

IROQUOIA TRAIL MAINTENANCE AND DEVELOPMENT

Job Description: TRAIL CAPTAIN

As a member of the Bruce trail Conservancy (BTC) and the Iroquoia Bruce Trail Club (IBTC), the volunteer Trail Captain is responsible for:

1. Custody of a section of the Bruce Trail approximately 2 to 4 km long. Your duties may include the removal of garbage and debris, updating blazes, cutting back vegetation (“summer growth”), removing obstructions, installing signage, repairing structures, and drainage of “wet spots” where feasible. The more often you can set out on your section the better; but twice a year you will be expected to do a thorough inspection and to notify your Zone Coordinator of your findings and your record of hours spent. You will also complete an online Trail Status Report (TSR) for your twice yearly.
2. The role as Trail Captain is critical to the proper maintenance of the trail and the management of risk – in particular because of the increasing number of less experienced trail users.
3. Twice yearly formal on-line reports (TSR) are required to be prepared. The reports provide evidence of trail maintenance and inspection in the event of an accident and resulting lawsuit.
4. A log or diary of time spent on trail work and other trail related activities, including travel time should be maintained.
5. If the work at hand is in excess of, or more difficult than you can handle, coordinate it with others and/or request assistance from your Zone Coordinator.
6. Be familiar with the manual “Guide for Trail Workers” and other on line BTC resources.
7. Try to attend specific work parties of construction crews, organized by the Club Project Coordinator. They can be great fun and you will meet other trail workers who could assist you when required. You may also acquire some new skills. Let your Club Project Coordinator know that you’re available.
8. Trail workers seminars or workshops will give you the opportunity to learn about current techniques for trail maintenance and improvement. Attend if you can.

9. Expect ongoing evaluation and critique of trail conditions by your ZTC and Trail Director, also by various user groups and individuals. Respond quickly to reports of unsafe trail conditions and work diligently to prevent and correct these occurrences in your section. Ask for help if you need it.
10. One Trail Monitor is assigned to your section and will inform you of any situation on the trail which might require attention.
11. Apart from the tools you need for ongoing trail maintenance you may from time to time need other tools to carry out your maintenance work. These include shovels, weed slashers, sledge hammers, lawnmower, etc. The club will provide these through your ZTC. This also applies to the blue, white, and black paint you need for blazing (provide plastic screw top jars, to have filled up).
12. Notify your ZTC when any land on your section is up for sale, or if you see any development which might affect the current or optimum route of the trail.