



Waterlogs - June 2021

Today, the Bay of Quinte is a healthy and vibrant ecosystem.
Now, we must focus on keeping it this way

SWIMMABLE, FISHABLE, AND DRINKABLE

The environmental challenges that addressed “swimmable” “fishable” and “drinkable” have been classified as restored.

Swimmable

These days, beaches around the Bay of Quinte are meeting or exceeding the target set out in the RAP, which is Health Unit beach posting days should not exceed 20% of the annual swimming season (Victoria Day to Labour Day). The RAP assessed the data from four beaches that are monitored by the Health Unit - Centennial Park at Deseronto, Kingsford Mills on the Salmon River, Frankford Park on the Trent River and Centennial Park at Northport. The environmental challenge was classified as restored in 2019.

Fishable

The 3 environmental challenges related to fish populations, fish habitat, and the underwater bugs they depend on, all met the scientific criteria necessary to change their status. In 2018, these challenges were classified as restored.

Drinkable

Where does your drinking water come from? It's not the tap.

If you live in one of the urban centres around the Bay of Quinte, your drinking water comes from the Bay or one of its tributaries. Your drinking water must meet Ontario Drinking Water Quality Standards, which are some of the strictest in the world. Ontario takes a multi-faceted approach to drinking water protection. It's a world-class system that safeguards our water from source to tap. This environmental challenge was classified as restored in 2020.

Beautiful

One of the environmental challenges identified for the Bay addresses aesthetics. Generally, the term aesthetic is used to talk about beauty or art, and people's appreciation of beautiful things.

The Bay of Quinte is one of the most picturesque locations in Lake Ontario. The Bay draws area residents and tourists to its shores year-round because of its beauty and tranquility. The shoreline of the Bay has an abundance of trails for people to enjoy whether it's taking a scenic evening stroll, birdwatching, or a leisurely bike ride. As well, it's well-known in the boating community for its secluded inlets and coves. These provide calm waters to moor a boat and enjoy an evening meal and/or watch a stunning sunset.

We are waiting for the official confirmation that degradation of aesthetics has been classified as restored.

This would mean, eight of the original eleven environmental challenges have been deemed restored. The three remaining challenges are in the process of either having final reports compiled or a final analysis of the scientific data. Once all, eleven environmental challenges have completed the formal status change process, the Bay of Quinte can be removed from the Great Lakes Areas of Concern list.

As the RAP starts to wind down, the process of ensuring water quality does not backslide will need to take on a more local focus. Everyone has a role to play in maintaining the Bay's water quality. Whether it's implementing stewardship projects to improve water quality, advocating for water quality issues, volunteering as a citizen scientist, or talking to your local politicians and municipalities about actions to keep the Bay a healthy and vibrant ecosystem. Maintaining water quality is everyone's responsibility.

PHOSPHORUS MANAGEMENT PLAN

Phosphorus Management Plan - Philosophy

1. The goal is to restore and maintain the Bay to a healthy and sustainable condition for the long term by reducing the risk of harmful algae blooms, while maintaining the sustainable fisheries in the Bay.
2. The strategy is to be based on best available science and modelling studies, the best available technology for wastewater and stormwater treatment, and the adoption of long-term stewardship initiatives.
3. The strategy will rely on a watershed based adaptive management approach - review and update of the strategy will be based on advances in Best Management Practices, science, and technology.

The Draft Phosphorus Management Plan Discussion Paper outlines best practices for dealing with phosphorus issues in the future. Review a draft of the Discussion Paper.

BUILD YOUR OWN RAIN GARDEN

**Is your lawn a lazy
just demanding your time and money?**

Time to make it useful! Build a Rain Garden.

Why a Rain Garden? Because it has a job to do.

- Providing habitat for wildlife, such as birds, butterflies, and bees
- Helping protect streams, rivers, and lakes from pollutants carried by stormwater runoff
- Helping protect communities from flooding
- Increasing the amount of water entering the ground, which re-charges aquifers
- Beautifying your yards and neighbourhood



To learn if you are eligible for the \$500. grant and to book your site visit, contact:

Jason Jobin
Bay of Quinte Remedial Action Plan
T: 613-394-3915 ext 225
E: jason.jobin@ltc.on.ca

Our Greening Your Grounds webinar will provide you with help choosing the correct site, and size of garden for your property, to the final stage of selecting native plants that will thrive in your rain garden.

RURAL STEWARDSHIP PROJECTS

FREE Soil Testing

This program provides farmers with:

1. **FREE** Agronomic soil testing with analysis being done by an OMAFRA accredited soil lab.
2. Detailed field maps showing contours (slopes) and areas within the field that are more prone to erode

Cover Crops

This grant covers the purchase of cover crop seed

Grant Rate	Maximum Grant
\$10.00 per acre	up to \$1,000



Book your 2021 site visit, Now!

Jason Jobin
Bay of Quinte Remedial Action Plan
613-394-3915 ext 225
jason.jobin@ltc.on.ca

Bay of Quinte Remedial Action Plan Rural Stewardship Program

• Erosion/Water Quality Improvement Projects

Grant Rate	Maximum Grant
50%	up to \$7,500

• Livestock Fencing

Grant Rate	Maximum Grant
70%	up to \$7,500

• Alternate Watering Systems

Grant Rate	Maximum Grant
70%	up to \$7,500

• Waterway Plantings

Grant Rate	Maximum Grant
100%	up to \$1,000

For more information

Jason Jobin
Bay of Quinte Remedial Action Plan
Lower Trent Conservation
P: 613-394-3915 ext 225
E: jason.jobin@ltc.on.ca

Christine Jennings
Bay of Quinte Remedial Action Plan
Quinte Conservation
P: 613-968-3434 ext 106
E: cjennings@quinteconservation.ca