

May & June 2018 Festival Guide

24 Events Celebrating the Speed and Eramosa Rivers



We humbly acknowledge and send our gratitude to the original ancestors of the territory through which the Speed and Eramosa Rivers course. The territories include the Haudenosaunee (Iroquois), Ojibway/Chippewa, and Anishinabek, in addition to the Attawandaron neutral peoples. We'd like to recognize the enduring presence of Aboriginal peoples on this land and the history of the First Nations peoples and neighbouring First Nation, Métis and Inuit peoples. Today there are a wide number of Indigenous peoples who call this territory home under the Haldimand Tract Treaty with the Mississaugas of the New Credit.

We want to express solidarity with the 18 Indigenous communities affected by the Line 9 project, in addition to the 88 First Nations communities in Ontario currently under drinking water advisories.

We send our gratitude to the ancestors of this place who were stewards of the land and waters. We have much to learn from a worldview that perceives humans as caretakers – in contrast with the dominant worldview where many are simply takers. May we remember that we are guests here and that to become good ancestors ourselves means that we take on the responsibility of ensuring that we leave things better than we found them.

May 22 is the International Day for Biological Diversity, and the theme for 2018 is "Celebrating 25 Years of Action for Biodiversity" in recognition of the 25th anniversary of the UN's Convention on Biological Diversity.

During May and June, the 2Rivers Festival and its many partnering organizations join in the celebration with several events focused on biodiversity education and awareness of our native plants and animals.



You can find these activities highlighted throughout the Festival Guide as BEAN events.



Guelph's river system is its most important ecological, cultural and recreational feature. The annual 2Rivers Festival is a forum to showcase and celebrate our two beautiful rivers and to engage our whole community in imagining how each one of us can become a vital participant in the regeneration of our river ecosystems.



We are pleased to again partner with a variety of community organizations throughout May and June to celebrate our cherished rivers, the Speed and the Eramosa. With 24 public events including music, indigenous river knowledge, hidden streams, art, rowing, yoga, river creatures, hikes, bikes and trees, you are sure to find a variety of experiences that you and your family will enjoy.

Our hope is that your participation in the Festival will encourage you to advocate for the protection and conservation of our water and our rivers. Your help will ensure that future generations will have the same opportunities to enjoy clean water and our healthy rivers all year long.

For more information and to register for our events, please visit: **2RiversFestival.org/register** 

Cover photo credits: Red-winged Blackbird - Katja Schulz Yoga - Pixabay Singing Under the Bridge - Carl Griffin



This symbol indicates accessible events. Please contact us at <a href="mailto:tworiversfest@gmail.com">tworiversfest@gmail.com</a> if you need more information.

#### **2RIVERS CLEANUP**



### Saturday May 5

9 am - 1 pm

Royal City Park Gazebo

\$FREE

### Help restore the health of our rivers

Join OPIRG Guelph for our 39th annual 2Rivers Cleanup! Meet at the Gazebo in Royal City Park, meet or join your team, and head out to a stretch 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 a bike or good walking shoes, and dress for the weather. Snacks and refreshments will be provided.



Photo Credit: OPIRG

Hosted by:





### SPEED RIVER RAPIDS, UP CLOSE



### Saturday May 5

2 pm - 4 pm

The Guelph Enabling Garden, Riverside Park

\$FREE

### Hike with us along the Speed River!

The Speed River sluices down a continuous series of rapids from Riverside Park to Goldie Mill. A 2 km unmarked dirt footpath through the woods allows the adventurous hiker to see this hidden secret in Guelph's midst.

Please wear appropriate footwear. Our hike will end at Goldie Mill, so participants can use the paved TransCanada Trail for their return trip or to continue into downtown.



### **SACRED WATER WALK**

A Water Walk is first and foremost about Water. It is an ANISHINAABE CEREMONY; from the time the pail is lifted to the time of set down the Walkers are in Ceremony.

### Sunday May 6

10 am - Noon

The Boathouse 116 Gordon St

\$FREE

#### Join us in ceremony and in prayer for the health of our waters...

Many of us have been inspired by grandmother Josephine Mandamin and her dedication to water protection through walking for the water. In honour of all that has been inspired in us through her walks, we feel called to walk for the health of the Speed and Eramosa Rivers that we enjoy so freely.

