



Elaine Dobbin Centre for Autism The Pantry

The Pantry (phone 722-8200) at the Elaine Dobbin Centre for Autism (Shamrock Farm) just across from the Janeway Hospital is a perfect location to enjoy tasty food in an exceptional quiet, rural setting. Much of the fresh salads and vegetables are now "home grown" right outside the "Pantry" windows! It is open on weekdays 10 am - 4 pm and has become very busy so go early or phone ahead!

Admiral's Green and Captain's Hill Pippy Park Golf

Pippy Park Golf Courses, Allandale Rd. The Admirals's Green (18-holes) and the Captain's Hill (9-holes) scenic and challenging golf courses are in full swing all summer. The Admiral's Green Clubhouse is well worth a visit on its own. There is no more inspiring location to invite friends for a snack or a drink! The view is incredible! It is available for rent for receptions etc. as well.

www.fluvarium.ca

4 The Fluvarium

The Fluvarium 5, Nagles Place www.fluvarium.ca phone (709) 754-3474 provides a unique underwater experience where freshwater wildlife can be watched in their natural habitat. There are lots of exhibits and activities for children. The Fluvarium is open daily.



Admiral's Green Golfcourse and Clubhouse, 2008
Pippy Park Photo



Memorial University Botanical Garden

The Friends of the Garden have their Fall Plant Sale on Saturday September 12th from 10 am until supplies run out. *Get there early if you want to buy!*

The University Botanical Garden 306, Mt. Scio Rd. is a mecca not only for botanists and gardeners but for anyone who enjoys nature and the outdoors. It is open from 10 am - 5 pm every day during the summer. There are lots of programmes for children and adults for those who want to learn in very pleasant surroundings. The Tea Room serves delicious snacks and meals every day too. www.mun.ca/botgarden phone (709) 737-8590

IN PIPPY PARK

IN PIPPY PARK is published six times a year by the Pippy Park Promotions Committee. Material published within reflects the events and happenings in Pippy Park and the organizations associated with it.

Contributions are welcome, and all contributions are presumed to be submitted for the mutual enjoyment of readers, thus no payment will be made for contributions.

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Toxic Alien Invasion! or Misplaced Ornamental Plant?

'Giant Hogweed' surfaces in the St. John's Area.

By: Mike Manning

A recent article in The Telegram has identified the Giant Hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*) as an invasive alien plant which not only smothers any other plants near it because of its huge size but is a hazard because of its effect on unprotected skin if contacted.

The plant grows to a gigantic size and at one time was used as an ornamental plant in Britain because of its architectural features, its giant leaves, and its flower clusters which sometimes grow to 50 or more centimetres in diameter. It is a most striking plant, but has become too successful in parts of Britain and North America!

It is spread by the thousands of seeds it produces each year, but the flat seeds appear not to move far from the parent plant so in the St. John's area at least, new colonies are slow to develop.

It is however, considered an invasive alien plant in Ontario as well as in Germany and Britain, and a Public Health Hazard in parts of the United States.



There are several sites in Pippy Park where this plant has been growing for a very long time on old farm sites. One large colony is on the former Halliday Farm and another is on the O'Brien Farm. The former Kelly (Shamrock) Farm also has a colony of it.

All parts of the plant contain sap that when present on the skin and exposed to sunlight can cause severe inflammations. Protective clothing should be worn when handling it.

You can admire its size and there is no doubt it does look like an invading alien when the huge flowers are developing! Just don't touch it!

Top: Handout Photo, Canwest News Service. Right: Michigan Department of Agriculture.





The Boundaries of Pippy Park: A Quick Tour.

Introducing Pippy Park: Where the heck is it?

By Mike Manning

How many people know where the actual boundaries of Pippy Park are? Very few I suspect.

The park is so large that it is not practical to mark the boundaries in detail but it is important for people to know roughly where they are, both to appreciate the size and recreational opportunities the park offers and to be aware of the area that is subject to the park by-laws and protection.

First we will start with the easy part. The boundary includes all of the Memorial University Campus. This includes the Marine Institute, the Aquarena and the Ingstad Building. All of the College of the North Atlantic campus on Prince Philip Drive and the one on Ridge Road and all of the Provincial Government complex including the Howley Bldg and the Office of the Information Officer.

The boundary includes all of Prince Philip Drive from Portugal Cove Road to Thorburn Road.

Starting at Portugal Cove Road the boundary passes to the back of the College of the North Atlantic until it reaches Gooseberry Lane. It then follows the rear

boundaries of the houses backing onto the open field on Gooseberry Lane until it gets to Rennie's River where it follows the river to Elizabeth Avenue, crosses the bridge at Rostellan Street and goes back up behind the St. Patrick's Mercy Home and Gonzaga School grounds.

At Smithville Crescent it goes down to Strawberry Marsh Road to include the grounds of the Petten (Department of Fisheries) Building and the former Brinton School buildings. It passes down Allandale Road to include the Arts and Culture Centre, Burton's Pond and the entire University Campus.

Beyond the University it continues up Westerland Road and along Prince Philip Drive, excluding the CBC Studios. It then follows the backs of the properties on University Avenue and goes west to the Thorburn Road intersection, including Leary's Brook.

The whole of the Health Sciences Centre and the

whole of the hillside behind Larkhall Street, including the O'Brien Farm, are within the park.

All of Mount Scio Road from Thorburn Road is in the park, though the properties fronting on it until you get past Groves Road are not. The boundary turns north to include the Botanical Garden and the properties adjacent to it. It follows along the backs of properties on Gillies Road and Groves Road and turns back down to Thorburn Road at the Team Gushue Highway bridge. It goes back up

north along the backs of other properties on Thorburn Road to include the flood control dam at Juniper Pond and also the Outer Ring Road intersection with the Gushue Highway.

