

CELEBRATE THE INTERNATIONAL  
**YEAR OF BIODIVERSITY**



## Exploring Our Watersheds

Ontario Nature's 79<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting &  
Carolinian Canada Coalition's 2010 Forum  
& 4<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting

Visit Lambton's World Class Natural Areas in Carolinian Canada  
Lambton College & Residence, Sarnia, Ontario

**May 28 – 30, 2010**

HOSTED BY:

Sarnia Urban Wildlife Committee • Lambton Wildlife Incorporated  
Sydenham Field Naturalists • Friends of Pinery Park





## CONFERENCE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

### ***Carolinian Canada Coalition***



*Collaborating for a Healthy Ecoregion, to protect and restore natural heritage in the Carolinian Life Zone for healthy, sustainable landscapes through stewardship, cooperation and research.*  
Peter Banks, Megan Ihrig, Michelle Kanter,  
Virginia Lambdin, Cheryl Veary

### ***Ontario Nature***



*Ontario Nature protects wildlife and wild spaces. Founded in 1931, Ontario Nature works with over 140 member groups to protect Ontario's habitats and wildlife, and connect people with nature, through research, conservation campaigns, education and public awareness.*  
Anne Bell, Amber Cowie, Barbara MacKenzie-Wynia



### ***Sarnia Urban Wildlife Committee***

*Protecting and enhancing City owned property in Sarnia.*  
Brenda Lorenz



### ***Lambton Wildlife Incorporated***

*Dedicated to the conservation, preservation and protection of the natural environment in Lambton County.*  
Krista Cowieson, Tania Havelka, Richard Maxfield, Joan DiFruscia



Sydenham Field Naturalists

### ***Sydenham Field Naturalists***

*Naturalist club whose members' aim is to enjoy, as well as preserve, wildlife and natural history in the Chatham-Kent area.*  
Larry Cornelis



### ***Friends of Pinery Park***

*Dedicated to education, promotion, preservation and support of Pinery Provincial Park.*  
Brenda Kulon

### ***Community Volunteers***

Dale Ellie-Bristow, Chris Holding, Ursula Westelaken

### ***Forum Watershed Artist***

Shawn McKnight

### ***Program Layout***

Vanessa Denov

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## A Unique Way to Celebrate & Explore Biodiversity

### ***Welcome to “Exploring Our Watersheds”,***

*And welcome to the unique nature and waters of Lambton County. For three days, you will have exceptional access to Canada’s deep south, traveling, by foot, boat, bus and discussion, with local leaders and provincial specialists. Situated in coastal Carolinian Canada, Lambton is rich in biodiversity with over 60 Species at Risk, 300 provincial rarities and a large network of significant natural areas, including globally significant habitats, intact First Nations ecosystems, international fly-ways for migratory birds and some of the most diverse freshwater mussel populations in North America.*

*In this International “Year of Biodiversity”, local naturalist groups, Sarnia Urban Wildlife Committee, Lambton Wildlife Incorporated, Sydenham Field Naturalists and Friends of Pinery Park, in partnership with Ontario Nature and Carolinian Canada Coalition, welcome you to explore, participate and experience this special region, and to consider the future of Ontario’s biodiversity.*

*From our keynote speaker, Jack Imhof, noted aquatic wildlife biologist, to Gord Miller, the Environmental Commissioner of Ontario, our speakers and leaders will inspire and inform you on ‘hot topics’ in the rapidly shifting field of conservation. We invite you to join the discussion to envision a future that protects and sustains our biodiversity across the landscape.*

*In 2001, an ambitious landscape plan, the Big Picture/Greenways Initiative, was developed. Hundreds of groups, including all the conference partners, have been collaborating on bringing this vision into reality. Find out how much progress has been made, what new challenges and opportunities are emerging, and how we can go forward to work together as a community in the face of serious global concerns.*

*Sarnia, embedded in the “Chemical Valley”, has worked hard to improve its local environment and international waterway, the St. Clair River. It provides an ideal setting to explore ways that humans and biodiversity interact in sensitive shoreline areas.*

*We thank the dozens of groups, volunteers, businesses and communities that have donated their time, efforts and resources to create this unique event. As a result, there are activities throughout the three days to appeal to a wide range of interests, from conservation professionals to backyard naturalists.*

*The conference partners have collaborated for over 30 years on protecting and restoring natural heritage in southwestern Ontario. In 2010, we would like to offer a window of time to investigate, celebrate and reflect on our rich biodiversity. We look forward to exploring the wealth of this region’s unique natural and aquatic features with you. Enjoy the conference!*

*~ Your Conference Organizing Committee*

# Conference Highlights

**Day 1 – Friday May 28, 2010**  
**Lambton College Residence**

## **STEWARDING CAROLINIAN COASTS**

*Ontario Provincial Issues Day*

*Carolinian Canada Coalition & Ontario Nature Joint Forum*

9:00 a.m. Welcome from Sarnia Mayor Mike Bradley

- Coastal Greenways & the Big Picture in Carolinian Canada
- Species at Risk in Aquatic Ecosystems & Waterways

Lunch Video: “The River R.A.P.”

12:30 p.m. Carolinian Canada Coalition 4th Annual General Meeting

1:15 p.m. Getting Involved: Concurrent Workshops

- Social Marketing & Ecotourism
- Aquatic Protected Areas Network

2:50 p.m. The Green Economy & Climate Change

- Gord Miller, Environmental Commissioner of Ontario:  
Re-casting a Vision for a Biodiversity Strategy of Ontario

5:00 p.m. Local Waters Banquet

- Lambton County Natural Heritage Video

6:00 p.m. Carolinian Canada Conservation Awards

7:30 p.m. Duc D’Orleans II Cruise on the St. Clair River

- Local Experts
- Migration of Monarchs – a concert that knows no boundaries
- Cash Bar

**Accessibility:** *All conference locations on campus are wheel-chair accessible. The pathway that connects the Residence (Inn) to the College is paved. Elevators are available in the College. There are no elevators in the Residence but you may request a main floor room. Buses are not wheel-chair accessible. Please inquire about your special needs for field trips early and we will do our best to accommodate you.*

## **Day 2 – Saturday May 29, 2010** **Lambton College & Lambton College Residence**

### ***EXPLORING LAMBTON'S WATERS***

7:00 a.m. Early Morning Walks

8:00 a.m. Hot Breakfast

8:45 a.m. Healthy Watersheds & Getting the Big Picture

- Catch your bus for full day field trips
- Wild Neighbours
- Wild Places

12:00 p.m. Lunch

1:00 p.m. Getting Your Feet Wet – Concurrent Workshops around Sarnia

4:00 p.m. Ontario Nature 79th AGM & Awards

6:00 p.m. Ontario Nature Wine & Cheese Reception

7:00 p.m. Local Fields Banquet

- Live & Silent Auctions

8:30 p.m. Keynote Speaker Jack Imhof, Trout Unlimited Canada  
Navigating through the Biodiversity of Canada's Stream  
Corridors: A Personal Voyage

## **Day 3 – Sunday May 30, 2010** **Cantara Park**

### ***CAROLINIAN CANADA WATERSHEDS***

8:00 a.m. Breakfast

9:00 a.m. Half-Day Field Trips

*Remember to fill out and enter your evaluation into a draw.*

# Stewarding Carolinian Coasts

## Friday May 28, 2010

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### **Registration and Networking (8:00 a.m.)**

Continental Breakfast  
Display Set-up

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### **Welcome (9:00 a.m.)**

#### **Lambton College Residence Ballroom**

Mayor Mike Bradley of Sarnia  
Caroline Schultz, Executive Director, Ontario Nature  
Dr. Gordon Nelson, Chair, Carolinian Canada Coalition

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### **Coastal Greenways & the Big Picture in Carolinian Canada**

Hear overviews and local case studies to examine the vision, status and hurdles of the major landscape-scale habitat programs and their vital role in water conservation.