Because we are in a specific Anishinaabe Ceremony, women wear long skirts and men wear long pants to show our respect for our Grandmothers, for Mother Earth and for ourselves. Women on their Moon-time do not carry the water during this time, as they are already in Ceremony. For more details about the ceremony, please check <u>2RiversFestival.org</u>.

Hosted by:

Seven Generations Forward



\*Portions are







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### 3 RIVERS RIDE



### Sunday May 13

(Rain date: May 20)

9 am - 3 pm

Eramosa River Park 259 Victoria Rd S

\$FREE

### Spend the day biking along our rivers

The Guelph Wellington Waterloo Regional Trail Committee along with Speed River Bicycle are hosting a special edition of SRB's semi-monthly multi-surface ride. For this special event we have selected a route that will follow recreation trails and scenic back roads along the Eramosa, Speed, and Grand Rivers. Starting at Eramosa River Park, this 76km ride will take riders to the rare Charitable Research Reserve for a brief lesson about the Speed and the Grand, and refuelling before returning to Guelph.

Check out the Speed River Gravel Grinders Facebook group or contact Taylor at <a href="mailto:gwwrtc@gmail.com">gwwrtc@gmail.com</a>.

Hosted by:



### MOTHER'S DAY WATER BLESSING



# **Sunday** May 13

2 pm - 3 pm

Marianne's Park Gordon St Bridge 1765 Gordon St

\$FREE

£

#### Water in Faith Traditions: Cleansing, Nurturing, Symbolic

Wellington Water Watchers co-hosts monthly Water Blessings with other community groups to provide opportunities for the public to gather to celebrate the magic and majesty of water. This Water Blessing will honour all women who carry life-giving waters.

We gather to reflect on our unique relationship with water and our duty to protect this precious gift we are entrusted with while we are here. Brian Carwana of Encounter World Religions Centre will join us for a talk on the centrality of water in the practices and symbolism of some of the world's great spiritual traditions. Dress for the weather. Please bring your favourite water.



### GARLIC MUSTARD PULL & PESTO WORKSHOP





### Wednesday May 16

6 pm - 8 pm

York Road Park 115 York Road (behind the Ukrainian Church)

\$FREE

### Riverbank health & delicious 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. ALL WELCOME. This is a family-friendly event. Parking may be limited, so please don't drive if you don't have to.



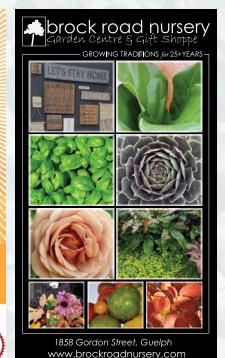








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### RIVER REMNANTS: EXPLORING THE SILVER CREEK



### Saturday May 19

1 pm - 2:30 pm

Mouth of Silver Creek, Speed River

\$FREE

### Uncover the secrets of the Silver Creek

The banks of the Silver Creek tell many stories about our city. We will follow the remnants of the river from its mouth at the Speed to its disappearance under the tracks. Learn why the first John Sleeman chose its waters for his beer, the story of the Red and Phoenix Mills, and the mysterious broken dam.

Meet us at the mouth of the Silver Creek (also called Howitt Creek), on the north side of the Speed River between Hanlon Parkway and Edinburgh Road South. Participants can park at the Silvercreek Skatepark and walk west along the Speed to our starting location. We will end our walk at Howitt Park.

Hosted by:



### WALK THE NISKA VALLEYLANDS



### Sunday May 20

11 am - 12:30 pm

Ptarmigan Dr & Niska Rd

\$FREE

Walk to understand the effects of the Niska reconstruction and the bridge widening on the lands of the Hanlon Creek Conservation Area and the former Kortright Waterfowl Park.

Meet at Ptarmigan Drive and Niska Road. We will end our walk at the Niska Bridge.

Hosted by:

Speed River Valley Heritage Lands Association



### CAN WE LEARN TO LIVE WITH URBAN CANADA GEESE?



### **Thursday** May 24

7 pm - 9 pm

Room 112 **Guelph City Hall** 1 Carden St

\$FREE

### What are Guelph's options for managing Canada Geese?

Guelph's riversides attract many people each year as we seek the joys and escape offered by our few urban natural areas. These same places attract an ever-growing population of Canada Geese. As a result, riverside areas are covered with excrement, water quality is diminished, roadside collisions are increasing and incidents involving physical injury have been noted. How can we respect other living things and yet manage this problem?

