

**Third Annual Viewing Day
at the Spit on June 3**

For the third consecutive year, Friends of the Spit has received a grant from Environment Canada to hold a Viewing Day at the Spit on Sunday, June 3, as part of the celebrations of World Environment Week.

The first two events were extremely successful, attracting hundreds of first-time visitors to the Spit. Many of them, we're sure, are now coming regularly to the Spit, which is one of the objectives of our Viewing Day.

A similar event is planned this year, on **Sunday, June 3, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.** There will be viewing stations, staffed by naturalists, to help visitors understand the great variety and richness of Toronto's Public Urban Wilderness. We will also distribute informative brochures, including our very popular "Self Guided Tour".

You are all cordially invited to join in this celebration of the environment. Bring your family and your friends.

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED
No experience
necessary.
And it's fun!**

Many people are needed to run a successful event. On June 3, can you help for a couple of hours at the Spit handing out brochures and directing visitors? We will organize shifts. Pick a time that is convenient for you: **10 to 12**, or **12 to 2** or **2 to 4** and call our coordinator, Sue Craig, at 699-3642 or mail the form below.

We oppose any increase in activity at Toronto Island because it will have a very severe negative impact on the enjoyment of the waterfront. In addition, bird control programs, necessary for the safety of air traffic, would have a disastrous effect on the Spit's species and on the bird population along the waterfront.

The Metropolitan Toronto Waterfront Coalition, of which Friends of the Spit is a member, is spearheading the fight to oppose the expansion of the airport. The Coalition has started a writing campaign to politicians, and we strongly encourage you to participate. Post-cards addressed to politicians have been printed, but could not be included in this mailing due to their bulk. However, you can send the same message: "**I am opposed to the proposed expansion at the Toronto Island Airport**", or a brief letter in your own words to the following federal politicians (no postage necessary):

- David MacDonald, M.P., Room 309, East Block, House of Commons, Ottawa K1A 0A6
- Lucien Bouchard, Minister of the Environment, Room 533, Confederation Bldg, House of Commons, Ottawa K1A 0A6
- Douglas Lewis, Minister of Transport, 25th Floor, Transport Canada Bldg., Place de Ville, Ottawa K1A 0N5
- Your federal M.P.

Since the Coalition would like to keep a record of the number of letters sent, could you as well drop a line to Mary Hay, Vice-Chair, Metropolitan Toronto Waterfront Coalition, 15 Third Street, Toronto M5J 2B1 to inform her that you have sent letters to politicians and indicate if you wish to be put on their mailing list about the airport issue.

MEMBERSHIP SUPPORT RENEWAL

Memberships for 1990 are now due. To renew please mail this slip (make sure it includes your mailing label on the reverse) with your cheque to:

Friends of the Spit
P.O. Box 467, Station J
Toronto M4J 4Z2

Please correct your mailing label if necessary. **If you have renewed for 1990, there is a red check mark on your label.** Thank you for renewing promptly.

YES, I WANT TO HELP ON JUNE 3

I would like to help at the Spit:

- From 10:00 a.m. to noon
- From noon to 2:00 p.m.
- From 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

I would like to put up posters in my neighbourhood

Other _____

NAME _____

Phone number(s) _____

OMB APPEAL - THC MARINA

On May 14, 15 and 16, the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) will hear the appeal against the City of Toronto zoning of July 14, 1989, which permitted the THC to legally operate 400 berth of their marina. The THC stated goal is for 12,000 boats.

Despite City councillors' statements that the rezoning would stop at 400 boats, there is already a report by the planning department circulating which solicits comments on further rezoning for more berths.

The rezoning for the 400 marina moorings flew in the face of the city's own waterfront zoning by-law of June 17, 1988. This by-law designated the lands "Gr" (conservations lands); the rezoning changes the designation to "Gm", to allow marina uses. Many organizations spoke against the rezoning and the City's own planning commissioner is on record prior to the rezoning application as wanting more time to study the waterfront issues as a whole. Counc. Disero, also a THC commissioner, led the charge for the rezoning. Unbelievably, Council adopted the rezoning 15 to 1 (Counc. Churley being the lone voice against).

When will the City bring the TCH runaway developers under control. Wish the appeal Luck. Expert witnesses will be subpoenaed - **if you have specific advice or expertise, please contact us at 699-6442.** Watch your newspaper for news of the hearing.

TRANSPORTATION AND MTRCA INTERPRETIVE PROGRAM

The MTRCA van shuttle on the Spit is starting April 28. The TTC bus service (every hour) starts on June 2 as well as the MTRCA interpretive program.

CELEBRATE EARTH DAY

Earth Day, on April 22, is celebrated worldwide, and many events have been scheduled in and around Toronto.

The Sierra Club is organizing a community march, concert and gathering around the theme of Great Lake cleanup. Friends of the Spit will be participating with a display and invites you to join in the celebration.

Date: Sunday, April 22

Time: Noon

Place: Beaches Boardwalk at the foot of Silverbirch Ave. (terminus of 501 streetcar)

The event will start with a walk to the end of the Boardwalk (3 km), where there will be a concert by several bands. If you play a musical instrument, bring it with you as this is a participative event.

Our display will be at the Bellefair church (Queen St. 2 blocks west of Lee Ave.), where food will be available

A TAXING MATTER

Some members have written to request an income tax receipt. We regret that we cannot comply because Friends of the Spit is an advocacy group and as such cannot be granted registered charity status.

BRINGING THE MESSAGE

We receive many requests to speak to groups or to set up our display at events. Unfortunately, we have to decline many of these invitations because no one is available. Can you help by staffing our display or speaking to groups (we have a nice slide show). It's easy and we'll train you. Call us at 699-6442 to discuss.

Friends of the Spit

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Toronto, Ontario M4J 4Z2