#### ***Stewarding Carolinian Coasts & Biodiversity Hotspots***

The Carolinian Canada ecoregion in far southwestern Ontario is unique in Ontario, with some of the richest biodiversity in the country. Since the launch of Carolinian Canada's Big Picture nine years ago, there has been great momentum toward improved natural heritage protection, stewardship and restoration, engaging a broad array of allies from municipalities and parks to private landowners, industry and youth. However, new challenges have emerged recently that are tied to major economic and social trends; species and habitats are still declining; and this region remains one of the most threatened in the Great Lakes and Canada. This situation calls for intensified efforts and ambitious new ways of approaching conservation on a multi-use landscape. The many groups that make up the Carolinian Canada Coalition are working on Conservation Action Plans for Biodiversity Hotspots and a new Coastal Zone program to coordinate, catalyze and integrate conservation more deeply into community decision-making in our most vulnerable areas. In the face of climate change, it is critical that our combined efforts go beyond networks of green, and are recognized as fundamental building blocks to help communities, both natural and human, thrive into the future.

*Michelle Kanter has held the position of Executive Director of the Carolinian Canada Coalition since 2003 and has been involved with the Coalition since its inception in 1984. With 25 years of conservation experience in wildlife research and land stewardship, she has worked with a broad range of stakeholders around the world.*

#### ***Ontario Nature Greenway Program - The Green Way Forward***

Rapid urban growth in many parts of Ontario is fragmenting remaining natural areas and driving up the price of land. The cost of delay will be considerable. There is much to do to protect water sources, natural areas and species-at-risk, and to provide for green-space recreational opportunities. A comprehensive, coordinated Greenway Initiative will consume fewer human and financial resources than will addressing each issue and

community separately. Amber Cowie will refer to specific examples from local Greenway projects to discuss the three main strategies of the Greenway Initiative in relation to water conservation. The three strategies are: land securement; policy development; and fostering stewardship on private land.

*Amber Cowie joined Ontario Nature in 2008 to help realize the vision of the Greenway in southern and eastern Ontario, subsequent to her experience with the Grasslands Conservation Council of British Columbia protecting rare ecosystems. Her passion for collaborative, community-led environmental initiatives was ignited during her years at the University of Victoria, where she earned a B.A. in environmental history.*

### **St. Clair River Remedial Action Plan (RAP)**

Kristina Lee will present an overview of the current status of the St. Clair River Area of Concern. Of the 14 Beneficial Use Impairments (BUI), St. Clair River has 8 listed as impaired, 4 requiring further study and 2 that are not impaired. In the next years, as remediation projects proceed and additional scientific data is collected, improvements to the status of the BUI's are expected. Kris will outline some of the significant improvements, unique characteristics and challenges inherent to the St. Clair River Area of Concern.

*Kristina Lee is the Canadian Chair for St. Clair River Remedial Action Plan's Binational Public Advisory Council (BPAC). As a charter member of the St. Clair River BPAC since its beginnings in 1989, Kris is involved with many ENGO initiatives in the area such as Wallaceburg Advisory Team for a Cleaner Habitat (WATCH), Sarnia and Region Environmental Network Exchange (SARENE), Terra Nitrogen Public Liaison Committee and formerly Dow Chemical Public Advisory Panel. She is a retired high school science teacher, lives on the St. Clair River, and has her own consulting business focusing on the environment and health & safety. She is published in professional magazines such as Catalyst and Crucible, and travels throughout the province as a guest presenter on environmental education and workplace safety.*

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## **Health Break and Displays (10:30 a.m.)**

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### **Species at Risk in Aquatic Ecosystems & Waterways (10:50 a.m.)**

Discover the significance of aquatic ecosystems in southern Ontario's biodiversity.

### ***Bkejwanong's Marshes: Sustaining a Conservation Legacy***

The Walpole Island First Nation or "Bkejwanong" which means "Where the Waters Divide" in Ojibwe, is a large freshwater delta located on the north shores of Lake St. Clair – at the 'heart of the Great Lakes.' A legacy of conservation practices cultivated by the Anishnaabe people (Potawatomi, Ojibwe, and Odawa tribes) who have lived there for over 6,000 years have ensured the land is biologically rich. The community sustains some of the country's most biologically diverse ecosystems including 17,000 acres of marshes and wetlands that provide habitat for many rare and endangered aquatic wildlife species.

Yet, this First Nation community is under pressure to sustainably conserve its natural heritage in the face of modern social and economic pressures. Numerous threats, such as a decline in cultural ties to the land, pollution from upstream sources, and non-native invasive species encroachment are threatening the aquatic habitats on Walpole Island and their continued existence.

This presentation will provide the audience with a sense of what this First Nation community is doing to sustain its rich natural heritage. The presentation will highlight a pilot project being lead by Canada's first registered Aboriginal land trust – the Walpole Island Land Trust, which aims to conserve and restore a degraded

## Stewarding Carolinian Coasts - Friday May 28

171 acre marsh on Walpole Island with support from local partners and groups. Funds raised for this pilot project will support ecological restoration, invasive species control, research, and training as well as community initiatives to bring youth and elders together. Youth will be mentored by elders and community members to learn ethical hunting practices, survival techniques and stories that relate their historical relationship with the land to ensure they know how to both live on, and protect, this important natural resource.

*Clint Jacobs is Anishinaabe from the Walpole Island First Nation – Bkejwanong Territory. He is part of the team of the Walpole Island Heritage Centre's Natural Heritage Program that coordinates numerous initiatives relating to the conservation of Walpole Island First Nation's natural heritage. The Natural Heritage Program aims to connect the Walpole Island community to its unique natural heritage through enhanced appreciation, knowledge and respect by focusing on biodiversity, education, cultural connections, communications, outreach and sustainability. Clint is also the president of the Walpole Island Land Trust – which is a registered charitable organization that aims to protect lands of ecological and cultural significance within the Walpole Island First Nation territory.*

### ***Protecting Species at Risk Fishes through Development of Community Based Management Plans***

Some of the most significant aquatic habitats in southwestern Ontario are found in the Grand Bend and Port Franks areas near the shore of Lake Huron. The Old Ausable Channel (an isolated portion of the Ausable River), and the Port Franks area aquatic ecosystems support diverse warm water fish communities that include three species at risk fishes: Pugnose Shiner, Lake Chubsucker and Grass Pickerel. These aquatic systems provide critical habitat that is typically scarce and fragmented throughout the Canadian range for these fishes.

In 2006 a steering committee comprised of representatives from local agencies, universities and six local residential communities guided a two year planning process to develop a management plan to protect the unique biodiversity of the Old Ausable Channel ecosystem. The successful implementation of this management plan has included: public education events; water quality improvements in conjunction with the local municipality; and a provincially significant wetland designation for the Old Ausable Channel. In consultation with local agencies, organizations, and the community, a similar initiative for the Port Franks area is currently being developed.

The process of management plan development has found that engaging local residents in resource management is critical to successful plan implementation. Long-term implementation of projects recommended in management plans are more achievable through the involvement and commitment of local people.

*Prior to working at the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority (ABCA) in her current position as an Aquatic Biologist, Kari Jean worked at the Grand River Conservation Authority for three years. Mrs. Jean monitored walleye populations and water quality in the Lower Grand River. Since 2005, Kari has conducted monitoring of aquatic species at risk as well as water quality for the implementation of the Ausable River Recovery Strategy. Kari has also worked with the community to protect and enhance aquatic species at risk habitat in Grand Bend and Port Franks.*

### ***The Ontario Reptile and Amphibian Atlas***

Ontario's reptiles and amphibians have declined drastically over the past century, and 75% (18 of 24) of our reptile species are species at-risk. Many reptile and amphibian species rely heavily on aquatic ecosystems, and preserving those habitats is crucial to the conservation of at-risk reptiles and amphibians in Ontario. However, we do not have enough knowledge of local species distributions in Ontario to be able to manage important habitat and direct conservation work. In order to improve our knowledge of reptile and amphibian distribution, Ontario Nature launched an Ontario Reptile and Amphibian Atlas project in the spring of 2009. For this citizen science project to be successful, we need volunteers and organizations to submit observations

of reptiles and amphibians. The information collected by the atlas is urgently needed to inform research, conservation and stewardship efforts for at-risk reptiles and amphibians.