This event will include a presentation from Canada Goose specialist Chris Sharp, Canadian Wildlife Service, followed by panel and audience discussion. Let's determine how we can balance respect for wildlife with people's desire to enjoy our river lands and the costs of achieving this, so we can prompt our civic leaders to act.

Hosted by:





#### Biodiversity you can see in Guelph!



#### **Common Merganser**

With improvements to river health, common mergansers have returned to nest and raise young on our rivers. Look for the female with her brownish head and grey body and her habit

of diving underwater to search for small fish. In May and June you can observe common merganser ducklings following their mother as they search for food together, and scurrying away on the water surface when spooked.

#### **Snapping Turtle**

It is not uncommon to come across a large snapping turtle basking on the banks of our rivers on sunny summer days. More remarkable is finding female turtles up on dry land digging nest holes to deposit their eggs. This



occurs early in June each year and has been witnessed at several 2Rivers Festival events. We are fortunate to have this threatened species successfully living amongst us in our river system.



Cats and birds are safer when cats are protected from the CANADA risks of roaming unsupervised.

### **KEEP CATS SAFE & SAVE BIRD LIVES**



You can help make Guelph a safer community for



cats and birds. Learn more at **CATSANDBIRDS.CA** 



### RIVER MINI-RESIDENCY WITH LESLIE McCue



### Saturday May 26

1 pm - 5 pm

Boarding House Arts Building 6 Dublin St S

\$FREE\*

Join Musagetes and artist Leslie McCue for a river & water inspired artist talk and intergenerational art making workshop

Leslie McCue is Mississauga, Ojibway from Curve Lake First Nation, currently living and working in Toronto. Leslie is an arts administrator, artist, performer, and educator who over the years has fought for Indigenous rights by breaking stereotypes and raising cultural awareness. Her work is driven by her past, her passion to educate and the motivation to empower others. A true artist, McCue has been working through various mediums to convey her message such as, traditional dance, performance, film and video production, sound art, theatre, design, mixed media, and arts administration.

\*Note: Space for this event is limited, so online registration is **required** at <u>2RiversFestival.org/register</u>.





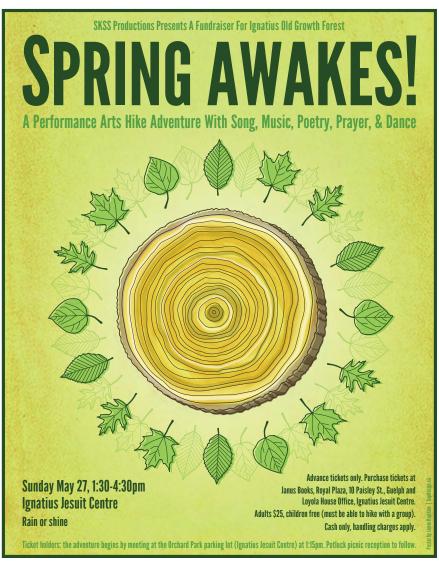












Ignatius Jesuit Centre

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2RIVERSFESTIVAL

## THE 7<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL SPRING AWAKES!



# **Sunday** May 27

1:15 pm - 4:30 pm

Orchard Park Parking Lot Ignatius Jesuit Centre

\$25\*

#### A Performance Arts Hike Adventure to benefit Ignatius Old Growth Forest

With a magical mix of nature and imagination, artists will create site-specific music, dance, and poetry encounters amongst the budding trees and trout lilies, the singing birds and the rushing river, all in reverence of spring. Join us for this guided walk through the woods – full of surprises. All funds raised directly support ongoing ecological restoration and the long-term vision of fostering an Old Growth Forest in our community along the shores of the Speed River.

Please wear sturdy footwear, and bring a hat, water and sunscreen. Please bring food to share at the Pot Luck Picnic which crowns the afternoon adventure.

\*Tickets must be purchased in advance at Janus Books (10 Paisley St.) or Loyola House (Ignatius Jesuit Centre). Children accompanied by adults are admitted free and must be able to hike with a group. This is a rain or shine event.

