



2 RIVERS FESTIVAL

May & June 2019 Festival Guide

25 FREE Events Celebrating our Speed and Eramosa Rivers



A project of wellington *Water*watchers



We humbly acknowledge and send our gratitude to the original ancestors of the territory through which the Speed and Eramosa Rivers course. The territories include the Haudenosaunee (Iroquois), Ojibway/Chipewewa, and Anishinabek, in addition to the Attawandaron neutral peoples. We'd like to recognize the enduring presence of Aboriginal peoples on this land and the history of the First Nations peoples and neighbouring First Nation, Métis and Inuit peoples. Today there are a wide number of Indigenous peoples who call this territory home under the Haldimand Tract Treaty with the Mississaugas of the New Credit.

We want to express solidarity with the 18 Indigenous communities affected by the Line 9 project, in addition to the First Nations communities in Ontario currently under drinking water advisories.

We send our gratitude to the ancestors of this place who were stewards of the land and waters. We have much to learn from a worldview that perceives humans as caretakers – in contrast with the dominant worldview where many are simply takers. May we remember that we are guests here and that to become good ancestors ourselves means that we take on the responsibility of ensuring that we leave things better than we found them.



River Droplets: Fun facts about our Two Rivers

Many believe the Eramosa River is named after the Indigenous Mississauga word *um-ne-mo-sah*, meaning "dead dog."

The Speed River got its name from the power of the river when John Galt and Tiger Dunlop first visited.

Water has a special power to bring people together towards the realization of environmental, social, and climate justice. The 2Rivers Festival is an opportunity for our community to connect, celebrate, respect, and imagine how each one of us can become a vital participant in the regeneration of our river ecosystems.



The annual 2Rivers Festival partners with a variety of community organizations to host free public events throughout the months of May and June. This year's events celebrate the Speed and Eramosa Rivers through hiking, biking, planting, dancing, exploring, rowing, walking, paddling, learning, growing, and more. There are activities for all ages and interests. Come on out and try something new!

Our hope is that your participation in the festival will encourage you to advocate for the protection and conservation of our waters. Your enjoyment, appreciation, and action will ensure that future generations will have the same opportunities to enjoy our healthy rivers all year long.

For more information and to register for our events, please visit: [**2RiversFestival.org/register**](https://2RiversFestival.org/register)

Don't forget your camera - we want to see your photos of our two rivers, whether during the festival or on your own time. On Facebook and Twitter, tag us **@2RiversFestival** with **#2RiversPhoto**. Your photo could end up on the cover of next year's event guide!



All events are LGBTQ2+ inclusive, respectful, and welcoming.



This symbol indicates accessible events. Please contact us at [**tworiversfest@gmail.com**](mailto:tworiversfest@gmail.com) if you need more information.

POLLINATOR HABITAT COMMUNITY PLANTING



**Saturday
May 4**

9:30am - 1pm

Vaughan St &
Revell Dr

Enhance Guelph's pollinator habitat

As part of our Bee City efforts, the City of Guelph is partnering with Trees for Guelph to enhance pollinator habitat throughout Guelph. Join us as we plant native shrubs, trees, and wildflowers around a neighbourhood stormwater management pond near Hanlon Creek. You will learn about green infrastructure and supporting pollinators in your neighbourhood.

Meet us at the entrance to the stormwater pond on Vaughn Street near the intersection with Revell Drive. Register at Guelph.ca/pollinatorhabitat before April 30, 2019, for a chance to win native flowers to take home for your garden.

