



Waterlogs - January 2022

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

A NEW YEAR'S PRESENT!

The Bay of Quinte Remedial Action Plan (BQRAP) Restoration Council is pleased to announce that another environmental challenge, identified for the Bay of Quinte, has received official confirmation from the federal and provincial governments of a status change to unimpaired. The challenge is: **Degradation of aesthetics**.

How do we define aesthetics for the Bay? In the Remedial Action Plan (RAP), the criteria states: Nearshore surface waters of the Bay of Quinte are free of any substance due to human activity that produces a persistent objectionable deposit, unnatural colour or turbidity or unnatural odour (for instance, oil slick or surface scum).

Monitoring staff from Quinte Conservation and Lower Trent Conservation collected water samples from a total of 215 sites around the Bay. The water samples were evaluated on: clarity, colour, odour and debris. These 4 categories were each assigned a score based on the observed conditions, an overall score above 9 is considered excellent. In 2018 and 2019, the Bay achieved scores of 9.5 and 9.8 (Excellent) respectively.

Now, eight of an original eleven environmental challenges have been deemed restored. The three remaining challenges (**Eutrophication or undesirable algae, Degradation of phytoplankton and zooplankton, and Restrictions on fish and wildlife consumption**) are in the process of either having final reports compiled or a final analysis of the scientific data. After 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.

"These are exciting times for the Bay of Quinte Restoration Council. After several decades of rehabilitation in the Bay, we have changed the status of a number of the environmental challenges. Now, it is important to ensure strategies are in place, so the Bay doesn't revert to conditions that required a remedial action plan originally," says Rhonda Bateman, CAO of Lower Trent Conservation and Co-chair of the BQRAP Restoration Council.

"The Bay of Quinte is a huge economic driver for the area and the source of drinking water for thousands of area residents. Reaching this milestone in rehabilitating the Bay, is a testament to the dedication and hard work of our federal, provincial, and municipal partners, as well as, industry, agriculture, the public, and local conservation authorities," says Brad McNevin, CAO of Quinte Conservation and Co-chair of the BQRAP Restoration Council.

As the RAP starts to wind down, the process of ensuring water quality does not revert, to conditions that required a RAP in the first place, 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.

www.bqrap.ca

In partnership locally with Lower Trent Conservation and Quinte Conservation

GOING GREEN TO SAVE SOME GREEN



"Going Green to save some Green"

Tuesday, February 15 at 7:00 pm

by Carson Arthur
outdoor design & lifestyle expert

FREE WEBINAR

Today's homeowners want to make better choices outdoors, especially when it comes to the environment. Learn about new studies and findings that shed light on the best choices for you to make for your home, your home's value, and the planet. The focus will be on water, energy, and wildlife conservation.

- rain gardens • native plants • pollinators • shade trees

Register for this webinar at: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/243849860497>
Registration is required by Monday, February 14 at 7pm

www.bqrap.ca
E: smidlanejones@bqrap.ca P: 613-394-3915 ext 214

 Bay of Quinte
Remedial Action Plan
Healthy Bay • Healthy Community

"Going Green to save some Green" by Carson Arthur, outdoor design & lifestyle expert
Tuesday, February 15 at 7:00 pm

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Carson Arthur is a landscape designer and television personality with several shows that can be seen all around the world. Throughout his 20-year television career, Carson teaches homeowners how to raise the value of their homes through outdoor renovations while

maintaining a focus on environmentally friendly choices. He is a tv mainstay as part of the North American Cityline team. Carson also writes a column for the Halifax Chronicle Herald, the Sun media group including the Toronto Sun about outdoor design and appears regularly in a variety of magazines with guest articles.

He is the North America outdoor design editor for Outdoor Lifestyle magazine; has a syndicated radio show called 'Take it Outside'; is the spokesperson for Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate; and the author of the sold out book Garden Designs for Outdoor Living and has a new book for 2019 called Vegetables, Chickens and Bees. His credits include; the host of HGTV's Green Force and Critical Listing; the Gemini nominated Room to Grow on Global, ION and the Discovery network; Better Homes and Garden's Home, First Home on the Hallmark Channel in the U.S.; and as the gardening expert on HGTV's blockbusters; Home to Win Season 1 through 4.

PLOT AND PLAN THIS WINTER

"In winter, I plot and plan. In spring, I move."

Henry Rollins

Take site photos this fall.

Over the winter, design and plan your project and complete the application process. In the spring, you will be ready to start implementing your project.

We offer cost-sharing incentives for both rural and urban projects.
<https://www.bqrap.ca/communityprograms/landownerstewardship/>

Rural Stewardship

- Livestock fencing • Riparian buffer zones
- Water quality and erosion projects
- Alternate watering systems • Cover crops

Also, we offer FREE soil testing.

Urban Stewardship

- Rain Gardens

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Winter is a great time to plan next spring's projects. Start with taking site photos this fall, then contact our stewardship technicians for all the details on getting your project planned and ready for spring.

<https://www.bqrap.ca/communityprograms/landownerstewardship/>

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