

TRENT UNIVERSITY

**PETERBOROUGH/NOGOJIWANONG
ONTARIO**



**TRENT
ECOLOGICAL
RESTORATION
CONFERENCE**

OCTOBER 24-25TH, 2025

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!



**Symons Trust
for Canadian Studies**



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**The Society for
Ecological Restoration**



**Invasive
Species
Centre**

Invasive Species Centre

Without you taking part in
this conference, whether as
a speaker, sponsor and/or
eco-restoration enthusiast
this would not have been
possible!

THANK
YOU!



WELCOME!

In 2020, this decade was announced the decade on ecosystem restoration by the United Nations.

Unfortunately, what followed was the Covid-19 Pandemic, which put a hard pause on organizing and networking around restoration, among other things.

While some events have occurred since, it was our hope with this conference to accelerate ecological restoration in Ontario.

We hope to do this by providing a platform for those of us involved to share lessons with one another for better restoration, facilitate networking between those working on, studying and making policy on restoration, and to connect those growing native plants and collecting seeds with practitioners to help support restoration on a larger scale.

It is our distinct pleasure to be able to host you all to as we work together to restore our earth!



RECOGNIZING THE LAND

As restoration practitioners, it is important for us to acknowledge and recognize that we live and work on lands that were often acquired through dishonesty and deception, and that it is our responsibility to create and maintain meaningful relationships with those who have taken care of these lands and waters since time immemorial as steps in reconciliation.

This conference is taking place on Michi Saagiig Anishinaabe territory, and all of us are parties to the treaties that occupy this space, namely Treaty 20 (1818).

Collaboration between parties to the treaties of this land is essential for successful and sustainable ecological restoration, as active collaboration and sharing is an important step in reconciliation and coexistence with the natural world and with one another.



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

8:15 - 9:00

Welcome, Networking, Coffee

9:00 - 9:45

Opening Plenary - Mary Gartshore

9:50 - 10:50

Speaker Presentations - Session One

10:50 - 11:05

Break - Visit Exhibits, Morning Snack

11:05 - 12:05

Speaker Presentations - Session Two

12:05 - 1:00

Lunch, Visit Exhibits

1:00 - 2:20

Speaker Presentations - Session Three

2:20 - 2:40

Break - Visit Exhibits, Afternoon Snack

2:40 - 3:40

Workshops

3:40 - 4:20

Seed Exchange, Networking, Visit Exhibits

4:20 - 5:10

Closing Plenary - Stephen Murphy
& Conference Wrap-Up

5:30 - 7:00

Optional Post Conference Activities



PLENARY SPEAKERS

ROUND-HEADED BUSHCLOVER ROOM

ENW 114

OPENING



MARY GARTSHORE

**Seed Based Restoration
and Large Scale
Restoration Made Easy**

CLOSING

STEPHEN MURPHY

**‘What's Past is Prologue’ –
Sorting out the Tempest
of Restoration Ecology**





LITTLE BLUESTEM ROOM - ENW 106

SESSION ONE - SEED BASED RESTORATION

Liam Doyle - Dougan Ecology

Effect of seed source on biota interactions

Jennifer Nantais & Samantha Whiteye - Carolinian Canada Coalition

Establishing an Ethical Native Seed Supply in Southern Ontario

Sara May - Beacon Environmental

Seed Forecasting and Collection Programs

SESSION TWO - TALLGRASS PRAIRIE RESTORATION

David Beamer - Tallgrass Ontario

Tallgrass Ontario Projects and Programs

Basil Conlin - Haliburton Micromeadows

Micromeadows: Small Spaces With Big Impacts

Lucy Martin Johnson - Trent University

Biocontrol of Canada Thistle

SESSION THREE - FOREST ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION

Victor Bewsh - Trent University

Impact of Non-Industrial Wood Ash Application on Sugar Maple Regeneration

Tyler Jamieson - Cambium INC.

Restoring Habitat at the Darlington New Nuclear Project Site

Elliott Groen - Ontario Woodlot Association

Challenges & Opportunities for Wood Products to Generate Revenues for Ecological Restoration

Mike McTavish - Rare Charitable Research Reserve

Non-Native Earthworms as Granivores and Seed Dispersers with Implications for Restoration



BUTTONBUSH ROOM - ENW 108

SESSION ONE - RESTORATION OF RIVERS & OPEN WATER SYSTEMS

Cass Stabler - Parks Canada

Ecological Restoration Along the Lakes & Rivers of Ontario Waterways

Meghan Ward - Trent University / MNRF

From Suppression to Smothering: the Unintended Consequences of Restoring Wetlands via Rolling *Phragmites*

Tanya Lemieux - Carleton University

A Perspective on Using Habitat Quality Indicators to Evaluate the Success of Freshwater Habitat Improvements

SESSION TWO - AQUATIC ECOSYSTEMS

Nicholas Weissflog - Trent University

The Naturalization of an Invasive Aquatic Plant and its Possible Implications for Restoration

Laura Wensink - Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority

Connecting Landscape, Connecting People, Connecting Grants

Jess Livingstone - Trent University

Creating A Restoration Plan for Brook Trout Habitat: A Community-Based Approach with Freshwater Conservation Canada

