



May & June 2017

2 RIVERS FESTIVAL

Celebrating the Speed and Eramosa Rivers



A project of wellington *Water* watchers

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2RIVERSFESTIVAL

We protect what we love. The annual 2Rivers Festival helps us to fall in love with our rivers over and over again.

Since its beginning in 2012, the Festival has partnered with community organizations to offer free events for you and your family throughout May and June. Enjoy a wide range of activities as you experience the beauty of the Speed and Eramosa river ecosystems and the healing elements of nature. Music, art, recreation, heritage, science and more are on offer as we celebrate our rivers and recognize the value of protecting this much-loved natural landscape.

The 2017 2Rivers Festival features 16 events that include a celebration of the 25th anniversary of the Covered Bridge and the 120th anniversary of the Gow Bridge. Join us for these and other events, and remember that our rivers are here for your enjoyment all year long.

All 2Rivers Festival events are FREE and open to everyone. To help us get an idea of numbers, we invite you to register at:

2RiversFestival.org/register

Wellington Water Watchers is a non-profit organization dedicated to the protection, restoration and conservation of source water in Guelph-Wellington.



wellingtonwaterwatchers@gmail.com
10 Carden St.
Guelph, ON
N1H 3A2



facebook.com/thewellingtonwaterwatchers
twitter.com/wwaterwatchers
flickr.com/photos/2riversfestival

RIVER'S EDGE: GAMES THAT TEACH



Photo: Guelph Outdoor School



Photo: Guelph Outdoor School

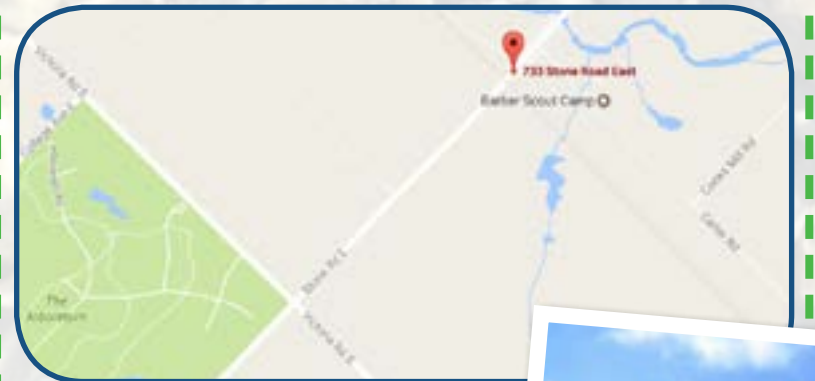
**Sunday
May 7
1 - 4 pm**

Make yourself at home in the woods

Guelph Outdoor School runs along the bank of the Eramosa River. Join us there for an afternoon of electrifying games and challenges that get us tracking, sniffing, sneaking, listening, hiding, crawling, and laughing.

Track a mink, listen for kingfisher, taste pine tea, build a shelter, tend a fire. The whole family is welcome!

Hosted by:



Location: Parking area outside Barber Scout Camp gate:
733 Stone Rd E, Guelph, ON
(Option to meet at a Neighbourhood Group in Guelph first, for carpooling.)

Is this event accessible? No.



Photo: Guelph Outdoor School



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INTERNATIONAL MIGRATORY BIRD DAY



Photo: Pixabay



Photo: Ryan Hodnett, Wikimedia Commons

**Saturday
May 13
7 - 9 am &
9 - 10 am**

*Mid-May is peak migration for
many song birds*

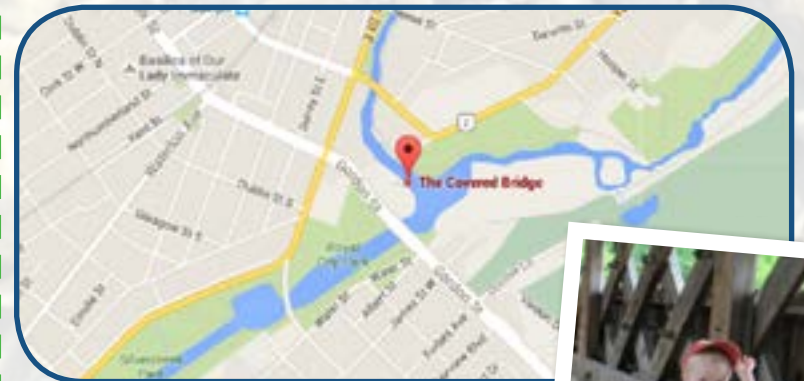
Starting at the Covered Bridge at 7 am, this will be a 2-hour bird count along the James Street trail by the Speed River to identify migrating birds.

A one-hour "Beginner Birders" hike will begin at 9 am at the Covered Bridge and head east along the north side of the river. Binoculars will be provided for beginners.

Hosted by:



**Nature
Guelph**



Location: The Covered Bridge.

Is this event accessible?

The 7-9 hike is not, but
the 9-10 beginners hike is.

