

Newport Forest

June 19 2004

1:35 - 7:15 pm

Weather: prec. 7 mm; cloud/sun; N < 40 kmh; LM 16 C; FCF 15 C

Purpose: maintenance

Participants: Kee, Steve

Steve was late getting on site, so I spent half an hour weeding at the tree station. When Steve arrived, we went down to the trailer to plan the afternoon. First, we walked along the east shore of FC to the mouth, where we found not only a section of decking and the leg of the midstream trestle, but the ramp, as well. We left the ramp tied to a tree and walked back through the heavy vegetation of Eva's Woods carrying not only the decking and trestle-leg, but the deer feeder that went missing last year. We found it not far from the creek mouth, hanging in the crotch of an old thorn tree!

Also on the way back, I noted the giant Sycamore with two trunks, one 2 m dbh, the other leaning out almost horizontally.

Back at Fleming Creek, we reassembled the trestle and tied it to an elm near the bridge. We installed the missing deck section, sliding the others to make room for it. (We're still missing one section, but we compensated by leaving an 8" gap between sections.

After a light lunch, we walked the entire FCT, brush-hooking our way through most of it. It still has to be scraped before it becomes once again a handsome trail. I checked the trees in the north & south cores. They all look healthy and continue to grow rapidly - at least in most cases.

Note: We have arranged a joint tour with the UWO Environmental Science Program and the Thames Talbot Land Trust. The tour is to take place Monday, June 28/04.