

THE 2011 PADDLING SUMMER

By: Ross Rutley

Well! Paddlers; how was your canoeing summer?

For my part there were a few memorable outings.

Early in the season we had the spring run down the Nottawasaga River and that was a sum- what unusual day.



Some snow anyone?

Even with this we still had a pretty good time.



Lunch along the river.

And then of course we had our spring clean-up at Mc Crae Lake in May.



What treasures we find!
But; then again.



Not everyone took it serious.

However, some did and to those dedicated folks we give a big thank you .Mc Crae Lake is looking pretty good these days.



The Sequin River trip

This was a trip that almost did not happen because towards the middle of the week John Rankin had not heard from anyone except Ross and Bob Miller.

We decided to cancel the trip but then at the last moment we thought; "What the heck " let's just the three of us go. So we did; and we had a great day working our way through an amazing string of creeks, ponds, small lakes and little rapids and waterfalls. It turned out to be a great trip; Bob and I enjoyed it very much and really appreciate John's last minute flexibility in making it happen.

Unfortunately the only pictures are on my cell phone and I can't get them off at this time.

Too bad we did not get a few more club members out for this one.

West branch of the Nottawasaga (Private Trip)

After the great little Sequin trip I thought we needed to do another bit of exploring so I called John and we decided to take a run down the West branch of the Nottawasaga river which flows from the Hockley valley down to the main river and comes in just above the Nicholston dam .

This was a good choice that day. The water was a bit higher due to some rain a few days before so the paddling was very good the whole way, and except for the numerous leftovers and short portages around fallen trees we made pretty good time.

This branch of the Nottawasaga is a complete contrast to the main river; in that it flows clear and cold all the way and most of the time you would never know you where paddling through some of the most concentrated farm land in the area.

It's a pretty long paddle " 5-6hrs" , but we enjoyed it very much.

Like John said; "It's hard to believe that such a nice river trip is so close to us in Barrie and yet hardly anyone knows about it.

It's not for everyone, but if you don't mind a bit of bush whacking along the river bank it is a pure delight.

Well folks!

These are a few of the outings I experienced this summer, so how about you.

Let's hear from some of the rest of the membership.

How did your paddling summer go?

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