



CAT TALES

Spring/Summer 2011 Issue

IN THIS ISSUE...

- Spring and summer is always a great time to get outdoors and enjoy nature. The CRCA has plenty of places for you to explore. See page 1 for an introduction and page 12 for a full-colour map of our conservation lands.
- Drinking water is a timely topic over the next few months. Find out the latest information about our source water protection project on page 3. We've got upcoming roundtables in May and June and a revised assessment report.
- They're cute, green and spotty and related to Kermit. The Northern Leopard Frog is our Creature Feature on page 2.
- We're making lots of plans for our trails and conservation areas. See page 5 for news about the Little Cataraqui Creek Master Plan and plans for improvements to the canoe launch at Mac Johnson Wildlife Area.
- Spring is tree planting season and it's time to start thinking about 2012. See page 4 for details.
- Also on page 4, see who's on the CRCA Board.
- Volunteer groups are important to us. More on page 4, 9 and 10.
- The Cataraqui Conservation Foundation names its 2011 Conservation Award winners and makes plans for fall. See page 11 for details.
- Trails are in the news on pages 8 and 10.
- Plus upcoming events on our What's Happening section on pages 6 and 7.

Visit our facilities this spring and summer

Did you know that the Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority owns more than 4,000 hectares (10,000 acres) of land?

This includes six conservation areas, eight boat ramps and seven water access points suitable for kayaks and canoes. It also includes the Cataraqui Trail.

Our conservation areas vary in size and in the facilities that they offer. Lyn Valley Conservation Area is the smallest at only 11 hectares, while Gould Lake Conservation Area is the largest at 589 hectares.

Facilities that are developed depend on the natural features, sensitive areas and attributes that each area has. When we are developing trails and other facilities we try to balance the demand for recreation facilities with the needs of the environment and the wildlife that call our properties home.

Some of our lands have been purchased for purposes other than recreation. We have water management, forestry or environmental protection purposes. These don't have any

developed facilities and that's because their main purpose is to provide wildlife habitat and natural areas.

Where we do have facilities, we encourage you to get outdoors and visit them. This spring and summer we encourage you to:

- launch a canoe at one of our water access points and explore a lake or river that you have never seen
- pack a picnic lunch to enjoy in one of our picnic areas
- cool off with a refreshing swim in one of our three conservation areas that offer swimming
- go bird watching
- take a nature hike along one of our many trails.

Just remember to take only pictures and leave only footprints.

To help you get started, we have provided a colour map showing the location of our facilities on the back page of this newsletter.

For more details about the CRCA's conservation areas, please visit our website at www.cataraquiregion.on.ca.

Happy exploring!



Lyn Valley Conservation Area near Brockville is the CRCA's smallest conservation area. It has an excellent swimming area.



Gould Lake Conservation Area north of Sydenham has 20 km of hiking trails.



**Cataraqui Region
Conservation Authority**
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Glenburnie, Ontario
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Creature Feature

Northern Leopard Frog, *Lithobates pipiens*

Not that long ago, leopard frogs were the most abundant and widespread frog species in North America. It was hard to visit a marsh, stream or pond without coming across a number of these interesting looking spotted frogs.

Since the 1970s, however, massive declines in Canada and the United States have significantly reduced their numbers. The declines are attributed to a combination of ecological factors, such as pollution, climate change, deforestation, pesticide use, and increased ultraviolet-B radiation (UV-B). They are more susceptible to changing environmental factors

than most species because of their highly permeable skin that absorbs any toxins in their surroundings. Because these frogs are extremely sensitive to chemical pollutants, they are often used as an ecological indicator species. This means that biologists studying particular areas are able to judge changes in pollution, disease, habitat, etc. by studying the frog population in the area.

Northern leopard frogs are named for the array of dark spots that adorn their backs and legs. They are green in color with a white underside and light-colored ridges on either side of their backs.

Their range is most

of northern North America, except for the Pacific Coast. They generally live near ponds and marshes, but will often spend time in well-covered grasslands as well, earning them their other common name, the meadow frog. In winter months, they avoid freezing by hibernating underwater in water bodies that are deep enough to prevent freezing solid.

Northern leopard frogs will eat just about anything they come across. They sit still and wait for prey to appear, then pounce with their powerful legs. They eat beetles, ants, flies, worms, smaller frogs, including their own

species, and even baby birds and garter snakes.

Northern leopard frogs are preyed upon by many different animals such as foxes, snakes, raccoons, other frogs and even humans. They do not produce distasteful or poisonous skin secretions like many species of frogs and instead rely on speed to evade predation.

At Little Cataraqui Creek Conservation Area as well as other Conservation Areas in the region, these frogs

can be found close to ponds, streams, marshes, reservoirs and lakes. They can also be spotted in fields or heavily forested areas, especially if there are streams nearby. To track them down, it is best to listen for a short snore-like call during spring and early summer. This is the sound of the male frog looking for a mate as breeding season is the springtime.

While the numbers of Northern leopard frogs have signifi-

cantly declined over the past few decades, this species is not yet considered at risk in Ontario. There are a number of environmental groups that have frog watch programs aimed at improving the native habitats of frogs in Ontario. If you would like to get involved or receive more information, please visit Frog Watch at naturewatch.ca or the Canadian Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Network at www.carcnet.ca.



A Northern leopard frog at Little Cataraqui Creek Conservation Area

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Member of



Source water protection roundtables continue in May and June

The Cataraqui Source Protection Committee is developing a source protection plan that addresses activities that threaten or could threaten drinking water sources. Protecting water from becoming polluted is the first step to having a safe drinking water supply.

While the focus of this initiative is on municipal drinking water systems, the policies have the potential to improve drinking water safety for all water users, including those on private wells.

The Cataraqui Source Protection Committee is hosting a series of roundtables in 2011 to involve the community in writing a plan to protect their sources of drinking water.

About 200 people have attended roundtables in Athens, Bath, Brockville, Gananoque, Kingston Mills, Lansdowne, Mallorytown and Sydenham. All of the roundtables except Athens dealt with individual municipal wells and intakes.

The Athens roundtable, being held as we go to press, is the first one focused on regional groundwater and private wells.

"So far, roundtable participants have included local residents and business owners, municipal councillors and staff, and provincial ministry staff," says Christine Woods, CRCA Source Protection Planner.

"Anyone can participate in the roundtables," adds Ms. Woods. "We are asking people to register in advance so that we can send them background material in advance of the meeting.



Participants at the Gananoque roundtable discuss ways to deal with stormwater runoff, a threat identified for the Gananoque drinking water intake.

It saves some time at the meeting if people have read the material about our study findings and the issues we need to address."

There will be four more roundtables in the next few weeks:

- Kingston on May 30 to discuss the two Kingston intakes
- Marysville, Wolfe Island on May 31 to discuss regional groundwater
- Napanee on June 16 to discuss regional groundwater
- Amherstview on June 20 to discuss the Fairfield intake which serves Amherstview and Odessa.

The roundtables are held from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

You can register by e-mailing roundtables@cataraquiregion.on.ca or by phoning (613) 546-4228 ext. 248 or toll-free 1-877-956-CRCA (2722) ext. 248.

The information gathered at the roundtables held so far was summarized by our facilitator for each session, Sue Cumming of Sue Cumming and Company. Summaries for those roundtables which have taken place are posted on our website www.cleanwatercat-

[araqui.ca/roundtables.html](http://www.cleanwatercataraqui.ca/roundtables.html).

The comments received so far were considered and used to develop draft source protection policies for these specific areas by the working groups of the Source Protection Committee. The Source Protection Committee will consider the draft policies later this spring.