Hosted by:

### **SKSS Productions**

in support of the Old Growth Forest

### **May 2018**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5 9 am: 2Rivers Cleanup 2 pm: Speed River Rapids
6 10 am: Sacred Water Walk	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 9 am: 3 Rivers Ride 2 pm: May Water Blessing	14	15	16 6 pm: Garlic Mustard Pull & Pesto Workshop	17	18	19 1 pm: River Rem- nants
20 11 am: Niska St Bridge & Land Walk	21	22	23	24 7 pm: Can We Learn to Live with Urban Geese?	25	26 1 pm: River mini- residency with Leslie McCue
27 1:15 pm: Spring Awakes!	28	9 pm: Full Moon Yoga by the River	30 7 pm: Arboretum Creek Crea- tures	31		

### **June 2018**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				Photo: Patti Maurice	1	9 am: Come & Try Rowing 1 pm: Hanlon Creek Bioblitz
3	4	5	6 pm: Exploring Pond Creek	7	8	1:30 pm: Crayfish Catch
10 1 pm: River's Edge: Games That Teach	11	12	13 6:45 pm: Hiking from Cultural Past to Ecological Future	14	15	16 1 pm: Trees, Bikes & a Pint
17	18	19	20 6:30 pm: Tai Chi Along the River	21	22	23
9 am: Biological 1:30 pm: June \ 3 pm: Singing U	Water Blessing	26	27	28	29	30



For more information and to register for our events, please visit:

2RiversFestival.org/register

### **FULL MOON YOGA** BY THE RIVER



### **Tuesday** May 29

9 pm - 10 pm

Goldie Mill Park beside Norwich St bridge

\$FREE\*

#### Celebrate the full moon by exploring movement, breathing, and relaxation by the river.

The event will take place in the park along the Speed River between Goldie Mill and Norwich Street bridge. All ages and abilities welcome.

Bring your own yoga mat or blanket to the event. In case of inclement weather, the alternate location is at Living Yoga and Health studio, 105 Wyndham St N. You will be notified of any location change. If the event is moved indoors, there will be mats available.

\*Note: There is a limit of 25 participants, so please pre-register online at 2RiversFestival.org/register.

Hosted by:



### ARBORETUM CREEK **CREATURES**





### Wednesday **May 30**

7 pm - 8:30 pm

J.C. Taylor Nature Centre The Arboretum University of Guelph

\$Free

#### Discover and appreciate our urban biodiversitu

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!





# COME & TRY ROWING



### Saturday June 2

9 am - Noon

Guelph Rowing Club Boathouse Guelph Lake GRCA 7743 Conservation Dr. \$FREE\*

### Discover the sport of rowing

Rowing is a great way to get outside, enjoy beautiful Guelph Lake, meet new people and learn a new skill. You will first learn the fundamentals on the rowing machines at the boathouse, and then you will practice rowing with an oar in the water. All participants will get into eight man racing shells where you will receive on the water coaching from club coaches and volunteers.

No experience necessary. Open to adults 18 years or older. Participants should bring fitted athletic clothing and socks, water bottle for hydration, hat and sunscreen.

\*Participants who do not have a Grand River Parks Membership will have to pay \$7 for an adult day pass to Guelph Lake. Registration is required to ensure all participants are covered by Rowing Canada's insurance; please see <u>2RiversFestival.org/register</u>.

Hosted by:



# NATURE GUELPH BIOBLITZ OF HANLON CREEK/ PRESERVATION PARK





### Saturday June 2

1 pm - 4 pm

Hanlon Creek Park 505 Kortright Rd W

\$FREE

### Explore the diversity of species

Nature Guelph will be hosting a BioBlitz of the Hanlon Creek/Preservation Park area to close out their Nature in the City series that takes place in partnership with the Guelph Public Library.

Participants will survey the parks and catalog all species they come across. Please preinstall the iNaturalist app (https://www.inaturalist.org) before the event as it will be used to record sightings.







### EXPLORING POND CREEK: ABOVE AND BELOW GROUND



### Wednesday June 6

6 pm - 8 pm

GCVI School 155 Paisley St

\$FREE

#### Discover a hidden stream

We will walk the lower section of Pond Creek looking at the signs and indications of the buried creek in the residential neighbourhood. We will walk to the outlet of the creek and embark on an underground adventure, following the creek upstream for a little way. Bring a flashlight and rubber boots or shoes that can get wet!

