



The Kingston Field Naturalists invite you to join us for our 25th BioBlitz at Milburn Creek Nature Reserve 9 to 10 June 2023

This will be the Kingston Field Naturalists 25th BioBlitz in the Kingston area! We have a goal to record 1,000 species in this 24 hour period. We hope that everyone, including our volunteers, will find it a fun and educational event. We are planning our traditional type of BioBlitz.

The idea for the BioBlitz comes from the Canadian Biodiversity Institute. Our BioBlitz is an inventory of as many living things as can be identified within a 24 hour period within a defined area. Specialists and experts from diverse disciplines will explore the area under investigation. Guided walks and social time are part of our plan.

The BioBlitz takes place from **3:00 pm on Friday 9 June to 3:00 pm on Saturday 10 June 2023**.
The event will run, rain or shine.

The Site:

We are delighted that the Nature Conservancy of Canada is allowing us to hold our BioBlitz on their property at Battersea. This 224 acres (91 h) property has wetlands, a creek and a vernal pond, mixed forest, rocky outcrops and old field habitats. It is on the edge of the limestone granite bedrock junction. There are a number of diverse habitats to explore! Note there are several entrances to this property. Boats may be portaged 500m from Milburn Road to the berm on the wetland.

We are very pleased that the Township of South Frontenac is allowing us use of the Battersea Ball Park for parking, camping, BBQ and base site.

Access from Kingston: Allow about half an hour from Kingston to the Base Site on Battersea Road in Battersea.

Directions to Milburn Creek Nature Reserve

From Hwy 401 exit #619, go NORTH on Battersea Road (County Road 11, Montreal Street).

Pass through Sunbury and on to Battersea.

The Ball Park is 5167 Battersea Road, on west side of Battersea Road near the bottom of the hill, opposite one NCC trail onto Milburn Creek property.

GPS location of our Base Site at
Battersea Ball Park: 44.42950, -76.38646



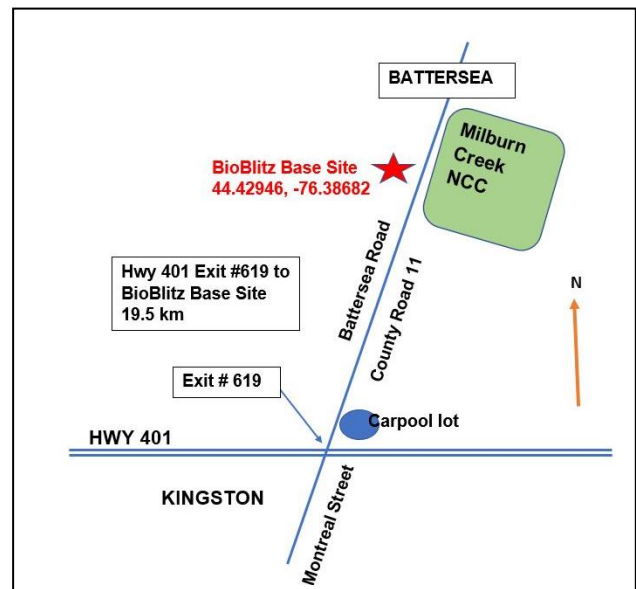
Accommodation:

Camping: There will be primitive camping at the Base Site. Please bring your own water. No fires. No generators. Also camping on private property within 10 minutes of the site. Please ask.

Cottages: There are a number of cottages within 15 km of Battersea in South Frontenac listed on the web. Book now!!!

Registration:

Participants should register at the BioBlitz base site **between 2:30 pm and 9:00 pm on Friday 9 June** or **between 8:00 am and 2:00 pm on Saturday 10 June**.



Observe—Preserve—Understand

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and a member of Ontario Nature

Species observed:

For all observations, a minimum of the species name, observer, date, location observed (ideally GPS coordinates) and trail should be recorded. Applicable notes should be added. Upon registration, a tally sheet and a map of the property will be provided. A tally will also be kept at the BioBlitz base site notice board so you may look at species already recorded and note those that may yet be found. **Please let us know** if you intend to go off trail. Please also tell us if you would like to be paired with another expert for your recording. No collecting or wildlife handling is allowed unless preauthorized (which all group leaders will be). Photographs 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 on request.

For this year's BioBlitz there will be two options for submitting your species observations:

1. **Written records: A written record with your name must be handed in for species to be included in the final tally.** Please return your final tally sheets and field notes to the base site before departure. Tally sheets will be copied and returned if you wish. A reward will be offered for checking out and returning tally sheets. Any species of note should be photographed and the site of observation GPS'd if possible.

OR

2. **Digital submissions through eBird (for birds only) or iNaturalist:** you may submit observations digitally through <https://ebird.org/canada/home> (please share your checklists with the username Kingston FN), and/or with [iNaturalist.ca](https://www.inaturalist.ca). Both are free and easy to use but you will need to set up your own personal accounts. On iNaturalist, observations made during the BioBlitz within the boundaries of the Milburn Creek Nature Reserve boundaries will automatically be collected by the 2023 BioBlitz project. You can join the project to get updates; however, this is not necessary in order for your observations to be included. Visit the project at: <https://inaturalist.ca/projects/kingston-field-naturalists-2023-bioblitz>

What to bring:

- Please bring your own meals and snacks, including supper on Friday. There will be a BBQ lunch on Saturday at noon. Donations appreciated. Coffee will be available at the base site at 8:00 am on Saturday. Please bring your own mug.
- Please also bring sunscreen, insect repellent, hat, and a flashlight for night activities.
- Good walking boots are advised. Wear long pants to protect against Poison Ivy, deerflies and ticks. Long boots, gaiters, and insect repellent with DEET or Picaridin also help protect against ticks.
- Please bring your own clipboard, checklist and field guides, binoculars and magnifiers.
- Cameras and GPS units will be useful (but not required) to record rare species and species needing identification.
- A whistle for emergencies is always a good idea.
- **There is cell phone coverage at most of the site.**
- Some potable water will be available at the base site; please bring your own water bottle and travel mug.
- A portable toilet will be available at the base site.
- The nearest store is Battersea General Store at 5234 Battersea Road at Wellington Street in Battersea.

Please . . . Plan on taking your garbage home with you.

NO DOGS at this event. Please be sensitive to the fact that this is private property. Try to keep the impact to a minimum and attempt to leave things as they were found.

If you have expertise, please come and educate us! Please also let us know if there is anything you might need that we might supply.

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

You may contact us at:

Anne: n8ture.anne@sympatico.ca or (h) 613-389-6742, (c) 613-985-8967, or

Erwin: simbat@bell.net or (h) 613-389-0144

Yours truly, Anne Robertson, Coordinator

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