

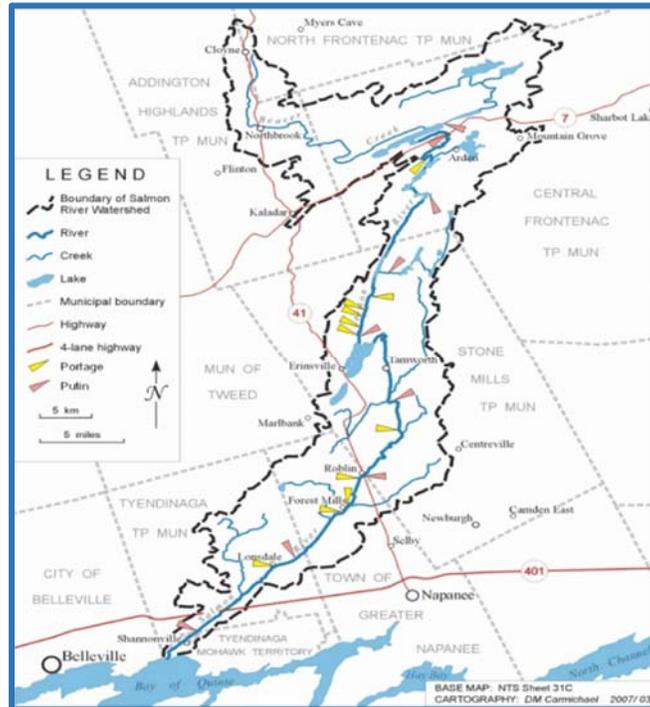
# Friends of the Salmon River - Newsletter

Volume 5 Issue 4  
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## About Us

The Friends of the Salmon River is a non-profit organization formed in 2004. The organization is made up of volunteers, with an elected board of directors. The funding for projects is raised through membership fees, donations, grants, sponsorship and fund raising events. We are people who enjoy the benefits of the ecologically healthy and beautiful watershed of the Salmon River. We believe that the Salmon River is precious and loaded with natural riches, and we want to ensure that it will continue to be so in the future. Feel free to visit [friendsofsalmonriver.ca](http://friendsofsalmonriver.ca)



## Contents

Our Bus Tour  
Family Nature Day  
Monarchs for Schools Project  
Loyalist Solar Project

Spring Seedlings  
ATVs in Salmon River \*\*\*  
FSR Executive  
Membership Information

## Our Woodlands and Wetlands Bus Tour

We all know we live in a spectacularly beautiful part of Ontario, but sometimes it takes highly knowledgeable experts to open our eyes and look at our own back yards in a new way. Who knew that scientists from all over the world travel here to marvel at and study things we take for granted: "pillow" rock formations from ancient sea beds, the Plevna Fault (which is not a shortcoming of the good citizens of that town), traces of the last glaciers to scour this landscape, a watershed divide, and an extensive wetland and headwater that harbours rare species? We can even boast of Little Round Lake: a meromictic lake, which is a stratified lake consisting of two layers that do not completely mix, and creatures that thrive without oxygen.

On the Woodlands and Wetlands Tour on April 23, organized by Friends of the Salmon River, about fifty lucky passengers learned to look at their terrain in a new way, thanks to some local scientists and experts. Gray Merriam (landscape ecologist) taught us about the Kennebec Wetlands complex, Dave Smallwood (professional forester) pointed out past and present forestry practices and woodlot management, Dugald Carmichael was the geologist on board who enlightened us with stories of events millions and billions of years ago that formed what we now see in the rocks at roadsides, and Don Cuddy (ecologist) shared his knowledge and insights into the complexity of the relationships between living things and the landscape.

The route took us north on Road 38 to Sharbot Lake, then up Road 509, through Snow Road Station, Ompah, Plevna, Meyers Cave, south on 41 to Northbrook, Henderson, and continuing south through Arden, returning to our starting point in Verona. There was never a dull moment as commentators both educated and entertained us.

