W Briggs & Stratton Inverter Generator for the 2<sup>nd</sup> place prize in our Pheasant Challenge draw this year. FOH is extremely grateful for this support and strong community partnership.





## Summer Students

Thanks to funding received from **Canada Summer Jobs**, Hullett Marsh was able to hire one summer student this year. Returning for her second summer at the marsh, **Emily Dearing** took on the role of **Event Coordinator/Maintenance Supervisor**. Without the usual funding for three summer students, the FOH Board of Directors approved funding to hire one more summer student for 8 weeks. This allowed for more jobs to be completed this summer as well as continue to develop young conservationists. **Ty Hoggart**, a high school student from CHSS, was hired on as **Maintenance Worker** for the summer. Having the extra help, we were able to focus on many priority jobs and tasks while connecting with the community in a variety of ways.



**Emily's** work for this summer included managing the production of our 2024/2025 User Guide, running our turtle nest protection program, leading guided bus tours around the marsh, retrieving mallard tubes, maintaining parking lots and water structures, beaver dam removal, and supervising maintenance tasks.

**Ty** worked hard every single day on upkeep of the marsh. He completed weed whacking, clearing water structures, dyke maintenance and timber removal, painting and much more. He brought lots of bright ideas to the team this summer.

Without this funding and the help of these youth, the marsh would not be what it is today. Having them here allowed for much more work to be done, and their hard work can be seen across the marsh.



## Major Property Improvements

FOH has been busy this summer putting your membership dollars to work! Generous donations from our members have funded major projects like putting **new shingles on the accessible viewing stand at the Orange Trail**, replacement of an old **accessible hunting blind**, and **new parking barriers in three of our parking lots!** These improvements help maintain Hullett Marsh and make it a wonderful place for all users to come to experience nature and pursue their passions. If you are interested in making a donation or becoming a member, visit our website to learn more or click on the link on page 6 of this newsletter.



## Hunting Regulations

Before hunting at Hullett, please make sure you have read and understand all Federal, Provincial, and Hullett hunting regulations in order to ensure the safety of all Hullett users this hunting season.

[Federal Regulations](#)

[Provincial Regulations](#)

[Hullett Regulations](#)

[Hunting at Hullett Info Sheet](#)

FOH would like to wish all hunters a safe and successful hunting season!

**REMINDER: As hunting season approaches, remember to park in the yellow spaces for hiking and other activities, leaving the numbered, unpainted spots for those hunting migratory birds in Zone A.**

## Youth Waterfowl Clinic

Friends of Hullett will once again be hosting our annual Youth Waterfowl Clinic on September 21st. The 2024 clinic will have 10 youth participants. Youth will be provided with the opportunity to engage in nesting activities, canoe and water safety, gun safety, learn about waterfowl, and even participate in clay shooting.



Youth will learn about waterfowl identification, ethics, decoy placement, concealment, calling, and cleaning.



On September 21 youth participants will learn about the Hullett Marsh's Waterfowl nesting structure program. Displays of Mallard Tubes and Duck Boxes will be shown and explained.

Thank you to all the organizations, volunteers, parents and youth who made this event possible.

## 2024 FOH Board of Directors

FOH is governed by an enthusiastic group of 8 members who are all volunteers with a variety of interests in the Hullett Provincial Wildlife Area (HPWA). The Board meets monthly and guides staff in the important decisions for the management of all aspects of the HPWA.

FOH would like to thank Mike Cardinal, an original director, for 25 years of dedicated volunteer service as he stepped down from his position. We would also like to thank Trevor Latta for 3 years of service as a secretary of the BOD. His attentive and detailed minutes will be missed.

Mario Coniglio has been welcomed as our newest Board member. Mario is a professor at the University of Waterloo in the Dept. of Earth and Environmental Sciences. He enjoys dog training and pheasant hunting at the marsh.





## SLED Funding

The FOH would like to thank Huron County for providing \$5,000 from their Supporting Local Economic Development (SLED) fund. With this funding, FOH will be co-hosting forestry tours at the HPWA with the Ontario Woodlot Association (OWA). OWA will be bringing in forestry experts to lead three forestry tours, each with different themes. The purpose of these tours is to re-engage and enhance skills and knowledge of other forestry professionals. FOH is excited to have this new partnership and take recommended actions to improve and enhance the HPWA forest ecosystems.



