

NATURE CONSERVANCY | CANADA

Conservation Volunteers Program



Scot's Pine Removal (Rice Lake Plains)

Date:	Saturday, June 4th, 2016
Time:	9:00 am
Location:	NCC's Hazel Bird Property 4639 Robson Rd, Baltimore, ON K0K 1C0 44.102773° N -78.178709°W

What Will We Be Doing?

We will be cutting invasive Scot's pine trees, an invasive species that threaten the native tallgrass prairie habitat. On NCC's Hazel Bird property. This work will aid in keeping the prairie habitat open and free of shading plants that degrade this sensitive ecosystem.

Directions

From ON-401:

	Travel
1. Take exit 474 for Northumberland 45 North toward Norwood	550 m
2. Merge onto Baltimore Rd/Cst Chris Garrett Memorial Bridge. Continue to follow Baltimore Rd.	3.4 km
3. Continue onto Route 45	1.8 km
4. Turn left/north onto Harwood Rd/Regional Rd 15	11.0 km
5. Turn right/south onto Robson Rd	700 m

The Hazel Bird Property will be on your left at 4639 Robson Rd.
Please follow the land down to the farm.
Approximate total travel time from the 401 is 15 minutes.

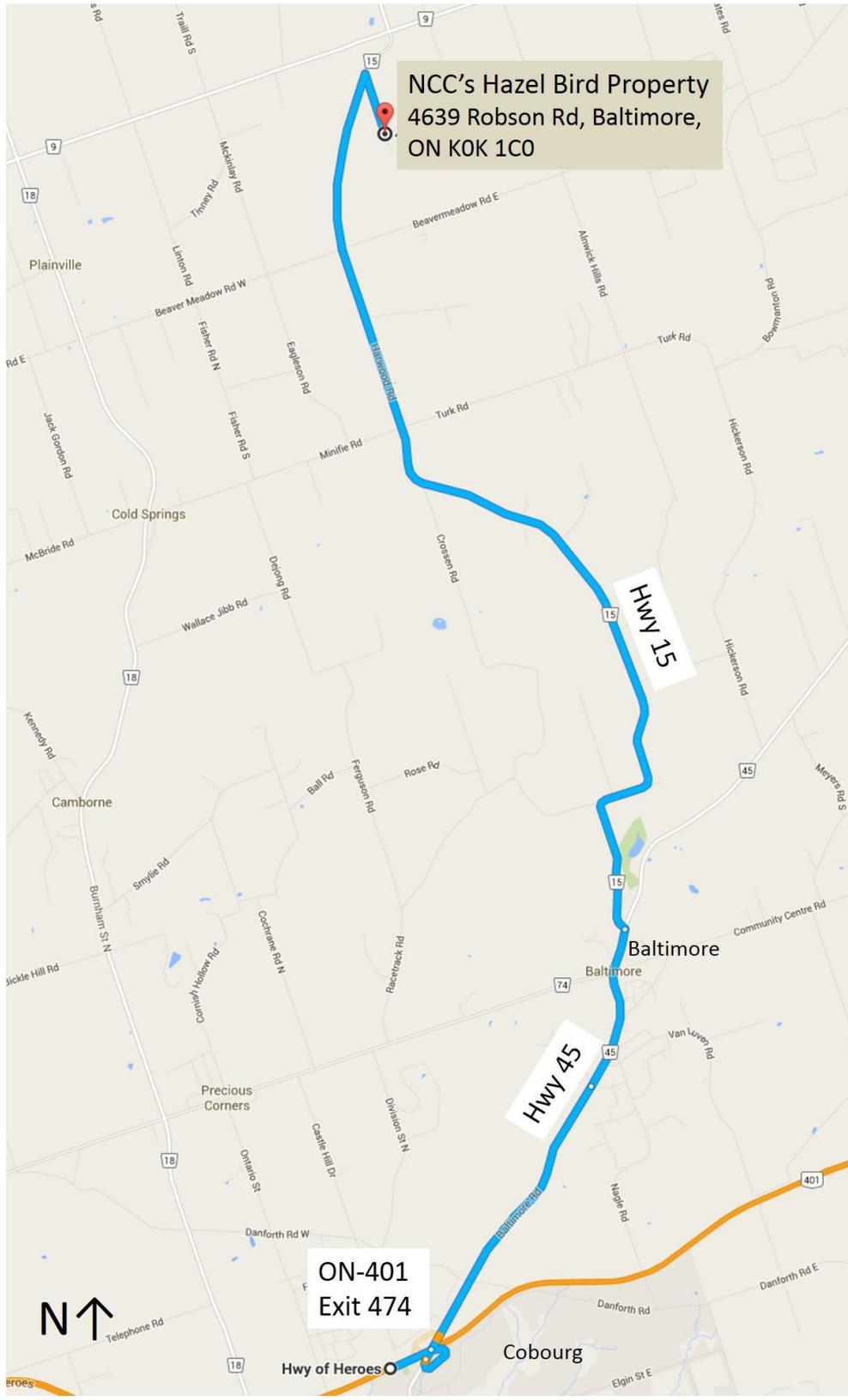
Would You Like Directions Right from Your House?

