

Newport Forest

Thursday October 4 2007

2:00 - 5:45 pm

weather: prec. 9 mm; RH 62%; BP 99.65 kPa; sn/cld; calm; LM 30 C

purpose: visit from Darren

participants: Kee & Darren

We hadn't seen Darren for a year and were glad to oblige his request to borrow the canoe for a run down the river with his Delaware friends from Muncey. He did not take the canoe, just the life jackets & paddles. We spent a long time down on the clay beach, sitting on a grassy knoll and watching the rapids for fish. The big "salmon" going upriver would appear as elongated dark streaks in the rapids. We saw similar shapes, but they never moved, proving in the end to be shadows among the rocks.

Darren looked for deer scrapes. Finding none along the border of Harvey's bean field, he made a pawing scrape on the ground near a tree where, he hoped, a buck would scrape his antlers in challenge to the interloper.

Newport Forest Saturday October 6 2007

4:30 - 6:50 pm

weather: prec. 0 mm; RH 78%; BP 99.65 kPa; cld/sn; calm; LM 27 C

purpose: watering trees

participants: Kee

I returned from a nature walk at Moraviantown to find the day fast fading and with time to water only half the trees on site. I put out birdfeed and discovered that the trailer was infested with beetles. I watered the trees by the gate and in the tree station, as well.

Darren's downriver trip has been canceled. I enjoyed the nature walk, finding a near relative of the Apheloria millipede that I've been looking for. We had a wiener roast after the walk and I got to meet several new people from the Reserve, including Tony the taxidermist. (He's also an artist.)

birds: American Crow (FCF); American Robin (HBF/LM); Black-capped Chickadee (TH); Blue Jay (GF); Great Blue Heron (HBF); Red-bellied Woodpecker (Tr); Song Sparrow (TH); White-breasted Nuthatch (TH); White-throated Sparrow (TH) note: "TH" = The Hole (entrance to BCF)