*Joe Crowley has been involved in reptile research and conservation work since 2004, and he is currently the Ontario Reptile and Amphibian Atlas Coordinator at Ontario Nature. He completed a B.Sc. (Hons.) in 2003 at Nipissing University and a M.Sc. in Zoology in 2006 at the University of Guelph. He is an experienced field biologist and has a strong interest in conservation, specifically species at risk and road ecology.*

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### **Lunch (12:00 p.m.)**

**Lambton College Residence Ballroom**

#### ***“One Shot: The River R.A.P.” Video on the St. Clair Remedial Action Plan***

Enjoy your lunchtime meal while viewing a novel communication tool targeted to engage young people! “One Shot: The River R.A.P.” was produced to involve and educate young people about some of the environmental impairments to the St. Clair River, and what Action Plans can and are being put in place to delist the St. Clair River. What was the best way to communicate the message about a R.A.P. to young people? Why not use a rap song? This video is part of an education program delivered by the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority to students in grades 7 to 10 in their watershed. Sponsorship through the Friends of the St. Clair River has made it possible for many schools to see the program for free; the Friends of the St. Clair River also paid for most of the costs to produce the video. A limited number of free copies will be available at the forum.

*Kim Gledhill is a Conservation Education/Community Partnership Technician with the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority and teaches environmental education to elementary and secondary school students. She is also involved with many environmental groups and special events in the watershed.*

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### **Carolinian Canada Coalition 4th Annual General Meeting (12:30 p.m.)**

**Lambton College Residence Ballroom**

**CAROLINIAN  
CANADA  
COALITION**



**Bring your dessert to Carolinian Canada Coalition’s 4th Annual General Meeting!**

You are invited to hear how the Coalition is evolving and how CCC members contribute to protecting biodiversity on the complex south-western Ontario landscape. Director Elections, Financial Report, Program updates and more. Members in good standing are eligible to vote.



### Getting Involved

**Afternoon Concurrent Workshops: Choose 1 of 2 (1:15 p.m.)**

#### ***Social Marketing & Ecotourism – Can a Coastal Trail Enhance Stewardship?*** **(Lambton College Residence Ballroom)**

This workshop will explore innovative ways that trails can be used as stewardship outreach tools to benefit, rather than degrade, sensitive ecosystems. A coastal case study will be presented for discussion, however, participants are encouraged to bring other examples. Using concepts from Community-Based Social Marketing (CBSM) this workshop invites participants to identify barriers and strategies to promote and enhance shoreline stewardship, building on principles established during Forum 2009. The Lake Erie Coastal Stewardship Trail is a proposed network from Essex to Niagara that aims to connect habitat stewardship to trails, recreation, education and tourism through strong volunteer action. To date, the project has drawn enthusiastic interest from groups and individuals, many of whom are new to the conservation field. Currently in the early planning stages, the stewardship focus will be on Species At Risk, coastal processes, migratory corridors, current threats and other topics to be identified by stakeholders.

*Megan Ibrig joined the Carolinian Canada Coalition as the Coastal Program Coordinator in 2009. In this position she is coordinating the development of a plan for a Lake Erie Coastal Trail and guide. Growing up in a yard full of sragbark hickories and swimming as often as possible in nearby Lake Erie, she is particularly happy in this position.*

#### ***Establishing an Aquatic Protected Areas Network*** **(Lambton College Residence Room LI300)**

Aquatic ecosystems and species are among the most threatened in the world and yet their protection lags far behind terrestrial efforts. While Ontario was the first jurisdiction in Canada to create an ‘underwater’ Provincial Park decades ago, it has since lagged far behind in the protection of aquatic ecosystems. New provincial protected areas legislation, the Canada Ontario Agreement on the Great Lakes and Canada’s National Marine Conservation Areas program all provide tools for protection. The policy framework exists, now it’s up to us to get to work on creating an Aquatic Protected Areas System in Ontario.

*Dave Pearce has been CPAWS Wildlands League’s Forest Conservation Analyst since 2003. As part of Wildlands League’s outreach he gives talks on Ontario’s boreal forest, caribou, Polar Bears and most recently, Aquatic Protected Areas. He also works to improve forest management and supports the Wildlands League with natural history information. Dave is researcher and co-author of a number of Wildlands League publications including, Caribou- Holding the Line in Northeastern Ontario.*

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### Health Break and Displays (2:30 p.m.)

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#### **The Green Economy & Climate Change (2:50 p.m.)**

**Lambton College Residence Ballroom**

Explore challenges and opportunities for watershed and biodiversity conservation emerging in response to climate change and green economy policy.

## ***Re-casting a Vision for a Biodiversity Strategy for Ontario***

We can be proud that Canada was the first industrialized country to become a signatory of the international Convention on Biological Diversity after the Rio summit in 1992. Almost every country on Earth has formally pledged its support for this international effort.

These countries jointly set the goal for themselves “to achieve a significant reduction of the current rate of biodiversity loss” by 2010. Unfortunately, this goal will not be met by any country, according to the United Nations. A renewed effort is unequivocally needed.

The Ontario government started down the right path in 2005 by creating a five-year biodiversity strategy. Other advances were made, including putting in place better laws for protecting our provincial parks and species at risk. Recently this initiative has stumbled and lost momentum.

This presentation will examine the state of the government’s biodiversity strategy and program. It will discuss what has happened to date and examine what lessons could be learned. Finally it will consider where we should go from here in order to change our trajectory and reverse the rate of biodiversity loss.

*Gord Miller was first sworn in as the Environmental Commissioner of Ontario on January 31, 2000, to oversee the continued implementation of the Environmental Bill of Rights (EBR). As an independent officer appointed by the Legislative Assembly, Commissioner Miller oversees 14 ministries and monitors and reports annually on:*

- *Government compliance with the provisions of the EBR*
- *Government progress on reducing greenhouse gas emissions*
- *Activities in Ontario to reduce the use or make more efficient use of electricity, natural gas, propane, oil and transportation fuels.*

*Prior to his appointment as Environmental Commissioner on January 31, 2000, Gord Miller worked as a scientist in pollution abatement and in environmental education and training. As Environmental Commissioner, Gord Miller has released eleven annual reports, seven special reports and one Annual Greenhouse Gas Progress Report to the Ontario Legislature.*

## ***North America’s First Renewable Energy Feed in Tariff: Understanding and Benefiting from Ontario’s New Green Energy Act***

While Ontario has a long history of renewable energy, it has relished its abundance of hydro power from Niagara Falls for generations and has only recently endeavored to enter the 21st century renewable energy market. Ontario’s recently adopted Green Energy and Green Economy Act targets growth in renewable energy generation and enhances energy conservation efforts in order to deliver on a pledge to shut down all coal fired power plants by 2015. As part of this larger plan, Ontario’s short lived Renewable Energy Standard Offer Program (RESOP) has been replaced by a much more robust and thorough Feed in Tariff (FIT). The program includes a simplified permitting system, standard grid connection costing and a local procurement mechanism to encourage investments in the local manufacturing sector. The new program launched in the fall of 2009, and project proponents lined up to submit proposals for the first round of contracts. The first six months will be a time of learning, problem solving and explosive growth in renewable energy in Ontario. As architects of the Green Energy Act, the Green Energy Act Alliance will continue to provide recommendations, criticisms and support as the Act is implemented. Environmental Defence was a founding member of the Ontario Green Energy Act Alliance, a coalition of leading environmental groups, renewable energy industry associations, labour unions and farmers working together to make Ontario a global leader in green energy development through the use of renewable energy, distributed energy and conservation. This presentation will provide insight into the Green Energy Act and the Feed In Tariff program, including a focus on new regulations for siting renewable energy projects.

