



HOW DID WE CELEBRATE EARTH DAY IN 2018?

Eden Mills welcomed spring on Earth Day this year! At 7:30 in the morning at least 12 of us braved the **bird hike** at minus 3 degrees in hats, gloves, coats, boots and scarves. By the end of the afternoon all of these items were piled in doorways throughout the village as the sun shone and the air warmed to 11 balmy degrees by supper time.



THE BIRDS! Once again we were privileged to see and hear a variety of birds in the company of bird-linguist and friend, Brian Husband. He tells us that the group saw 23 species, including highlights such as the kingfisher, yellow-shafted flicker and the great egret. At the very end of the hike, back at the mill pond, he added a harrier, broad-winged hawk, killdeer, and turkey vulture to make 27.



Yellow shafted flicker



Belted Kingfisher

The group stopped at the bow bridge for a long time – The great egret who has been visiting the village over the past week on his way north to Luther Marsh stood still for us to marvel. The photo on the left shows him standing between the river and the snow.



Brian's photo to the right is truly worth a thousand words – He notes: "You can see the delicate plumes (aigrettes) along the back that the bird will display during courtship."



Photo: Rebecca Field



THE TREES! The bustle at Barb and Joe's house where people were picking up their Wellington Green Legacy trees, coordinated by Bill Allen, began close to 9 am...**1,150 trees** were distributed...small forests of native species were carried home in plastic bags...a continuation of our 10-year tradition, absorbing carbon through trees and adding beauty to the village.



THE WILDFLOWERS were not pushing through the snow and ice on Earth Day, but Brian kindly promises to let us know when he's going out to photograph spring flora in the next few weeks. **Watch for news** from Ruth's Eden Mills bulletins.

THE VILLAGE CLEAN-UP was also hampered by piles of ice and snow. Louise Marshall will lead the **spring clean-up on Saturday, May 12**. Meet at the Hall at 9 am. Louise will bring garbage bags from the Township, along with safety vests. Please bring work gloves or garden gloves. Please let Louise know if you are available to help out c/o louise.marshall.41@outlook.com.

THE FILM – NFB's Sacred Relationship was screened by our theatrical hero John Cripton at the Hall in the evening, preceded by Art Lucs extraordinary series of photos of Edgewood Pond with a song ([Nibi \(Water Song\)](#)) which flowed like water to the beat of Turtle Island Drumming Circle's Barb Marshall and Heather Nagel. A short video introducing Manitoulin Island's beautiful and thoughtful [Autumn Peltier](#) preceded the documentary – a 12-year-old First Nations girl on a mission to protect the Earth's water. Janet Wilson counts Autumn among the hundreds of young activist heroes she meets and celebrates.

We all ate cake to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of Earth Day, served by Sharon and Brian. Janet and Chris brewed the coffee and Marie brought an urn of elegant fruit-infused water in honour of the Day. Linda Hendry and family were discovered expertly washing dishes later in the evening!





Kit Bresnahan,

who launched Earth Day

10 years ago, sent a message from Costa Rica, read by Charles Simon:

"Human kind has not woven the web of life. We are but one thread within it. Whatever we do to the web we do to ourselves. All things are bound together.....all things connect." -Chief Seattle-

Warm greetings to each of you on this, the tenth anniversary of the Eden Mills Carbon Neutral Earth Day Celebration. During the past ten years, more than 10,000 trees have been distributed and planted by the Eden Mills community. There have been Earth Day Workshops, concerts, village clean ups, and tree plantings and pot luck lunches at Eden Mills Memorial Park all reflecting our sense of community, and our commitment to the wellbeing of our home, planet Earth.

It is your awareness of the integral part you play in the web of life that brings you here tonight. You have a deep connection with nature and with your community. Thank you for this.

Happy Earth Day, Everyday. "Look deep into nature and then you will understand everything better."

PS Kit is still planting trees – now in Costa Rica. He tells us he has planted almost 100 trees and a lot of different species: - Three varieties of oranges, two varieties of grapefruit, three varieties of bananas, three varieties of coconut, and fruit like mamon chino.



He planted another 32 fruit trees on the last full moon and is harvesting bananas, papaya, pineapples, lemons, and caimo (aka yellow star apple).

Kit and Pam will be back!

Thanks to everyone who cheerfully volunteered to make Earth Day fun, and to those who will join Louise on the Spring Clean-up on May 12, and to Brian who will share with you the wonders of spring flora.



THE GRAND FINALE!

And, just outside the Community Hall, in Tim's Garden, we spotted a perky yellow crocus, singing its heart out as the snow retreated in the sun.