The trip was a partnership sponsored by Friends of the Salmon River, the Ontario Woodlot Association: Limestone Chapter, and the Frontenac Stewardship Foundation. For more on these groups, see [friendsofsalmonriver.ca](http://friendsofsalmonriver.ca), [www.ontariowoodlot.com](http://www.ontariowoodlot.com), and [facebook.com/Frontenac-Stewardship-Foundation](https://facebook.com/Frontenac-Stewardship-Foundation).



Left: Don Cuddy & son Andre examine a salamander. Right: Bus folks study a wetland.

## Events



### **FAMILY NATURE DAY COMING TO BEAVER LAKE JULY 9**

Friends of the Salmon River and Quinte Conservation's Education Staff will again host a **Family Nature Day: Wild About Wildlife**.

DATE: Saturday, July 9, 2016 LOCATION: Beaver Lake Park, 5781 County Road 41, Erinsville TIME: 11:00 am – 3:00 pm ADMISSION: Free

Wild About Wildlife Activities:

- \* Live birds of prey show
- \* Live snakes and reptiles
- \* Create mud art

- Net bugs and water creatures
- \* Take home a wildflower to help pollinators

\*

**The Kids Fishing Derby** is also at Beaver Lake Park on July 11 from 9 to 11am, hosted by the Lions Club and OPP.

Family Day is for learning, playing games, and romping at the shoreline. Come and talk to us about ideas & concerns for the watershed.



## Local News: Education and Outreach

### **The Monarch Breeding Kits for Schools Project Friends of the Salmon River partners in hands-on student education**

In 2015, the Lennox and Addington Stewardship Council created the Monarch Butterfly Breeding Kits for Schools project. Thirteen primary classrooms received kits: caterpillars, chrysalides, milkweed plant, and aviary, and students experienced first-hand the metamorphosis of the monarch butterfly.

In the 2016 program, nine schools have planted gardens in their schoolyards to help attract pollinators of all kinds. In addition, 14 schools ordered Monarch Breeding Kits, to be set up in the classrooms in September. (The breeding kits come from a nursery accredited by the International Butterfly Breeders Organization.)

When the students release them, the monarchs may be tagged and entered on the Monarch Watch database. This is the super generation that have evolved to migrate upon release to their wintering grounds in Mexico.

#### Partners in the 2016 project:

Lennox and Addington Stewardship Council, Friends of the Salmon River, Quinte Conservation, Napanee District Community Foundation, TD Friends of Environment Foundation, L&A elementary schools.

Feedback from a local grade one teacher: *We hit so many areas of the curriculum while studying our monarch friends, but the best part was the wonder that we saw in our children and just how fantastic it was to see the changes from each stage of a butterfly's life first hand. They treated the butterflies with care and respect and felt like they were helping our world by protecting them. Amazing!*



## Loyalist Solar Project

BluEarth Renewables Inc. has been awarded a contract for a Solar Photovoltaic facility in the Township of Stone Mills. This 54-megawatt-project area will be bounded by County Rd 41 to the west, County Rd 27 to the east, Craigen Rd to the south and the Salmon River to the north. This is northwest of the village of Newburgh. The project area is in the Napanee and Salmon River watersheds – Hinch Road is approximately the dividing line between the two watersheds in the project area.

Susan Moore (FSR) and members of the Lennox & Addington Stewardship Council (including Kurt Hennige, shrike specialist), have met on site with reps from BluEarth Renewables, with a focus on Loggerhead Shrike habitat and alvar protection. Environmental assessments are ongoing. Natural Heritage Assessments and Species At Risk permits will be completed by Dillon Consulting Ltd. and submitted to the Ministry of Natural Resources & Forestry for approval. Anticipated completion date (pending approvals) is about the end of 2018.