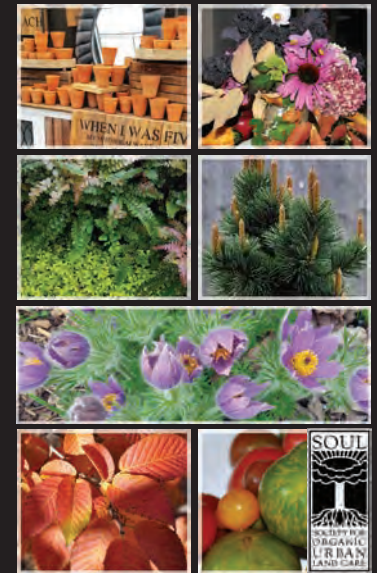
Hosted by:



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3 RIVERS RIDE



Photo: Taylor Moran

**Sunday
May 5**

9am - 3pm

Eramosa River Park
259 Victoria Rd S

Cycle along our scenic rivers

Join the Guelph Wellington Waterloo Regional Trail Committee and Speed River Bicycle (SRB) for a special 2Rivers Festival edition of their semi-monthly SRB Multi-surface ride. For this special event we have selected a route that will follow recreation trails and scenic back roads along the Eramosa, Speed, and Grand Rivers. This 76 km ride will take riders from Eramosa River Park to The rare Charitable Research Reserve for a break at the historic Slit Barn, along with a brief lesson about the Speed and the Grand Rivers, before returning to Guelph. We also have a shorter 30 km route that starts and ends at the Mill Run Trailhead in Hespler, while still enjoying the tour of The rare Charitable Research Reserve.

Register here: <https://goo.gl/forms/3Hk4Od6sRvJXr3g12>
Route map: <https://ridewithgps.com/routes/27272410>
For more information, see the Speed River Gravel Grinders Facebook group or contact Taylor at gwwrtc@gmail.com

Hosted by:



SACRED WATER WALK

A Water Walk is first and foremost about Water. It is an ANISHINAABE CEREMONY; from the time the pail is lifted to the time of set down the Walk-ers are in Ceremony.

**Sunday
May 5**

10am - 12pm

The grounds of
the Boathouse
116 Gordon St

For the health of our waters

Many of us have been inspired by grandmother Josephine Mandamin and her dedication to water protection through walking for the water. In honour of all that has been inspired in us through her walks, we feel called to walk for the health of the Speed and Eramosa Rivers that we enjoy so freely. Join this second annual Sacred Water Walk which is held in ceremony and in prayer for the health of our waters.

Because we are in a specific Anishinaabe Ceremony, women wear long skirts and men long pants to show our respect for our Grandmothers, for Mother Earth and for ourselves. Women on their Moon-time do not carry the water during this time, as they are already in Ceremony. For more details about the ceremony, please visit 2RiversFestival.org.

Hosted by:

Seven Generations Forward



AQUIFER



Photo: Dean Palmer

**Friday
May 10**

7pm - 8pm

Silvercreek
Skate Park
142 Edinburgh Rd S

Musical explorations of our Aquifer

Bring a blanket, find a place to sit on the banks of the Speed River, and enjoy these performances.

Join the Guelph Youth Jazz Ensemble as they explore through improv music the sounds, meanings and purpose behind water and our aquifer that nourishes us all.

Our human hearts are 73% water. The aquifers below us sustain life here in Guelph. This water is in our cells and in our veins. Our bodies resonate with the water. We are not separate. Giving love, respect, and gratitude to the water, the Guelph Youth Dance Company presents a contemplation of the water in Guelph's aquifers and a prayer for its protection.

Choreographer: Julia Aplin

Dancers: Guelph Youth Dance Company

Music: Breaking the Surface by AquaSonic

Costume Design and Creation: Janet Morton

Hosted by:

**guelph
youth
dance**
training program



HIKE THE GUELPH CORRECTIONAL CENTRE LANDS



Photo: www.guelphhiking.com/RLT

**Saturday
May 11**

9:30am - 11:30am

Rocky's Drive-in
520 Elizabeth St

Take a hike!

Join us for a tour of the former Correctional Centre lands led by the Guelph Hiking Trail Club. We will walk 5.5 kilometres along the Old Railway Spur Sidetrail and the Radial Line Trail.

Hosted by:



For us, it's all in the numbers.

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YOGA-DANCE BY THE RIVER



Photo: Taylor Ann Wright

**Saturday
May 11**

2pm - 3pm

York Road Park
115 York Rd

Explore your connection to water

This workshop invites participants to explore their physical connection to water through breath, sound, and movement. Yoga-Dance instructor Lisa GillOrme and Percussionist Matthew Stephens guide participants through expressions of rhythm and breath, connecting our bodies to the River Systems.

