

WILMOT TRAILS SCHMIDT WOODS

Upcoming plans for Schmidt Woods

Through the late summer and fall, the Township of Wilmot retained a contractor to remove Ash trees and other hazard trees within Schmidt Woods. Completed with approval and guidance from the Region of Waterloo, this work will allow the regeneration of non-ash species and help promote woodlot health as well as reduce risk of injury to visitors of Schmidt Woods.

Throughout the winter months, remaining hazard trees in close proximity to hydro lines, Nafziger Road and the east WRC access road will be cut down, which will mark completion of planned removals.

Although tree removals have certainly changed the look of the forest, this change is temporary. The understory will regenerate, and the woodlot will flourish again. With that said, the Township does have plans to complete additional clean up within the woodlot and to undertake trail restoration and improvements where damage to the trails has occurred.



Restoration plans:

- Branch clean up and chipping – anticipated time frame December 2019 to January 2020
- Blue and Red trail restoration and drainage improvements – this will follow the completion of the chipping work and is anticipated to be completed prior to Summer 2020
- Tree planting – the Wilmot Trails Advisory Committee will be looking into funding opportunities to undertake tree replanting in some of the more heavily impacted areas within Schmidt Woods throughout 2020
- Ongoing monitoring to ensure continued woodlot health and to limit the introduction of and/or spread of invasive species

Enjoy a seat along the trail:



New Hamburg resident, outdoor enthusiast, and certified arborist Mike Yost recently approached the Township with an idea of using his chainsaw skills to “spruce” (Mike’s arborist joke) up the trails.

Mike will be volunteering his time and talent to turn some of the larger trail side stumps into comfy seats for visitors to stop and take in some nature while they are out enjoying the trails. This project is anticipated to begin in late December.

Pictured below are samples of work Mike has previously completed and hopes to bring to Schmidt Woods.