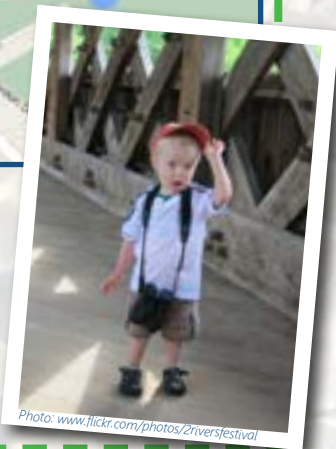


Photo: www.flickr.com/photos/driversfestival



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WALK OVER A RIVER AND ALONG ANOTHER



Photo: Pixabay



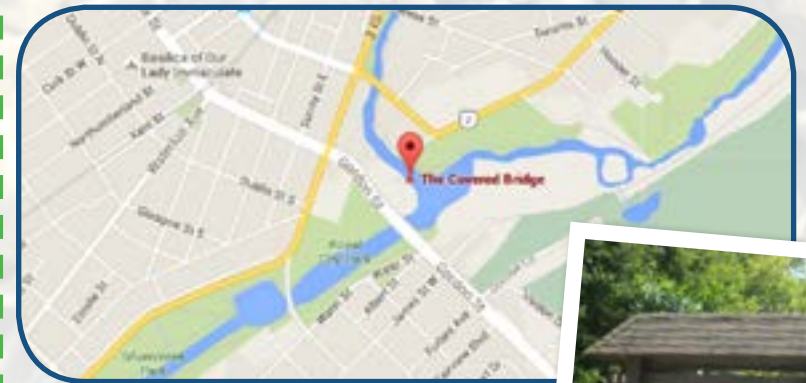
Photo: Guelph Hiking Trail Club

**Sunday
May 14
7:30 - 9 pm**

*Walk one of Guelph's hiking
gems, beautiful in all seasons*

We start at the Covered Bridge and make our way upstream along the Eramosa River on the accessible pathways of Royal City Park. Along the way, we pass the amazing results of over 20 years of riverside restoration. It is then over the bridge on Victoria Road and back walking on the remains of Guelph's now long-abandoned electric railroad. Here we experience the cliffs of Guelph's escarpment and a little wooded wonderland. The accessible option for this event requires a return at Victoria Road on the park trails.

Hosted by:



Location: The Covered Bridge.

Is this event accessible?

Yes, if you return along the same side of the river.



Photo: J. Rutten, Wikimedia Commons

2Rivers Field Guide - Wildlife Tracks Along Our Shores

| Canada Goose | Coyote | Possum/Opossum |
|--------------|-------------------|----------------|
| | | |
| Raccoon | White Tail Deer | Beaver |
| | | |
| Red Fox | Cottontail Rabbit | Porcupine |
| | | |

Source: <https://conservation.org.ca/3x3x/sooty/tracks.pdf>

GARLIC MUSTARD PULL & PESTO MAKING WORKSHOP



Photo: Mandy Hiscocks



Photo: John Fielding, Wikimedia Commons

Thursday
May 18
6 - 8 pm

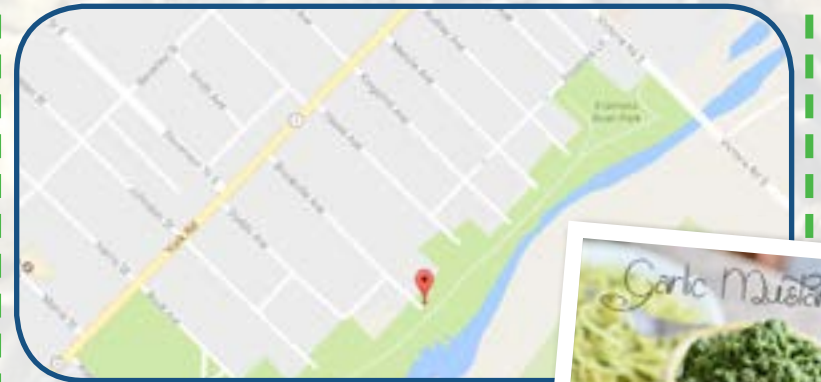
Improve the health of the river bank and learn to make pesto!

Garlic mustard is an invasive herb native to Europe. It spreads quickly, interfering with the growth of other plants including several species at risk. While it is not a good food source for wildlife, it is high in vitamins A and C, and it makes great pesto. Join us to learn about the plant and how to safely pull it. You'll contribute to the health of the river bank, and leave with some ingredients for your very own delicious pesto!

Please bring your own containers. You'll need access to a blender later. ALL WELCOME. This is a family-friendly event.

Hosted by:

OPIRG GUELPH
FOR ENVIRONMENTAL & SOCIAL JUSTICE



Location: Eramosa River Trail, at the end of Brockville Avenue.
(Please don't drive if you don't have to. There isn't much parking in the area.)

