



# Nature Quest

## Stewardship Series—Summer 2009

*The Parry Sound-Muskoka Stewardship Network invites you to take part in these interactive workshops held throughout the summer. Programs are designed to provide hands on experience while fostering stewardship, knowledge and skill.*

### Early Morning Guided Bird Walk

Thursday, July 2nd, 7 to 10 am

Bracebridge Resource Mgt. Centre, Hwy 11

Shh! Listen! Do you know who is singing in the forest? Bring your binoculars and join experienced birder Al Sinclair, who while guiding you through the lush forest of the Resource Management Centre will assist you in identifying many of our resident song birds.

**Presenter: Al Sinclair, Muskoka Field Naturalist**



**Up for a challenge? Lets try to beat last years count of 35 bird species.**

### Batty About Bats

Tuesday, July 7th, 1 to 4 pm

Bracebridge MNR Hwy 11 & High Falls Rd.

Find out everything you ever wanted to know about bats but were afraid to ask. Bats are an invaluable natural resource and yet they are sometimes feared and persecuted. Join us as we explore the fascinating world of bats and dispel the myths surrounding them. Bat houses are a great way to attract bats to your property. We will look at different bat house designs and show you how to build a bat house of your own including tips to ensure their success. You will leave this session with a new appreciation for the bats you see in the evening sky.

**Presenter: Christy MacDonald, Senior Wildlife Technician, Ministry of Natural Resources**



**Did you know that a Little Brown Bat can catch 1,200 mosquito sized insects in just one hour!**

### Hike up Your Tree ID IQ

Tuesday, July 14th, 1 to 4 pm

Arrowhead Provincial Park, Hwy 11 Huntsville

Having trouble identifying your tree species? Can you tell a sugar maple from a red maple? Why do some trees look healthier than others? What is a "wildlife tree"? Not to worry, these and many other questions will be answered during our hike through the lush hardwood forest of Arrowhead Provincial Park. Together we will key out 25 trees, identify a variety of tree defects and diseases and examine the over all forest ecology. Participants will be introduced to forest management techniques and the tools used by forest professionals.

**Presenter: Mike Walsh, Stewardship Coordinator and Tree Marker Instructor**



**66% of Ontario's landscape is covered in forest.**



**Programs run rain or shine —  
Please come prepared**

### Pre-registration is required.

Programs are limited to 30 participants  
Children welcome - must be accompanied by adults

### Cost:

**Adults: \$5.00 Children: \$3.00**

### Information and Registration call:

Muskoka Heritage Foundation 705-645-7393

Mike Walsh, Parry Sound-Muskoka Stewardship

Coordinator 705-646-5530

Town of Kearney 705-636-7752 (July 21 & 28 only)

### Get Ready to Catch the Big One!

Tuesday, July 21st, 1 to 4 pm

Kearney Community Centre

This area is famous for its cold water, trout producing, streams and lakes giving us bragging rights to some of the best fishing. Fishery Biologist, Steve Scholten, will provide insight into trout ecology and information on how we can maintain, restore and protect this valuable resource. As well, expert anglers will be on hand to share some helpful tips for your angling enjoyment and success. You and your family will be hooked on fishing once you try the fly fishing and casting activities.

**Presenter: Steve Scholten, Fishery Biologist  
Ministry of Natural Resources**



**Lake Trout are the largest of all the trout weighing up to 100 lbs.**

### Wildlife CSI

Tuesday, July 28th

9am to 12pm Kearney Community Centre

2 to 5 pm Bracebridge MNR Hwy 11 & High Falls Rd.

Bag it, tag it, check for prints, saliva, DNA, spent ammunition. Welcome to the world of Wildlife Forensics.

This family oriented program is filled with hands on activities that will introduce participants to various aspects of solving crimes and wildlife protection. Learn how to identify tracks, furs, skulls and more. You will become the investigator, examining clues and following evidence to determine the "who done it" in a wildlife crime scene.

**Presenter: Conservation Officer John van Geene  
Ministry of Natural Resources**



**Protecting Ontario wildlife Conservation Officers patrol more than 1 million square kms.**

### Nature Quest Sponsors and Partners

Kearney Watershed Environmental Foundation

Ministry of Natural Resources

Muskoka Bass Master Club

Muskoka Heritage Foundation

Muskoka Watershed Council