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For immediate release

Citizen scientists help protect Bay of Quinte wetlands and wildlife.

Every year, the Bay of Quinte Remedial Action Plan (BQRAP) needs volunteer citizen scientists to monitor local wetlands. Naturalist and columnist, Terry Sprague hosts an information session explaining how you can help protect local wetlands and wildlife by collecting information on birds and frogs. This year, the presentation will be a virtual event on Monday, March 7, 2022 at 7:00 pm.

Terry will discuss two programs, the FrogWatch Ontario program, which is a family-friendly activity; and the Marsh Monitoring Program, which is more structured, ideal for the outdoors enthusiast. The FrogWatch Ontario Program records amphibians once a week from April through June and the results are submitted online. The Marsh Monitoring Program records wetland birds and frogs, between May and July. Frogs are monitored three times approximately 15 days apart. Wetland birds are monitored twice for 15 minutes and the monitoring must be at least 10 days apart. Monitoring sites are at a variety of locations like cottages, backyards, or at designated monitoring locations. “The information collected tells us about the presence and abundance of both species in coastal and inland marshes, and contributes to our understanding of these species and their habitat needs.” says Terry.

Ospreys and Eagles are also monitored around the Bay of Quinte. “Ospreys and Eagles are indicators of water quality health. Changes in the number of nesting pairs and number of chicks produced can reflect changes in aquatic ecosystem health”, states Terry.

In the Bay of Quinte, the environmental challenges related to fish and wildlife populations and habitat are classified as restored, under the bay’s remedial action plan. Now, citizen scientists are vitally important as “boots on the ground” focusing on ensuring wetlands and wildlife don’t revert to the conditions that required a remedial action plan in the first place. The information gathered ensures the long-term protection of this area’s wetlands and wildlife.

You can register on Eventbrite at <https://mmpbqrap2022.eventbrite.ca> to receive the presentation link.

Registration closes on Sunday, March 6th at 7:00 pm.

This is a free virtual presentation
For information on this evening presentation.

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