

TRAPPING CREEK HORSE TRAILS PIT TOILET INSTALLATION

Okanagan Chapter - BCHBC

The Okanagan Chapter of BCHBC was hard at work Wednesday August 26, 2015 putting in the long-awaited pit toilets at two popular camps on the Trapping Creek Horse Trails network. When the trails were first registered in May of 2013 it was our hope that we could make this small and worthwhile improvement to the horse camps. So here we were... making a dream come true! No more shovel walks!

Okanagan Chapter Chair Scott Walker was able to secure an excavator (donated by WINN Rentals of Kelowna) and Sully Ragusa hauled it, along with the pit toilet kits (supplied by BC Recreational Sites and Trails) up to the trailheads. We had eight chapter volunteers to work on this project. Scott Walker, Teresa Gratrix, Jacquie Coombs, Von McNeille, Gord Detta, Chicki Jacques, Sully Ragusa and Juanita Gibney along with Juanita's husband Bob and Gord's grandkids Palmer and Tiegen.

After Scott got the hole dug to the required depth and the culvert was in place the fun began with much measuring, leveling and lively discussion about how to proceed from there. Good thing we had a detailed instructions pamphlet to guide us along. While part of the crew worked on assembling the walls, door and roof for this pit toilet (in Denver Hayes camp) the excavator was loaded again and moved to the second site – in the Meadow Camp.

The assembly crew completed the Denver Hayes job and moved up to the Meadow Camp ready to put together the second toilet – which went very quickly as we had figured everything out on the first one. There were a lot of very powerful cordless screwdrivers on site! We could have done a market test for some big brand names!

We took advantage of having the excavator on site and Scott did some road leveling on the short road into camp, making it easier for horse rigs to come into camp. It still could use a load of gravel, maybe that will be a future project.

We finished everything up about 1 pm, ready to toast a job well done! After some lunch and time for camaraderie we all headed home with a great sense of satisfaction for completing this worthwhile project.