Open this [google maps link](#), type your address into the origin field and get directions tailored specifically for you!

Did You Know?

There was once over 70,000 hectares of prairie and savannah habitat across Ontario. Less than 3% of this habitat remains today. The Rice Lake Plains has one of the largest unprotected prairie and savannah remnants in the Great Lakes Region making it one of the best places to protect this globally rare ecosystem.

Map of Event Location



Event Day Schedule

Time	Activity
9:00 am	Arrive at the Hazel Bird Property
9:00 - 9:30	Welcome and orientation
9:30 - 11:45	Remove Scot's Pine trees
11:45 - 12:45	Lunch break
12:45 - 14:30	Continue removing Scot's Pine trees
14:30 - 15:00	Guided tour of property
15:00 - 15:15	Wrap up, event evaluations and departure

What Should You Wear?

- Sturdy boots
- Layers of comfortable clothing
- Depending on the forecast, a sun hat and sunscreen or rainwear are recommended
- Note that clothes may get dirty during field work

What Should You Bring?

- Packed lunch
- At least 1L of water
- Mug or travel mug (for hot drinks in the afternoon)
- Work gloves, pruners or hand saws if you have them.
- Feel free to bring any ribbons or decorations that you might like to use to decorate your wreath
- Extra things you might consider: a camera, field guides, binoculars and a small backpack or bag.

We'll Supply:

- Extra snacks
- Water refills
- All equipment required to complete the work including work gloves, loppers and hand saws



Poison Ivy
(photo from Medicinenet.com)

Safety Notes

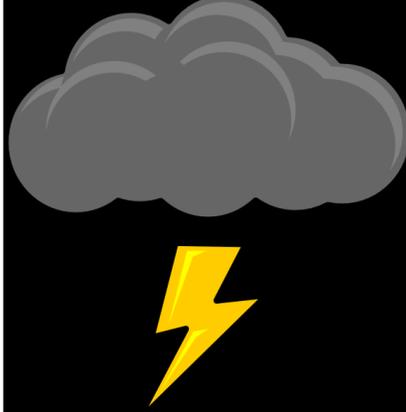
We will be working with loppers and hand saws to cut down the small trees. NCC staff will provide instruction on safe use of all equipment. There may also be poison ivy and prickly vegetation at the work site. Close-toed footwear, long pants and long sleeved shirts will limit your exposure. NCC staff will also point out the poison ivy to event participants wherever possible.

Washrooms:

A Porta Potty will be available at the Hazel Bird Property. Hand sanitizer and toilet paper will be provided for use throughout the day.

What if it's Raining?

This event will run rain or shine BUT if there are thunderstorms in the area the event will be cancelled (we will contact you at the phone number you provided).



Wildlife of the Grasslands

NCC's Rice Lake Plains Natural Area is home to many rare grassland species including rare birds such as the Upland Sandpiper, Grasshopper Sparrow, Eastern Meadowlark, Savannah Sparrow, and Bobolink. The elusive and threatened Eastern Hog-nosed Snake also calls this area home.

Questions?
Need to Cancel?
Get Lost?
Contact your Event Leader:



Val Deziel

Acting Coordinator, Conservation Biology,
Central Ontario Sub region

Office: 705-749-1806

Cell: 705-868-5374



Eastern Meadowlark
(photo from WhatBird.com)

GENERAL INFORMATION FOR VISITORS TO NCC PROPERTIES

When accessing Nature Conservancy of Canada Properties please note:

1. You may be hiking/walking on terrain that may be steep, uneven, slippery, or jagged, or where solid footing is obscured by vegetation. Be sure to have good walking shoes with ankle support and treads.
2. Since you will be visiting rich natural areas, you will encounter many types of plants and animals, on land and in the water, some of which may be dangerous or poisonous to humans. It is your responsibility to learn about the environment you'll be visiting, and how to avoid natural threats, especially in areas inhabited by large carnivores.
3. You must help keep these areas beautiful by packing out everything you bring in, including garbage.
4. You will be enjoying the outdoors in all kinds of weather, from bright sun to rainy conditions. Be sure to bring sunscreen, preferably waterproof with a high protection factor, and apply it frequently. Bring rain gear. Wear layers of clothing that will allow you to be warmer or cooler during different parts of the day.
5. Black flies/mosquitoes and other biting/stinging insects may pose a problem at certain times of the year.
6. Many of the habitats on Nature Conservancy of Canada property are ecologically sensitive, be aware of your impact, do not pick flowers, avoid crushing plants and do not feed or harass wildlife.
7. Some NCC properties are fenced and use cattle or other livestock for grazing. These animals may be unpredictable, refrain from approaching or harassing.
8. Some NCC properties contain abandoned buildings and/or mineshafts. If encountered, do not enter or approach any of these structures due to unknown hazards and risks.
9. Fires of any sort are absolutely prohibited on NCC property.
10. Even with appropriate precautions, accidents can happen. The Nature Conservancy of Canada does not provide any trained medical professionals or any hazard or emergency evacuation facilities.