## Stewarding Carolinian Coasts - Friday May 28

*Mike Layton is Deputy Outreach Director at Environmental Defence, where he has worked since 2006. Environmental Defence is a national environmental charity that fights to protect the environmental and human health from exposure to toxic chemicals and reduce Canada's contributions to climate change. Mike is responsible for programs relating to water and green energy. Through his role, he has coordinated the Green Energy Act Alliance, a coalition to promote renewable energy and conservation in Ontario. This work resulted in passage of the Green Energy and Green Economy Act, legislation that forms the basis for North America's first comprehensive Feed In Tariff for renewable energy. He was the lead researcher for Environmental Defence's report "Greening Canada's Buildings: Report Card" which developed a framework for evaluating elements of federal and provincial policies relating to the environmental impact of buildings in Canada.*

### ***Alternative Land Use Services (ALUS): Market Pressures to Market-Based Solutions for Climate Change and Ontario's Green Economy***

Conversion to crop and pasturelands is a visible reminder of the impact of market pressures on natural capital. Less visible features of market influences are enhanced energy use and greenhouse gas emissions, losses of biodiversity, and impacts on life support processes and resources, including water. As more natural capital is converted into commodity production, ecological goods and services (EGS), and benefits to society decline.

ALUS considers market failure as the systemic source of natural capital losses on farmlands. Farmers are only paid for food, fibre and biofuels. Since ecological services produce common-property goods, such as clean air, water and biodiversity, these services have no market value at the farm gate.

Explosive growth and climate change are creating pressing needs to find new solutions for biodiversity and water conservation, and climate adaptation in Ontario. ALUS harnesses the skills of agricultural producers to provide front-line, environmental solutions from their land.

The concepts of natural capital and EGS provide an economic context and language for conservation, and an entry point for market based solutions. ALUS proposes a new relationship between farmers and society, where natural capital is restored and enhanced using producer skills in return for annual payments.

ALUS is designed to link the buyers and sellers of EGS directly. Rural communities would plan, manage and deliver EGS under ALUS including carbon sequestration, water quality, biodiversity and species at risk, among others. EGS produced on farmlands will be packaged as high quality ecological credits and offered to a range of potential markets.

Under ALUS, environmental threats and risks to farming will be converted to economic assets and new opportunities for the environment in a greener economy. As Ontario's green economy grows, ALUS will connect people, policies and processes in a new market-based solution for the environment on farmlands.

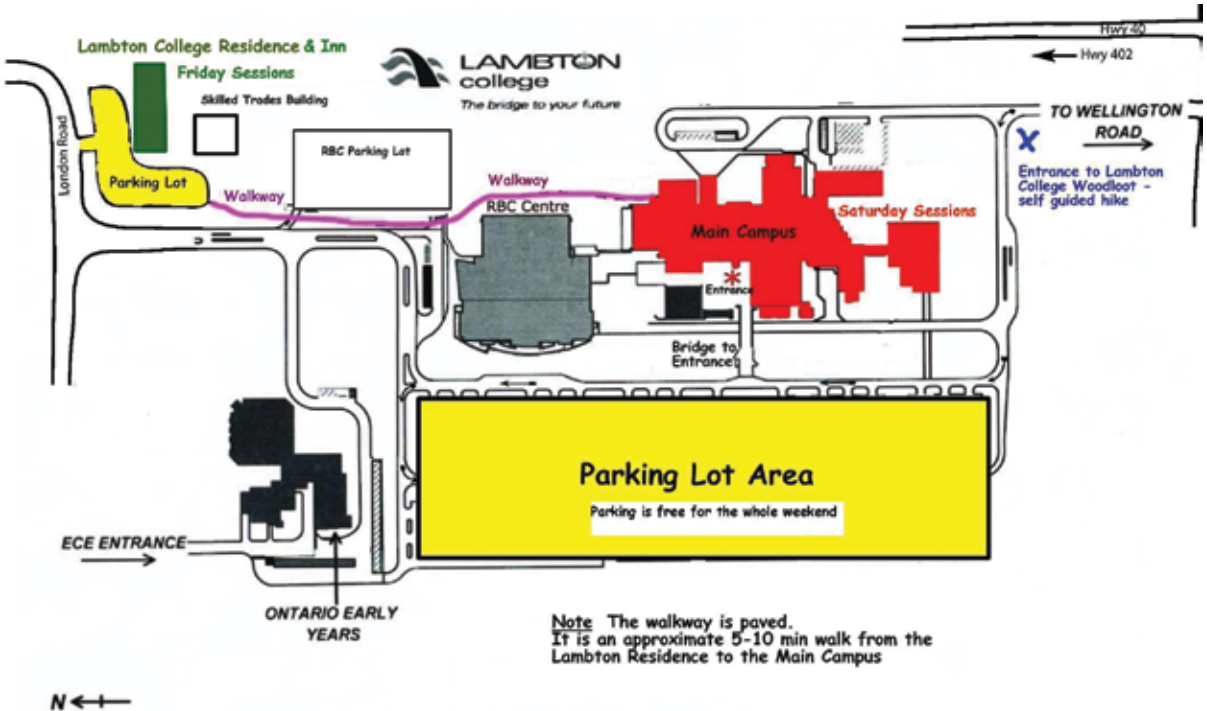
*As a professional "agent of change" Dr. Bailey has a wide range of public and private sector experience in providing strategic services to organizations with environmental and natural resource conservation missions. As Executive Vice President at the Delta Waterfowl Foundation, he has been working with several colleagues for the past 9 years to develop and implement the Alternative Land Use Services (ALUS) concept. Dr. Bailey leads a national strategy team of ALUS advocates for community-led and producer delivered ecological service delivery. The present challenge is to find market-based solutions to finance the growth and development of ecological goods and services under ALUS across Canada. Dr. Bailey was raised on a farm in rural Quebec and received his PhD from the Faculty of Agriculture, McGill University.*

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## Wrap Up

Dr. Gordon Nelson, Chair, Carolinian Canada Coalition

# Lambton College Campus Map



## Activities in Sarnia

**1. Kinsmen Centre**  
656 Lakeshore Rd.

**2. Canatara Park**  
Entrance is at the corner of Cathcart Blvd & Christina St. N.

**3. Duc D'Orleans II Cruise Boat**  
297 Front St. N.

**4. Urban Nature Centre**  
184 Christina St. N.

**5. Lambton College**  
1457 London Rd



**Lambton College Residence**  
1485 London Rd

**6. Wawanosh Wetlands**  
West side of Blackwell Sd. Rd.  
just north of the 402

**7. Holiday Inn**  
1498 Venetian Blvd.

**8. Harbourfront Inn**  
505 Harbour Rd.

# EXPLORING OUR WATERSHEDS

LAMBTON COLLEGE (1457 London Rd., SARNIA ON)

Ontario Nature's 79<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting &  
Carolinian Canada Coalition's 2010 Forum & 4<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting  
*Visit Lambton's World Class Natural Areas in Carolinian Canada*

## DAY 1 - STEWARDING CAROLINIAN COASTS

**Friday May 28, 2010** [Lambton College Residence Ballroom, 1485 London Rd.]

8:00

**Registration, Networking & Continental Breakfast**

**WELCOME** Mayor Mike Bradley of Sarnia; Caroline Schultz, Ontario Nature; Dr. Gordon Nelson, Carolinian Canada Coalition

9:00

### Coastal Greenways & the Big Picture in Carolinian Canada

Hear overviews & local case studies to examine the vision, status & hurdles of the major landscape-scale habitat programs & their vital role in water conservation

Stewarding Carolinian Coasts & Biodiversity Hotspots  
Ontario Nature Greenway Program – The Green Way Forward  
St. Clair River Remedial Action Plan (RAP)

Michelle Kanter, Carolinian Canada Coalition  
Amber Cowie, Ontario Nature  
Krisina Lee, St. Clair River RAP's Binational Public Advisory Committee

10:30

### Health Break / Displays

10:50

### Species at Risk in Aquatic Ecosystems & Watersheds

Discover the significance of aquatic ecosystems in southern Ontario's Biodiversity