Is this event accessible? Yes.



www.reformationacres.com/2014/05/garlic-mustard-pesto.html



BRIDGES AND A PINT: CYCLING THE BRIDGES OF GUELPH PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE



Photo: Carl Griffin



Photo: Carl Griffin

**Saturday
May 27
1 - 3 pm**

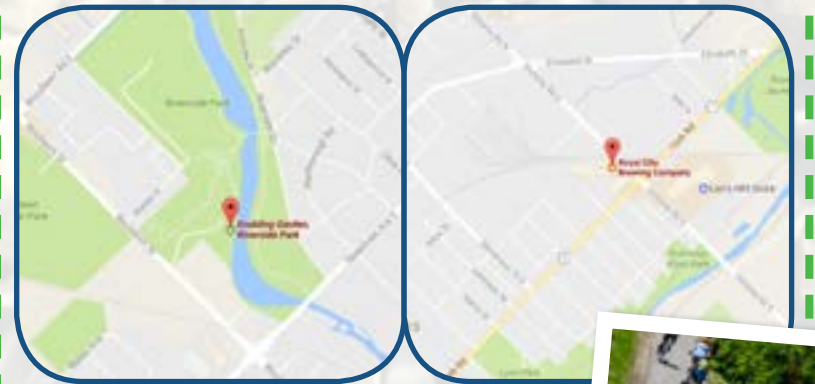
*Cycle through the rich history
of Guelph's unique bridges*

2017 is a year of celebrations, and Guelph has its own events to celebrate: 120 years with the Gow Bridge and 25 years with the Covered Bridge. We will hear how these bridges came to be, and how these and other bridges impact how we connect with our two rivers and give us a sense of place. While cycling, let's look at some future plans for getting around the city more actively via various proposed pedestrian and cycling bridge-building projects. Finally, let's enjoy a pint at Royal City Brewing while discussing ways to use bridges to make Guelph a healthier, more vibrant city.

Hosted by:



GCAT
Guelph Coalition for
Active Transportation



Start Location: Enabling Garden,
Riverside Park.

End Location: Royal City Brewing Co.

Is this event accessible? No.



Photo: Carl Griffin

The Great Outdoors are No Place for a Cat



Unless you're there too!

JOIN THE MOVEMENT TO
KEEP CATS SAFE & SAVE BIRD LIVES IN GUELPH
www.catsandbirds.ca/guelph
a coalition of community groups

BRIDGES TO THE PAST: A WALKING TOUR

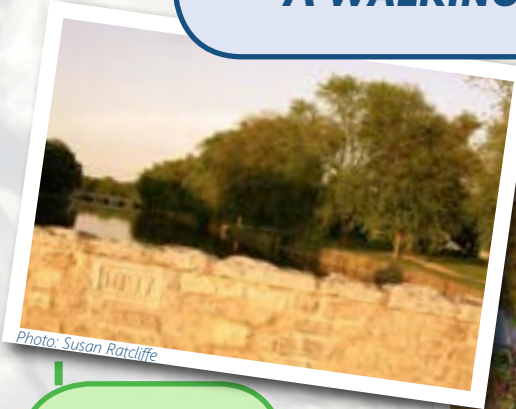


Photo: Susan Ratcliffe



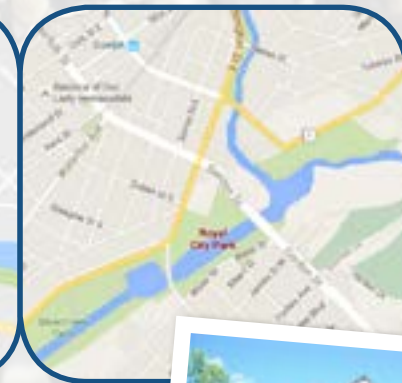
Photo: Evan Ferran

**Sunday
May 28
1 - 2 pm**

***Guelph residents have created
ways to cross the mighty
Speed River for 190 years***

On this walk, you will marvel at the soaring beauty of the Heffernan Bridge, the inventive structure of the Covered Bridge, celebrating its 25th anniversary, and the solid limestone construction of the Gow Bridge, celebrating its 120th anniversary. Your guide, Susan Ratcliffe, will tell you the stories of the bridges and the rivers they cross. Peter Gow, the owner of much of the land along the river in 1860, will speak to us. We will return to Royal City Park in time to see James Gordon in concert (see event details next page).

Hosted by:



Start Location: The Norwich Footbridge.

End Location: Royal City Park.

Is this event accessible? Yes.



Photo: J. Rutten, Wikimedia Commons



To see a display of historic photos of Guelph's Footbridges, visit the Guelph Civic Museum between June 7 and September 10.
guelphmuseums.ca



RIVER SONGS WITH JAMES GORDON



Photo: guelph.ca/location/royal-city-park/

**Sunday
May 28
2:30 - 3:15 pm**



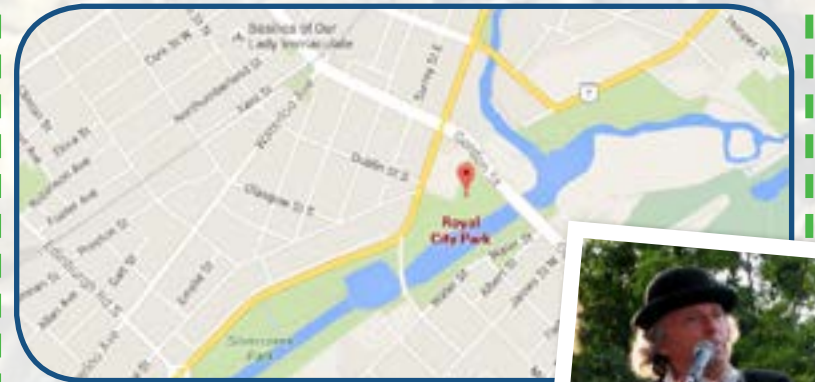
Photo: Fred Hunsberger

Guelph's river troubadour in concert

Singer-songwriter James Gordon has often been inspired by our two beautiful rivers. In this afternoon concert near the place where our two rivers meet, he will share some impacts the rivers have had both past and present.

