

Providing ecological restoration educational opportunities

The Society for Ecological Restoration of Ontario (SERO) is pleased to offer three field trip opportunities in 2023 for members and non-members. These events will enable registrants to view and discuss innovative, new and established ecological restoration projects in Ontario.

The objective of the SERO program is to promote dialogue between practitioners and to introduce the public to notable restoration efforts that are occurring in Ontario. This is done by organizing short field trips, led by restoration practitioners and researchers, which promote the practice, principles, and benefits of ecological restoration.

2023 Field Trips

Property	Agency	Trip Leader	Restoration Efforts	Date
Sheldon Creek, Alliston	Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority	Fred Dobbs, Laura Wensink	Stream realignment & restoration	Tues, May 30
Gibraltar Point, Toronto Islands	Toronto and Region Conservation Authority / City of Toronto	Ryan Stephenson	Dune Restoration and Coastal Shoreline Protection	Wed, Aug 30
Saltfleet Conservation Area, Hamilton	Hamilton Conservation Authority	Scott Peck, Lesley McDonnell, & Colin Oaks	Wetland Restoration	Thurs, Sept 7

To reserve a spot for one or more trips, please use the EventBrite registration system. Children must be at least 10 years old and accompanied by a responsible adult at all times. Participants will be responsible for providing transportation to and from the field trips.

All tours will involve significant walking in order to access the various restoration projects on site. Please wear appropriate footwear and clothing and bring drinking water and snacks. Due to the sensitive nature of the landscapes and wildlife on site, we ask that you leave your pets at home. For the consideration of all attendees, smoking/vaping are not permitted on the field trips.

- Registration:** Online at Eventbrite <http://sero.eventbrite.com>
- Cost:** \$7 for SERO members and Students, \$15 for non-SERO members
- Contact:** Ryan Stephenson
sero.fieldtrips@gmail.com

Nottawasaga Riverbank Stabilization and Realignment

Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority

Tuesday May 30, 10:00am – 12:30pm

(Rain Date – Wednesday, May 31, 10:00am – 12:30pm)



Trip Leaders:

Laura Wensink, Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority, River Restoration Technician
Fred Dobbs, Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority, Manager of Stewardship Services

Description:

Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority and Nottawasaga Futures/South Simcoe Streams Network have partnered together since 2018 to completed ecological restoration along the Nottawasaga River. This site began restoration in 2019 and completed in 2022 with the rehabilitation of 1.1km of streambank on the Nottawasaga River across two abutting properties. Prior to restoration and realignment work, this site was receiving significant erosion with the meander eroding at 3m/year and contributing excessive sediment and attached phosphorus into the river, negatively impacting native species at risk habitat for Northern Brook Lamprey. Bank restoration using coniferous tree revetments, and terraced floodplain shelves has helped increase stabilization and habitat in this area. Portions of woody habitat cover structures such as root wads (harvested from dead ash trees on property), have also been a focus of this project to further increase habitat and benefit the bank stabilization. Join us to take a look at this project and discuss river realignment, stabilization, and restoration!

More Information: [April 2022 Newsletter – Nottawasaga River Restoration Program](#)

Meeting Location: [8642 Adjala 20 Sideroad, Alliston, ON L9R 1V1](#) Street Parking.

Capacity: 30 people

Registration: <http://sero.eventbrite.com>

Dune Restoration and Shoreline Protection on the Toronto Islands

City of Toronto / Toronto and Region Conservation Authority

Wednesday August 30, 11:00am – 3:00pm

(Rain Date – Thursday, August 31, 11:00am – 3:00pm)



Trip Leader:

Ryan Stephenson, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, Project Manager

Description:

Gibraltar Point is located at the southwesterly tip of the Toronto Islands, on Lake Ontario. Erosion has been documented at Gibraltar Point since 1879. TRCA with support from the City of Toronto, completed an Environmental Study Report (ESR), in accordance with Conservation Ontario's Class EA process to develop a long-term solution to address the shoreline erosion around Gibraltar Point (TRCA, 2008). As part of the Class EA process, TRCA retained Shoreplan Engineering to complete a coastal analysis to determine the regional processes around Gibraltar Point and assist with the development of alternative long-term solutions to the shoreline erosion. Completed in 2022, TRCA help with shoreline protection in this area as well as worked to restore over 1.5Ha of dune habitat. Through a combination of restoration construction, habitat and woody debris placement, and plantings to help build and work with the dynamic dunes system in this area. Join us for a trip out to the Toronto Islands to talk about coastal shoreline protection and dune restoration!

More Information: [Project Website](#)

Meeting Location:

[Jack Layton Ferry Terminal, 9 Queens Quay W, Toronto, ON M5J 2H3](#), Paid Parking.

Capacity: 20 people

Registration: <http://sero.eventbrite.com>

Saltfleet Conservation Area Wetland Restoration

Hamilton Conservation Authority

Thursday September 7, 9:30 – 12:00 pm

(Rain Date – Friday, Sept 8, 9:30 – 12:00pm)



Trip Leaders:

Scott Peck, Hamilton Conservation Authority, Director, Watershed Services

Lesley McDonnell Hamilton Conservation Authority, Terrestrial Ecologist

Colin Oaks, Hamilton Conservation Authority, Aquatic Ecologist

Description:

Restoration efforts at Saltfleet Conservation Area have begun with the Hamilton Conservation Authority working to restore wetland habitat as well as increase connectivity and biodiversity throughout the site and its natural heritage corridor. This tour will focus on wetland design and construction from concept through to the planting and monitoring of the site after construction is complete. This site also highlights the ability to incorporate wetland restoration with forest and meadow restoration while also highlighting opportunities for community use and passive recreation opportunities. Join us to talk about the specifics of wetland design and construction and how the sites fit into the big picture!

More Information: [Project Website](#)

Meeting Location: [Saltfleet Conservation Area - 444 First Road East, Stoney Creek, On](#)

Capacity: 30 people

Registration: <http://sero.eventbrite.com>