Protecting Fishes At Risk through Conservation Legacy  
Community Based Management Plans  
The Ontario Reptile & Amphibian Atlas

Clint Jacobs, Walpole Island First Nation  
Karl Jean, Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority  
Joe Crowley, Ontario Nature

12:00

**LUNCH [Video "One Shot: The River R.A.P."]** Kim Giedhill, St. Clair Region Conservation Authority

12:30

**CAROLINIAN CANADA COALITION 4<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING [Ballroom]**

1:15

### Getting Involved [Concurrent Workshops]

1. Social Marketing & Ecotourism: Can a Coastal Trail Enhance Stewardship?  
2. Establishing an Aquatic Protected Areas Network

Megan Ihrig, Carolinian Canada Coalition [Ballroom]  
Dave Pearce, CPAWS-Wildlands League [Room L1300]

2:30

### Health Break / Displays

2:50

### The Green Economy & Climate Change

Explore challenges/opportunities for watershed and biodiversity conservation emerging in response to climate change and green energy policy

Re-casting a Vision for a Biodiversity Strategy for Ontario  
North America's First Renewable Energy Feed in Tariff:  
Understanding and Benefitting from Ontario's New Green Energy Act  
Alternative Land Use Services (ALUS): Market Pressures to Market-Based  
Solutions for Climate Change and Ontario's Green Economy

Gord Miller, Environmental Commissioner of Ontario  
Mike Layton, Environmental Defense

Dr. Robert Bailey, Delta Waterfowl Foundation

Wrap-up

Dr. Gordon Nelson, Chair, Carolinian Canada Coalition

5:00

**LOCAL WATERS BANQUET [LAMBTON COUNTY NATURAL HERITAGE VIDEO FROM LAMBTON WILDLIFE INC.]**

6:00

~ CAROLINIAN CANADA CONSERVATION AWARDS ~

7:30

**Duc D'Orleans II Cruise on the St. Clair River** [297 Front St. Sarnia ON] *(Buses leave Lambton College Residence @ 7pm)*

Learn about the many uses of this critical waterway on this 2 hr cruise with local experts Darrell Randell & Archie Kerr, world music and cash bar  
"Migration of the Monarchs – A concert that knows no boundaries" [Jarmo Jalava, Jimi Doney & Charty Garcia] *(Return buses leave dock @ 9:45pm)*

# Day 2 – Exploring Lambton's Waters

## Saturday May 29, 2010 [Lambton College 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor]

**7:00 Early Morning Walks – Guided Hike:** Howard Watson Nature Trail (Bus leaves Lambton College Residence @ 7am, Returns 8:15am)  
Self-guided: Wawanosh Wetlands or Lambton College Woodlot (see maps for locations)

**8:00 Hot Breakfast, Registration, Networking & Refreshments (Lambton College 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor)**

**8:45 WELCOME** [Lambton College Theatre A223]

“Healthy Watersheds” – Rick Battson, St. Clair Region Conservation Authority

*Buses for Full Day Field Trips Depart from Lambton College (Bridge Entrance)*

**9:30 Getting the Big Picture – Highlights from Friday**

**Health Break**

**Wild Neighbours [Concurrent Sessions]**

Get to know the fascinating wildlife of Lambton County, an ecologically diverse and species-rich municipality

1. Wonders of the Sydenham River  
Muriel Andraea, St. Clair Region Conservation Authority [A223]
2. Birding the Samia to Grand Bend Corridor  
Sarah Rupert, Point Pelee National Park [A210]
3. Damsels and Dragons  
Alistair Mackenzie, Pinery Provincial Park [A209]

**Wild Places [Concurrent Sessions]**

Find out how local action is restoring critical aquatic habitat

1. Wetland Restoration & Protection: St. Clair River AOC  
Darrell Randell, Ducks Unlimited [A223]
2. Just how pristine is the St. Clair River?  
Tim Moran, Pollutech [A210]
3. Establishing Ribbons of Green along Ontario's Waterways  
Kate Monk, Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority [A209]

**12:00 LUNCH** [BBQ in the courtyard beside 1<sup>st</sup> floor cafeteria @ Lambton College]

**1:00 Getting Your Feet Wet [Concurrent Sessions]** (Buses leave from Lambton College Bridge Entrance @ 1pm)  
Venture into the community to work with local experts in recreation, creativity, landscaping and habitat restoration

1. Natural Area Highlights Bus Trip  
Brenda Lorenz
2. Geocaching @ Wawanosh Wetlands  
Sharon Nethercott, St. Clair Region Conservation Authority
3. Wood Carving @ Kinsmen Centre  
Triple C Woodcarvers
4. Naturalized Landscaping & Art @ Urban Nature Centre  
Lorraine Johnson & Shawn McKnight
5. Reptiles & Amphibians @ Dow Wetlands  
Joe Crowley & Melissa Levi

**4:00 ONTARIO NATURE 79<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & AWARDS** [Lambton College Theatre A223]

**6:00 ONTARIO NATURE WINE & CHEESE RECEPTION** [Lambton College Residence Ballroom]

**7:00 LOCAL FIELDS BANQUET & LIVE & SILENT AUCTIONS** [Lambton College Residence Ballroom]

“Navigating through the Biodiversity of Canada's Stream Corridors: A Personal Voyage”  
**JACK IMHOF**, National Biologist, Trout Unlimited Canada [Lambton College Residence Ballroom]  
Hear keynote speaker Jack Imhof, a distinguished ecologist, talk of the rich diversity of southern Ontario's rivers.

# DAY 3 – CAROLINIAN CANADA WATERSHEDS

**Sunday May 30, 2010** [Canatara Park Pavilion] (Park entrance @ Cathcart Blvd. & Christina St. N)

**Hot Breakfast in the Park**

**8:00**

**9:00-Noon**

**Half Day Field Trips [Concurrent Sessions with boxed lunches included]** (Self-transportation to sites required)

1. Bickford Line Conservation and Restoration Sites  
Carolinian Canada Big Picture Core Habitat
2. Port Franks Natural Areas  
Carolinian Canada Signature Site & Biodiversity Hotspot
3. Ausable River Valley  
Carolinian Canada Signature Site & Biodiversity Hotspot
4. Samia's Fabulous Canatara Park  
Local birding hotspot and variety of Carolinian landscapes

**SATURDAY**

**FULL DAY**

**FIELD TRIPS**

**BUS DEPARTS 9:20 A.M. FROM LAMBTON COLLEGE [BRIDGE ENTRANCE]**

**[OPTION 1]**

**WALPOLE ISLAND [TRADITIONAL LUNCH]**

**[OPTION 2]**

**KARNER BLUE SANCTUARY & PINERY PROVINCIAL PARK [CATERED LUNCH]**

**BUS RETURNS 3:45 P.M.**

# Activities in Sarnia

**Kinsmen Centre**



**Duc D'Orleans II Cruise Boat**  
(behind the Hazlitt and Steeves building)



**Canatara Park**

- At you enter the park continue driving West along Cathcart (do not take the first right turn) and you will come to a parking lot and the children's farm. The Pavilion is in this area.



**Wawanosh Wetlands**



**Holiday Inn** (see "F" in map below)  
**Harbourfront Inn** (see "A" in map below)



**Lambton College** (see green "X" on map below)  
**Lambton Residence** (see red "X" on map below)

**\*Note**

There are 2 entrances to Lambton College off of London Rd. The eastern most entrance (closest to Modeland Rd) will get you into the Lambton College Residence Parking lot.

It is only a 5-10 min walk from the Residence to the College on a paved walkway.

**Urban Nature Centre**



## **Local Waters Banquet (5:00 p.m.)**

### **Lambton College Residence Ballroom**

Enjoy an offering of delicious local cuisine while viewing a video on the natural heritage of Lambton County from Lambton Wildlife Inc.

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## **Carolinian Canada Conservation Awards (6:00 p.m.)**

Honour the individual and group conservation efforts selected as Carolinian Canada Conservation Award recipients for 2010.

