



2022 OUTER ISLAND PROJECT YEAR END REPORT

Submitted by: Tim Dyer
timd@whitesquall.com

OVERVIEW

The Outer Island Project is a community driven initiative founded by White Squall well over 25 years ago. The aim is to maintain wilderness campsites and picnic spots on the outer islands of Georgian Bay, as well as near wilderness sites on more heavily used places such as Franklin and Huckleberry Islands. The installation and care of 'Thunderboxes' provides all users with a sanitary facility, helping keep the islands pristine. We also dismantle fire pits where possible and encourage folks to 'Save the Trees and See the Stars.' This voluntary fire ban is supported by a variety of community groups and individuals as a strong way to reduce risk of island and shoreline fire in the hot, dry summer months.

A lot of the stewardship activity has been by volunteers with little to no cost. White Squall Staff are also asked to go out as part of their workday. This has proven to be an effective means of getting things done efficiently, as they are experienced in the work needed and can accompany myself (Tim Dyer) at short notice. My time is entirely volunteer. The White Squall motor boat has been used for many years as the workboat for the project and donated for the use by the owner, Jesse Dyer. We had to purchase a new 4 stroke motor this past year which was a significant cost, but badly needed. This cost has not been included.



We are fortunate to have a lot of support for this effort with several citizens volunteering to join us. Our issue is that the decision to go is last minute, based on weather and boat/staff availability. Because of this, it is difficult to organize volunteers on short notice. However, in the long-term - enabling and encouraging everyone to do their part out there is key, because we can't do it by ourselves. We have coached many folks in how to remove/renovate/install thunder boxes and pick up garbage. We'll continue to support anyone who can go and do this kind of work themselves. It's really quite straightforward:)

The Georgian Bay Biosphere has been a significant partner with us over the past few years. They have a dedicated 'Outer Island Fund' established within the GBB to receive donations. This fund is open to anyone interested in helping with campsite cleanup where expenses are incurred. For 4 years, the annual "Franklin Challenge" has provided significant fundraising dollars to the fund, with this year providing approx. \$13,000.

PROJECT SUPPORTERS

There are well over a hundred private individuals who have contributed through the Franklin Challenge through the year. The following are our major corporate and organizational sponsors. I apologize in advance if I've missed anyone - please let me know:)

- Peter Istvan Photography
- Rockwater Wealth
- Georgian Bay Biosphere
- Georgian Bay Land Trust
- Great Lakes Sea Kayak Association
- Gilly's of Snug Harbour
- Carling Township
- Carling Fire Department
- Salus PFD's
- Trestle Brewing Co.
- Thom Morrissey Photography
- Bearwood Canoe Company
- North Shore Apothecary
- Crofters Food Ltd
- Killbear Park Mall
- Kingdom Outdoor Products
- Irma Hamill
- The Wonderful People Who Let us Use their Beach
- Jessica Vergeer Studios
- Kropf Industrial
- Trysport
- Up North Company

FINANCIAL REPORT

Expenses

Saw - \$20
 Rake - \$37
 Staples - \$10
 Motor Maintenance - Spring - \$75
 Motor Winterize & Check - \$250
 Posters \$270
 Franklin Challenge Gas \$110
 Franklin Challenge Volunteer Expenses - \$45
 Season Gas \$330.
 Staff Wages \$750.
 Insurance \$1000
 Office Admin \$500

Pick up of Donated Tremblay Canoe - Staff time/gas \$100
(many thanks to Jean and Paul Hargreaves)

Total: \$3497

- Donations Outside of the GBB Outer Island Fund
Individual Donations - **\$205**
- Requested Funds from GBB Outer Isle Fund
\$3292

MNRF - DAY USE SITES

There are 3 provincial day-use sites in our area on Huckleberry, Pancake, and Franklin Islands. All were traditionally managed by MNRF and serviced by well-maintained boat docks/large vault toilets and enjoyed by a wide variety of users. Sadly, they have been allowed to erode into disrepair, with many of the dock structures leaking bits of foam into the water. The MNRF has abandoned their role and funding in this and their efforts to rehabilitate these sites is far less than adequate.

