

**Newport Forest**

Thursday June 16 2005

3:15 - 8:30 pm

**Weather:** prec. 7 mm; RH 85 %; ovcst; calm; LM 18 C; FCF 17 C

**Purpose:** watering trees & birdwatching

**Participants:** Pat, Kee

By the time we got to Newport Forest, the sky had clouded over and a series of gentle rainfalls took place over our stay. So there was little point in watering the trees. Over the past week, a succession of cloudy days with occasional showers has produced more rain everywhere else! Before the first rain fell, we stopped at the TS, so that I could water the trees by the gate and repair the holes that Snooper had been using to enter the UM. (doing what damage we can only imagine) At the trailer we noticed that two or three more elms by the BCF/LM boundary had browning tops, indicative of the same disease that killed those noted last summer.

We birded until it was time for Pat to nap, then I went to the FCT, shovel & brushhook in hand, to work on the trail from the trailer to the bridge. I completed grooming & carving about 120 of its 150 m length. I crossed the log bridge and roughed out a 10-metre trail to connect with the FCT on the other side of the creek. I heard a Green Frog play his banjo, almost in time with my efforts.

All planted trees are thriving. It has now become painfully obvious that the young volunteer "Balsam Poplar" is, in reality, a planted Big-tooth Aspen. (Records must be amended.)

Just before we left, a magnificent Bald Eagle came flying along the TR just above the HB. At first we thought it was a Great Blue Heron.

**Birds:** (25)

American Crow (RSF); American Goldfinch (UM); American Robin (HBF); Bald Eagle (TR); Blue Jay (Tr); Brown-headed Cowbird (Tr); Common Grackle (LM); Common Yellowthroat (BCF); Downy Woodpecker (Tr); Eastern Towhee (BCF); Eastern Wood Pewee (BCF); Field Sparrow (UM); Great Crested Flycatcher (GF); Hairy Woodpecker (Tr); Mourning Dove (Tr); Northern Cardinal (Tr); Northern Oriole (LM); Red-bellied Woodpecker (Tr); Red-winged Blackbird (UM); Rose-breasted Grosbeak (Tr); Song Sparrow (LM); Tree Swallow (UM); Turkey Vulture (FC); Wood Thrush (FCF); Yellow Warbler (FCB)