### **Carolinian Canada Conservation Award Recipients 2009-2010**

#### ***Category: INDIVIDUAL***

##### **Wayne & Lynda Buck**

Wayne Buck is a quiet leader who has a very kind heart and a drive to help people learn about natural resources and to help them take action with propagating and growing native plants. He runs a native plant nursery with his family but dedicates much of his time to mentoring young professionals and visiting schools to help them grow trees and native plants in the classroom, and work on naturalizing their school grounds. Lynda is Wayne's support structure and often right in there with him working at cleaning seed, doing bookwork or other tasks.

##### **Doug Dennis**

In a quiet and unassuming way Doug Dennis has committed his life to the careful management of 400 acres of mixed woodland near Vienna in Elgin County. The Otter River Farm has steep ravines with exceptionally high-quality woodland that stretches for two miles along Big Otter Creek. Doug has nurtured mature forest habitat important to bird and other animal species-at-risk. There can be no greater champion of forest stewardship across Carolinian Canada's landscape than Doug Dennis.

#### ***Category: GROUP***

##### **Thames Talbot Land Trust**

Protecting our legacy for future generations, the Thames Talbot Land Trust's objective is to protect lands and waters of ecological, agricultural, and cultural value through land securement, landscape restoration and education. The Trust aims to play a pivotal role in conserving and restoring the diverse Carolinian landscape. Since 2000, this group has conserved 270 hectares (665 acres) through land donation, purchase and conservation easement.

##### **Ontario Nature**

Since it was established as the Federation of Ontario Naturalists in 1931, Ontario Nature has been a champion for nature in Ontario. From spearheading the creation of a wilderness area in Algonquin Park in 1934 to working tirelessly for the creation of the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan in 2001; publishing science-based research for scholars and education materials for young naturalists; advocating for Ontario's original Endangered Species Act in 1971 to pushing for its timely revision in 2007, Ontario Nature has been at the forefront of

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## Stewarding Carolinian Coasts - Friday May 28

the conservation movement in this province. Today, Ontario Nature's voice is sustained by a Nature Network of more than 140 member organizations and 30,000 members and supporters.

### **Category: YOUTH**

#### **Bkejwanong Eco-Keepers**

Bkejwanong Eco-Keepers is a summer youth work experience program, which aims to provide Walpole Island youth with practical experience and skills in a wide range of career opportunities in the Natural Heritage and Environmental Fields, while allowing them to learn traditional and local aboriginal knowledge. The Program has just completed its second year with great success and is hoping to expand on its accomplishments.

### **Category: LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT**

#### **Stew Hilts**

Stew Hilts has been working in the conservation sector for over 35 years, based as a professor at the University of Guelph. He has played a leadership role in the development of many innovative stewardship programs including Carolinian Canada, the Centre for Land and Water Stewardship, the Environmental Sciences program at the University of Guelph, the Latonnell Conservation Symposium, the Ontario Land Trust Alliance, the National Conference on Stewardship and Conservation, the Young Conservation Professionals program and the Ontario Farmland Trust. The scope and influence of his achievements have been exceptional. The number of students, organizations, conservation leaders and individual landowners he has influenced is great.

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## **Duc O'Orleans II Cruise on the St. Clair River (7:30 p.m.)**

*297 Front St., Sarnia - Buses will be leaving from the Lambton College Residence at 7:00pm to go to the cruise. The boat leaves the dock at 7:30pm.*

Learn about the many uses of this critical waterway on this 2 hour cruise with local experts Darrell Randell & Archie Kerr.

*"Migration of the Monarchs – A concert that knows no boundaries" Charly Garcia, Jarmo Jalava & Jimi Doney. Songwriter and ecologist Jarmo Jalava is touring Ontario with two superb, established jazz musicians from Mexico: Jimi Doney (percussion) and Charly Garcia (flute, saxophone). With influences that trace the path of Monarch butterflies (folk, Appalachia, blues, New Age, indigenous chant, Latin, roots rock), much of Jarmo's music is inspired by the peoples and landscapes of central Mexico and the Lake Huron coast. World music reviewer Charles Foran (National Post) wrote: "Jarmo Jalava writes songs rich in whimsy and wonder. Think of Bruce Cockburn's crisp melodicism and Daniel Lanois's low-burn intensity....Jalava has edge, intelligence, heart and soul."*

Cash Bar.

*Cruise Information for participants not leaving from Lambton College Residence: The Duc D'Orleans II docks at 297 Front St. If you are coming from the 402 get off at the Front St. exit and head south (right). It is just past Centennial Park behind the Hazlitt and Steeves building. Coming from the south, take Vidal St. which becomes Brock St. Turn left at George St. and go to Front St. Turn right and the boat is on your left at the Hazlitt building.*

*The boat will return to the dock at 9:30 p.m. Buses will leave the boat dock at 9:45 p.m. to return participants to the Lambton College Residence at the end of the cruise.*

# Exploring Lambton's Waters

## Saturday May 29, 2010

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### Important Information on Field Trips and Workshops

1. During all Field Trips, Guided and Non-Guided Hikes, and Outdoor Workshops please WEAR LONG PANTS AND CLOSED TOE SHOES.
  2. Remember to bring water, sunscreen, a hat and to please dress for the weather.
  3. All field trips and workshops have a difficulty rating of EASY, except for the Ausable River Valley trip, which has a difficulty rating of MODERATE due to some elevation climbs. Please keep these ratings in mind while making your field trip and workshop selections.
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### Early Morning Walks

#### ***Guided Hike: Howard Watson Nature Trail***

Bus leaves from the Lambton College Residence @ 7:00 a.m. and returns to the Lambton College Residence @ 8:15 a.m.

#### ***Self-guided Hike: Wawanosh Wetlands or Lambton College Woodlot***

The Lambton College Woodlot trail starts on the south side of Lambton College. Wawanosh Wetlands are a short drive away. See maps on page 13 for locations.

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### Registration, Networking & Hot Breakfast (8:00 a.m.)

Lambton College, 2nd Floor, Corridor A, 1457 London Rd., Sarnia

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### Welcome (8:45 a.m.)

Lambton College Theatre A223

### ***Healthy Watersheds***

Rick Battson, St. Clair Region Conservation Authority

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### Field Trips & Workshops

#### ***Choose***

#### ***A) 1 of 2 full-day field trips***

(Buses leave Lambton College Bridge Entrance at 9:20 a.m., lunch provided) OR

#### ***B) 1 of 5 half-day afternoon workshops with concurrent morning speaker session.***

(Morning speaker sessions @ Lambton College, lunch in the courtyard @ Lambton College, buses leave Lambton College Bridge Entrance for afternoon workshops @ 1:00 p.m.)

All field trip and workshop buses will return to Lambton College Bridge Entrance at 3:45 p.m.

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## Exploring Lambton's Waters - Saturday May 29

### Full Day Field Trips (9:20 a.m. – 3:45 p.m.)

Buses leave Lambton College Bridge Entrance at 9:20a.m., lunch provided.

#### **1. Walpole Island Excursion**

This full day outing includes a combination of field trips and indoor presentations so participants can explore the extremely rare habitats of the Walpole Island delta complex, where over 60 species at risk are found, and learn about the work and programs of the Walpole Island Heritage Centre and the First Nations community that calls this amazing place home. Your fee includes transportation, lunch, refreshments and a donation to the Heritage centre.

*Jane Bowles, Clint Jacobs*

#### **2. Pinery Provincial Park and the Karner Blue Sanctuary**

A full day outing that includes tours, presentations and workshops at Pinery Provincial Park (PPP) and the Karner Blue Sanctuary (KBS). Options include birding on the Riverside trail at PPP or a tour of the KBS in the morning (select one), lunch, then a butterfly gardening presentation (by Brenda Kulon) or a watercolour painting workshop (select one) and then a presentation about raptors (with live raptors) by Lynn Eves of the Bluewater Raptor Rehabilitation Centre. Fee includes transportation, lunch, refreshments and a donation to the Friends of Pinery.

