

# Annual Community Activity Report

## August 2024

At Earthkeepers, we partake in a variety of activities that help to further and benefit the Municipality of East Hants. In addition to offering amazing lawn maintenance and landscaping services to our clients, we also provide summer employment to students from local middle and high schools such as Riverside Education Centre, and Hants East Rural High. This season, we employed 25 youth who receive 5-12 hours per week. This summer two of our previous youth continued as Junior Supervisors, and were further trained in new duties.



Their new duties came with increased responsibility and a wage increase. Along with the Junior Supervisors two Supervisors were hired and a Coordinator all new to the program. Each of the employees at Earthkeepers gain meaningful experience in lawncare, customer service, volunteering, social media marketing, and so much more.

Our youth are paid minimum wage, and for every four hours of paid work the youth are required to donate one hour back to the community. This inspires a good work ethic, and serves to highlight the importance of giving back.

This volunteer time can take many forms, such as participating in our Bitter Against Litter program which helps to keep our communities clean, maintaining the lawn at the Elmsdale Train Station and our neighbors at East Coast Detailing's lawn. We also donate yard work to community members in need. This list includes many senior members of our community who cannot afford to pay our full rates. Additionally, in May of this year, we participated in Open East Hants Day, where two members of the community won one hour of free yard work. Our youth also volunteered at our fundraiser; this year we held a BBQ with a car wash together with East Coast Detailing, and at this event our youth volunteered their time. Everything for this event was donated from a local business. The fundraiser was a big success in not only raising funds for the season but showing us how amazing this community is. This season, Earthkeepers has given over 200 hours of volunteer time back to the community.

Other than the volunteer portion of the Earthkeepers program, the youth take part in fun activities. This year they went to Oakfield Park for a morning of swimming and games. We provided lunch using some of the money we raised at the car wash and BBQ fundraiser.

Our customers span across East Hants including Enfield, Lantz, Elmsdale, Milford, Shubanacadie, Stewiack, Nine Mile River, Fall River and more. Many of our customers are no longer able to maintain their properties on their own and require Earthkeeper's services. For this group, we offer a discount, by using the youth's volunteer hours.

Our board is made up of local volunteers that give their time to help us find jobs, maintain our building, teach, and serve as mentors to our youth. Our President, Bob Bona, donated 250 hours of his time; he helped with training new youth and supervisors, driving around to do quotes with the new supervisors, as well as general day to day operations. Tom Mills handled Building Maintenance and donated 52 hours over the course of the season. Our Administrative advisor Rhonda Steeves donated 130 hours for this season. Suzanne Bona our Founder/Advisor donated around 25 hours. Tara McAllister, our website designer donated 35 hours this season. Jonathan Crowdis, who handles all equipment repair and maintenance donated around 150 hours throughout the season. Ryleigh Boudreau donated about 60 hours. All together our board has donated over 700 hours to the program. Board meetings take place on the second Monday of every month at the Elmsdale Train Station at 6:00pm. Where the board members and Coordinator attend.

Overall, 2024 was an amazing year for the Earthkeepers, we had youth move through the program, took part in volunteer events, and helped to keep our community looking beautiful.

Sincerely,

Isabella Holman

<b>Coordinator/Supervisors</b>	<b>Volunteer Hours May- August</b>
<i>Ava Crowdis</i>	6.25
<i>Isabella Holman</i>	7
<i>Jessica Bedford</i>	7.25
<i>Nicholas Murphy</i>	2
<i>Zach Hankey</i>	5.5
<b>Sum</b>	<b>28</b>

<b>Youth</b>	<b>Volunteer Hours May- August</b>
<i>Abigail Feltham</i>	8
<i>Aidan Pittman</i>	4
<i>Amalia Kolic</i>	4
<i>Andrew Mittelstadt</i>	5.75
<i>Aubrey Tate</i>	9
<i>Ben Csunynoscka</i>	8.5
<i>Brayden McAllister</i>	4.5
<i>Caden Fage</i>	8
<i>Chris Isenor</i>	4.25
<i>Dalton Eye</i>	5
<i>Damion Ashley-Hall</i>	9
<i>Gavin Dusablon</i>	6
<i>Henry Williamson</i>	4
<i>Jack Crowdis</i>	19.5
<i>Josh Clarke</i>	8
<i>Julian King</i>	4
<i>Kaleb McNeille</i>	8
<i>Kyle Hines</i>	4
<i>Makayla Snow</i>	6
<i>Marlie Martin</i>	16.5
<i>Mason Reid</i>	2
<i>Max Dusablon</i>	5
<i>Nathan Lane</i>	8.25
<i>Tyler Simmonds</i>	8.5
<i>Will Foster</i>	12
<i>Zachery Kendell</i>	12
<b>Sum</b>	<b>193.75</b>

<b>Board Member</b>	<b>Volunteer Hours May- August</b>
<i>Bob Bona</i>	250
<i>Jonathon Crowdis</i>	150
<i>Rhonda Steeves</i>	130
<i>Ryleigh Boudreau</i>	60
<i>Suzanne Bona</i>	25
<i>Tara McAllister</i>	35
<i>Tom Mills</i>	52
<b>Sum</b>	<b>702</b>

**Total Hours Donated: 923.75 hrs**