## Reporting Violations

If you see someone committing a violation on Hullett Marsh property, please be sure to contact the appropriate authorities. Friends of Hullett staff do not do any type of enforcement so it is important to either contact OPP or a Conservation Officer depending on the type of situation. **Phone numbers for our local Conservation Officers can be found on page 4 of the 2024-2025 User Guide.**

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

1-877-TIPS-MNR

## Turtle Nest Protection

This marks the 6th year of our turtle nest protection program. **Staff successfully placed 20 turtle nest protection boxes** this year! These protection boxes help increase the survival rate of their eggs. It is very important to protect turtle nests from predation because turtles do not reach sexual maturity until they are about 12-15 years old.



Most of the nests staff found this year were **Common Snapping Turtle** nests.

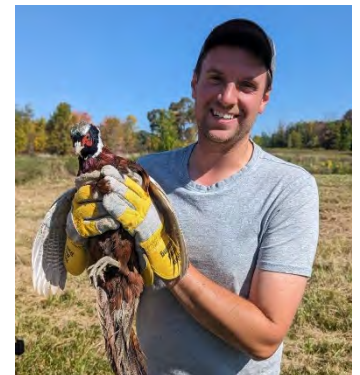
## Volunteering



With a small staff and a 5,400-acre property to take care of, **volunteer efforts** are the backbone of various tasks that manage and maintain Hullett Marsh's infrastructure, programs, and habitat.

This summer we were lucky enough to have the support of numerous volunteers with everything from mallard tube retrieval to painting trail markers. It doesn't matter if you're 13 or 80, there is always something you can do to help.

Whether you can only spare an hour or if you can donate a whole day of your time, volunteers are welcome any day and any time!



If you hunt at Hullett, consider spending some time volunteering with us to benefit and enhance your hunting experience. You'll be able to scout out the area and see what is happening with waterfowl in the marsh before your hunt!

If you're interested in volunteering or organizing a volunteer day for a group, email Friends of Hullett at [fohoffice@tcc.on.ca](mailto:fohoffice@tcc.on.ca) or call us at 519-482-7011.

## Phragmites Removal

Phragmites, also known as Common Reed, is an invasive wetland species that has become established in the marsh. First found here in the early 2000's, this aggressive plant can spread rapidly throughout an area, outcompeting native species for water and nutrients.



Our Wildlife & GIS Technician, Ben Elliott, has been working with the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority (ABCA) to control Phragmites in the HPWA. With the financial support from Huron Clean Water Project and Ducks Unlimited Canada, FOH and ABCA staff located and sprayed several stands of Phragmites throughout the marsh, and have observed a notable improvement since mapping began in 2016 and spraying began in 2017.

FOH thanks the Huron Clean Water Project and Ducks Unlimited for their financial support, and the ABCA for their assistance in controlling Phragmites stands within the HPWA.

## 2025 Photo Contest

Hullett Marsh is encouraging our users to submit their photos for a chance to be on the cover of our 2025-2026 Hullett Marsh User Guide. Follow the guidelines below and submit your photos to [fohoffice@tcc.on.ca](mailto:fohoffice@tcc.on.ca). By sending us your photos, you

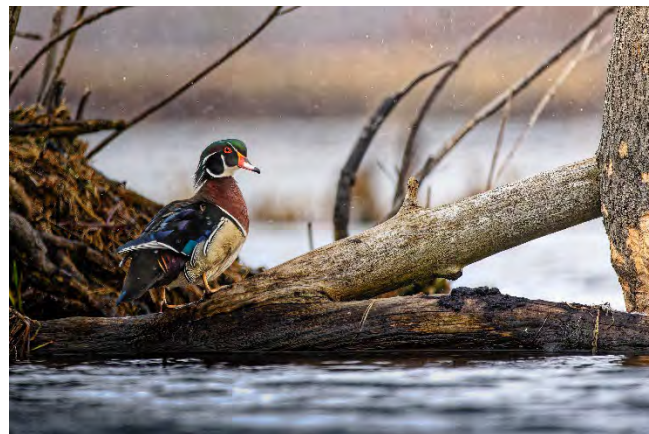
give FOH the right to use them in social media posts, presentations, and other public displays.

The first place photo will be used as the main cover photo on next year's User Guide, second through sixth place photos will also be featured.

### Guidelines:

- Must have been taken in Hullett Marsh
- Must depict safe practices that do not go against any rules or regulations
- Must not contain gore of any kind
- Name the file with the name of the person entering the contest (e.g. John\_Smith\_1.jpg)

**Photo Contest deadline is  
March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025.**



**2024 Winner:  
Doug Gordon**

## Connect with Hullett

Stay up to date with what's happening at the marsh by checking our website, Facebook, and Instagram pages! Consider becoming a member, or encouraging your friends and family to become members, to receive newsletters and other updates straight to your inbox throughout the year!

**[Click here to fill out our membership form!](#)**

