

MUSKOKA
STEWARDSHIP
CONFERENCE

YOUR WATERSHED:
CONNECTING
THE DROPS

PROGRAM



APRIL 26, 2019 | 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM
ACTIVE LIVING CENTRE | HUNTSVILLE

WWW.MUSKOKAWATERSHED.ORG

AGENDA

9:00 AM

Welcome

John Klinck | Muskoka District Chair
Karin Terziano | Huntsville Deputy Mayor

9:15 AM

Opening Remarks

Kevin Trimble | Chair, Muskoka Watershed Council

9:30 AM

Healthy Watersheds 101

Chitra Gowda | Source Water Protection Lead, Conservation Ontario

10:00 AM

The History of Muskoka's Landforms and Resulting Patterns & Functions of our Ecosystems

Dirk Janas | Principal & Senior Ecologist, Palmer

10:30 AM

Break | Sponsored by the Muskoka Lakes Association

11:00 AM

The Watershed as an Ecological Unit

Jack G. Imhof | Aquatic Ecologist & Watershed Scientist

11:45 AM

More Than a Drop in the Bucket: Placing a Value on Watershed Ecosystem Services is Key to Protecting Muskoka's Environment & Economy

Rob Milligan | Chief Strategist, Perimeter Public Affairs

12:30 PM

Lunch | Sponsored by the Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations

1:30 PM

Cumulative Effects - Connecting the Stressors

Neil Hutchinson | Principal Scientist, Hutchinson Environmental Sciences Ltd.

2:15 PM

Clogged Arteries

Bev Wicks | Principal & Senior Ecologist, RiverStone Environmental Solutions Inc.

3:00 PM

Break | Sponsored by Beacon Environmental

3:20 PM

You Asked, We Answered

Various | A series of short presentations to answer common stewardship and environmental questions

4:20 PM

Closing Remarks

Kevin Trimble | Chair, Muskoka Watershed Council

SPEAKERS

CHITRA GOWDA | SOURCE WATER PROTECTION LEAD, CONSERVATION ONTARIO

Chitra Gowda is a water management professional, with 18 years of experience developing and leading programs and projects for the protection, conservation and sustenance of water resources. She holds a B.Sc. and M.Sc. in environmental engineering, and applies practical approaches to solving water issues. Her work includes watershed planning and policy, stormwater management, working with Indigenous communities, communications, and she has authored journal articles. Chitra works at Conservation Ontario managing the Drinking Water Source Protection program, working collaboratively with various stakeholders with an integrated watershed management approach.

DIRK JANAS | PRINCIPAL & SENIOR ECOLOGIST, PALMER

Dirk Janas is a Senior Ecologist with the consulting firm Palmer. His project work includes the characterization and assessment of wetland and terrestrial ecosystems. He has worked for many years in the Muskoka watershed where he has developed an interest in the representation of landforms and their association with our unique natural environment.

JACK G. IMHOF | AQUATIC ECOLOGIST & WATERSHED SCIENTIST

Jack Imhof recently retired as Director of Conservation Ecology for Trout Unlimited Canada (TUC). He is an aquatic ecologist who has spent over 40 years of his life working on river and watershed restoration. Jack specializes in restoration ecology, watershed science and management and natural channel design. He retired in 2010 as a Provincial Aquatic Ecologist and Watershed Research Scientist with MNRF. Jack is an adjunct professor at Brock University and the University of Guelph and helped to develop the Watershed Management Approach in Ontario and more recently helped to develop and teach the Watershed and Stream Rehabilitation Training Program of TUC.

ROB MILLIGAN | CHIEF STRATEGIST, PERIMETER PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Rob Milligan is an award winning sustainable development professional and “policy entrepreneur”. He brings over 35 years of experience working in, and with, provincial government ministries, municipalities, public-private partnerships and related municipal institutions such as school boards and conservation authorities. Rob has served as Chair of the Muskoka Watershed Council, President of the Lake of Bays Heritage Foundation, and as a board member of the Muskoka Conservancy. He has an Honours Bachelor’s Degree in Environmental Studies from the University of Waterloo, is a registered professional planner (RPP) and member of the Canadian Institute of Planners (MCIP).

NEIL HUTCHINSON | PRINCIPAL SCIENTIST, HUTCHINSON ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES LTD.

Neil Hutchinson completed an Honours B.Sc. in Ecology at the University of Guelph in 1978 and completed his Ph.D. in Aquatic Toxicology in 1985. He spent 14 years with the Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks' Dorset Environmental Science Centre and 11 years as the Senior Aquatic Scientist at Gartner Lee Limited before opening his own firm in 2009. Hutchinson Environmental Sciences Ltd. specializes in aquatic science, technical facilitation and peer review services. Their work spans the country from Muskoka to Nunavut. Neil's professional career has focussed on pollutants and stressors of aquatic systems, with a focus extending from geochemical to laboratory to whole-watershed levels of investigation and a specialization in Precambrian Shield systems.

BEV WICKS | PRINCIPAL & SENIOR ECOLOGIST, RIVERSTONE ENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTIONS INC.

Bev was born and raised in Muskoka. She completed an Honours B.Sc. (Agr.) at the University of Guelph, with a focus on aquatics and environmental protection. She completed her masters at the University of Guelph before she relocated to B.C. and worked for the provincial government looking at species ranges and habitat use in species at risk fish. Bev completed a Ph.D. at the University of British Columbia and then she returned to Ontario, where she has been working as an environmental consultant since 2002. Bev has been a member of the Gravenhurst Environmental Advisory Committee for 8 years, providing advice to council on environmental matters.





YOU ASKED, WE ANSWERED

Why are your beech trees dying & why is that important to your watershed?

Barry Davidson | Westwind Forest Stewardship Inc.

How can you help turtles across the road and what other ways you can help?

Kelsey Moxley | Saving Turtles At Risk Today (START) Project

Why should you get involved in the Lake Partner Program?

Emily Shapiera | Federation of Ontario Cottagers Associations

What are microfibers & what are they doing in your watershed?

Cassie Weston | Georgian Bay Forever

How can you help your watershed by reducing your carbon footprint?

Kevin Boyle | The District Municipality of Muskoka

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Hidden Habitat
Hoskin Scientific Ltd.
Mike & Caroline Konarzewski



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