*Brenda Kulon, author of The Butterfly Whisperer*

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## Wild Neighbours

### Concurrent Session I: Choose 1 of 3 (10:15 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.)

Get to know the fascinating wildlife of Lambton County, an ecologically diverse and species-rich municipality.

#### **1. Wonders of the Sydenham River**

**(Theatre A223)**

The Sydenham River is nationally significant for hosting 34 species of freshwater mussels, including one of the last reproducing populations in the world of Northern Riffleshells. This talk will review the amazing life cycle of mussels, including their dependency on mudpuppies or healthy native fish populations, and discuss whether the current stewardship and education programs can improve aquatic habitats in this southern Ontario river.

*Muriel Andreae is Senior Biologist at the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority, a member of the Sydenham River Recovery Planning Team and co-chair of the Recovery Team for Aquatic Species at Risk in the Sydenham River.*

#### **2. Back to my Roots - Birding the Sarnia to Grand Bend Corridor**

**(Room A210)**

Sarah learned to birdwatch in and around Sarnia. She will share her knowledge of the birding opportunities in this area, throughout the year - from the spectacular spring songbird migration, to nesting birds in summer, pelagic migration at the Point Edward Lighthouse in the fall and the magic of the St. Clair River for waterfowl in the winter. Take a virtual tour of the region and learn about amazing opportunities it presents.

*Sarah Rupert is the Senior Park Interpreter and Interpretive Program Coordinator at Point Pelee National Park and the Regional Editor for Ontario Christmas Bird Counts.*

### **3. Damsels and Dragons**

**(Room A209)**

Join Alistair to get an introduction to stalking aquatic killers and aerial hawkers by diving head-first into the world of Ontario's Odonates. Dragonflies and Damselflies have cruised the skies for millennia. Isn't it about time you started paying attention to them? This session will introduce you to their life history and provide some tips and tricks for learning more about this fascinating group of insects.

*Alistair MacKenzie is the Natural Heritage Education and Resource Management Supervisor for Pinery Provincial Park.*

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## **Wild Places**

**Concurrent Session II: Choose 1 of 3 (11:15 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.)**

Find out how local action is restoring critical aquatic habitat.

### **1. Wetland Restoration & Protection in the St. Clair River Area of Concern**

**(Theatre A223)**

This discussion will start with the history of the Area of Concern (AOC), define the boundaries of the area, and explain some unique aspects of the St. Clair River landscape including the extremely significant migratory waterfowl staging area of Eastern Lake St. Clair and Walpole Island. This discussion will also cite specific examples of restoration and protection efforts by many different partners.

*Darrell Randell works for Ducks Unlimited Canada, is President of the Friends of the St Clair River, and an elected councillor for St Clair Township, Lambton County.*

### **2. Just How Pristine is the St. Clair River?**

**(Room A210)**

The St. Clair River remains a designated Area of Concern under the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement due to a number of use impairments. This presentation will discuss the historical and present ecological condition of the St. Clair River with emphasis on the recovery of the benthic macroinvertebrate community structure, particularly along the heavily industrialized Canadian shoreline.

*Tim Moran is president and a principal in Pollutech EnviroQuatics Limited and shareholder in Pollutech Group of Companies, responsible for all biological studies conducted by Pollutech. Scott Munro was instrumental in helping to organize this presentation.*

### **3. Establishing Ribbons of Green along Ontario's Waterways**

**(Room A209)**

The land along Ontario's creeks and rivers greatly influences water quality, wildlife habitat and the ability of the watershed to be resilient to climate change. Buffers are more likely to be established and protected if the landowners and community realize benefits from naturalizing these areas. Come and learn about the latest methods of restoring these ribbons of green by planting trees, shrubs and grasses that are beneficial to people, wildlife and water.

*Kate Monk is the Stewardship and Conservation Lands Supervisor at the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority.*

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**BBQ Lunch in the courtyard @ Lambton College (12:00 p.m.)**

## Getting Your Feet Wet

**Concurrent Session III: Choose 1 of 5 (1:00 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.)**

Buses leave from Lambton College Bridge Entrance @ 1 p.m.

Venture into the community to work with local experts in recreation, creativity, landscaping and habitat restoration.

### **1. Natural Areas Highlights Bus Trip**

Join us for a tour of the best natural areas in the Sarnia area. The bus tour will take us to Dennis Rupert Prairie Reserve, Art Teasell Wildlife Refuge, Howard Watson Nature Trail, Dow Wetlands and many other sites of special interest. The guided bus tour will make stops along the way so you can get a closer look at some of the natural heritage features that Sarnia offers for visitors of all types – fin, feather and fur included.

*Brenda Lorenz teaches chemistry and environmental studies at Lambton College in a variety of programs. She is an active volunteer in the community, working with organizations to enhance and restore natural areas in the City.*

### **2. Geocaching @ Wawanosh Wetlands**

Explore Wawanosh Wetlands Conservation Area with a “Geocaching Twist”. Geocaching is a high-tech treasure hunt that uses a global positioning system (GPS) unit to locate a hidden cache (treasure). Walk along the trails of this provincially significant marsh and bring your GPS receiver to discover the excitement of geocaching. A limited number of GPS receivers will be available to borrow. Please note, facilities are rustic: there is a shelter with hydro and water but washroom facilities are latrines.

*Sharon Nethercott is a Conservation Education Coordinator with the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority and has assisted in instructing up to 12,000 students annually in environmental education. She is an avid geocacher, and has developed a curriculum based geocaching program for students in grades 6 to 9.*

### **3. Wood Carving @ Kinsmen Centre**

In this workshop participants will receive an introduction to wood carving by experienced members of the “Triple C Woodcarvers” carving club of Sarnia. Participants will carve their own bird feather, including the burning of the barbs. Name tags and birds will also be carved. The club’s work on display will showcase the members’ work. Note, all supplies will be provided, just bring your creativity!

*Wayne Begarnie, Emily Portelance, Keas Boone & Gerry Clements from Triple C Woodcarvers have been involved with the club for a number of years. Keas is the current president and Wayne is a past president. The Triple C Woodcarvers specialize in various forms of carving including in the round, relief carving, woodburning, bark carving and also painting.*

### **4. Naturalized Landscaping & Art Workshop @ Urban Nature Centre**

Acclaimed author Lorraine Johnson will give a presentation on native plants for the garden and co-lead a tour of two local gardens that have been naturalized with Shawn McKnight, owner of the Urban Nature Centre. Shawn will also demonstrate working with willow to create a wattle fence and other garden structures, which participants will also have the opportunity to create. Meet at the Urban Nature centre, 184 Christina St N (downtown Sarnia).

*Lorraine Johnson is past president of the North American Native Plant Society and author of numerous books on gardening and environmental issues, including 100 Easy-To-Grow Native Plants. Shawn McKnight is the founder of the Downtown Community Native Plant Garden and owner of the Urban Nature Centre. He also works with a team to develop a full-time native plant rescue program for Sarnia-Lambton.*

### **5. Reptiles & Amphibians @ Dow Wetlands**

Ontario Nature has begun work on a new Ontario Herpetofaunal Atlas Program, and will hold a field-based training workshop for anyone interested in learning about Ontario's reptiles and amphibians and the atlas program. A short introduction will provide a brief summary of reptiles at risk in Ontario, the new atlas program and how to get involved. The workshop will consist of a guided hike, during which you will learn how to search for and identify native species of reptiles and amphibians. Come explore one of Lambton County's wetlands!

*Joe Crowley is the Reptile and Amphibian Atlas Project Coordinator for Ontario Nature, and is coordinating a new Ontario herpetofaunal atlas program. He is an experienced field biologist and has a strong interest in conservation biology, specifically species at risk and road ecology. Melissa Levi is a biologist and the leader of the Young Naturalist Program with Lambton Wildlife Inc.*

All field trip buses return to Lambton College Bridge Entrance at 3:45 p.m.

