

The Couchiching Conservancy simply would not exist without the continual and out-standing support from an army of volunteers. From financial contributions to “sweat equity” to profound insights, those who support the ideals of the Conservancy are the heart, soul and muscle of all we do.

With so much support and so much to do, past-President **Jane Ball** has been working hard as our Volunteer Co-ordinator, a much-needed role to keep track of who's who and where can their skills and enthusiasm be best deployed.

### Volunteer Projects

For those who support the goals of the Couchiching Conservancy, there are a variety of ways in which you may assist with our many projects. Here is a listing of some opportunities:

**Property Management Teams:** Each of the 34 properties that Couchiching Conservancy has responsibility for has a team of people who meet once a season to walk the property and be the “eyes and ears” of the site.

**Ambassadors:** Whenever and wherever there is a booth or display highlighting the Couchiching Conservancy, we need people to chat with others, hand out information and solicit new members or funding. These volunteers are our ambassadors, spreading the word about all our initiatives.

**Event Preparation:** Any event needs good preparation, whether it's the Carden Nature Festival, the Dragon Boat Races or a birdwatching challenge; and there's always a myriad of important jobs that need doing.

**Construction/Maintenance:** Occasionally a fence or gate needs to be installed, a tree felled and removed, lumber for a boardwalk carried into the site or a culvert dropped in place. These are one-time projects but we need people with maintenance skills to assist with these special projects.

**Biodiversity Champions:** This is a new opportunity for volunteers to ‘get their hands dirty’ while protecting properties from invasive plant species such as garlic mustard, dog-strangling vine and other alien species that are disrupting the fragile ecosystem of some of our properties.

**Bio-blitzes:** These volunteer naturalists combine skills, talent and forces to sweep through, or blitz, a property to discover as many species of living things as possible. By having good base-line data of what grows there and who lives there now, future impacts can be better assessed and monitored.

To enlist as an active volunteer, contact Jane Ball at [jane.ball@sympatico.ca](mailto:jane.ball@sympatico.ca) 705-835-2674