Bring your own seating, chair or blanket, if desired.

Hosted by:



Location: Royal City Park Gazebo.

Is this event accessible? Yes.



Photo: www.flickr.com/photos/2riversfestival/

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2RIVERS CLEANUP



Photo: www.flickr.com/photos/2riversfestival



Photo: www.flickr.com/photos/2riversfestival

**Saturday
June 3
9 am - 1 pm**

**Help restore the health
of our rivers**

Join OPIRG Guelph and Wellington Water Watchers for our 38th annual 2Rivers Cleanup. This year, we are going back to our roots and will engage once again with a shoreline cleanup along a wide expanse of our rivers. We will meet at the Gazebo in Royal City Park and will send teams out to various stretches of the river. We'll clean up the litter we can see, and try to document possible sources of invisible pollution and habitat degradation in the area. Please bring bikes or good walking shoes. Join us afterwards for snacks and refreshments and for a facilitated discussion about how we can help restore the health of our rivers.

Hosted by:



Location: Royal City Park Gazebo.

Is this event accessible? Yes.

Please bring work gloves if you have them (if not we do), a hat, sunscreen, and waterproof shoes/boots.



Photo: Dave Beaton



May

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
|  <small>Photo: Ryan Hodnett, Wikimedia Commons</small> | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 7 1 pm: River's Edge: Games that Teach | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 7 & 9 am: International Migratory Bird Day |
| 14 7:30 pm: Walk Over a River & Along Another | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 6 pm: Garlic Mustard Pull & Pesto Workshop | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 1 pm: Bridges & a Pint: Cycling Guelph's Bridges |
| 28 1 pm: Bridges Walking Tour 2:30 pm: James Gordon Concert | 29 | 30 | 31 |  <small>Photo: Pixabay</small> | | |

June

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|--------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  <small>Photo: Tania Day, Wikimedia Commons</small> | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 9 am: 2Rivers Cleanup |
| 4 1 pm: Hike with the Kids | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 10 am & 1 pm: Nature Today & Tomorrow at Guelph's Yorklands |
| 11 1:30 pm: Crayfish Catching | 12 | 13 | 14 7 pm: Arboretum Creek Crea- tures | 15 | 16 | 17 1 pm: Pollinator Day in the Garden |
| 18 1 pm: Trees Along the River 3 pm: Singing Under the Bridge | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 8:30 pm: Moths at Night |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |  <small>Photo: Patti Maurice</small> |



All 2Rivers Festival events are FREE and open to everyone. To help us get an idea of numbers, we invite you to register at:

2RiversFestival.org/register

HIKE WITH THE KIDS

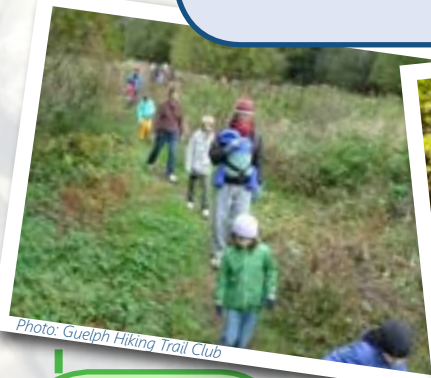


Photo: Guelph Hiking Trail Club



Photo: Guelph Hiking Trail Club

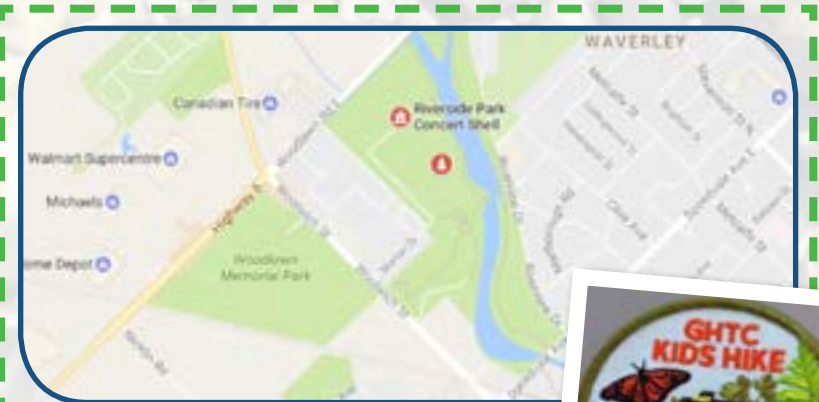
**Sunday
June 4
1 - 2:30 pm**

A nature walk for all ages

Come for an adventure with the whole family as we walk through a variety of forest and field landscapes with experienced leaders from the Guelph Hiking Trail Club.

