

**Newport Forest**

Thursday November 17 2005 4:15 - 6:10 pm

**Weather:** prec. 28 mm; RH n/a; ovcst; calm; LM -3 C; FCF -3 C

**Purpose:** winterizing

**Purpose:** Kee

It was snowing light flurries when I arrived at the trailer - no visible accumulation of snow. The water in the rain gauge was partly frozen, So I brought it into the trailer, thawed it and stored it for the winter. The canoe, which had blown off its stand, still lay partially righted, against a thorn tree near the trailer. There was nearly a feet of water in the bottom at one end, with a half-inch layer of ice on it. In attempted to dump the canoe, but in picking it up, the ice refused to break and I staggered forward toward the stand, failing to see the bow rope tangled in some bushes behind me. I was pulled backward and the (heavy) canoe lurched me off-balance. I fell right into the canoe with my rear end breaking the ice in the bottom. This produced a sensation of lasting chill on my derriere as I finally replaced the canoe on the stand and went about other business. I wrapped the tools in (what remained of) the green tarp.

I worried about the four trees by the trailer. They were already frozen and in danger of dying, so I reloaded them into the van, where the pots could thaw a little. I then walked the TRT, taking with me some more food and water for the Hogsback kits. (I have never seen, let alone ever heard about, Raccoon young this late in the year. The kits I saw on my last visit were typical of early June kits in a normal (early spring) litter. They did not seem to be around when I left out the food.

Back at the trailer I left some chow for those (naughty) Fleming Creek coons and some birdseed for our feathered friends.

I was late for a talk on fungi to be delivered to the West Elgin Nature Club in West Lorne, so I left the potted trees in the TS as they were, hoping they would survive the current freezing temperatures.