

Waterlogs - April 2023

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

WATER SOLDIER - WE HAVE A PROBLEM



Water Soldier has been marching its way down the Trent River since 2008, when it was found near the hamlet of Trent River. Now, it has been found in the Bay of Quinte. This invasive species could have devastating consequence for the Bay's ecosystem, fishery, and recreational activities. Potentially, causing hefty financial implications for municipalities and tourism operators.

What has been done to stop the spread of this invader? Since 2008, a number of research and management strategies have been undertaken to better understand the biology and control of this invasive plant. In 2014, federal and provincial agencies and other organizations implemented a control program on the Trent River populations, using a herbicide.



In 2021, the original population found in the Bay was treated with a herbicide in an effort to stop its dispersal throughout the Bay. Unfortunately, during the 2022 summer monitoring season, it was discovered the spread of water Soldier was more extensive than first thought. It was found in several locations along the Bay's north shore. In 2023, the plant has been found further down the bay near Long Reach. If you are out on the water and think you have seen Water Soldier, Please Report It. The more eyes looking for this plant the better chance of finding populations. This field season several agencies will be out on the water monitoring for Water Soldier populations. However, there is limited manpower and resources available, so public input is vital to identifying additional populations of Water Soldier. A management plan is under development for the Bay of Quinte population.



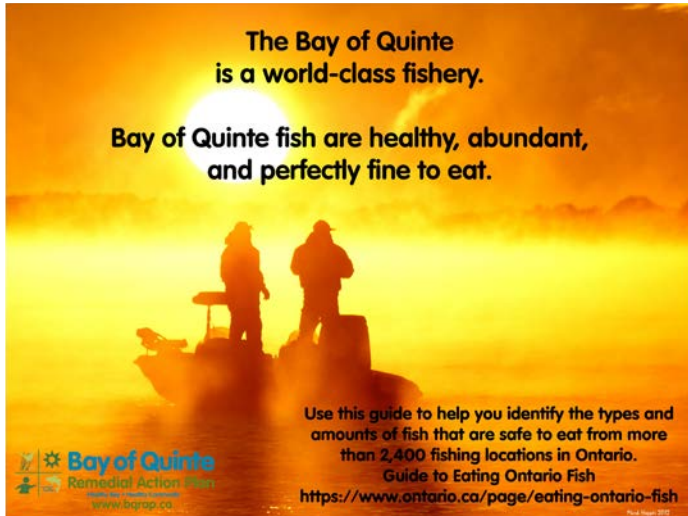
Everyone is asked to report any sightings of Water Soldier to **1-800-563-7711** or visit **EDDMaps Ontario**, or search for the 'Invasive Species in Ontario' project on **iNaturalist.org** to report a sighting.

You can find out more about water soldier at <http://www.invadingspecies.com/invaders/aquatic-plants/water-soldier/>.

www.bqrap.ca

In partnership locally with Lower Trent Conservation and Quinte Conservation

BAY OF QUINTE FISH ARE PERFECTLY FINE TO EAT



You can use the Guide to Eating Ontario Fish and its interactive map to help you identify the types and amounts of fish that are safe to eat from more than 2,400 fishing locations in Ontario including the Bay of Quinte.

Fish can be an important part of a balanced diet. They are a great source of high-quality protein, beneficial omega-3 fats, and other nutrients. At the same time, there is a risk of exposing ourselves and our families to harmful contaminants in fish, such as mercury. Based on their size, type, and location, certain fish may be more suitable to eat than others.

The Guide to Eating Ontario Fish provides easy-to-use information to help choose fish caught from Ontario lakes and rivers to minimize exposure to toxins. Consumption advice in the guide is based on guidelines provided by Health Canada.

Guide to Eating Ontario Fish

BUILD A RAIN GARDEN THIS SPRING

Building a Rain Garden Reduces The Amount of Stormwater Runoff Leaving Your Property.

Stormwater is rain and melted snow that is not able to soak into the ground. As it runs over pavement and rooftops, it picks up a variety of contaminants and transports them through storm drains to the nearest body of water and eventually into the Bay of Quinte. These pollutants may include: pet waste, oil, gasoline, road salt, leaves, and litter.

By creating rain gardens, in urban areas, more stormwater will naturally infiltrate into the ground. Watch our **Greening Your Grounds** webinar to learn how easy it is to build a rain garden.

If you live in Belleville, Trenton, Napanee, Deseronto or Picton you could be eligible for a grant of up to \$750 towards native plants, soil, compost, gravel, mulch, a contractor or rental equipment to establish a functioning rain garden.

You can be part of the long-term solution to improving water quality in the Bay of Quinte by decreasing the volume of contaminated stormwater leaving your property.

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

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2022 BQRAP Rain Garden Program:

Completed Projects

Napanee—Completed in July



Before



After

Picton—Completed in September



Before



After

Belleville—Completed in September



Before



After

Bay of Quinte Remedial Action Plan
Rural Stewardship

LIVESTOCK FENCING

- Install fencing to restrict livestock access to a waterway or wetland.

Grant rate - 75% - maximum up to \$7,500

ALTERNATE WATERING SYSTEMS

- To be eligible for funding, livestock must be fenced out of a waterway or wetland

Grant rate - 75% - maximum up to \$7,500

SHORELINE/WATERWAY PLANTING PROJECTS

- Native plants and materials to help with plant survival (mulch, plant guards, hemp mats) for an area along a shoreline/waterway or wetland

Grant rate - 75% - maximum up to \$1,000

Erosion/Water Quality Improvement Projects

- stream bank stabilization • barnyard runoff control
- manure storage improvements • constructed wetlands
- erosion control structures • storm water management

Grant rate - 75% - maximum up to \$7,500

Free Soil Testing

Knowing what's going on with your soil is the first step in creating high yielding sustainable agriculture.
Book your site visit, Today.

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Cover Crops

We offer a cover crop seed grant of \$30.00 per acre - grant maximum up to \$2,500.

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