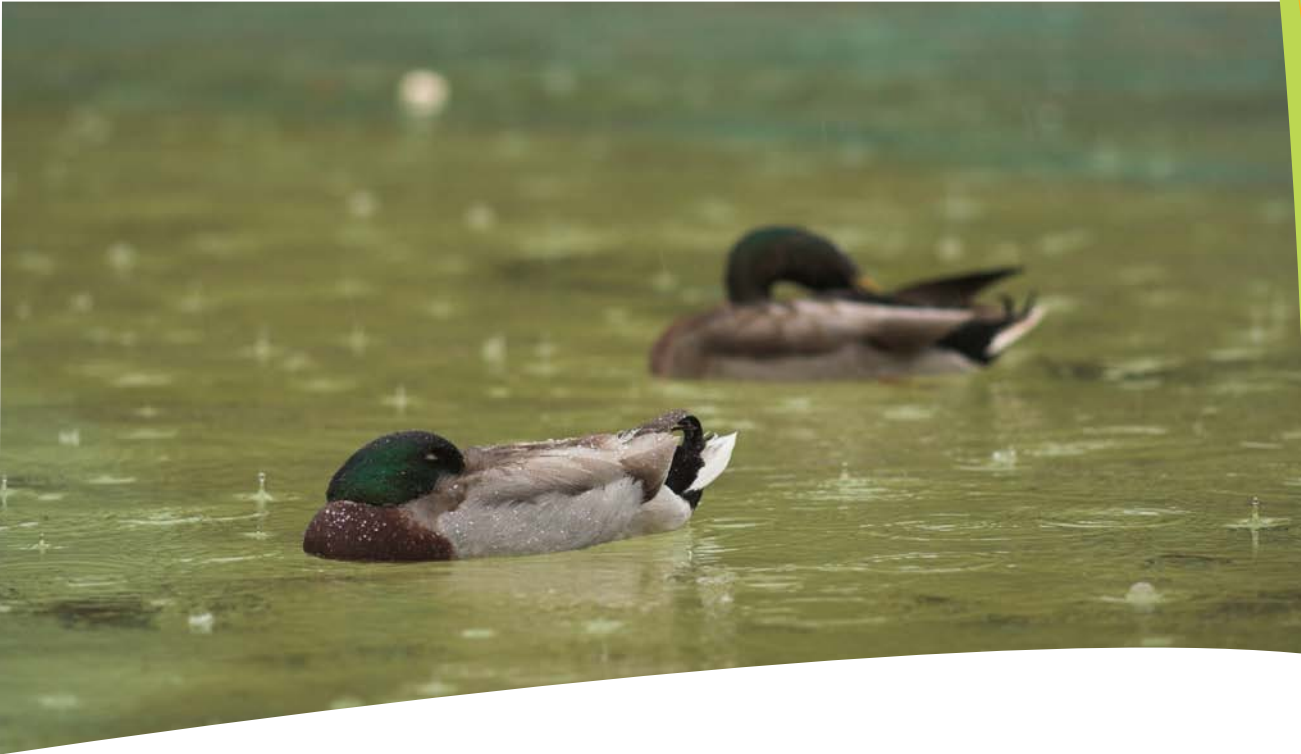




Watershed Watch PROGRAM



healthy environment healthy community healthy economy

BECOME A WATERSHED WATCHER

The Watershed Watch Program is an initiative of Quinte Conservation that encourages volunteers to help collect valuable weather information. Volunteers throughout our watershed collect rain data and submit their findings to Quinte Conservation. The information is very useful because it helps Quinte Conservation staff understand how much water is in our system and what is happening to the water. For example, Quinte Conservation has 31 test wells throughout our area that are used to monitor groundwater levels. On a regular basis we have to check to make sure that the equipment is working properly and the data is reasonable. By comparing the rain data to the fluctuations in the groundwater levels we can determine if the equipment is recording the data properly and we can also establish how quickly the rain is affecting the groundwater.

Quinte Conservation is hoping to expand the Watershed Watch Program to include other data collection in the future. This may include collecting water quality samples and monitoring water levels in lakes and creeks.

If you are interesting in becoming a Watershed Watcher, please contact Quinte Conservation. Our volunteers are assigned a user name and password to allow them to submit their data through our website.

HOW TO INSTALL YOUR RAIN GAUGE

Your new rain gauge may be easily installed. Insert it into the ground using the white plastic peg or mount it on a post using the screws provided.

For accurate readings the gauge must be located properly. Errors occur when the gauge is shielded from windblown rain by buildings, trees or other high objects. Make sure to place the rain gauge at a distance at least equal to the height of the obstruction. Another cause for error is wind. The closer the gauge is to the ground, the less the wind will interfere with your reading.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Remember to empty your rain gauge after each rainfall. Rain gauges may crack in sub-zero weather.

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QUINTE CONSERVATION



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WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

Quinte Conservation is a community based environmental protection agency; one of 36 Conservation Authorities in Ontario. Conservation Authorities are mandated to ensure the conservation, restoration and responsible management of Ontario's water, land and natural habitats through programs that balance human, environmental and economic needs.

We offer grass-roots conservation programs and services in an area of over 6,600 square kilometres that includes the watersheds of the Moira, Napanee and Salmon Rivers and all of Prince Edward County. We provide cost-effective environmental expertise to local communities.

OUR MISSION AND VISION

Our mission is to work with watershed residents in creating a sustainable ecosystem where people and nature live in harmony with continued economic prosperity and quality of life. Our vision is for Quinte Conservation to be the lead community environmental agency within our watersheds.

MEMBER MUNICIPALITIES

Representatives from each of the 18 municipalities within the watersheds serve on Quinte Conservation's Board of Directors. There is an Advisory Board for each watershed; Moira River, Napanee Region and Prince Edward Region.

PARTNERS

Quinte Conservation's primary partners in conservation are our 18 local municipalities. We also work with the provincial and federal government, community groups, trail and naturalist associations, landowners, service clubs, "Friends of" groups, local school boards and businesses.

HISTORY

Quinte Conservation was formed in 1996 with the merger of the Moira, Napanee Region and Prince Edward Region Conservation Authorities. More information on our history can be found on our website at www.quinteconservation.ca.