Hosted by:

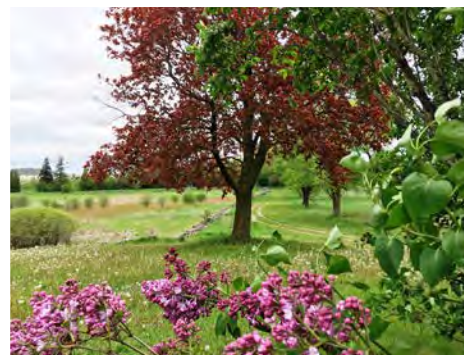
Lisa GillOrme



Andre Hueniken
Family Law & Mediation

GuelphFamilyLaw.com • 519 824 2022

MOTHER'S DAY WALK



**Sunday
May 12**

2pm - 3:30pm

Yorklands property
785 York Rd
(meet at bus stop)

Does your family love nature?

If so, it's likely because your family spends time having fun in nature together. Here's a way to surprise Mom with an afternoon of fun, exercise, and learning for her day of honour. Join Yorklands Green Hub for the Mother's Day Walk, one of the monthly walks on the Yorklands property. This guided gentle walk will get your family connected to the history of the Yorklands property and the dreams for its future. Learn more about the work of the trees and wetlands to cleanse our air and water. See the beautiful heritage tree that won an award in the 2018 Great Tree Hunt organized by GUFF. Dress for the weather.

Hosted by:



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GARLIC MUSTARD PULL & PESTO WORKSHOP



Photo: OPIRG

Wednesday
May 15

6pm - 8:30pm

York Road Park
115 York Rd

Turn an invasive herb into tasty pesto

Garlic mustard is an invasive herb native to Europe. It spreads quickly, interfering with the growth of other plants including several species at risk. While it is not a good food source for wildlife, it is high in vitamins A and C, and makes great pesto. Join us to learn about the plant and how to safely pull it. After pulling the garlic mustard, you'll be able to plant native species in its place. You will contribute to the health of the riverbank, and leave with a recipe and ingredients for your very own delicious pesto!

ALL WELCOME. This is a family-friendly event. Bring a container for your pesto, and a trowel if you have one. This event may be canceled or postponed if necessary due to rain/storms.

Hosted by:



FLOWING WATER YOGA



**Wednesday
May 22**

7:30pm - 8:30pm

Tytler School
131 Ontario St

*Join this all-level yoga class to create
an overall sense of wellness*

Through the movement of body and breath, we will
tap into the rhythms of the water and honour its
connection to the cycle of life.

Hosted by:



GUELPH AND DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL
INVITES ALL TO

DAY OF MOURNING

"One is Too Many:
No one should die on the job"
April 28 at 11 am
Goldie Mill Park, Guelph

LABOUR DAY PICNIC

"The Power of Many"
September 2, 12 - 3 pm
Red Pavilion Riverside Park, Guelph
Hotdogs, corn, samosas, live music,
free face painting and rides!

519-823-1030

guelphdistrictlabourcouncil.ca

**POWER
OF MANY**

RIVER REMNANTS: EXPLORING THE SILVER CREEK



**Thursday
May 23**

6pm - 7:30pm

Mouth of Silver Creek,
Speed River

*The banks of the Silver Creek tell
many stories about our city*

We will follow the remnants of the river from its
mouth at the Speed to its disappearance under the
tracks. Learn why the first John Sleeman chose its
waters for his beer, the story of the Red and Phoenix
Mills, and the mysterious broken dam.

Meet us at the mouth of the Silver Creek (also called
Howitt Creek), on the north side of the Speed River
between Hanlon Parkway and Edinburgh Road
South. Participants can park at the Silvercreek
Skatepark and walk west along the Speed to our
starting location. We will end our walk at Howitt
Park.

Hosted by:



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300 million birds die as a
direct result of humans.