"The Committee-approved draft policies will then be posted on our website for 30 days so that interested people can provide further comment," states Ms. Woods. "These comments will be considered before the policies are finalized."

The draft source protection plan will be published in early 2012. The Source Protection Committee will host a series of public open houses at that time. Related notices will be placed on our website and in local newspapers. You may also receive the notice by e-mail if requested.

You will have the opportunity to comment on the overall plan at that time.

Revised Assessment Report posted for public review

A revised version of the Cataraqui's Assessment Report was posted for public review on April 27 on the www.cleanwatercataraqui.ca website.

The Assessment Report brings together the findings from all of our technical background studies on the Cataraqui Source Protection Area with a focus on municipal water intakes and municipal wells. The purpose of the report is to identify areas where drinking water sources are vulnerable to contamination or over use and to prioritize drinking

water issues and threats within those vulnerable areas.

The revised report provides a number of changes to the previous version of the Assessment Report published in July 2010. A summary of the changes is provided on the website and in the printed version of the report.

A printed version of the report is available for review at the Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority Administration Office at 1641 Perth Road, Glenburnie (Kingston) from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30

p.m. Monday to Friday.

The deadline for comments on the report is Friday, May 27, 2011.

"Once comments have been received, the Cataraqui Source Protection Committee will review them all and finalize the document," says Rob McRae, CRCA Project Manager. "Our goal is to submit the report to the Ministry of Environment by the end of June."

Completion of the Assessment Report is one of the major steps towards preparing a source protection plan.

Ontario Drinking Water Stewardship Program undergoing changes

The Ontario Ministry of Environment established a fund and grant program to help landowners and businesses take action to reduce possible threats to drinking water near municipal wells and intakes.

The first grant program called Early Actions was set up in 2008.

"The purpose of the program was to enable landowners to get a jump start on source protection projects in advance of much of the source protection work," says Holly Evans, CRCA Water Quality Specialist.

"To date about \$263,000 has been award-

ed to landowners to help offset project costs including 26 septic systems, one well upgrade and three erosion control projects."

The Early Actions program is wrapping up. "We will likely run out of money this spring," adds Ms. Evans.

The new program called Early Response which runs from now until December 2012 has a much narrower focus.

"The new program provides grants only to those landowners where we have identified significant drinking water threats in our Assessment Report," states Ms. Evans.

Those areas include our three municipal wells – Cana in Kingston Mills, Miller Manor in Mallorytown and Lansdowne.

The significant drinking water threats that have been identified include:

- Septic systems and holding tanks in all three areas
- Fuel handling and storage in all three areas
- Wells (only in the Miller Manor wellhead protection area)
- Large chemical storage facilities (only in the Cana wellhead protection area).

Eligible landowners will be notified in writing about the specific funding opportunities that are available to them.

For more information, maps of eligible areas and grant application forms please visit www.cleanwatercataraqui.ca/stewardship.html



This septic system near Brockville was replaced under the Ontario Drinking Water Stewardship Early Actions program. Because of the limited area available on the lot, a specialized system had to be used. The second tank replaces a traditional tile bed with a specially treated peat moss filter.



Friends group adopts aggressive tree protection technique

The Friends of Lemoine Point Conservation Area's volunteers are trying new ways to prevent damage inflicted by hungry grazing animals on shrubs and young trees in this popular conservation area.

"So far, most of our efforts to protect reforested areas from predators have been ineffective or effective for only a short time," notes Friends member Larry McCurdy.

The primary villains are deer, voles and rabbits.

These predatory grazers eat bark, buds, foliage and twigs and that can destroy a small tree or shrub. Further, voles burrow and eat roots as well. Rabbits and voles girdle trees by nibbling bark, killing them. On larger trees, deer also eat the foliage. In spring, they rub their antlers against trees stripping away bark, often killing the tree.

"Almost every cedar on the property has been browsed up to the height deer can reach," says Mr. McCurdy. "And many free-standing small trees will show antler scars on the trunk."

He adds that trees that are not killed outright are weakened and become vulnerable to drought and disease. This is discouraging when you're in the business of volunteering your time to plant young trees and shrubs.

"For smaller trees and shrubs, flexible plastic spiral wraps have provided reasonable protection from voles and rabbits, but not deer," says Mr. McCurdy.

In the wild, these grazing animals would be controlled by meat eaters like coyotes, wolves, bobcats, foxes, weasels, hawks and owls.

"Natural conditions don't

exist at Lemoine Point because predators can't handle the human traffic, so plant eaters flourish," laments Mr. McCurdy.

"We have planted thousands of trees over the past 10 years, but damage to them has been escalating and we are now in danger of losing them faster than we can grow them," he adds.

One solution? Four-foot lengths of four-inch Big O perforated plastic piping most often used for drainage purposes.

"The piping is buried an inch or so into the ground around the trunk and pinned to keep it down," explains Mr. McCurdy. "This should keep out the voles. Four feet should be high enough to protect the trunk from deer antlers and rabbits."

The cost is about \$2 per tree and the process takes

two volunteers about 15 minutes to protect one tree.

The tubes have been paid for and installed by the Friends of Lemoine Point. So far, about 100 have been installed by Mr. McCurdy, working with long-time Friends of Lemoine Point volunteer Jerry Zabel. The tubes have proved to be very successful in their first year and as long as they are not disturbed or pulled up, they provide nearly total protection to the tree. They will be removed and reused in five to 10 years, before they interfere with the tree's growth. Unfortunately this method is only appropriate for trees that have reached a height of five feet or more and a trunk diameter of over an inch.

This technique doesn't work for all applications. "Most of the stock that

we plant is much smaller and will take several years to grow large enough for a big O pipe," adds Mr. McCurdy. "Also, the tubes cannot be adapted to protect shrubs, which are a significant proportion of our plantings."

So the next challenge would be: what to do about deer browsing on new growth and the lower twigs of the smaller trees and shrubs. "This sets the plant back, but it doesn't always destroy it," says Mr. McCurdy. "We are experimenting with several possible ways to redirect the deer away from our plantations. The most promising so far, are monofilament fences around the plantation, and cloth strips impregnated with a blood-based repellent, but we don't yet know if either method is sustainable and effective in the long term."



This image illustrates the use of Big O perforated plastic pipe to protect trees. Photo/Jerry Zabel

Interested in planting trees on your property?

The CRCA offers a tree planting assistance program for private landowners. This program is offered through the provincial 50 Million Tree Program.

The catch? You must plant a minimum area of 5 acres (2 hectares) so the program is only for landowners with larger holdings.

The cost to the landowner is 20 cents per seedling. A five-acre property generally holds around 4,000 seedlings.

"The program includes the planning, trees, planting and post-planting spot tending," says Rick Knapton CRCA Forestry Technician.

It also includes survival assessment data collection by CRCA staff in years 1, 2 and 5 of the project. "What that means is that we check the planting to see how well the trees have survived," explains

Mr. Knapton.

Tree planting involves some advance planning. If you are interested in planting in spring 2012, please contact the CRCA over the summer of 2011.

"The 50 Million Tree Program is going to continue until 2020 so there is lots of time for long-term planting over multiple years," says Mr. Knapton. "However, there are restrictions on the number of trees we can plant each year and the interest in the program is growing."

Seedling Sales

If this program doesn't suit your situation, for example, if you don't have enough land, we also sell seedlings to landowners who would like to plant their own trees.

There is a minimum order of 500 seedlings and they must be ordered in multiples of 50. Five hundred seedlings would cover an area of approximately 0.5 acres (0.2 hectares). Prices range

from \$0.50 to \$1.00 for each seedling.