Join the Tortoises (slower, shorter distance), or the Hares (for older, faster kids). Who knows what surprises nature will have in store for us – birds, bugs, beavers or butterflies?

Hosted by:



Location: Riverside Park Concert Shell.

Is this event accessible? Yes.



Photo: Guelph Hiking Trail Club

Rivers Field Guide – Insects Along Our Shores

| | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Monarch  <small>Source: wikipedia, Kenneth Joseph Huxford</small> | Bumblebee  <small>Source: public domain</small> | Preying Mantis  <small>Source: wikipedia, Adamantia</small> |
| Lady Bug  <small>Source: wikipedia, CharlesBishop</small> | Jewel Beetle  <small>Source: wikipedia, Bernard Dupont</small> | Cecropia Moth  <small>Source: wikipedia, James W. John</small> |
| Black Ant  <small>Source: wikipedia, Tim Parget</small> | Dragonfly  <small>Source: wikipedia, Chonah Choo</small> | Leaf-Footed Bug  <small>Source: wikipedia, Bruce Marlin</small> |



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NATURE TODAY & TOMORROW AT GUELPH'S YORKLANDS - A GUIDED EXPLORATION

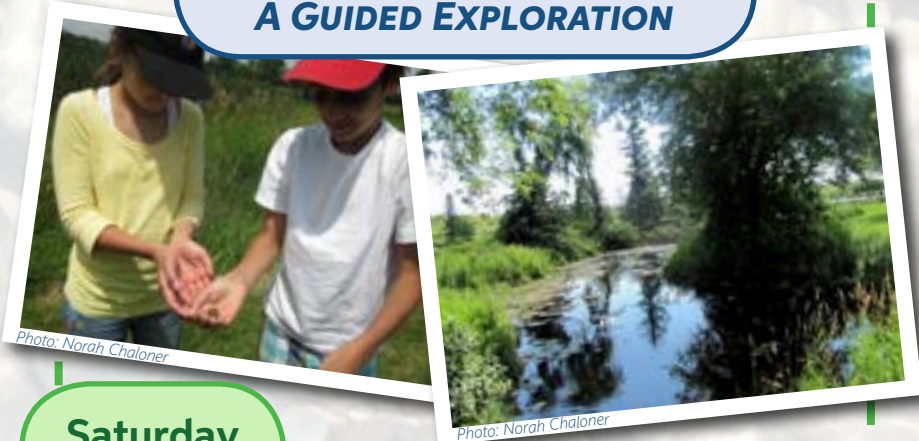


Photo: Norah Chaloner

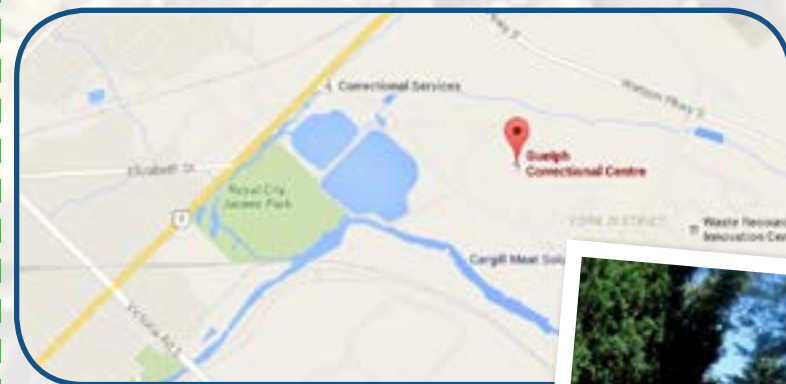
Photo: Norah Chaloner

**Saturday
June 10
10 - 11 am
1 - 2 pm**

*Explore nature and imagine
the possibilities of future
ecological restoration*

Rain or shine, join our leaders for guided tours to this special place, as it is now and as it could be in the future. Dip the nets with Ontario Streams and hear what they envision for the flowing waters found here. Explore the trails and marshes with Raresites, who will share their urban ecology expertise. And hear from Yorklands Green Hub, who are working to put it all together as an exciting sustainable environment centre for the region.

Hosted by:



Location: Guelph Correctional Centre lands.

Meet inside the main gate at 785 York Rd. Park on nearby streets, take transit, bike or walk.

Guided one-hour walks along the waterways of the Guelph Correctional Centre will start at 10 am and 1 pm.

Is this event accessible? Half of the walk will be on the paved driveway but some will be on a path through a grassy field path that is less smooth.