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and help **reduce** that
number!

Download our **Top Tips to Help Birds** at
catsandbirds.ca/2Rivers

SEA OF LIFE FILM SCREENING



Photo: www.seaoflifemovie.com

**Friday
May 24**

6:30pm - 8:30pm

10C Shared Space
42 Carden St

Learn what is happening to our oceans and what we can do about it

With stunning cinematography, Sea of Life is an inspiring film offering hope and encouraging everyone to unite in an effort to preserve our oceans on a global scale. Filmed over three years in seven countries, Sea of Life dives into some of the most spectacular ecosystems on the planet, exposing both the destruction that's happening in the ocean and the efforts underway to stop it. This multi-award winning documentary leads audiences through the stunning world of coral reefs into the heart of the environmental movement, meeting passionate scientists, activists and explorers who reveal an enormous opportunity to rise up and become the heroes the world needs.

The film screening will be followed by a Q&A with Ontario filmmaker Julia Barnes. We would prefer this to be a scent-free event. Donations accepted. Plant-based snacks provided.

Hosted by:



2RIVERS CLEANUP



Photo: OPIRG

**Saturday
May 25**

9am - 1pm

Royal City Park
Gazebo

Help revive, restore, and rehabilitate the Speed and Eramosa Rivers

Join OPIRG Guelph for our 40th annual river cleanup! Gather at the Gazebo in Royal City Park, find your team, and head out to a stretch of the river. We'll clean up and sort all the litter we can see, and try to document possible sources of invisible pollution and habitat degradation in the area.

Please sign up at 2RiversFestival.org/register, as we will need to communicate with participants in the leadup to the event. Bring a bike or good walking shoes, and dress for the weather. Refreshments will be provided. Come help restore the health of our rivers!

Hosted by:

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FOR ENVIRONMENTAL & SOCIAL JUSTICE



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Guelphsolar.net
519-804-0757

2018
GUELPH BUSINESS AWARD



2RIVERSFESTIVAL

May 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 9:30 am: Pollinator Habitat Community Planting
5 9 am: 3 Rivers Ride 10 am: Sacred Water Walk	6	7	8	9	10 7 pm: Aquifer - GYDT & GYJE	11 9:30 am: Hike 2 pm: Yoga-Dance
12 2 pm: Mother's Day Walk	13	14	15 6 pm: Garlic Mustard Pull & Pesto Workshop	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 7:30 pm: Flowing Water Yoga	23 7 pm: River Remnants: Exploring Silvercreek	24 6:30 pm: Sea of Life Film	25 9 am: 2Rivers Cleanup
26 9 am: Come & Try Rowing 1 pm: Aquatic Creatures	27	28	29	30	31	

June 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 Photo: WWCKC						1 11 am: Walk the Niska Valleylands
2 1 pm: Nature in the City Scavenger Hunt	3	4	5 7 pm: Creatures of Arboretum Creek	6	7	8 10 am: 2Rivers on 2Wheels & a Cold Brew too
9 10:30 am: Whatever Floats Your Boat	10	11	12 6 pm: Exploring Pond Creek	13 6 pm: Up the Creek with a Paddle	14	15
16 1 pm: River's Edge: Games that Teach	17	18	19 7 pm: Tai Chi by the River	20	21	22 1:30 pm: Crayfish Catch
23 2 pm: Nature's Bounty in the City	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

For more information and to register for our events, please visit:

2RiversFestival.org/register

In the case of inclement weather, please check 2Rivers Festival's Facebook or Twitter for information on possible changes to the events.

COME & TRY ROWING



Photo: Guelph Rowing Club

**Sunday
May 26**

9am - 10:30am

Guelph Rowing
Club Boathouse
Guelph Lake, GRCA
7743 Conservation Dr

Get introduced to rowing

Rowing is a great way to get outside, enjoy beautiful Guelph Lake, meet new people, and learn a new skill. Discover the sport of rowing with this free introductory session.