If you don't have enough space to plant that many trees you can put together a group order with your friends, neighbours, relatives or co-workers.

Beginning this summer, you can place an order for seedlings to be picked up in the spring of 2012.

Native Plant Nursery Sales

If you're only looking for a few trees or shrubs, the Lemoine Point Native Plant Nursery holds a spring and a fall plant sale. The spring plant sale is scheduled for Saturday, May 28 and Sunday, May 29. During the summer the nursery is also open on Wednesday mornings from 9:00 a.m. to noon.

All trees, shrubs and wildflowers are native to this area and are grown from local seed sources. Prices range from \$2 to \$12 each. There is no minimum order. All proceeds are put back into the nursery.

Who is the CRCA Board?

All conservation authorities are governed by a board of directors that is appointed by the municipalities in their jurisdiction. The requirements for making these appointments are set out in our provincial legislation called the *Conservation Authorities Act*.

In the case of the CRCA, we have 11 member municipalities from Greater Napanee in the west to Brockville in the east. Following municipal elections like we had last fall, there is normally some turn-over in our board membership.

In 2011 we have eight new board members out of 17 total board members. Here is a list of the CRCA board for 2011 with contact information and which municipality they represent

Chair	Bob Morrison	Vice-Chair	Allan McPhail
Athens	Jane Topping		jane.topping@sympatico.ca
Brockville	Colin Boag		colin.boag@sympatico.ca
Brockville	John Bonser		(613) 345-5394
Elizabethtown-Kitley	Al Hanes		(613) 342-4526
Front of Yonge	Bob Morrison		(613) 923-5140
Gananoque	Douglas Bickerton		(613) 382-5187
Greater Napanee	Bill Pierson		(613) 354-2446
Kingston	Rick Downes		(613) 766-6920
Kingston	Dorothy Hector		(613) 634-1732
Kingston	Lisa Osanic		(613) 389-7336
Kingston	Jeff Scott		(613) 547-6906
Leeds and the			
Thousand Islands	Velma Kelsey		(613) 928-2786
Loyalist	Gary Osborne		(613) 634-0552
Loyalist	Penny Porter		(613) 634-1873
Rideau Lakes	Jeff Banks		(613) 800-2790
South Frontenac	Allan McPhail		(613) 376-3583
South Frontenac	Ron Vandewal		(613) 376-6687



An updated Master Plan for Little Cataraqui Creek Conservation Area

The Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority (CRCA) wants to hear from you about Little Cataraqui Creek Conservation Area. How should it be protected and managed, while still providing access for recreation activities and conservation education.

This is all part of the process of preparing a master plan for a conservation area. The CRCA prepares master plans to guide the management, operation and development of its conservation areas. These plans express how these properties will contribute to achieving the goals of the CRCA and define the property's uses, development and the policies that will maintain and/or enhance that contribution over a 20-year period.

A draft update to the original 1979 Master Plan for Little Cataraqui Creek was completed in 1992. Although it was never formally adopted by the CRCA, some of the recommendations stemming from the document were followed.

With growing concerns over the possible impacts of climate change, shifting social pressures and economic challenges, it is now even more important that the long-term direction for managing Little Cataraqui Creek be determined to ensure that development and use of the property is in line with the need to protect the property's ecology.

Through 2011, staff will be working to complete a new master plan for Little

Cataraqui Creek Conservation Area. Work will include:

- conducting two facilitated focus group sessions (early May)
- presenting development concepts at a public open house (June/July)
- conducting an evaluation of the property's ecology, species and habitats (May to July)
- carrying out a market analysis that identifies trends and opportunities (May to August)
- recording gate entry and exit statistics (through September)
- continued collection of the LCCCA visitor survey
- completing a draft report and hosting a public open house (October).

We are working towards getting CRCA Board ap-

proval by the end of 2011 or early 2012.

You can participate in the master plan process by:

- completing our visitor survey on-line or in person
- attending a public open house
- visiting the CRCA website or following us on Facebook or Twitter.

As the master plan progresses, you will find more information on our website www.cataraqueiregion.on.ca, as well as on Facebook and Twitter. You will find a link to our on-line visitor survey on our website.

For more information about the master plan please call Jason Hynes at (613) 546-4228 ext. 223 or by e-mail at jhynes@cataraquieregion.on.ca.



An updated master plan is being prepared this year for Little Cataraqui Creek Conservation Area. It will look at balancing the recreational and educational use of the property with the need to protect the environment.

Plan a day at Gould Lake Conservation Area this summer



Renting a canoe or kayak is a great way to cool off this summer at Gould Lake Conservation Area.

Gould Lake Conservation Area is a popular place to spend some time during the summer relaxing with a picnic lunch or cooling off with a refreshing swim.

Visitors also enjoy getting out on the lake by renting a canoe, pedal boat or kayak. Rental rates for boats begin at \$7.00 per hour and include paddles, life jackets and safety kits.

For hikers Gould Lake boasts over 20 km of hiking trails main-

tained by the Rideau Trail. Many trails have spectacular views of the lake.

CRCA staff is available at Gould Lake on weekends from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. from Victoria Day to Canada Day.

From July 1 to Labour Day, staff are available from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Wednesday to Sunday and on all Statutory Holidays.

The week of the Civic Holiday, staff will

be available on Monday, August 1 and for the rest of the week from Thursday to Sunday. Visit our website for details.

Daily admission fees are \$5.50 per person for adults and children over 12, and \$3.00 for children 12 and under with a maximum fee of \$14.00 per vehicle. Annual vehicle passes, which can also be used at Little Cataraqui Creek Conservation Area, are \$80.00.

Plans underway to improve canoe launch at Mac Johnson Wildlife Area



The canoe access on Centennial Road at Mac Johnson Wildlife Area is a popular spot for Brockville residents to enjoy lunch while watching the area wildlife. This plan shows the proposed improvements to the canoe launch area at Mac Johnson Wildlife Area. The canoe launch is located on Centennial Road in Brockville in the southeastern corner of the property.

The Friends of Mac Johnson Wildlife Area and the CRCA have plans to improve the canoe launch area just off Centennial Road in Brockville.

Located at the southeast corner of Mac Johnson Wildlife Area next to the Broome-Runciman Dam, the canoe launch area is a well-used facility for launching canoes and kayaks and, when conditions permit, ice boats in the winter.

Because of its close proximity to Brockville's industrial park, it is also

a popular spot to have lunch while enjoying views of the wetland and reservoir.

The proposed improvements to the canoe launch area include:

- building and installing new docks
- parking lot improvements and the construction of a turnaround area
- installing barriers around the parking lot
- installing a new entrance sign and interpretive sign
- tree and shrub planting.

The work will be undertaken this year by Friends volunteers and CRCA staff. A plan showing the proposed improvements is provided above.

For more information call Stefan Foerster, CRCA Conservation Areas Supervisor, at (613) 345-1990 or foerster@cataraquieregion.on.ca.



The CRCA Gets Social



This winter, the CRCA entered into the world of social media with the launch of a Facebook page, a Twitter account, a YouTube page and a LinkedIn profile.

"We are very excited about this new opportunity to interact with the residents of the Cataraqui Region," says Communications Coordinator, Karla Maki-Esdon. "Being on these popular sites will allow our programs and services to be more accessible to the public and will help us reach a new generation of environmentalists."

The CRCA Facebook

page includes details about upcoming events and meetings, photos of the conservation areas, news about the CRCA and its programs, and links to environmental news.

Those following the CRCA Twitter account can expect to receive links to environmental resources, CRCA news and updates on local water conditions.