Photo: Norah Chaloner



CRAYFISH CATCHING

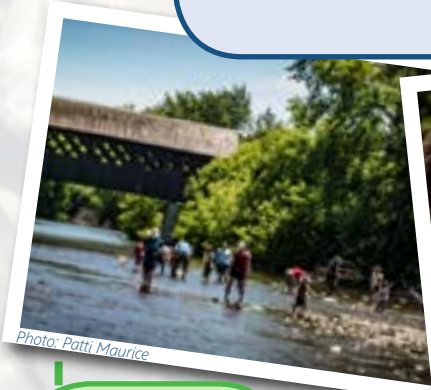


Photo: Patti Maurice



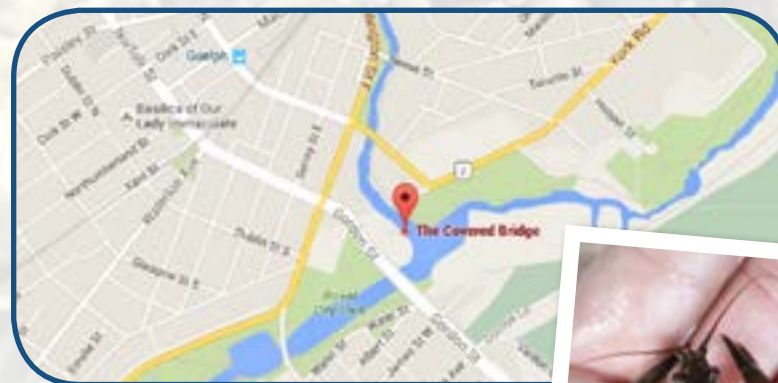
Photo: Patti Maurice

**Sunday
June 11
1:30 - 2:30 pm**

Get up close with the aquatic creatures that call the Speed River their home

Join Environmental Educator Greg Meredith and other volunteers as we enter the Speed River in search of crayfish and other aquatic creatures. You'll learn how to tell the difference between male and female crayfish and find out how the GRCA uses aquatic creatures to help evaluate water quality in our watershed. Nets and bug containers provided. You will be in the water, so appropriate footwear is required: closed-toe water sandals or shoes. No barefeet. Suitable for all ages!

Hosted by:




Location: The Covered Bridge.

Is this event accessible? No.



Photo: www.flickr.com/photos/2riversfestival



OUR SEASON STARTS MID-MAY!
OPEN TUES-SUN 10AM - 7PM
LOCATION - 116 GORDON STREET
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f /SPEEDRIVERPADDLING

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Are trees social beings? In this international bestseller, forester and author Peter Wohlleben convincingly makes the case that, yes, the forest is a social network.

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ARBORETUM CREEK CREATURES



Photo: 2015 2Rivers Festival



Photo: Chris Earley

Wednesday
June 14
7 - 8:30 pm

*Learn about the importance
of urban biodiversity*

Aquatic environments hold much of an area's biodiversity in their watery depths. The Arboretum Creek is a tributary of the Eramosa River. Come and catch, identify and study the life we have in and beside our stream.

A great activity for all ages!

Hosted by:



Location: J.C. Taylor Nature Centre,
The Arboretum, University of Guelph.
(Our regular \$2 fee for a Wednesday
Evening Walk will be waived.)

Is this event accessible? No.

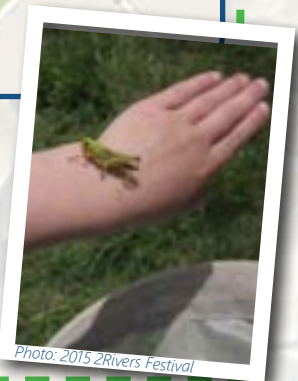


Photo: 2015 2Rivers Festival

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POLLINATOR DAY IN THE GARDEN



Photo: Pollination Guelph



Photo: Victoria MacPhail

**Saturday
June 17
1 - 4 pm**

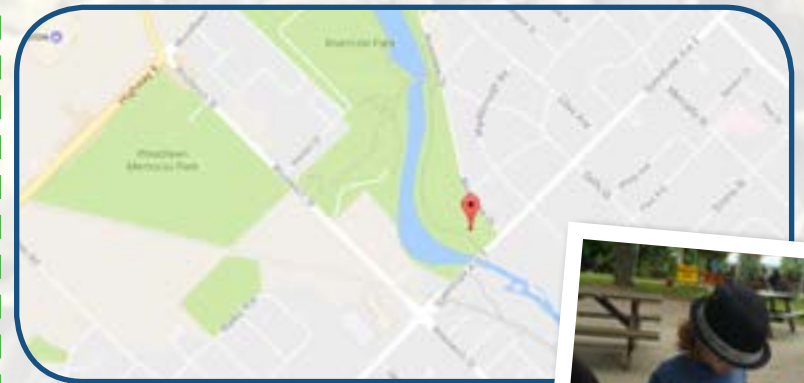
***Learn all about pollinators and
pollinator-friendly plants***

Join us for a fun, family-friendly afternoon anytime between 1 and 4 pm. With our volunteer experts, use an insect net to look at bees, butterflies, and other pollinating insects up close; identify the pollinator-friendly plants in our gardens along the river; make your own solitary bee nest using natural materials; discuss the current status of pollinators and how you can help. Plus you can take home a free pollinator-friendly plant!

Visit the pollinator-friendly gardens planted along the trail. A short (10 minute) walk takes you to 5 different gardens that will truly inspire you to create your own pollinator habitat. There will be two scheduled walking tours at 2 pm and 3 pm.