We are now entering the Three Pond Barrens, best known at this time of year for its blueberries!

The boundary follows the backs of the properties on

Groves Road and Pitcher's Path up to and including that part of the former Parker's Pond Department of National Defence property that is not within the Windsor Lake watershed.

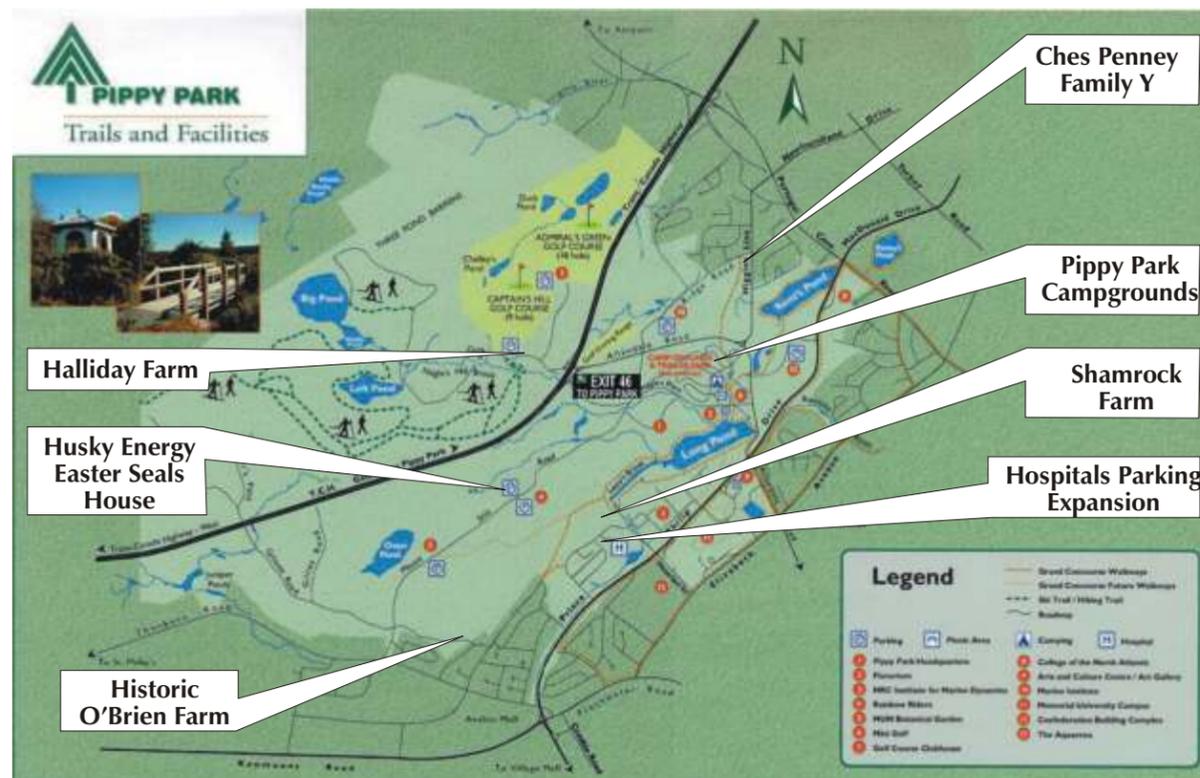
It follows the watershed boundary more or less until it reaches the backs of the properties in Airport Heights and the back of Airport Heights Park, until it reaches the Admiral's Green Golf Course. The golf courses naturally are in the park.

It again goes along the Outer Ring Road and comes south along the backs of the properties in the Gloucester Street area. It then follows Ridge Road to Higgins Line to include the Marine Institute, CoNA Ridge Road Campus, the Francophone Centre and the new Ches Penney Family "Y" site. It passes down Higgins Line to include the Howley Building and the City's Animal Care and Adoption Centre, turning east at Dublin Road and along the backs of the properties by Kents Pond until it finally reaches its starting point at Portugal Cove Rd. again!

I should point out that I have simplified some of the twists and turns in the boundary. You can contact the Pippy Park Commission for a more precise map of the boundaries.



August 2000: Long Pond from southeast looking towards Mount Scio House and Fluvarium
Mike Manning/FOPP Photo



Park Improvements and Enhancements

More Parking for Hospitals

Work is in progress expanding the parking lot for the Health Sciences Centre at the corner closest to Larkhall and Wicklow Streets. A huge set of wooden steps has been built to allow pedestrians to access the Larkhall Street to Long Pond Walk.



Hospitals Parking Expansion
Mike Manning/FOPP Photo

Husky Energy Easter Seals House

The construction of the new Husky Energy Easter Seals House for disabled children on Mount Scio Road is nearing completion and is expected to be ready for occupation in November. The landscaping, once environmental approval is given, will be carried out in phases over a number of years.



Husky Energy Easter Seals House
Mike Manning/FOPP Photo

Ches Penney Family 'Y'

Site work is well underway on the magnificent new "Y" facility on the corner of Higgins Line and Ridge Road.



Ches Penney Family 'Y'
Mike Manning/FOPP Photo

Pippy Park Campgrounds

Successful Season

A large caravan of about 36 "Airstream" RVs from Texas camped in the newly developed "Loop 4" in the Pippy Park Campgrounds. They were here for 5 to 6 days.

The Campgrounds have had another very successful season with numbers considerably up from previous years. They don't appear to have been affected by the poor economy to any great extent.



Airstream RV Caravan, Loop 4
Mike Manning/FOPP Photo