**Hodgson Wetland Interpretive Signage**

Do you enjoy strolling around the constructed wetland and the natural marsh in the Hodgson Neighbourhood on a warm summer evening, watching the birds and enjoying the greenery? If so, you should keep an eye out for some new interpretive signs. The signs will be located at various places around the two wetlands. Each sign is part of an ongoing effort describe some of the wetlands’ natural history, highlight the value of wetlands, and advertise the Stewardship Group’s activities. These signs will have the information they display changed periodically to provide new and interesting facts about the wetlands. They will feature the wildlife that frequents the wetlands, the values and vital functions of wetlands as well as the amazing work the community has done to make your visit at Hodgson a splendid one.

The signs have been funded by the Hodgson Community League and composed and designed by the Hodgson Wetlands Stewardship Group. The Hodgson Wetlands Stewardship Group (HWSG) has been the community’s volunteer stewards of the natural wetland or Hodgson Marsh and the adjacent constructed wetland for over five years. As stewards, we undertake to assist in maintaining the natural and constructed wetlands and adjacent uplands so that they retain their form and function as wetland ecosystems in an urban landscape.

Such activities include habitat enhancement, which has involved infilling with native shrubs to create a more natural areas around the natural marsh and the adjacent utility corridor, aiming to improve opportunities for small animal movement. We have also been active in biological monitoring over the last five years and have a list of birds and mammals that inhabit the marsh complex. As part of our interpretation objectives we intend to produce a checklist of these species for the community in the future. Our stewardship is performed in cooperation with the City of Edmonton through our Partners-In-Parks Agreement.

We are planning an organized removal of noxious weeds which adversely affect the wetlands. This will happen on the Saturdays of July 12, 19, and 26 all starting at 10AM. We are always looking to welcome new volunteers who wish to serve their community through the enjoyment of natural areas! Please come and help us for an hour!

If you would like to comment on the signs, have suggestions for others, or wish to share photos you may contact us at 780 935 1984. Enjoy your visit to Hodgson wetlands!