No experience is necessary. Open to adults 18 years or older. The entry fee to Guelph Lake is waived for registered participants. Space is limited, so please register early by emailing info@guelphrowing.ca with your name, age, contact details, and signed liability waiver (tinyurl.com/GRC-Liability).



Photo: Guelph Rowing Club

Hosted by:



July 23-August 1, 2019 ===== Fourth Annual

Two Row on the Grand

Deyohahage Gihe' gowahneh

The Good Mind - Good Words - Good Actions

Building Alliances

Indigenous

Non-Indigenous



Paddling, Camping, Sharing



From Cambridge to Lake Erie



**Cultural
Teachings**

Google "Two Row on the Grand" for website,
Facebook Group and Event page.

TwoRowinfo@gmail.com

Join our community on and along the river! Help us reenact the Two Row Wampum, where Indigenous and Non-Indigenous people paddle close enough to help each other but not so close as to disrupt the other's path. Not a paddler? Come for the cultural teachings!

AQUATIC CREATURES OUTDOOR DISCOVERY EVENT



Photo: Judy Brisson

**Sunday
May 26**

1pm - 2:30pm

Barber Scout Camp
733 Stone Rd E

Have you ever wondered about the insects and fish in the Eramosa River?

Watch safely from shore while Nature Guelph Leaders collect aquatic insects, crustaceans and small fish from the Eramosa River. Participants will work together to identify the animals they find using the collection/viewing equipment and ID sheets provided.

We will meet at the entrance to the Barber Scout Camp at 1 pm then walk a short distance to the banks of the Eramosa. The event is family and dog friendly, but dogs must be on leash. Participants will NOT be going in the water. Water resistant footwear is recommended as banks may be muddy.

Hosted by:



**Nature
Guelph**

WALK THE NISKA VALLEYLANDS

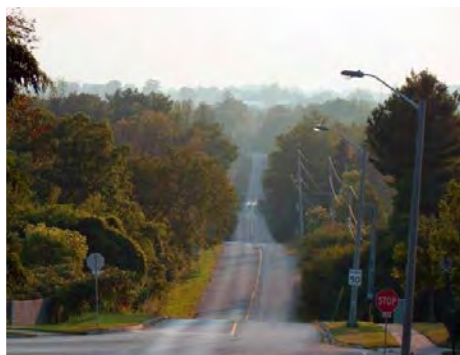


Photo: facebook.com/SpeedRiverValleyLands

**Saturday
June 1**

11am - 12:30pm

Downey Rd &
Woodland Glen

Come walk down the historic Niska Road to the Speed River where Felix Hanlon, one of the founders of Guelph, lived. Learn about the importance of the Hanlon Creek Watershed and conservation lands in Guelph. Meet up at the bus stop in front of the YMCA on Downey Rd. We will finish at Niska Bridge.

Hosted by:

**Speed River Valley Heritage
Lands Association**



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NATURE IN THE CITY SCAVENGER HUNT



Photo: Judy Brisson

**Sunday
June 2**

1pm - 3pm

Preservation Park
505 Kortright Rd W

Explore the diversity of nature in Guelph

There will be activities along the trails of Preservation Park then join us for a walk along Hanlon Creek to find as many species of flowers, trees, birds, and bugs as you can.

Meet at Preservation Park entrance. Park across the road in Hanlon Creek Park.

This is the final event of the Nature in the City series. Family and dog friendly, but dogs must be on leash. We will be walking on flat trails in a wooded area.

Hosted by:



**Nature
Guelph**



CREATURES OF THE ARBORETUM CREEK



Photo: Chris Earley

**Wednesday
June 5**

7pm - 8:30pm

J.C. Taylor Nature
Centre
270 Arboretum Rd

Discover and appreciate our urban biodiversity

Come out and explore Arboretum Creek, a tributary of the Eramosa River. Discover and celebrate the biodiversity found in the aquatic environments of our two rivers. Catch, identify, and study the plant and animal life we have in and beside our streams.

A great activity for all ages. Bring insect repellent and dress for the weather.