The YouTube page is still being developed, but the CRCA plans to post videos of all of the conservation areas as well as videos of annual events, such as Maple Madness and Winter Fun Day.

The LinkedIn account was created so those looking for work in the environmental field can find the CRCA more easily.

Since social media is an ever-changing landscape, the CRCA will continue to seek out new opportunities to communicate and interact with the people of the Cataraqui Region. Stay tuned!

Links to our Facebook and Twitter pages can be found on our two websites www.cataraqueion.ca and www.cleanwatercataraqui.ca.

Monitoring streams for Species at Risk

In order to measure whether streams in eastern Ontario are healthy for fish and other life, the CRCA has joined with a number of Conservation Authorities in eastern Ontario to study benthic invertebrates (insects, larvae, snails, etc. that live on the bottom of streams).

"Looking at the distribution of dragonfly larvae, midges and leeches, to name a few, tells us about water quality," says CRCA Watershed Management Coordinator Mara Shaw. "By identifying which species are thriving over time, we can know whether water quality is changing – and then do something about it."

"We are in the second year of this very practical study being led by Chris Jones of the Ministry of the Environment," adds Ms. Shaw.

As part of this same project, the CRCA is also participating in a study of species at risk in eastern Ontario waters. Species at risk include any naturally-occurring plant or animal in danger of extinction or of disappearing from Ontario. Mussels, fish, and some dragonfly larvae are of interest.

"Very little is known about species at risk in eastern Ontario," says Ms. Shaw. "Some species that are quite rare in southern Ontario are more common in our waterways. Snapping turtles, for example,

are at risk in southern Ontario, but ask any fisherman in eastern Ontario – we've all seen them. Other species, though, are also at risk in eastern Ontario, including some mussels that were recently quite prevalent. So the study is timely."

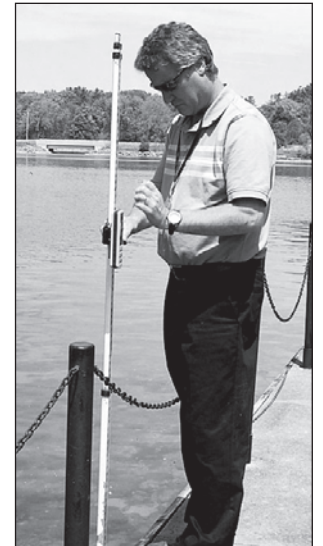
The study is led by South Nation Conservation and funded by the Ontario Species at Risk Stewardship Fund.

Sampling will be done during the summer and fall of 2011. The plan is to continue this project over the next five years, if there are sufficient funds.

Working near water? Check to see if you need a permit from the CRCA

CRCA planning and development staff remind residents, developers and others that shorelines, floodplains, wetlands and lands adjacent to them pose natural hazards including flooding and erosion. Development, including decks, boathouses, docks and alterations to watercourses, may require planning approval from your municipality. They may also be covered by the CRCA's regulations.

The CRCA staff are accessible, easy to talk to and responsive, so give them a call when planning an addition to your lakeshore home, changes to your dock, or other project you may be considering



CRCA Development Officer Andrew Schmidt inspects a shoreline property.

within 50 metres of water. Assistance from our staff can save you time and money.

For regulations and permits call:

- Andrew Schmidt (613) 546-4228 ext. 244 (Municipalities of Greater Napanee, Kingston, Loyalist, South Frontenac)
- Jason Messenger (613) 546-4228 ext. 286 (Municipalities of Athens, Brockville, Elizabethtown-Kitley, Front of Yonge, Gananoque, Leeds and Thousand Islands, and Rideau Lakes)
- Tom Beaubiah (613) 546-4228 ext. 240 (in-water works such as docks, shoreline retaining walls, etc.)

For long distance calls in the 613 area code please use our toll-free number 1-877-956-CRCA (2722).

New gauges installed at area lakes

The CRCA works closely with area high schools, colleges and universities to provide meaningful co-op experiences for students.

This past April St. Lawrence College Civil Engineering Technology student Jon Donaher worked with watershed management staff on a few different projects. One of these projects was the installation of staff gauges on some of our area lakes.

"Staff gauges allow the water level of a lake to be easily measured so that we can determine the elevation of a lake at any time," explains Mara Shaw CRCA Watershed Management Coordinator. "We use this information for flood forecasting and warning, as well as environmental planning. We need to make sure that development is located safely out of the floodplain."

Working with CRCA staff Tom Beaubiah and Jason Messenger, Jon worked to:



St. Lawrence College student Jon Donaher installs a staff gauge at Temperance Lake. These gauges help CRCA measure water levels on the lakes.

- identify suitable locations for gauges
 - obtain permission from the landowner to install the gauge
 - survey the elevation and
 - install the staff gauge.
- Gauges are being installed on Temperance, Charleston, Collins, Loughborough and Killenbeck Lakes.

Trails public open house held in Harrowsmith

The Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority (CRCA), County of



Frontenac and the Township of South Frontenac hosted a public open house on April 11, 2011 to review draft concept plans for the Harrowsmith area.

"For the last 20 years or so, local agencies and trail

groups have been working to create a regional network of trails," says Steve Knechtel General Manager of the CRCA. "The Cataraqui Trail and the K&P Trail come together in Harrowsmith at a very visible location. It seems

like a logical place to have a focal point for the trail network."

This area is being referred to as the Harrowsmith Hub.

"It's also the start of the TransCanada Trail in this area," adds Knechtel.

"The County of Frontenac has received funds from the TransCanada Trail to develop and implement plans for the hub area."

Draft concept plans for the Harrowsmith Hub were available for viewing and comment at the

public open house on Monday, April 11, 2011.

Around 50 people attended the open house and made suggestions to improve the concept plans. Based on this input revised plans are being developed.



Students participating in a Maple Madness school program at Little Cataraqui Creek Conservation Area check one of the trees for sap.

Helping the Friends of Lemoine Point

The Friends of Lemoine Point is a Friends group like many others associated with the protection and conservation of natural environments — a non-profit, community-based organization of local supporters of Lemoine Point Conservation Area. This unique CRCA conservation area is situated on Collins Bay in the west end of Kingston.

The Friends has about 150 loyal members, consisting of two types — those who further the cause by their membership and their financial and civic-minded support, and those who actively participate by volunteering in one or more of the Friends' programs. The support especially of the latter group is essential to activities such as tree planting, growing nursery stock, controlling invasive species such as Garlic Mustard that threaten native plants, keeping the trails enjoyable and accessible for its many visitors, and preparing the bi-annual newsletter for members.

Being a member of the Friends offers an opportunity to support the local natural environment and a community-spirited effort and, for the volunteers, the ability to participate in the outdoor work activities and the fellowship of the Friends.

For further information,



The Friends of Lemoine Point at their annual volunteer appreciation barbecue last fall at the Native Plant Nursery at Lemoine Point Conservation Area.

simply google the Friends of Lemoine Point. You'll find their page on the CRCA website www.cataraqueiregion.on.ca.

Alien invader attack continues

No it's not a bad sci-fi movie, it's real life. The Friends of Lemoine Point will be attacking invasive species again this spring, summer and fall.

Beginning on May 3, the Friends will meet every Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. in the north parking lot of Lemoine Point Conservation Area to target the alien invaders. Volunteers are most welcome.

Throughout May and June, the focus of the attack is Garlic Mustard. Towards the end of June the focus shifts to

Dog-strangling Vine.

During July and August the group takes a bit of a break. There's a very good reason for that. Chris Hargreaves, volunteer organizer of the invasive species control group says, "last year the mosquitoes defended the Dog-strangling Vine plants very vigorously."

