

Newport Forest

November 20 2003

2:10 - 5:30 pm

Weather: prec. 22 mm; clear; W < 15 kmh; LM 12 C; FCF 10 C

Purpose: tree planting

Participants: Kee, Nic

Fleming Creek is back up, thanks to recent light but prolonged rains. It was a mere 35 cm below the top of the decking and this time was flowing, the river backing up into the property only partly. The rate of flow was a third of a meter per second.

We went back to the FCF S core to finish the planting there. (2 SB, 1 JB, 1 CA, 1 TT) After a short break at the trailer, we made up an "expeditionary kit" for a remote planting. We put gards, tags, and bud protectors (soda straws) on 6 pots of saplings, and brought the, the shovel, the two-handed saw (for trees down over the trail), and two watering jugs.

After filling the jugs from the Thames (now coming conveniently up to the bottom of the drift pile), we took the TR trail up to the bluffs, stopping at the first nice prospect point. There we planted a CA (Flowering Crab Apple) and the JB (Juneberry/Serviceberry) to frame the vista.

We stopped next at the RSF bench, where we planted the four SBs (Spice Bush) on either side of the trail, but not too close to it.

In all this planting, it is sometimes necessary to make judgments about how well a young tree is likely to fare in a particular location. I am guessing that CAs might do well in an open forest setting, but prefer to place them and JBs along forest edges. The same thing goes for TTs, open forest notr being a bad place to put them, especially if the soil suits them as well as the rich loam of our bottomland seemed to suit the two experimental trees planted near the bridge last spring.

We found no trees down across the trail in the BCF. One of the windthrows was a Bitternut and not an Elm.

Trees remaining to plant: 6 CA; 1 JB; 2 RM (Red Mulberry)