Meet at the main GCVI school sign at the corner of Yorkshire Street N and Paisley Street. We will be ending at Silvercreek Park at Wellington Street W and Edinburgh Road S.

Hosted by:

**Speed to Sea** 

### **Donkey Day 2018**

Sunday, June 10 from 10am - 4pm

Purchase your tickets at: thedonkeysanctuary.ca/DonkeyDay



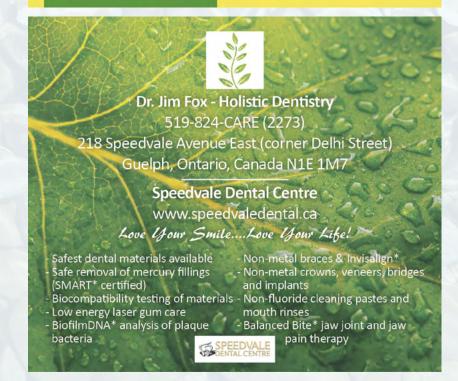
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Eden Mills Writers' Festival Sunday, September 10, 2018 Noon - 6:00 pm Eden Mills Free shuttle buses from Guelph

Come for the words



### **CRAYFISH CATCHING**





### Saturday June 9

1:30 pm - 2:30 pm

The Covered Bridge York Rd

\$FREE

### Make friends with a crayfish

Join an Environmental Educator from the Grand River Conservation Authority 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 GRCA uses aquatic creatures to help evaluate water quality in our watershed.

Nets and bug containers provided. You will be in the water. Wear closed toe water sandals or shoes. No barefeet. Suitable for all ages!

Hosted by:



### RIVER'S EDGE: GAMES THAT TEACH



Sunday June 10

1 pm - 4 pm

Barber Scout Camp 733 Stone Rd E

\$FREE

### An afternoon of hands-on nature fun

Step into the Guelph Outdoor School's outdoor classroom for electrifying games and challenges on the banks of the Eramosa River. River's Edge is a glimpse into a popular option for hundreds of Guelph kids and adults: it is an afternoon of full-on fun and wonder for all ages, and an occasion to reconnect with local wild spaces along the Eramosa. See you out there.

Meet in the parking area outside the Barber Scout Camp gate, 733 Stone Rd E. (Or there's the option to meet at a Neighbourhood Group in Guelph first, for a carpooling / busing out to the Scout Camp.) Dress for the weather. This is a fully outdoor event!







### HIKING FROM **CULTURAL PAST TO ECOLOGICAL FUTURE**





### Wednesday June 13

6:45 pm - 8:30 pm

Farm Workshop Parking Lot Ignatius Jesuit Centre

\$FREE

### Spend an evening hiking and learning about the Ignatius Old Growth Forest

Staff from Raresites Land Trust and Ignatius Old Growth Forest Project will lead you on an evening hike at the Ignatius Jesuit Centre just north of Guelph. This tour will explore the story of land from early settlement, visiting the mill ruins, the transition to organic agriculture and the return of the forests and Brook Trout through the centre's conservation and restoration initiatives.



Hosted by:



### TREES, BIKES & A PINT: A TRIBUTE RIDE TO THE LATE HENRY KOCK





### Saturday June 16

1 pm - 3 pm

Eramosa River Park Royal City Brewing

\$FREE

### Celebrate the good things in life!

A 10 km tribute ride to the late Henry Kock, Guelph's beloved horticulturalist, to celebrate his passion for trees, river systems, bikes and local beer. Enjoy stops along the way with arborist Sean Fox to discover some of Guelph's magnificent trees. This is a family friendly ride on gravel trails and quiet streets. Mountain/hybrid bikes and helmets are encouraged.

We will meet at the Eramosa River Park parking lot, at the intersection of Florence Lane and Lawrence Avenue, and finish at Royal City Brewing, where you are invited to stay for a drink.





