

The Nature Centre (HICOP) needs help

We are looking for **enthusiastic** Venturers who have a love of the outdoors in general and Camp Nemo in particular and who are interested in spending some Saturdays at camp helping with maintenance and/or with program for junior sections. We will supply training for any necessary skills. Some of the activities that we require help with are:

Week night meeting Interpreters. We are offering to host Beaver colonies and Cub packs at camp on their meeting night. We will spend part of the time doing an activity in the center, a short hike and then a campfire. Venturers could help with all three of these.

Nest monitoring . We have nest boxes throughout camp that require monitoring. Some need to be moved and/or repaired and all of them need to be cleaned out. During nesting season we will be opening them up and counting eggs, cleaning out wasp nests, checking for non survivors etc. to monitor their health.

Frogwatch . We will be listening to and counting frogs. Frog numbers are a good indicator of the health of the environment and data collected will be passed on to Environment Canada's Frogwatch program.

Worm watch. Wormwatch is the same as Frogwatch except worms are counted.

Checking trails for track casting locations. We will be taking youth out to make plaster casts of animal tracks and we will need volunteers to find good spots and to help with the casting.

Trail maintenance. Our trails need constant maintenance. Markings need repair, bushes need pruning and downed trees need to be removed. This winter has been especially severe and there is a lot of deadfall blocking trails. Only adults who have a valid chainsaw operators permit are allowed to use a chainsaw in camp. Youth can work with them in teams to remove downed trees. We also have saws and pruners, in the HICOP, that can be used on smaller problems.

Guided hikes. Many youth and adult leaders have never been out in the back forty. We need volunteers to lead guided hikes to this section of camp.

Splitting fire wood. Firewood needs to be split for the woodshed but we also want to keep a supply of split wood down at the HICOP so we will require volunteers to ensure that there is always wood in our pile.

Maintaining the fire at the centre. Many of our activities will be done around a fire so we will need help to maintain our fire.

Changing displays. Seasonal displays in the HICOP will need to be changed periodically.

Contact us through the HICOP website (www.hicop.ca) or at info@hicop.ca or better yet visit us at the HICOP any Saturday.