

Newport Forest

Saturday May 14 2005

2:15 - 6:45 pm

**Weather:** prec. 23 mm; ovcast; lt rain; S < 10; LM 19 C; FCF 19 C

**Purpose:** to check trees & work on log bridge

**Participants:** Kee

I stopped at the Hurdles so that Edgar could give my (very dull) hatchet a grind out in his garage, while Nina could show me the new mold she found. This is a new fungus for us, like a thin, brown, wrinkled jelly - growing on sandy soil (S). While at Nina's, I saw a hummingbird at her feeder. Nina was also pleased to show me the nest built that very day by a Red-winged Blackbird in the Hurdle's cattail mini-marsh.

The rain is very welcome. You can see the LM trees perking up, especially in the warm, humid climate. Budding & leafing out seems to be accelerating. With no watering to do, I took extra long in the trailer, just for fun figuring out the equivalent of today's rain as a water-jug operation. The uniformly distributed 23 mm worked out to the equivalent of about 2.2 litres per stem.

I had brought in additional lumber with me in the van and carried some of it to the log bridge, where I (almost) completed another 8' section of the decking. While working (all too noisily) away, I heard two calls I hadn't heard since last year: a Grey Tree Frog somewhere upstream and a Great Crested Flycatcher across the Creek in the FCF.

I filled the two tray feeders and noted a male Rose-breasted Grosbeak singing his heart out in the Shagbark Hickory.

**Birds:** (18)

American Robin (LM); Black-capped Chickadee (GF); Blue Jay (GF); Downy Woodpecker (GF); Eastern Towhee (BCF); Field Sparrow (LM); Great Crested Flycatcher (FCF); Mourning Dove (GF); Northern Cardinal (GF); Red-bellied Woodpecker (Tr); Red-winged Blackbird (HP); Rose-breasted Grosbeak (HP); Ruby-throated Hummingbird (HP); Song Sparrow (LM); Tree Swallow (UM/Rd); Turkey Vulture (HBF); Wood Duck (HP); Wood Thrush (FCF)