



Turtle nest protectors

TALPINES OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

**WE HAVE A NEW PROJECT COMING THIS SPRING 👍😊 TURTLES 🐢
 TURTLES 🐢🐢 hahaha. WE LOVE TURTLES 🐢**

TURTLE NEST PROTECTION PROJECT

Talpines POA has purchased eight turtle nest protectors (picture above) for our new project coming this spring. We plan on installing the nest protectors over turtle nests along the Trail and roads in Waubauskene this spring. We will ask residents on the virtual hub to notify us when they see a turtle laying eggs, and our volunteers will install the nest protectors over the nest to save them from predators. Lately we have seen many nests dug up, and the eggs eaten by predators. The nest protectors will remain in place until October to allow the hatchlings to emerge safely. We will collect and re-use the nest protectors.

We have also applied for a Tay grant to support our garden projects, (including decoration of entrances to Waub seasonally,) water testing, and our new turtle nest protection project. .
 Fingers crossed 🙏

UPDATES:

From the community garden leaders Sharon and Peter, a **REPORT** of their amazing Community Garden project in Veteran’s Park:

Community Garden Report

We’ve had a wonderful growing season in the Waubauskene Community Garden. The Green Curly Kale and Black Dinosaur Kale are consistent in their offerings. Green and Golden zucchinis were plentiful and the cucumbers did well growing up the trellis. Lots of kids delighted in pulling up little Oxheart Carrots, radishes, beets and onions. We grew five kinds of lettuce which are all

finished now but the microgreens Arugula and Mizuna are still producing. We harvested some corn cobs, five squash and lots of beans. The Heritage Burgundy, Roma and Cherry tomatoes are still ripening and the herbs are still plentiful as well. During our fun Harvest Celebration on Sept. 17th the kids enthusiastically harvested lots of red potatoes which went home with community members in little paper lunch bags.

We shared the generosity of the garden with dozens of people through the library, Tay Bike Day, delivering produce to people's houses and helping kids in the park to harvest for their families.

The water barrel and watering cans were a big hit with the kids who could water plants whenever they wanted to.

During the season, we had a beautiful Planting Celebration including Indigenous knowledge and drumming, a National Indigenous Peoples Day social and a Harvest Celebration. The Benny Club came for a visit and the kids painted rocks and medallions to add beauty to the garden.

Artwork was added throughout the season as well by local artists. We held a Friday night music jam beside the garden as well as a Saturday morning drop-in for anyone who was interested.

During our Harvest Celebration, kids and adults painted the tops of tree stumps that were donated by Helen and Andre Donato to form a Story Circle in one corner of the park. Scarecrows were made to decorate the garden and a potluck meal was shared including food from the garden. Musicians who had participated in the Friday evening music jam provided music while all these activities were taking place.

Throughout the season, the garden was a great place to learn about Indigenous knowledge through the planting of Tobacco, Cedar, Sage and Sweetgrass, the Three Sisters (corn, bean and squash), multilingual signs for the plants and storytelling. This was a beautiful way for visitors to experience Two Eyed Seeing (seeing the world from both an Indigenous and non-Indigenous worldview) and to get a better idea of how we can build community and be stronger together.

We plan to keep the Garden involved in the community through the fall and winter. Ideas such as having a Garden float in the Santa Claus Parade, visually acknowledging Thanksgiving, Sisters in Spirit, Remembrance Day, Christmas and winter themes are ways that can help the garden to be an inspiring part of the community. The garden has become a place of co-creativity with nature, multi-generational people, animals, birds and insects and the beauty that has been created has uplifted people who have visited, planted, watered and harvested as well as those who drive by or experience the garden with our weekly postings on the Waubauskene Virtual Hub. Not only have we been growing vegetables but we have been growing community as well.

Thanks to everyone who has been a part of this co-creation!

THANK YOU PETER, SHARON, AND VOLUNTEERS! 

Volunteers also created a reading circle in Veteran's Park out of stumps donated by the Donatos, which the kids and other volunteers had fun painting:



WELCOME TO WAUBAUSHENE PROJECT

Mary Warnock and her horticulture committee asked that we decorate the entrances to Waubaushene. Thank you to Cate Root and her daughter Meaghan for pumpkins and gourds, to Joe Whitwell for transporting hay bales, to Laurie Lyn for her hydrangeas, and to Sue, Ave, Vicki Cate and Victoria for their decorating efforts.



Enjoy the beautiful autumn in Waubaushene. All the best from the directors

Victoria Reaume

President, Talpines POA