Photo: Chris Earley

Hosted by:



2RIVERS ON 2WHEELS AND A COLD BREW TOO



Photo: GCAT

**Saturday
June 8**

10am - 12:30pm

Fixed Gear
Brewing Co.
20 Alma St S

***Geography, bikes and beers - are you
in for a treat!***

Join us as we explore Guelph's river systems under pedal power. Floodplains, underground streams, ancient riverbanks, waterfalls, the confluence of Guelph's two rivers, a bit of history and a lot of geographic insight.

Exploring by bike is thirsty work but luckily you can reward yourself with a cold brew or two at the end of our 10 km trip.

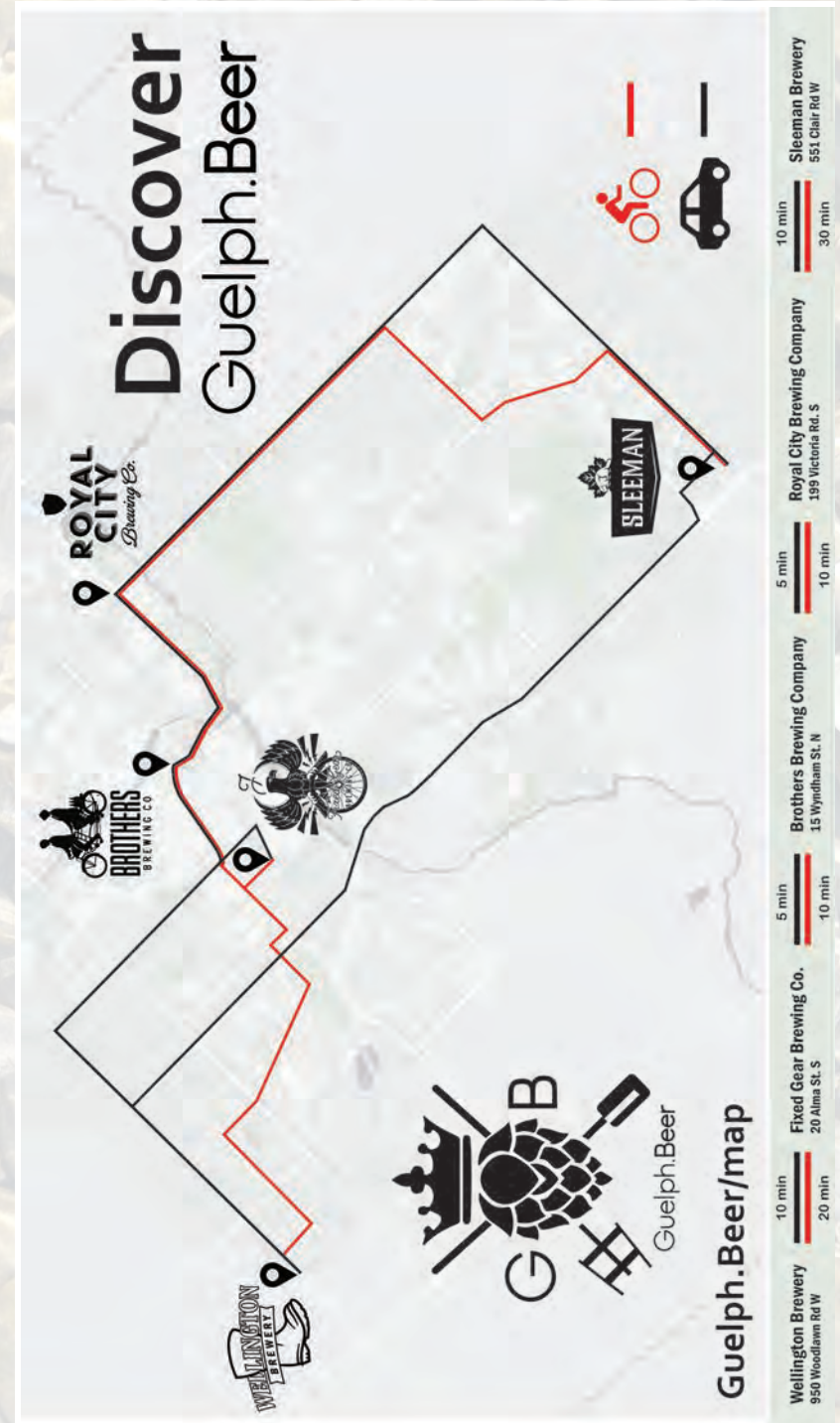


Photo: Carl Griffin

Hosted by:



GCAT
Guelph Coalition for
Active Transportation



WHATEVER FLOATS YOUR BOAT



**Sunday
June 9**

10:30am - 12pm

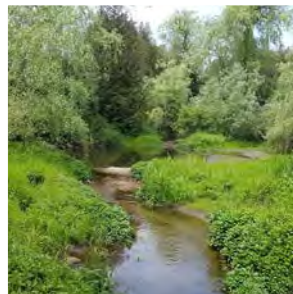
Marden Park
7368 Wellington
Road 30

Race a DIY boat down Marden Creek

Try your hand at building a biodegradable boat to be raced through a restored stretch of creek. Participants will have approximately 30 minutes to build a boat (all materials will be provided) before they take their maiden voyage down Marden Creek.

Learn about the stream restoration work that the Speed Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited has completed and future plans for restoring Guelph's creeks.

Please wear appropriate footwear, rubber boots, or waders, and be prepared to get wet!



Hosted by:

Trout Unlimited Canada



Speed Valley Chapter

EXPLORING POND CREEK: ABOVE AND BELOW GROUND



**Wednesday
June 12**

6pm - 8pm

GCVI School
155 Paisley St

Discover a hidden stream

We will walk the lower section of Pond Creek looking at the signs and indications of the buried creek in the residential neighbourhood. We will walk to the outlet of the creek and embark on an underground adventure, following the creek upstream for a little way. Bring a flashlight and rubber boots or shoes that can get wet!

Meet at the main GCVI school sign at the corner of Yorkshire Street North and Paisley Street. We will be ending at Silvercreek Park at Wellington Street West and Edinburgh Road South.

Hosted by:

Speed to Sea

UP THE CREEK WITH A PADDLE



Photo: WWCKC

**Thursday
June 13**

6pm - 8pm

Royal City Park
at McCrae Blvd

Join the Waterloo-Wellington Canoe and Kayak Club for a paddle on the Eramosa

During this paddle, hear about the project called *Speed to Sea*. Jeremy Shute has been doing a canoe trip (in sections) starting from Guelph, with the goal of getting to the Atlantic.

Meet at the put-in at Royal City Park near McCrae Boulevard (tinyurl.com/WWCKC-RoyalCityPark). You can enter from Gordon Street and park along the road. Bring your own canoe or kayak or come early and rent one from the Boathouse. We will have one or more of our club paddle up to the rental place to collect anyone who may be joining from there.

Hosted by:



All Nations Grand River Walk

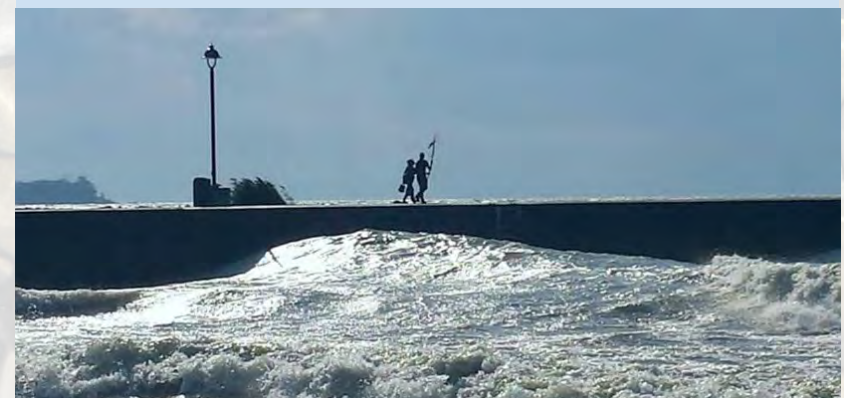
June 15 to 21, 2019

The All Nations Grand River Water Walk is a ceremony. It is meant to honour, pray and sing for the waters of the Grand River, and connect all peoples to Creation. The walk honours all Water Walkers, including Josephine Mandamin, the first water walker, other walkers who have walked on, and those who walk today.