For more info on the project: [blueearthrenewables.com/portfolio/loyalist-solar-project](http://blueearthrenewables.com/portfolio/loyalist-solar-project)  
Info from Stone Mills Township: [stonemills.com/dates-and-rates/announcements-and-notice](http://stonemills.com/dates-and-rates/announcements-and-notice) (scroll to BlueEarth)

The transmission line options for the project include lands from Centreville Road to Frizzell Road (south of Tamworth). FSR will provide advice to the project proponent on the preferred options; this will include considerations of habitat and river crossings.

### **Open House, Wed, June 29:**

Community Meeting for the Loyalist Solar Project from 5:30 to 8:30 pm at the Newburgh Community Hall (2 Factory St, Newburgh)

## Shoreline Seedlings

In April, Quinte Conservation provided 150 shoreline seedlings to FSR members to help naturalize their shorelines: Tamarack, elderberry, buttonbush, silver maple, and wildflowers (blue flag iris and cardinal flower). These plantings will help to create healthy habitat and shoreline buffers in the watershed.

## Event with our Lake Associations

FSR is considering a future get together with our watershed Lake Associations. The idea is to consolidate connections with all groups. The lake associations could bring photos of the beauty of their lakes. We will discuss our upstream/downstream connections and how to initiate cooperative projects. Stay tuned and let us know if you have any ideas on this.

## **ON ALERT: Danger of ATVs in the Salmon River**

FSR sent a letter to Stone Mills Township Council - asking for action to block access by ATVs to the Salmon River, and to disallow all vehicles using the Salmon River as a recreational trail. The Salmon River is a very fragile ecosystem, rare and unmatched in Eastern Ontario in its unspoiled beauty and, as such, an invaluable and irreplaceable resource to our community.

We examined the access at the end of Jones Street in Tamworth - where residents have documented vehicles in the river - and asked for a substantial barrier to be erected there designed to keep out all motorised vehicles, along with prominent signage.

Friends of the Salmon River is anxious to prevent further vandalism to the Salmon River.

The potential for pollution, shoreline erosion, and damage to aquatic wildlife/plants is immense. If you see anyone with a motorized vehicle in the river, please record the license number if possible and call the police OR Quinte Conservation (613-968-3434) to report it. Also, let us know at 613-379-5958 or [susan@moorepartners.ca](mailto:susan@moorepartners.ca).

## **FSR Board of Directors 2015-2016**

President: Susan Moore  
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Treasurer/Membership: Dave Johnson  
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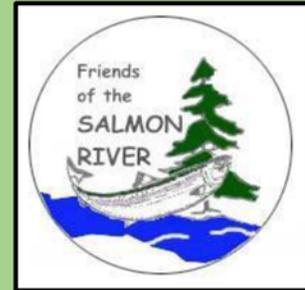
Directors:  
Bert Hein  
Bruce Henderson  
Dan Miller  
David Praskey  
Roger Walsh  
Maureen Walton

## 2016 Membership Information

Membership fees for 2016 are as follows:

Adult Membership --- \$20

Family Membership --- \$30 (two votes for each family membership)



### 2015/16 Membership Data

Presently, Friends of the Salmon River has a total of **147 voting members**. Those 90 memberships are comprised of 33 individual memberships and 57 family memberships.

71 memberships are from the Beaver Lake Preservation Association. In 2013, the lake association enrolled its membership with the Friends of the Salmon River.

### **BLPA members are enrolled through 2015---2016**

The remaining funds from the BLPA account were transferred to the FSR account.

**Memberships are due for renewal at the 2016 AGM. Or visit ---**

<http://friendsofsalmonriver.ca/membership-information/>



Friends of the Salmon River is a member of **Ontario Nature** - a charitable organization representing more than 30,000 members and supporters and 150 member groups from across Ontario. Ontario Nature (formerly the Federation of Ontario Naturalists) protects wild species and wild spaces through conservation, education and public engagement. We share in their pool of contacts and resources.