Then towards the end of August, it's back to attacking the Dog-strangling Vine.

In September and October, the group switches to Friday mornings from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. and changes its focus to European Buckthorn.

If you would like to help defend Lemoine Point Conservation Area from alien invaders you can show up at the appointed times or call Chris Hargreaves at (613) 389-8993.

Maple Madness: a sweet time

Maple Madness was celebrated this year at Little Cataraqui Creek Conservation Area for the 29th consecutive time.

Thousands of people flocked to ride the tractor-drawn covered wagons for a bouncy ride to the Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority (CRCA) sugar bush for some pancakes smothered in maple syrup, a bite of maple candy or a walk through the sugar bush interpretive trail.

For those with small children, many of the visitors take in a special puppet show. These fun and educational puppets explain the maple syrup process in a lighthearted and informative way for children.

This year, the event ran from March 12 to 20 and on the weekends of March 26-27 and April 2-3. During

this time, Little Cataraqui Creek Conservation Area saw almost 10,000 visitors.

Members of the CRCA staff organize and run this large event each year. Planning begins in June when attention turns to supply and staffing requirements, and really starts to ramp up in the winter months.

In the days leading up to the event, members of the CRCA team tap the trees and prepare facilities for the onslaught. Team members include Rick Knapton, Richard Horton, Ian Brown and Clarence Shetler. Mr. Knapton is also the chief flapjack flipper for the event. For anyone who has seen him in action over the years, it is clear he has perfected the art.

For the CRCA education department, Maple Madness is a very busy time as

many schools bring in their students to learn about the history of maple syrup.

"We had more than 1,300 students that came from Amherstview, Lansdowne, Kingston and Gananoque," says CRCA Education Officer Stana Luxford Oddie. "The students really seem to enjoy the program."

School classes begin their visits with an educational puppet show and then take a covered wagon ride back to the sugar bush. There they learn more about how maple syrup was made in the past, how production has changed over the years, and get to try a taste of maple candy.

Education staff also hosted English as a Second Language groups, Montessori schools and daycare groups.

Youth volunteer at Mac Johnson Wildlife Area and Lemoine Point Conservation Area

Mac Johnson Wildlife Area in Brockville played host to youth volunteers again this spring.

As part of the Youth Volunteer Challenge that is organized by the Ontario Volunteer Centre Network, Grade 9 students from Thousand Islands Secondary School in Brockville spent a sunny morning potting trees at the Mac Johnson Wildlife Area (MJWA) on Wednesday, April 27.

Over 85 students got their hands dirty potting over 600 trees from the native plant nursery at Mac Johnson Wildlife Area, preparing them for the upcoming native tree sale at MJWA.

The rest of the day was spent on conservation education activities, such as pond dipping and learning about marshland ecology with CRCA education staff Ron Gardiner.

The Youth Volunteer Challenge is a three-week campaign that runs across Ontario with the goal of



Students from Thousand Islands Secondary School pot trees from the native plant nursery at Mac Johnson Wildlife Area in Brockville. The trees were sold at the Friends of Mac Johnson Wildlife Area tree sale held in early May.

getting high school students to volunteer in their community. The hours that teens volunteer during this time go towards the community involvement hours they need to graduate high school. In 2010, over 11,000 youth took part in more than 21 communities by volunteering three hours over three weeks. In 2011, they hope to surpass that number.

The Ontario Nature

Youth Council organized a shoreline cleanup at Lemoine Point Conservation Area in Kingston on Saturday, April 30. About 20 high school students cleaned up the shoreline from Rotary Park to the southern-most lookout along the shore.



Rideau Trail Association celebrates 40 years

One of our active local partners is the Rideau Trail Association (RTA). We were pleased to celebrate their 40th anniversary at a recent event held at Marshlands Conservation Area in Kingston.

The main Rideau Trail is a hiking trail that goes from Kingston to Ottawa. It crosses a variety of landscapes and three of our properties – Marshlands where the trailhead is located, Gould Lake Conservation Area and the Cataraqi Trail.

The Rideau Trail also crosses a number of private properties, with the approval of the landowner. The trail itself is maintained by a very active group of volunteers.

The RTA has also developed trails on some of our other properties such as the Marble Rock Forest.

It also hosts a number of outings throughout the year at various locations.

For more information about the Rideau Trail Association please visit their website www.rideautrail.org.



Rideau Trail founders (left to right) Larry McCurdy, Guy Thorne, Doug Knapp and Joan Hughes at the Kingston trailhead located in the CRCA's Marshlands Conservation Area.

Cataraqi Trail plans activities and events for 2011

The Cataraqi Trail is a 104-km long multi-use trail that is located on the former CN rail line. It goes from Smiths Falls to Strathcona (near Napanee).

Most of the trail is owned by the CRCA and it is managed by a volunteer board of directors called the Cataraqi Trail Man-

agement Board (CTMB). There are also a number of volunteer trail maintainers that are responsible for taking care of sections of the Cataraqi Trail.

Funding to keep the trail operating comes primarily from memberships, donations and fundraising. Grants are obtained

for major trail improvements.

One of the fundraising events being planned by the CTMB is the annual Bike and Hike. It will be held again this year in the Chaffey's Lock area. This year's date is Saturday, September 24. Combining this event with the

seniors' wagon ride is currently under consideration. Be sure to mark this date on your calendar.

You can help with the Cataraqi Trail by volunteering your time, making a donation or purchasing a membership. A membership form is provided below.

Conservation Education Programs

The Cataraqi Region Conservation Authority offers a range of quality curriculum-based environmental education programs to classroom teachers and their students ranging from Junior Kindergarten to grade 12.

Programs take place in every season at Little Cataraqi Creek Conservation Area and Mac Johnson Wildlife Area from September through to June. Limited spaces are still available for May and June 2011.

At Little Cataraqi Creek Conservation Area we also

offer Alternative Conservation Education programs (ACE) for preschool aged children and home-schooled children. Programs are also offered for adult learners ranging in various needs and groups from English as a Second Language Learners to seniors.

Program details are available on our website at www.cataraquegion.on.ca. To make a program booking please contact educate@cataraquegion.on.ca or call (613) 546-4228 ext. 251.

Special funding provides a spring wetland experience

TD Friends of the Environment Kingston funded a wetland education experience for local area students. Thanks to the TD Friends of the Environment the students were able to participate in Little Cataraqi Creek Conservation Area curriculum-based science program, Marsh Mysteries. The funding provided transportation costs, a delicious

local snack and equipment for students to use in the program.

On behalf of all the students, teachers, parents and CRCA staff, we would like to thank the TD Friends of the Environment for their generous contribution to making participation in the CRCA's conservation education programs a great success.

Limited spaces still available in our summer day camp

There are still a few spaces left in our popular Nature Explorers Camp.

Based at the Little Cataraqi Creek Conservation Area, campers experience the great outdoors through our wacky nature-inspired theme weeks, outdoor activities and guest speakers. For two days a week, campers get loads of time to swim, play on the beach and explore Gould Lake Conservation Area!

Qualified and experienced instructors with a ratio of 1:8 will teach campers in groups ranging in ages from 6 to 11 years old with a maximum of 24 campers per week. Each day is filled with adventures, games and fun. Campers will come away with new nature skills and a greater connection to the natural world.

Our first week starts on July 4 and the last day of

camp is on August 19. The Nature Explorers Camp is \$170.00 per week. Regular hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Before and after care is available at the Outdoor Centre from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. for an additional charge of \$25.00 per week.