# TAI CHI BY THE RIVER



### Wednesday June 20

6:30 pm - 7:45 pm

Goldie Mill Park (behind the Guelph Youth Music Centre)

\$FREE

### Strength, flexibility, stillness - a moving meditation

Whether tai chi is a part of your regular health practice, or whether you have often thought you would like to find out more about tai chi, experiencing this session by the Speed River on a spring evening is for you! We will meet at Goldie Mill Park, and begin by doing a few simple fundamental exercises to get our bodies moving. The experienced tai chi players in the group will then have the opportunity to do a set together, while beginners observe the routine. Following that, beginners will be invited to learn the first moves in the set!

Come dressed in loose clothing, with flat shoes or running shoes. (Please note, there is no indoor alternative for this event should it be a rainy evening. If it rains, we will have to postpone the event until next year.)







### BIOLOGICAL LIFE AT THE YORKLANDS





### Sunday June 24

9 am - Noon

785 York Rd (at bus stop)

\$FREE\*

### Learn about the biodiversity of the Yorklands

We welcome biologists and nature buffs who want to look at the land and water ecology of the proposed Yorklands site. Learn how water quality and biodiversity are closely related. Join our friendly volunteers as we identify flowers and plants, leaves and trees, birds and insects on land and in water. This will be a mini update of the fuller Bioblitz held in 2014 that covered the entire area. We will concentrate on Parcel 2 only. See yorklandsgreenhub.ca for more details.

\*Note: Space for this event is limited, so please preregister online at <u>2RiversFestival.org/register</u>.

Hosted by:



### JUNE WATER BLESSING PERUVIAN WATER DESPATCHO



### Sunday June 24

1:30 pm - 2:30 pm

Eramosa River Park Lawrence Ave

\$FREE

### Join us for a ceremony in celebration of water

Wellington Water Watchers co-hosts monthly Water Blessings with other community groups to provide opportunities for the public to gather for celebration of the magic and majesty of water. Join us to reflect on our unique relationship with water and our duty to protect it during our time here. Along with Red and White Carnations of Elora, we invite you to join in a water despatcho.

Dress for the weather and bring garden greenery and flowers. Vehicle entrance for parking at Eramosa Park is at the base of Lawrence Avenue on Florence Lane.





## Who's That Singing Under the Bridge?



### Sunday June 24

3 pm - 3:45pm

Eramosa River Park Under Victoria St Bridge

\$FREE

### Don't miss this enchanting serenade to the Eramosa River

Join us for magical harmony, 5 voices and harp in an afternoon of song accompanied by the Eramosa

River. Experience Ondine's beautiful vocals and musical arrangements with the unique acoustics of the Victoria Street Bridge.

Walk, bike, or paddle to join us under the bridge at Eramosa River Park.



Hosted by:







Over 2000 members working for the protection and conservation of our greatest natural water resource in Upper Grand.

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July 20-27, 2018 ===== Third Annual

Two Row on the Grand

Deyohahage Gihe' gowahneh

The Good Mind - Good Words - Good Actions

Building Alliances

Indigenous

Non-Indigenous



### Paddling, Camping, Sharing



From Paris (possibly Cambridge - stay tuned) to Lake Erie



### **Teachings**

Google "Two Row on the Grand" for website, Facebook Group and Event page.

Join this canoe paddling event that symbolically reenacts the Two Row Wampum Treaty where Indigenous and Settler paddle together. Our teachings say to paddle down the "river" of life on parallel paths, as friends helping each other, but not disrupting each other's way of life.

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

Thank you to our important advertising sponsors. Please show your appreciation for their support of the Festival when using their services and purchasing their products.

A special thank you to the 2Rivers Festival Steering Committee: Laura Andrighetti, Paul Botros, Emma Callon, Trista Forth, Jane Hudson, Leanne Johns, Stan Kozak, Debbie Kurt, Patti Maurice, Anissa McAlpine, Karen McKeown, Susan Ratcliffe, Arlene Slocombe and Cynthia Spring have dedicated their time to develop the festival program and connect us more closely with our rivers.

The 2Rivers Festival is a project of Wellington Water Watchers, a non-profit organization dedicated to the protection, restoration and conservation of source water in Guelph-Wellington.

#### **Contact Us!**



www.2RiversFestival.org tworiversfest@gmail.com



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wellingtonwaterwatchers@gmail.com @10C Shared Space 42 Carden Street Guelph, ON N1H 3A2



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