NEW INITIATIVES ON THE BAY

This is really encouraging as other individuals and groups are taking ownership, looking after the islands.

Cathcart Islands

Graham Poole
dug new pit on west side halfway up
checked north end box
Cost - none

Western Isles

Sergey Strakhov and Explore Georgian Bay Meetup Group
box installed on main isle
This is quite remarkable and is the first time one has been put in out there -
big thanks!!
Cost - none (box supplied by Outer Isle Project)

North Channel

Tom Payne, Marc Bradford, Lee Kelly, Laura Yates

T-box installed on Fox Island - a heavily used site, with plans for a second

Cost - none (box supplied by Outer Isle Project)

Shawanaga Island

Steven Kell

Shawanaga First Nation has been installing thunder boxes on sites around Shawanaga Island

The Outer Island Project has helped through t-box donation plans/advice

Cost: none

OUTER ISLAND PROJECT WORK REPORTS 2022

Aug. 12 - McCormick Island, Agassiz, Big McCoy, Dart & Green Isles

Tim Dyer, Zack Crafts, Emma Kitchen

McCormick Isle

Gathered garbage

Dismantled 3 firepits

Renovated two boxes

Dug a new hole and installed box

New signage

Agassiz Isle

Inspected isle for possible t-box but decided not needed

Big McCoy –NW site Isle

Dug new hole, moved box

New signage

Renovated second box

Removed several firepits

Dart

Renovated box

Installed stand-alone sign

New signage

Green Isle

Renovated NW box
Checked western and SW boxes
New signage,
Installed new box on east site
Gathered garbage

Cost: \$60 gas, volunteers - no staff charge

Aug. 3 - Franklin Island

Jan Raymond, Tim Dyer

Regatta Bay Sites

4 sites in Regatta Bay were visited
Significant garbage picked up
New thunder box installed on the southwest side of the bay
4 boxes renovated

Inlet south of Regatta

Dismantled 3 firepits
Picked up garbage
New signage
Renovated box

Savage Rocks site

Dug new hole and moved one box
Renovated second box
Removed firepits and gathered garbage
New signage

Henrietta Point

dismantled fire pits
garbage picked up
3 boxes checked - all ok

Cost: \$60 gas, \$250 for one staff, 1 volunteer

July 15 - Franklin Island

Tim Dyer, Corine Green

West Side of Franklin Just North of Henrietta

Deer Site - renovated box
two fire pits dismantled
garbage picked up

Site Across from Duff Memorial

renovated box, dismantled fire pits, and picked up garbage

Cost: \$50 gas, \$250 for one staff, 1 volunteer

June 16 - Cathcart, Lally and Stapley Isles

Peter Wassermann, Tim Dyer

Lally/Stapely

Boxes checked on garbage, firepits - boxes ok

South End Cathcart

renovated existing t-box, picked up garbage, dismantled fire pits

Engineered site - checked - dug new hole and installed box

Cost: \$70 gas, \$250 for one staff, 1 volunteer

June 25 - Snake Islands

Jesse Dyer, Tim Dyer

Centre Isle

New Box Installed, disposed
of old one

All boxes checked, fire pits
dismantled, garbage picked
up

**Cost: \$50 gas, no other cost -
both volunteer**



June 15 - Franklin Island

Tim Dyer

Western Sand Site (near Deadhead)

Dug new pit, renovated site
garbage picked up

Cost - \$40 gas, no other costs

May 14 - Big McCoy Isle

Tim Dyer

North West site

Renovated both boxes
dismantled fire pits and picked up garbage

South Coast

Checked boxes - all ok

Cost - none

May 5 - Franklin Isle

Tim Dyer

Henrietta Point

checked all three t-boxes,

picked up garbage

removed several fire pits

Cost - none