Registration is required in advance and space is limited. To register, please contact our Administration Office Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Call Dianne Doyle at (613) 546-4228 ext. 221 or email crca@cataraquegion.on.ca for registration. Registration forms are also available on our website www.cataraquegion.on.ca.

Contact Stana Luxford Oddie for specific camp program questions at (613) 546-4228 ext. 251 or email educate@cataraquegion.on.ca.

Cataraqi Trail Membership Form

I would like to become a Cataraqi Trail Member. Enclosed is my tax-deductible \$25 membership fee.

I would like to make a charitable donation to the Cataraqi Trail. Enclosed is my contribution for:

\$25 \$50 \$100 \$200 Other _____

Total Contribution (membership and/or donation) \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

Town/City _____

Postal Code _____

Phone No. _____

Email _____

Payment Options:

Cash (Please do not send cash by mail.)

Cheque (Please make cheque payable to Cataraqi Region Conservation Authority.)

Credit Card

Visa Mastercard

Number _____

Expiry Date _____

Name on Card _____

Signature _____

Date _____

Please keep my donation anonymous.

Thank you for your contribution. An official tax receipt will be issued by the Cataraqi Region Conservation Authority.



FOUNDATION NEWS

While we patiently await the end of the chilly rains, the Cataraqui Conservation Foundation celebrates recent accomplishments and looks forward to our key 2011 fundraising initiatives. Let's learn more about recent events, our hardworking board members, and what's planned for later this year.

Earth Day celebration

The Foundation honoured Earth Day two days early this year since Earth Day fell on Good Friday. We convened this special celebration of our natural environment on April 20, 2011. Some 45 attendees enjoyed an opportunity to talk with fellow participants over wine and snacks, then gathered around the podium for a special presentation and announcement of the 2011 conservation awards.

Speaker for the Earth Day celebration was Dr. Paul Martin, Assistant Professor of Biology at Queen's University and holder of the Baillie Family Chair in Conservation Biology. Dr. Martin's talk and visual supports built a picture of biodiversity concept by concept and ably illustrated the many surprises uncovered by an examination of biodiversity. For example, he estimates that even in our immediate Kingston area, many species remain to be discovered.

Professor Martin conducts the bulk of his research at the Queen's University Biology Station just north of Kingston and at a biology station in the Amazon Basin of Ecuador. Dr. Martin stressed the importance of educating young people about the importance of maintaining biodiversity, and introduced several examples of species interactions and interdependencies. We finished the discussion understanding ever more strongly the importance of the education programs we facilitate through Foundation fund raising efforts. To explore Professor Martin's

work more thoroughly, go to his website post.queensu.ca/~pm45/index.html.

The Earth Day celebration is also our platform for announcing the 2011 conservation awards. The Citizen Award honours a citizen who has made important efforts to improve the natural environment in the CRCA watershed. The Community/Corporate Award honours a community organization, municipality, institution or business that has advanced the understanding of the interdependence of all life in the CRCA watershed and/or has actively promoted the protection of the natural environment.

Michael Bell, President of the Cataraqui Conservation Foundation, took the podium to announce this year's conservation awards.

Conservation award recipients



Michael Bell Cataraqui Conservation Foundation President presents the 2011 Citizen Conservation Award to Liz and Mike Evans and the 2011 Community Award to Dann Michols of the Frontenac Arch Biosphere Reserve.

The Cataraqui Conservation Foundation Citizen Award for 2011 goes to Mike and Liz Evans. Since the early 1960s Mike and Liz have espoused values and principles in their private and public lives that have advanced conservation in our community. The Kingston Field Naturalists and the Cataraqui Conservation Foundation have both benefited from the Evans' active involvement in leadership positions and

in their respective program activities. Early on Mike and Liz recognized the importance of wildlife habitat preservation, and this is evident in their work on area bird migration patterns. The Evans have been active stewards of the Prince Edward Observatory and Owl Woods on Amherst Island.

Liz Evans's long term membership in the Foundation included eight years on the Foundation's board. She served a term as president and provided strong leadership for the Forever Green gala, the Foundation's major fundraiser. Both Liz and Mike Evans continue to be unfaltering supporters of the Foundation, sharing their vision and passion for conservation with many in the community. The Cataraqui Conservation Foundation is pleased



to honour Mike and Liz Evans jointly with the Citizen Conservation Award for 2011.

The Cataraqui Conservation Foundation Community/Corporate Award for 2011 goes to the Frontenac Arch Biosphere Network. This award was accepted by Dann Michols, board chair, on behalf of this organization.

The Frontenac Arch Biosphere, designated in 2002 by UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere

Program, has served as the focus for the development of the Frontenac Arch Biosphere Network, a collective of natural and historic conservation organizations, economic and social development groups, as well as the educational and scientific communities located within the Frontenac Arch region. With a focus on the ecological, social and economic dimensions of biodiversity loss and the reduction of this loss, the Network strives to raise public awareness throughout the region, much of which is located in the watersheds managed by the Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority.

The Cataraqui Conservation Foundation is pleased to recognize the significance of the Frontenac Arch Biosphere Network with the Community/Corporate Conservation Award for 2011, the first year of the United Nations Decade of Biodiversity.

Looking ahead

The Forever Green gala evening, one of our biggest fundraising events of the year, will take place Saturday, October 29, 2011. The gala evening features a gourmet dinner, live auction, silent auction, and an opportunity to visit with other conservation-minded members of the community. Tickets will go on sale in August. Please reserve your place early.

The Cataraqui Conservation Foundation Annual General Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 17, 2011. This meeting will take place at the CRCA Outdoor Centre, just north of 401 off Division Street, starting at 4:00pm. Please join us at our Annual General Meeting, and help us thank our volunteers and outgoing board members.

More about the Foundation Board

The Annual General Meeting traditionally constitutes the "changing of the guard" for an organization's board members. The Cataraqui Conservation Foundation has been ably served by two retiring board members. John Morse, past president of the board, has been a leadership presence on the board for most of the last decade. John has spearheaded long term planning of the Foundation's role in conservation, and has personally recruited several outstanding board members. Vera Kettmaker is also retiring in 2011. Vera's project management skills, creative ideas, and fresh outlook on fundraising will be sorely missed. We also welcomed two new board members over the past year, Brent Raycroft and Thornley Stoker.

With each issue of Cat Tales we introduce to you one or two members of the Cataraqui Conservation Foundation board. We feature one new board member and one continuing board member.

Brent Raycroft lives with his partner Alicia and their two children, Morris and Gus, just outside of Sydenham. The Cataraqui Trail is just across the road from their home, and walking the trail was what first interested Brent in the CRCA and the Cataraqui Conservation Foundation. Brent is a "second generation" environmentalist – he inherited the mindset from his father, John Raycroft, who published satires on the "growth at any cost" mentality in the 60s and 70s. A birdwatcher, wood heat enthusiast, and sometime nature poet, Brent has many reasons to support conservation of the green spaces in our area. He holds a Ph.D. in English literature from Dalhousie, and works from home editing law books and online legal texts for Thomson Reuters.

John Allan returned to Kingston in 2006, after a career in academe and in the federal public service. He is an economist by training, and has taught at Queen's, McMaster, and the University of Regina, and is both Professor Emeritus of Economics and Vice-President Emeritus of the latter institution. John is married and he and his wife Catie have two daughters and five grandchildren. John has become active in the Kingston Field Naturalists since coming to Kingston and is on the finance committee of the Community Foundation of the Kingston Area. John feels strongly about the importance of conservation.

