Beach beauties

In the summer and fall, Toronto and Region Conservation (TRCA) botanists conducted a survey of the new park. A total of 188 naturally-occurring plant species were found in the 2007 field season. The coastal habitat near the mouth of Highland Creek is home to the most sensitive plants, including Sea Rocket, Seaside Spurge, Bushy Cinquefoil, Canada Wild Rye, Oake’s Evening-Primrose and Germander. These plant species are particularly sensitive to trampling, so when you walk on the beach, tread gently.

A walk in the park

This summer, the City of Toronto conducted a park user survey across a number of city parks, including the Port Union Waterfront Park. The results were interesting. Of visitors surveyed, 90 per cent said that parks were very important to their quality of life. Half of the visitors to the park felt that the waterfront trail was the best feature, while another 37 per cent liked the view of the waterfront best. It’s no surprise that 85 per cent of the park’s visitors live in the city, but the surprise is that the other 15 per cent of visitors were from outside Canada! It looks like the locals are showing off the park to their out-of-town guests and who could blame them?
Adams Creek improvements
As required by conditions of approval under the Fisheries Act, TRCA continued to implement the fish compensation plan. In 2007, work continued on the upper and lower reaches of Adams Creek. Staff installed bird and bat boxes, aquatic plants in the wetlands created last year, and the community took part in a fall planting event.

Responsible park usage: Be an example!
The Port Union Waterfront Park is not a leash-free area. Please keep your dogs on a leash at all times. For more information about leash-free areas in the City of Toronto, visit: http://www.toronto.ca/parks/dogs.htm

Like other waterfront parks, the Port Union Waterfront Park is home to a variety of waterfowl. While you enjoy watching the birds, please don’t feed them. Excessive bird droppings are unsightly, pose a potential public health hazard and affect water quality.

Looking ahead to Phase 2
Although the majority of visitors to the park are very satisfied, many have asked TRCA about the schedule for Phase 2. The next phase will extend the park eastward from the Rouge Hill GO Station to the mouth of the Rouge River for a total park length of 3.8 kilometres. Construction is expected to commence in early 2008 with completion expected by the end of 2010.

Public safety
In the interest of public safety, please note that park visitors should use the Port Union Village Common or the East Point Park access points to enter the park. In anticipation of construction start-up for Phase 2, there will be no park access from the Rouge Hills Go Station. Your cooperation is appreciated.

For information regarding the Port Union Waterfront Improvement Project, visit: www.trca.on.ca/water_protection/strategies/lakeontario. If you have specific questions regarding the project or if you would like to be added to the project mailing list, please contact:

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