

### ***Understanding and supporting Biodiversity in Haliburton County...***

The Haliburton Highlands Land Trust (HHLT) is working to protect biodiversity in Haliburton County to ensure that the place we cherish remains healthy and natural for future generations to enjoy.

Biodiversity is the degree of variation of life forms and the corresponding measure of the health within a given ecosystem. Simply put, greater biodiversity implies greater health of an ecosystem. Advances in development and technology paired with incredible population growth are increasingly straining our relationship with the natural environment and are reducing our biodiversity through the pollution and destruction of ecologically significant lands which effectively endangers and puts our flora and fauna at risk.

HHLT is a leading local organization in Species at Risk (SAR) inventory and education, and in defining their distribution and habitat in Haliburton County. This research began because the presence of SAR and potentially suitable habitats for these species share two of HHLT's criteria for land acquisition for conservation purposes. Since 2008, 21 Species at Risk have been identified in Haliburton County.

On May 22<sup>nd</sup>, HHLT invites you to the Dahl Forest (1307 Geeza Rd, off Gelert Rd) for an informative and engaging walk on International Biodiversity Day. Biologist Paul Heaven will examine several different habitats and their biodiversity, plus management plans to preserve biodiversity at the Dahl Forest.

Save the date! HHLT's 4th Annual Gala in Celebration of Environmental Excellence takes place on June 18<sup>th</sup>. Join us for a night of fun with live entertainment, art auctions and local Enviro-Heroes.

Contact HHLT at [admin@haliburtonlandtrust.ca](mailto:admin@haliburtonlandtrust.ca) or 705-454-8107.



Article provided by