Cataraqui Conservation Foundation joins ethical code program

The Cataraqui Conservation Foundation has demonstrated its commitment to high ethical standards and transparency by joining the Imagine Canada Ethical Code Program. Charities that join this program agree to ethical fundraising and financial accountability practices, and agree to educate board members about the ethical standards they must uphold. We are proud to demonstrate this commitment through use of the Imagine Canada Ethical Code logo. It tells donors that the Foundation values

their contributions and will steward their donations to ensure that they have the greatest possible impact.

Donate online

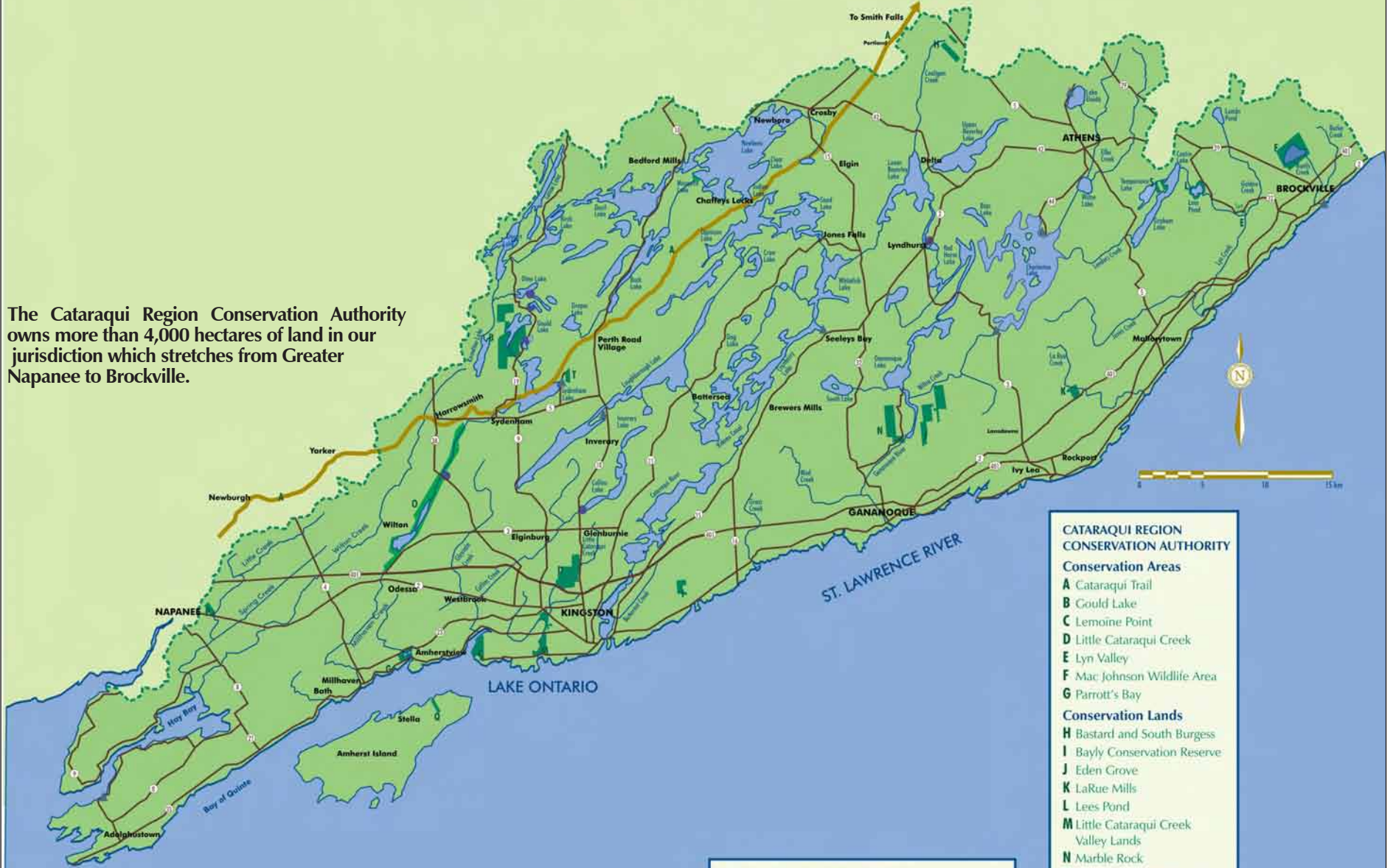
You can donate to the Cataraqui Conservation Foundation online through CanadaHelps.org. Just go to www.cataquairegion.on.ca and click on the link to the Foundation page. You'll see a donate now icon on the page.



Visit one of the CRCA's facilities this summer

Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority CONSERVATION LANDS

The Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority owns more than 4,000 hectares of land in our jurisdiction which stretches from Greater Napanee to Brockville.



- CATARAQUI REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**
- Conservation Areas**
- A Cataraqui Trail
 - B Gould Lake
 - C Lemoine Point
 - D Little Cataraqui Creek
 - E Lyn Valley
 - F Mac Johnson Wildlife Area
 - G Parrott's Bay
- Conservation Lands**
- H Bastard and South Burgess
 - I Bayly Conservation Reserve
 - J Eden Grove
 - K LaRue Mills
 - L Lees Pond
 - M Little Cataraqui Creek Valley Lands
 - N Marble Rock
 - O Millhaven Reservoir
 - P North Fredericksburgh
 - Q Owl Woods
 - R Bayview Wetland
 - S Three Lakes
 - T Vandeval
- Boat Ramps**
- ▲ Charleston Lake
 - ▲ Eloida Lake
 - ▲ Hay Bay
 - ▲ Henry Street (Brockville)
 - ▲ Loughborough Lake
 - ▲ Outlet
 - ▲ Seeleys Bay
 - ▲ Sydenham Lake
- Water Access Points**
- Collins Creek
 - Cronk Lake
 - Elbow Lake
 - Lyndhurst
 - Mosquito Lake
 - Otter Lake
 - Purdy (Murvale)

Conservation Area Regulations

Please observe the following regulations:

- Hours: 7:30 A.M. to dusk.
- Keep dogs and other pets on a leash no more than two metres in length.
- Don't forget to stoop and scoop after your pet.
- Stay on the marked trails; this helps prevent soil erosion and damage to sensitive areas.
- Horseback riding and motorized vehicles are not permitted on our trails.
- Do not litter.
- Do not damage, disturb or remove any structure, rock, plant, animal or other property, living or dead.
- Remember that alcoholic beverages are not permitted.
- Hunting is not permitted.
- Fishing is permitted in accordance with current Ministry of Natural Resource regulations.

These rules are made under the Conservation Authorities Act, Ontario Regulation 99/90. A copy of the regulation is available from the CRCA office.

CATARAQUI REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
FACILITIES

	Size (hectares)	Gate Fee	Picnic Areas	Toilets/Privies	Drinking Water	Hiking Trails	Playground	Interpretive Centre	Swimming (unsupervised)	Canoeing	Fishing	Skating	Cross-Country Ski Trails	Snowshoeing	Equipment Rentals	Facility Rentals
Gould Lake	589	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes(s)	No
Lemoine Point	136	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
Little Cataraqui Creek	394	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes(w)	Yes
Lyn Valley	11	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No
Mac Johnson Wildlife	530	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Parrott's Bay	117	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
Cataraqui Trail	The Cataraqui Trail is a 104-km long multi-use trail which goes from Strehcona to Smith Falls. No washroom facilities or drinking water are available on the trail. Permitted uses are hiking, cycling, horseback riding, cross-country skiing and snowmobiling.															