Hosted by:

**Pollination
Guelph**



Location: Meet in Riverside Park East, near the corner of Riverview Drive and Speedvale Avenue. Parking lot off Riverview Drive.

Is this event accessible? Yes.



Photo: Victoria MacPhail

Celebrating Guelph's Rivers



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THE TREES ALONG THE RIVER

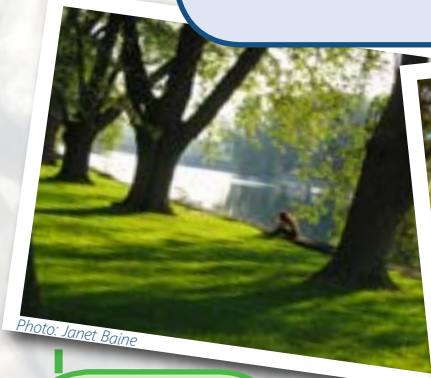


Photo: Janet Baine



Photo: George and Anne Harauz

**Sunday
June 18
1 - 3 pm**

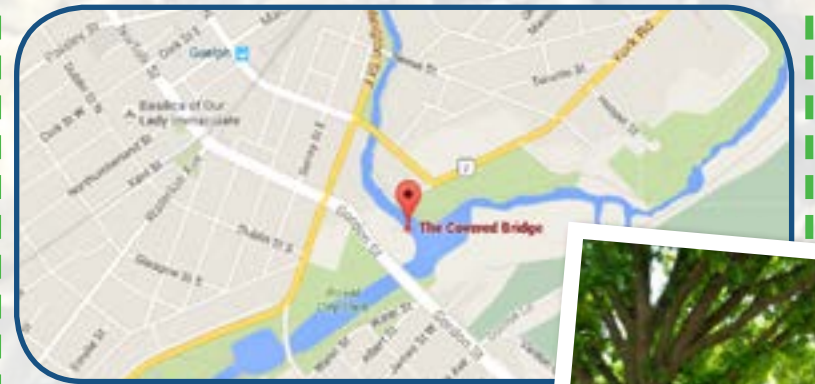
*Come discover the amazing
trees along our rivers*

Starting at the confluence of the Speed and Eramosa rivers at the Covered Bridge, we will walk along the trails that line the rivers. Sean Fox will lead a guided walk while regaling us with interesting stories and identifying features about the trees on the trails. Sean is a local tree expert and manager of horticulture at the Arboretum, University of Guelph. Learn about trees that you can use in your own yard, or just enjoy the beauty of trees in a picturesque park setting.

The tour will be on graded trails, at a slow pace to enjoy the scenery. Wear comfortable walking shoes and bring rain gear in the event of rain.

Hosted by:

Sean Fox










Location: The Covered Bridge.

Is this event accessible? Yes.
We will be on the trail system, but
may walk on the grass to get a
closer look at the trees.



Photo: Anonymous

2Rivers Field Guide - Trees Along Our Shores

| Red Pine | White Spruce | Blue Ash |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  <small>Source: David Milovanovic</small> |  <small>Source: public domain</small> |  <small>Source: public domain</small> |
| Black Walnut | Rock Elm | Yellow Birch |
|  <small>Source: Bepi/khandi.org</small> |  <small>Source: public domain</small> |  <small>Source: Wikimedia Commons/beatrice</small> |
| Choke Cherry | White Oak | Red Maple |
|  <small>Source: public domain</small> |  <small>Source: US Forest Service</small> |  <small>Source: Wikimedia Commons/beatrice</small> |

WHO'S THAT SINGING UNDER THE BRIDGE?



Photo: Tom King



Photo: Carl Griffin

**Sunday
June 18
3 - 4 pm**

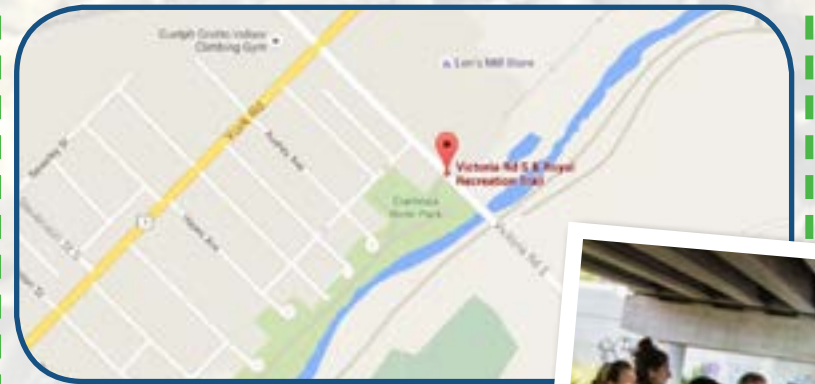
Experience these acoustics!

Guelph's own Ondine Chorus will sing a magical serenade to the Eramosa River under the Victoria Road Bridge. You won't want to miss hearing Ondine's original vocal songs, arrangements and improvisations sung in exquisite 5-part harmony.

Walk, bike or canoe to join us! Bring your own seating, chair or blanket, if desired.

Hosted by:

 **ndine Chorus**



Location: Eramosa River under the Victoria Road Bridge.