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### **Ontario Nature's 79th Annual General Meeting & Awards (4:00 p.m.)**

**Lambton College Theatre A223**

#### **Ontario Nature Conservation Awards**

Community involvement defines the character and approach of Ontario Nature. With its member groups and individual members, Ontario Nature has made a significant impact on conservation issues in communities across Ontario and continues to build a natural legacy for future generations.

The Ontario Nature Conservation Awards recognize excellence by honouring individuals, groups, government agencies and corporations who have worked to protect nature in Ontario.

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### **Ontario Nature Wine And Cheese Reception (6:00 p.m.)**

**Lambton College Residence Ballroom**

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### **Local Fields Banquet and Auctions (7:00 p.m.)**

**Lambton College Residence Ballroom**

The Live Auction, hosted by Dave Chamberlain, will be held after dinner and items will include: a Robert Bateman bald eagle print, a Nikon birding scope from Pelee Wings, an original oil painting by local artist, Marnie Boldt, a stained glass creation by local artist, Phil Litrenta, Stratford Theatre Tickets to "Kiss Me Kate" including Bed and Breakfast accommodation and an original watercolour painting by Barry Kent-McKay.

The Silent Auction will be open before and during the banquet with many items from popular gift certificates and books to gift baskets, a case of cider and some handmade natural craft items for the garden.

A unique Raffle will be featured for 10 donated trees.

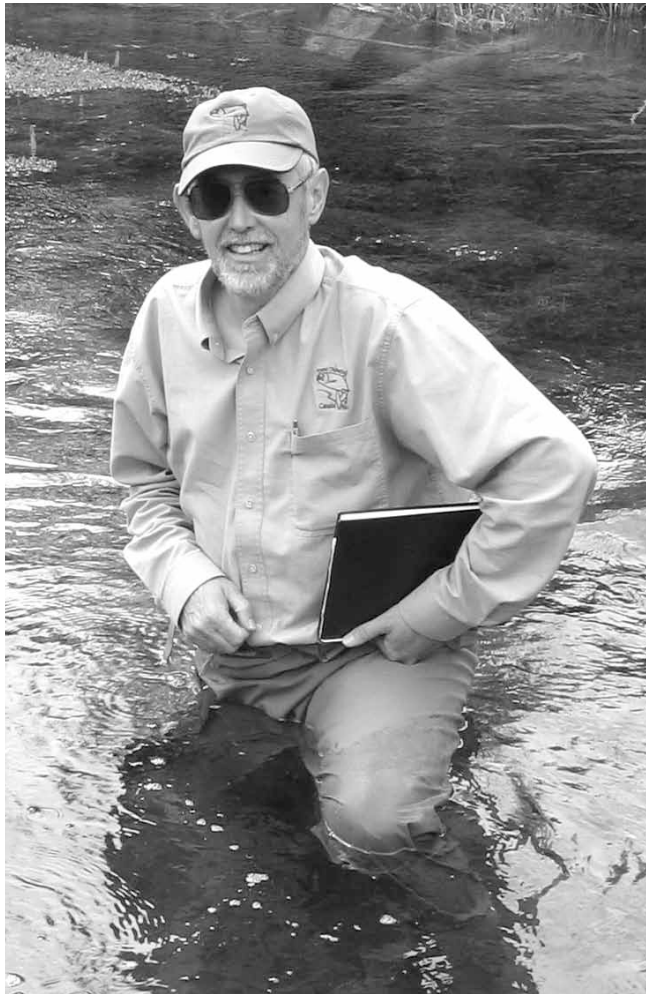
### **KEYNOTE SPEAKER: JACK IMHOF (8:30 p.m.)**

## **Navigating through the Biodiversity of Canada's Stream Corridors: A Personal Voyage**

**Lambton College Residence Ballroom**

Jack has always been drawn to flowing water, even before he became an aquatic ecologist. He has spent a great deal of time tromping through river valleys and streams. Through his personal and professional experiences over the last 40+ years, he has begun to understand what HBN Hynes (the father of modern day flowing water ecology) once expressed, when he said, "a stream is only as healthy as the valley through which it flows". His talk will explore this concept with examples from North America and beyond. Jack will also explore the importance and value of stream corridors as corridors not only of water, but of life and diversity. Jack will present examples of this diversity, and the functions of corridors that create the opportunities for diversity, along with why these corridors are critical to life in Canadian watersheds.

*Jack Imhof is an aquatic ecologist with over 30 years of experience and presently the National Biologist for Trout Unlimited Canada and cross-appointed part-time with OMNR. He is also an adjunct professor at the University of Guelph and an adjunct professor through the Department of Biology at the University of Waterloo. Jack has spent over 35 years of his life working on river and watershed restoration. Jack has received numerous awards for restoration work over the years from the American Fisheries Society, Izaak Walton Flyfishing Club and Ontario Streams, and is one of the co-recipients of the Ontario Amethyst Award for Excellence in Public Service. He is Past-President of the Ontario Chapter of the American Fisheries Society.*



# Carolinian Canada Watersheds

## Sunday May 20, 2010

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### **Hot Breakfast in the Park (8:00 a.m.)**

#### **Canatara Park Pavilion**

Park entrance @ Cathcart Blvd. & Christina St. N., see maps

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### **Half Day Field Trips - Concurrent Sessions (9:00 a.m. - Noon)**

*Choose one of 4 half-day field trips.*

Boxed lunch provided, Self transportation from departure site of Canatara Park required, See maps.

#### ***Bickford Line Conservation Reserve and Restoration Sites***

Here's a great opportunity to view and learn about habitat restoration including prairie plantings, wetland projects and tree and shrub plantings. This field trip will tour four restoration sites including a quick stop at the Bickford Oak Woods Conservation Reserve. Restoration specialists from Ducks Unlimited Canada and the Rural Lambton Stewardship Network will discuss restoration parameters.

*Leaders: Darrell Randell, Jake Lozon*

#### ***Port Franks Forested Dunes and Natural Areas Tour***

Tour the Port Franks Forested Dunes and other unique natural areas with Lambton Wildlife members to learn about the history of protecting these sites and the rare species that live at these amazing properties. Be sure to bring your binoculars to enjoy the songbird spring migration, as the area is part of the Huron Shore Flyway.

*Leaders: Brenda Kulon, Larry Cornelis*

#### ***Ausable River Valley***

This outing will include a visit to the Rock Glen Conservation Area to learn about the local geology (it's a fossil collecting destination) and to view the scenic waterfalls, plus a tour of Joany's Woods (saved by the Thames Talbot Land Trust) to see dragons, ostriches, and witches (oh my)! The Ausable Valley is a Carolinian Canada signature site, an Area of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI) and an Environmentally Significant Area (ESA). It's a very scenic area, so be sure to bring your camera and binoculars!

*Leaders: Tom Chatterton, Stan Caveney*

#### ***Sarnia's Fabulous Canatara Park***

A walking tour of Canatara Park includes Carolinian forest habitat (Tarzanland), tallgrass prairie planting, Lake Chipican and the beaches of Lake Huron. Enjoy the morning chorus of songbirds as we take a relaxing nature tour of this fabulous park.

*Leaders: Brenda Lorenz, Gerry Clements, Sarah Rupert*

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## **Thank you for attending Exploring Our Watersheds Forum 2010!**

# Notes & Contacts

# After Hours Fun in Sarnia



**1. On The Front**  
201 Front St. N.  
519-332-4455



**3. Ups N' Downs**  
226 Front St. N.  
519-336-0337



**6. Limbo Lounge**  
196 Christina St.  
519-344-6097



**5. Blackwater Cafe**  
170 Christina St. N.  
519-337-9056



**4. Lola's**  
110 Christina St. S.  
519-336-8088



**7. Point Edward Casino**  
2000 Venetian Blvd  
519-383-7770





**\$4,000 “Clean Water” Sponsor**



**\$2,500 “Conservation Champion Sponsors**



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GENERATION**

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**\$500 “Celebrate Biodiversity” Sponsors**



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