Spring and summer are ideal for visiting our conservation areas! Hike the trails at Gould Lake, Lemoine Point, Little Cataraqui Creek or Parrott's Bay Conservation Areas. Cycle the Cataraqui Trail. Birdwatch at Mac Johnson Wildlife Area. Cool off with a refreshing swim at Lyn Valley, Lemoine Point or Gould Lake Conservation Areas. For more information, call our office or visit our website at www.cataraqueiregion.on.ca.

Fees

Gould Lake and Little Cataraqui Creek Conservation Areas have a daily entry fee:

- \$5.50 per person for adults and children over 12.
- \$3.00 per person for children 12 and under.
- Maximum fee of \$14.00 per car.
-

An \$80.00 annual vehicle pass provides you with unlimited opportunities to enjoy our facilities. It's a great value!

During July and August, entry fees to Little Cataraqui Creek Conservation Area are reduced to \$5.00 per car. All other conservation areas and boat ramps have donation boxes. Please try to make a contribution each time you visit. Some of our programs have additional fees and require advance registration.

Hours of Operation

Conservation Areas are open from 7:30 a.m. to dusk daily. Little Cataraqui Creek Outdoor Centre is regularly open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday. It is closed weekends from May until September. Available for room rentals.

Little Cataraqui Creek Conservation Area

Spring Fling P.A. Day Program

Friday, May 27 (8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.)
Ages 6-11
Give your child(ren) a P.A. Day full of spring adventure and fun. We'll be exploring the fields, forests and marshes of the Little

Cataraqui Creek Conservation Area. Activities include searching for salamanders and frogs, singing with the birds, playing games and having wonderful experiences in the great outdoors. Drop-off begins at 8:30 a.m. and the program runs until 4:30 p.m. Bring your own snacks, drinks and lunch, as well as suitable outdoor clothes. The program will run regardless of weather. We have alternate plans which include interactive games and activities. Cost is \$30.00 per child. Advance registration is required as space is limited.

Fly Casting for Beginners

Sunday, June 19 (10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.)
The Kingston and Area Fly Fishing Club is offering a one-day introduction to fly casting course. Equipment is provided or bring your own. The cost is \$25.50 per person, which includes the gate entry fee (\$20.00 per person for annual pass holders). Participants under age 15 must be accompanied by an adult. Pre-registration is required.

Lemoine Point Conservation Area

Invasive Species Control

Tuesdays from May to November 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. In May and June the focus is on the removal of Garlic Mustard. From July to November, the focus shifts to Dog-strangling vine and European Buckthorn. For more information, call Chris Hargreaves at (613) 389-8993.

Native Plant Nursery Sale

Saturday, May 28 and Sunday May 29 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Purchase trees, shrubs and wildflowers from the Native Plant Nursery at Lemoine Point Conservation Area. All proceeds go back to the nursery.

Gould Lake Conservation Area

Cool off at Gould Lake Conservation Area this summer with a picnic, swim or paddle in a canoe or kayak. There are 20 km of hiking trails for you to enjoy, many with spectacular views of the lake.

CRCA staff are available at Gould Lake on weekends from Victoria Day to Canada Day. From July 1 to Labour Day, staff are available from Wednesday to Sunday and all Statutory Holidays. Visit our website for details. Daily admission fees apply or buy an annual pass and visit us often!

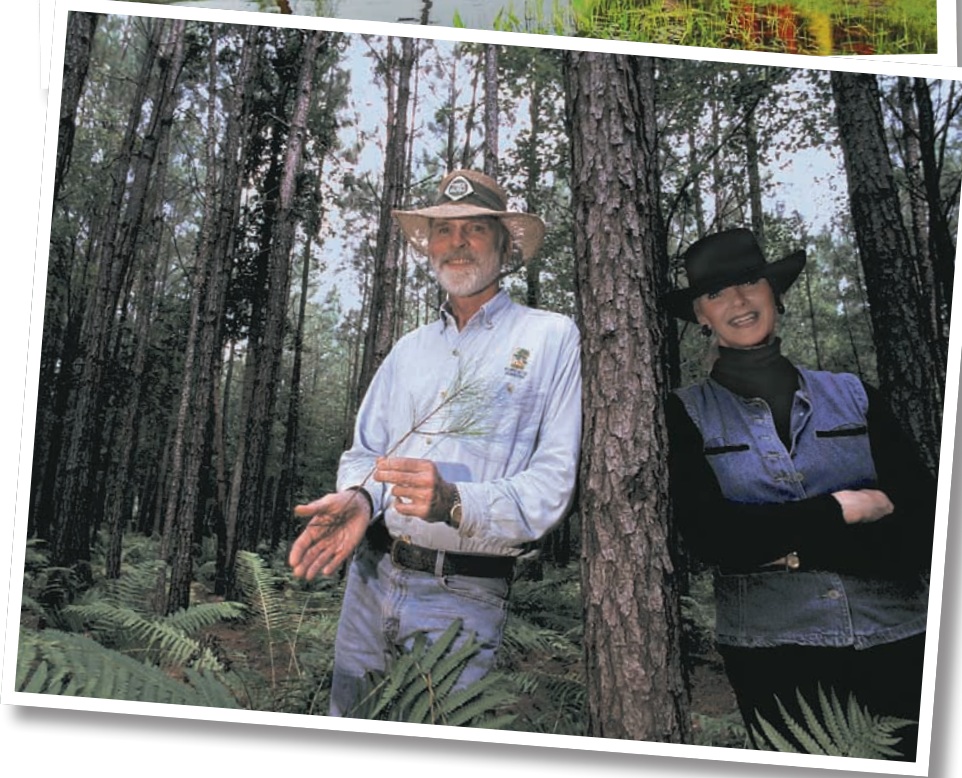
Canoe, Kayak and Pedal Boat Rentals

Explore the clear waters at Gould Lake and Little Cataraqui Creek Conservation Areas. Rental rates begin at \$7.00 per hour and include paddles, lifejackets and safety kits. From early May to early September. Daily admission fees apply. Check our website for details. Summer Camp

Nature Explorers Camp

Ages 6 to 11
Weekly from July 4 to August 19 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Little Cataraqui Creek and Gould Lake Conservation



Areas
Cost is \$170.00 per week

Have a great summer exploring nature and learning outdoor skills with our enthusiastic and qualified instructors.

Each week has a different theme with

activities, games and guest speakers. Two days each week is spent at Gould Lake Conservation Area!

Before and after care is available at the Little Cataraqui Creek Outdoor

Centre for an additional charge of \$25.00 per week. Space is limited so register early. Registration forms are available at the CRCA Administration Office, Little Cataraqui Creek Outdoor Centre and on our website.

**DRINKING WATER
SOURCE PROTECTION**

ACT FOR CLEAN WATER

CATARAQUI
Source Protection Area

Source Water Protection Community Roundtables

As part of our source protection plan development, the Cataraqui Source Protection Committee will be hosting a series of community roundtables in 2011. The objective of these roundtables is to create an open dialogue with people, businesses and organizations in the areas that could be affected by source protection plan policies. All roundtables are scheduled from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

- Kingston - Monday, May 30 to discuss the Kingston Central and West Intake Protection Zones
- Marysville - Tuesday, May 31 to discuss groundwater in Frontenac Islands
- Napanee - Thursday, June 16 to discuss groundwater in the rural areas of Greater Napanee, Kingston, Loyalist and South Frontenac
- Amherstview - Monday, June 20 to discuss the Amherstview Intake Protection Zone.

Advance registration is required. You can register by calling (613) 546-4228 x 248 or 1-877-956-CRCA (2722) ext. 248 or emailing roundtables@cataraquiregion.on.ca