

Rotary hard at work sprucing up the community

Submitted
NEEPAWA ROTARY CLUB

If you have been walking around Park Lake recently, you may have seen Rotarians staining the three viewing platforms, as well as a few of the benches. You may have noticed some new signage, as well. These improvements are part of a multi-year project to refurbish and/or replace existing Rotary signage and structures.

The project has been in the works for a while, but it received a boost when the Neepawa Rotary Club was recently awarded \$300 for placing first in a District video contest. The money was tagged for improving Rotary's local public image.

Two large signs have been replaced, one on Highway 5 South and one at Rotary Park. Three viewing platforms and two benches, around the former Park Lake, received a new coat of stain and new signage. In addition, brush was cleared around the platforms to give viewers a better view of the former lake.

In spite of a lake that has gone missing and fewer reasons to use the platforms, Rotary felt that in order to keep the structures sound, they needed a protective coat of stain. Rotary member Ron Nordstrom says, "Even though the future of the lake is uncertain, it is important to maintain the platforms for now. The decision regarding the future of the lake is years away. We couldn't wait that long to maintain our structures."

Rotary president, Wayne Jacobsen, spoke about the involvement of local businesses. "Local businesses support Rotary and Rotary likes to support local businesses. The signs were purchased from Provost signs. They look great and should last a lot of years. The project became very affordable when Home Hardware donated seven gallons of stain. All we had to do was supply the manpower."

Next year, Rotary plans to stain two large sign structures, as well as the shelter at Rotary Park, as phase two of this project.



Left: Ernie Mauthe shows how the sign on Highway 5 south of Neepawa used to look before it was replaced. Below: Mauthe with the newly replaced sign on Highway 5 South.

SUBMITTED PHOTOS



Left: Bob Finlayson with the new sign at Rotary Park.



Above (from left): Ernie Mauthe, Dave Bennet and Murray Newton staining one of the lookouts at Park Lake. Below: Wayne Jacobson and Bob Finlayson staining another Park Lake lookout point.



Pictured, from left: NMS volunteers Sherri Hollier, Moira Woods, Kassia Hollier and Joni Vinnell.
PHOTO BY KIRA PATERSON

On Oct. 7, Rotary, with the help of Neepawa Middle School staff, were cleaning up the highway ditches west of Neepawa. Seven NMS staff and 13 Rotarians covered the eight kilometre stretch of Highway 16 adopted by the Rotary Club. In total, the crew picked up 28 bags of garbage, weighing 80 kilograms.