SESSION THREE - RIPARIAN RESTORATION

Jonathan Scholtens & Renee Twyford - McMaster University

Expanding the Eco-Corridor: McMaster University's Watershed Restoration Efforts

Kim Ong - Kawartha Lake Stewards Association

Replanting Native Shorelines with KLSA

Will Chapple - Kawartha Conservation

Integrating Landowner Stewardship and Organizational Collaboration in Private Land Restoration

Lindsay Nash - Quinte Conservation

Quinte Conservation's Experience Engaging With the Community



BITTERNUT HICKORY ROOM - ENW 115

SESSION ONE - POST-INDUSTRIAL RESTORATION & RECLAMATION

Ainsley Taggett - Trent University

The Restoration of Biological Soil Crust on Mine Sites

Daniel Vandeloos - Trent University

Green Alder as a Nurse Plant for Mine Site Restoration

Cara Steele - Abbey Gardens

A Model for Socio-Ecological Restoration in Rural Communities

Peter Beckett - Laurentian University

The Sudbury Seed Collection Program

SESSION TWO - RESTORATION IN URBAN ECOSYSTEMS

Ewa Bednarczuk - Nature Conservancy of Canada

Backyard Ponds & Rain Gardens: Lessons in Urban Habitat Restoration

Rebecca Davis - Greenthumb Growing Kids

Wildness in the City: Restoring Nature in Urban Spaces

Meredith Carter & Candace Clark - Otonabee Region Conservation Authority

Recent Restoration Projects at Otonabee Region Conservation Authority

SESSION THREE - LANDSCAPE-SCALE ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION & PLANNING

Richard Feldman - OMNRF

RestoratiON: A Tool to Identify Priority Restoration Sites in Ontario

Kayla Hale - University of Guelph

Local Interventions to Promote Resilience at Landscape Scales

Colin Cassin - Invasive Species Centre

Early Detection and Rapid Response to Invasive Species
Introductions in Ontario

Kassandra McKeown - Cambium Indigenous Professional Services

Land Relationship Visioning as a Collaborative Tool



BLUE FLAG IRIS ROOM - ENW 117

SESSION ONE - RESTORING ALVARS AND MEADOWS

Vicky Papuga - Canadian Wildlife Federation

Restoring Meadow Habitat in Rights-of-Way

Natasha Hirt - University of Guelph

Monitoring Alvar Pollinators Using a Land-Based Monitoring Approach

Jennifer Gagné - Nature Conservancy of Canada

Managing cedars, cattle, and conservation at Napanee Plain Alvar

SESSION TWO - RESTORATION OF THE TALLGRASS SUITE OF ECOSYSTEMS

Aidan Curran - Nature Conservancy of Canada

The Need for Speed vs The Need for Seed

Kristen Harrison - North-South Environmental

Ecological Restoration in Natural Heritage System Planning

Matt Mair - Northumberland County Forest

Sand Barren Restoration in Northumberland County

SESSION THREE - APPLICATIONS OF ECOLOGICAL THEORY FOR ASSESSING RESTORATION SUCCESS IN TALL GRASS SYSTEMS

Autumn Watkinson - Trent University

Theory-Guided Restoration: Insights from the RESTART Lab

Jason Phoenix - University of Waterloo

Effects of Agricultural Legacies on Tallgrass Prairie Restoration

Graham Buck - Tallgrass Ontario

The Application of Floristic Quality Index (FQI) to Track the Restoration of an Oak Savanna and Woodland Remnant in Brant County, Ontario

Keira McManus - University of Waterloo

Restoration in the Ojibway Prairie: Assessing Success 40 Years After Implementation

WORKSHOPS



LITTLE BLUESTEM ROOM ENW 106

Andrea D'Silva - Swallowtail Native Plants

Germination Codes: Methods for Local Ecotype
Sedge Species



BUTTONBUSH ROOM ENW 108

Ali Giroux - Trent University

Restoration SOS – A Plantations Plea for Help

WORKSHOPS



BITTERNUT HICKORY ROOM

ENW 115

Josh Noiseux - Evermeadow

Shared Ground: Seeing Opportunity at the
Interface of Agriculture and Ecology



BLUE FLAG IRIS ROOM

ENW 117

Dylan Radcliffe - Steward's Notes

Civil Engineering Skills for Restoration

OUTSIDE OF ENWAYAANG

MEET AT REGISTRATION

**Karlotta Grasse and Radek Odolczyk -
Alderville Black Oak Savanna**

Igniting the Restoration of Terrestrial Ecosystems -
The Principals of Planning a Prescribed Burn

EXHIBITORS



SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES



NORTHUMBERLAND
LAND TRUST



CENTRE FOR COMMUNITY-BASED RESEARCH



Swallowtail
NATIVE PLANTS

EXHIBITORS



NATURAL THEMES
— Native Plant Nursery —



MINNOW



KAWARTHA LAND TRUST

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE



Nick Weissflog



Sammy Tangir



Sarah Kotsopoulos



Tom Whillans

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE



Jess Livingstone



Calum Palmer



Keira McManus

Visit our website for more information about all speakers, exhibitors, workshop hosts, and organizers involved in this event!

SCAN ME



NOTES

NOTES

**THANK YOU FOR
ATTENDING THE
2025 TRENT ECOLOGICAL
RESTORATION CONFERENCE!**

**WE HOPE TO SEE YOU
NEXT YEAR!**



@trentecore Restoration Conference



trentrestorationconference@gmail.com



www.trentrestorationconference.ca

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your thoughts!**

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