



# Kingston Field Naturalists

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P.O. Box 831 Kingston, Ontario K7L 4X6 Phone: (613) 389-8338  
<http://www.kingstonfieldnaturalists.org>

## *Celebrating our 60<sup>th</sup> Year in 2009*

Dear Volunteer,

April 2009

The Kingston Field Naturalists invite you to participate in the

## **2009 Great Canadian BioBlitz**

in the Kingston area—our eleventh! We would like to record over 400 species in 24 hours! We hope too that you will find it fun and educational.

The BioBlitz, the idea for which comes from the Canadian Biodiversity Institute, is an inventory of as many living things as can be identified within a 24 hour period. Specialists and experts from a diverse set of disciplines will be grouped with interested volunteers to explore the area under investigation. The inventory and interaction of volunteers with the public are integral goals of this event.

The BioBlitz takes place from **3:00 pm on Friday, 12 June to 3:00 pm on Saturday, 13 June**. The event will run, rain or shine.

### **The Site**

We are delighted to be able to hold this BioBlitz at “Avenstone”, the 125 acre property of Jane and Peter Good. This natural property includes a variety of habitats including alvar, karst, and drumlin, mixed and open woods, fields, ponds, marshes and open lake. And Poison Ivy!

### **Access and Location**

Take exit 593 off the 401 (about 15 km west of Kingston) and go north on the Camden East Road (Cty.Rd.4) about 7 km to the village of Camden East. From the 4-way stop sign, go 1 km north and turn right (east) onto Bethel Road. Go east about 2 km to # 393 “Avenstone”. Please park where indicated (not on the road) and follow signs to the Base where you may register and receive maps of the property and tally sheets.

### **Accommodation**

There will be no camping at the site.

The nearest campground is in Yarker at Varty Lake Campgrounds. There is a Bed and Breakfast at the Tree Lane Country House in Wilton and rooms are available at the Motel in Odessa near highway 401. Also there is a wide choice of accommodation in nearby Napanee and Kingston.

### **Registration**

Participants must register at the BioBlitz base site **between 2:30 and 9:00 PM on Friday, June 12 or between 6:30 AM and 2:00 PM on Saturday, June 13.**

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*Observe—Preserve—Understand*

The Kingston Field Naturalists is a registered Charitable Organization  
and a member of Ontario Nature

Upon registration, you will be provided with instructions, directions and a map of the property as well as tally sheets on which to list species observed. A full tally will be kept at the BioBlitz base site.

Please return your final tally sheets and field notes to the base site before departure. These will be copied and returned to you if you wish. Any individual species lists are welcome any time.

### What to bring

- Please bring your own **meals** and **snacks**, but note the Saturday BBQ option (see below).
- Please also bring **sunscreen**, **insect repellent**, **hat**, and a **flashlight** for night activities.
- Good walking **boots** are advised. Wear long pants to protect against guaranteed poison ivy
- You may like to bring your own **clipboard**, **checklist** and **field guides**.
- **Cameras** and **GPS units** will be useful (but not required) to record rare species, for the macro photography workshop and for recording species needing identification.
- Potable water and a washroom will be available at the base site. Please bring your own **water bottle** and travel mug.

### Barbeque

A barbeque lunch will be available on Saturday from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm. Darren Rayner, our chef this year, will provide sausage on a bun, ice cream and drinks. The suggested donation is \$5. First come, first served! Please bring your own chair if you'd like to have one. Do join us for the BBQ to see how the lists are growing and to regroup for the afternoon to look for things we have missed. Informal remarks at noon.

### Please . . .

**NO dogs at this event.** Please be sensitive to the fact that this is private property and we are there only at the invitation of the owners. Try to keep the impact to a minimum and attempt to leave things as they were found. Collecting should only occur where necessary for the inventory, and trap-and-release should be used wherever possible. We are requesting that all qualified observers prepare **NHIC species occurrence forms** for rare and declining species observed during this event. Forms will be available at the Base. Please, **no boats**. Zebra mussels have not reached here yet. Two canoes will be available on request. If you have expertise not covered in the accompanying program, please come and educate us! Please let us know if there is anything you might need that we might supply.

We look forward to this event and hope you do too. Please share this information with anyone you know who might be interested.

Contact me if you plan to come or wish to have any questions answered: phone 613-389-6742 or e-mail [n8ture.anne@sympatico.ca](mailto:n8ture.anne@sympatico.ca).

Yours truly,  
Anne Robertson  
BioBlitz Coordinator

*Attachment: BioBlitz program*