

Roads for Ryder toads

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Several Ryder Lake residents did not adhere to the road closures last year so for 2011 the Fraser Valley Conservancy may use professional traffic control services.

Photograph by: File, TIMES

For the fourth straight year, the Fraser Valley Conservancy (FVC) is working to help Western Toads to safety in the Ryder Lake area.

Council agreed to road closures in the area in late July during the toad migration, something that has been supported by most in the community but has had its detractors.

The FVC said that 2010 went well, but despite a public awareness campaign that included mailouts, emails and home visits, "some challenges did arise."

"Despite a very good response and general respect of the road closure, there were a few individuals who disregarded the closures and migration," according to a staff report. "Vehicles disregarding the road closure prevented scientific data collection of the toad migration and put volunteers at risk."

This year the FVC is considering contracting a professional traffic control company to enforce the closure barricades, some of which were ignored by residents in past years.

The closures will be on Elkview and Ryder Lake roads. A meeting to discuss the program is scheduled for July 14 at the Ryder Lake Hall.

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