

COLTA



Chain Of Lakes
Trail Association

NEWSLETTER

Winter 2013

What's New Since our last newsletter



Lorne Logan, Valerie Eddy & Misty

COLTA now has six trained Trail Wardens. These volunteers monitor the trail taking notes of what's going on, when physical conditions change, answering questions, and being of help where they can. If they point out safety and behavioral issues, welcome their observations. They are just making the trail a better and safer place and we consider them our trail's ambassadors.

We need more volunteers. It took almost a year to gather enough volunteers from various trail groups to put on a warden's course. We have started another waiting list and have three more interested in becoming a trail warden.

If you're interested you can contact COLTA either by replying to this newsletter or e-mailing: colta.association@gmail.com. Your name will be put on the list for the next training session. **We need more volunteers.** It's a great way to get involved with the trail and it's more fun than it looks. You meet interesting people engaged with the trail, hear great suggestions that will help make the trail a better place for you, your kids and dogs and get into shape while doing it.

Distance Markers

Last year your COLTA committee drew up a short list of priorities to enhance and develop the trail. The first on the list were distance markers. This was not only to help those of you who want to know how far you have run or walked and to



record your goals. They also play a vital role in safety. In the event of an emergency they can help emergency services reach the location more quickly. They also help trail maintenance locate the specific areas that need to be repaired.

The Yellow Line

This year HRM painted a yellow middle line on all paved trails to mixed reviews. However, it appears to give some people a sense of security that other trail users, especially cyclists, won't run them down.

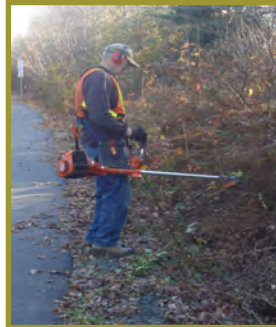


Trail Maintenance



and Springvale Ave. were so delighted with their bounty that they tried to share it by reaching out to touch trail users. The trail association did not have enough funds to trim the entire trail so we concentrated on the worst spots between Ashburn and

The wonderful weather last summer was a boon for every leaf, weed and bush on the trail. Some bushes between the Ashburn Golf Course



them. In 2013 we're looking forward to an enhanced maintenance budget so hopefully we'll be able to cut the brush on the entire trail and not have to share it again with the vegetation.

Crown Dr. If it wasn't for a maintenance grant of a \$1,000 from the Department of Health and Wellness we would have been hard pressed to do even this. We thank

Future Plans



This isn't the most inviting trail head in HRM but it's ours. The feedback to the trail association has been that most people don't even know it's a trail. They think it's just another sidewalk in the city and who could blame them. It travels along Joseph Howe Drive, one of the busiest streets in the city particularly at rush hour. It's not until a trail user reaches the Ashburn Golf Course that one gets the sense they are on the trail.

COLTA plans to change this. Our long term goal is to build a small park or plaza with trail/interpretative signs, benches, bike racks, lights, waste receptacles etc. at this site. We also plan a formal connection for residents in Fairview. There are a lot of obstacles to overcome but the plan is to get the design done in the near future and develop the site as the obstacles are conquered and resources become available. Our first priority was distance markers. Now that this is accomplished we're onto number 2. In our next issue we'll look at priorities three to five. Stay tuned.

A new year is a new opportunity to renew your Membership

Chain of Lakes Trail Association

Membership Form

Fee \$10.00 Per Year

Name _____

Address _____

_____ E-mail _____

Send to:

COLTA

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