**To learn more about the walk and how
you can support the walkers, visit
www.grandriverwaterwalk.com**

You are invited to join Mary Anne Caibaosai and other walkers on their journey from the source of the Grand River near Dundalk to its mouth, at Lake Erie.

Be part of a truly transformative experience.



RIVER'S EDGE: GAMES THAT TEACH



Photo: Guelph Outdoor School

**Sunday
June 16**

1pm - 4pm

Barber Scout Camp
733 Stone Rd E

An afternoon of hands-on nature fun

Step into the Guelph Outdoor School's outdoor classroom for electrifying games and challenges on the banks of the Eramosa River. River's Edge is a glimpse into a popular option for hundreds of Guelph kids and adults: it is an afternoon of full-on fun and wonder for all ages, and an occasion to re-connect with local wild spaces along the Eramosa. See you out there.



Photo: Guelph Outdoor School

Hosted by:



TAI CHI BY THE RIVER



**Wednesday
June 19**

7pm - 8:15pm

Goldie Mill Park
(behind the Guelph
Youth Music Centre)

Experience a moving meditation on the banks of the Speed River

Through the practice of the art of Taoist Tai Chi, you will improve your balance, health, flexibility, and wellbeing. If you would like to learn more, we will meet at Goldie Mill Park where you will receive an introduction to the practice of Taoist Tai Chi. You will be shown the first few moves of the set and then be asked to join in and share in the experience of doing tai chi in a beautiful park setting by the river.

Please come dressed in loose clothing, with flat shoes or running shoes. If raining, the event will be postponed until next year.

Hosted by:



CRAYFISH CATCH



**Saturday
June 22**

1:30pm - 2:30pm

The Covered Bridge
York Rd

Make friends with a crayfish

Join an Environmental Educator from the Grand River Conservation Authority and other volunteers as we enter the Speed River in search of crayfish and other aquatic creatures. You'll learn how to tell the difference between male & female crayfish and find out how GRCA uses aquatic creatures to help evaluate water quality in our watershed.

Nets and bug containers provided. Suitable for all ages but appropriate footwear required: wear closed toe water sandals or shoes. No flip flops or bare feet. You will be in the water.



Hosted by:



DISCOVER NATURE'S BOUNTY IN THE CITY



**Sunday
June 23**

2pm - 4pm

Yorklands property
785 York Rd
(meet at bus stop)

Learn about the biodiversity of the Yorklands

Join us to identify some of nature's inhabitants on land and in water at the former Ontario Reformatory site which could be the Yorklands Green Hub in our future. This planned ecology park has many species of interest and we will have knowledgeable enthusiasts on hand to help you identify them. Bring your cameras or sketch books.



Hosted by:



YORKLANDS GREEN HUB
Opening green doors to the future.

If you love the 2Rivers Festival, you may also enjoy...

Pelee Buzz

March to December 2019
Pelee Island (Lake Erie)
peleebuzz.eventbrite.ca

The Couchiching Conservancy

Passport to Nature
May 2019 to March 2020
Lake Couchiching region
(Orillia, Washago, Carden)
www.couchichingconserv.ca

Long Point Basin Land Trust

Treks, Tracts and Trees:
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A special thank you to the 2Rivers Festival Steering Committee: Laura Andrighetti, Robert Barron, Emma Callon, Sarah Delroy, Barbara Forster, Trista Forth, Jane Hudson, Susan Ratcliffe, Beth Shier and Arlene Slocombe have dedicated their time to develop the festival program and connect us more closely with our rivers.



The 2Rivers Festival is a project of Wellington Water Watchers, a non-profit organization dedicated to the protection, restoration, and conservation of source water in Guelph-Wellington.

Contact Us!



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