

Newport Forest

August 2 2002

2:15 - 735 pm

Weather: prec. 7 mm; clear; calm; LM 31 C; FCF 27 C

Purpose: maintenance

Participants: Kee, Nic

We had to come in via Clachan Road, as the Hagerty Road bridge was closed for repairs (all of August).

We brought Junior with us, as usual. And, as usual, he followed us everywhere until he got tuckered out around 4:30 and climbed the old Black Maple. Since he completely ignored the new box we had made for him, Nic had to climb the tree, pluck Junior off a nearby branch and physically stuff him in through the entrance hole. After that, there was no looking back. Junior rattled around in the box for a while and when we next looked up, he was lying on his back, with only his nose and whiskers showing through the hole.

While Nic watered the trees at the station, then in the island, I filled eight bags with wood chips and hauled them down to the creek, two at a time. We worked on the Fleming Creek trail for nearly an hour, extending the groomed portion another 70 metres and just into Eva's Woods. We chipped about 300 metres of trail. We also watered the trees in the triangle.

When I was about to water one of the Tulip Tree saplings, I spotted a "wee, timorous, cowerin' beastie" just beside the stem. It was a very young Cottontail Rabbit. I caught it without difficulty, not realizing that it was already old enough to forage for itself. I thought it might need help. At home, later, Pat filled me in. We would give it appropriate food and return it to the LM soon, perhaps even this Sunday. I call it "Tulip."

Nick found a rather large, black ground beetle (S).

We came home via the Furnival Road and the 401, taking the Talbot Road exit to Lambeth.

New species:

European Ground Beetle

Carabus nemoralis

FCF/FC