Is this event accessible? Yes, but the terrain may be uneven and muddy. Shade is available.



Photo: Carl Griffin

SKSS presents the 6th Annual
Spring Awakes!



Photo: Justin Lewis

**A Performance Arts Hike
to benefit Ignatius Old Growth Forest**

Sunday, May 28
1:30 - 4:30 pm
Ignatius Jesuit Centre

Tickets available at Janus
Books & Loyola House \$25
www.facebook.com/SpringAwakesOldGrowthForest

MOTHS AT NIGHT



Photo: Andalyne Tofflemire

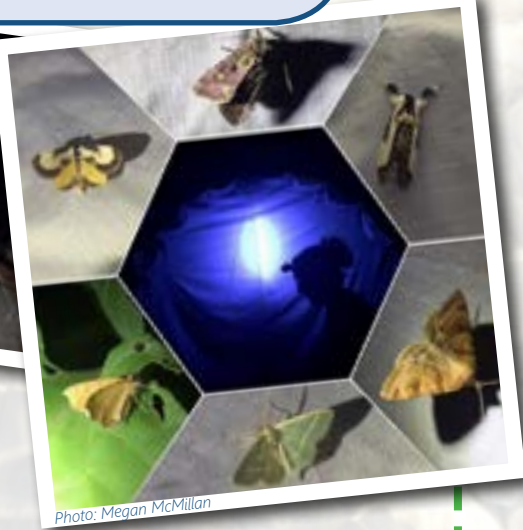


Photo: Megan McMillan

**Saturday
June 24
8:30 pm -
midnight**

***Open your eyes to the
incredible diversity of moths***

During this evening event, we will use a black-light and a simple white sheet to attract nearby moths for a closer look.

Since this is a late evening event, bring flashlights or headlamps and please leave young children at home. Field guides will be provided. Bring your own blankets or chairs and a camera if desired.

Hosted by:

Andalyne & Richard Tofflemire



Ignatius Jesuit Centre
A Place of Peace

Old-Growth Forest Project



Location: 5441 Hwy 6.

The driveway entrance is on the east side of Hwy 6, opposite Ignatius. It's a paved driveway with a white mailbox; drive past the red roof house and the driveway shortly becomes a grass laneway, which opens into a grassy parking pad. There will be a sign directing you down the trail to us! We'll be down the grassy pathway that goes down a slope towards the creek.

Is this event accessible? No. There is a mown pathway, but the slope is pretty steep and uneven.

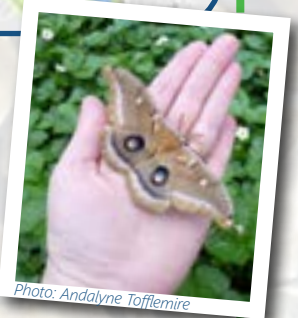


Photo: Andalyne Tofflemire

Andre Hueniken
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We humbly acknowledge and send our gratitude to the original ancestors of the territory through which the Speed and Eramosa rivers course. These First Peoples from various lineages stewarded these lands and waters as caretakers. We send our respect to the Mississaugas of the New Credit as treaty holders of this land. We also send our respect to our neighbours who have peopled these lands for many generations, the Wendat, the Haudenosaunee and the Anishnabeg, and to our many Indigenous neighbours here in Guelph and across Turtle Island.



Photo: Evan Ferrari

Join a Wellington Water Watchers-2Rivers Project Team!

Beyond the festival there are many other projects that await your energy and enthusiasm. Contact us at tworiversfest@gmail.com if any of these projects are of interest to you:

- Riverside Wildlife Task Force
- Children's' Nature Play Space
- Riverside Signage for Sustainability
- Old Weir Removal
- Green Belt Expansion

Thank you to all the participating **host organizations!** Visit their websites to join these groups and participate in their other events throughout the year.

We would also like to acknowledge the important support of our **advertising sponsors**. Please thank them for their support of the Festival when using their services or purchasing their products.

A special thank you to the **2Rivers Festival Steering Committee** who have dedicated their time to connect us more closely with our rivers, and for all of their efforts in developing the program – Laura Andrighetti, Paul Botros, Jane Hudson, Peter Jaspers-Fayer, Leanne Johns, Stan Kozak, Debbie Kurt, James Levesque, Patti Maurice, Karen McKeown, Sue Rietschin and Arlene Slocombe.

As always, thank you to our **Wellington Water Watchers' Board of Directors** for all of their support, and to the **volunteers** for helping to make the 2Rivers Festival a success!

All 2Rivers Festival events are FREE and open to everyone. To help us get an idea of numbers, we invite you to register at:

2RiversFestival.org/register

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Take 5 Guelph!



Saving five litres of water can add up to BIG Savings.

Are you up for the five-litre challenge?

Small changes here and there can help you save five litres or more every day.

- ☐ Cut one minute off your shower time
- ☐ Turn off the tap when you brush your teeth
- ☐ Thaw frozen food in the fridge overnight rather than soaking it in water
- ☐ Rinse fruit and vegetables in a bowl of water instead of under a running tap
- ☐ Use fruit and vegetable rinse water to water your house or garden plants

