

Biosphere Program Updates

SUMMER - 2019



GEORGIAN BAY
BIOSPHERE RESERVE



The Township of the Archipelago (TOA) has partnered with the Georgian Bay Biosphere Reserve (GBBR) since 2014 to deliver environmental programming to ratepayers.

For more information, or to volunteer, contact GBBR staff:
info@gbbr.ca
705-774-0978
www.gbbr.ca

Follow us:
[@GBayBiosphere](https://www.facebook.com/GBayBiosphere)



Summer Events

Georgian Bay Biosphere staff are on the move all summer! Find us at an event near you: gbbr.ca/events

Explore Our Shores Presentation at Healey Lake

Saturday July 13, 11am - 12pm

Location TBA

Explore Our Shores Hike at Wreck Island

Monday July 29, 11am - 12pm

Wreck Island, Massasauga Provincial Park

In the event of inclement weather, visit gbbr.ca/events for cancellation notices.



Kids in the Biosphere Continues to Grow

Join us for the 7th season of Kids in the Biosphere! This program is available across the entire Township of the Archipelago.

How does the Kids in the Biosphere program work?

Register online at <https://bit.ly/2GuTSKa> to receive a free Activity Kit: a reusable bag containing outdoor games, crafts, a nature notebook and more. Once you register, GBBR will email with details on where to pick up your Activity Kit.

If you wish to track your progress, you can use the Summer Scorecard in the Activity Kit. At the end of the summer, or your stay in the Biosphere, bring your Scorecard to the GBBR office (11 James St., Parry Sound) or to a program volunteer to receive a prize. When you send in your scorecard, you'll be entered into a draw to win one of three grand prizes!

Draw for Three Grand Prizes:



Portable Play Tent



Night Vision Goggles

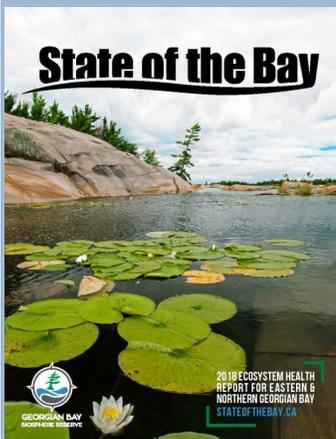


Set of Walkie Talkies

For more information or to volunteer, please contact kids@gbbr.ca.

State of the Bay

In 2018, the Georgian Bay Biosphere launched a new edition of the "State of the Bay: ecosystem health report for eastern and northern Georgian Bay". Thousands of readers have enjoyed this summary of the best available science for Lake Huron-Georgian Bay.



There's more!

Each month, find news articles on additional environmental health topics for Georgian Bay. Don't miss out!

[The Ripple Effects of Climate Change](#)

[How does Road Salt Affect our Ecosystem?](#)

[Our Water is Polluted by More than just Phosphorus](#)

[Pesticides in the Bay](#)

Visit stateofthebay.ca

Highlights from the 2018 Forest Health Update

There are many concerns over forest pests and diseases threatening our local forests. In 2018 the presence of Emerald Ash Borer was observed in the Parry Sound-Muskoka area for the first time. There was also moderate to severe defoliation in parts of this region as a result of the native Forest Tent Caterpillar.

Emerald Ash Borer

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is an invasive species from Asia. It was first discovered in North America in 2002. It has since been spotted throughout southern Ontario and Quebec. EAB has also been confirmed in Thunder Bay and Sault Ste. Marie.

In 2015, Muskoka Conservancy launched an Emerald Ash Borer Early Detection Pilot Project. Captured beetles were analyzed and an EAB specimen was found in two locations: one near Gravenhurst and one in Bracebridge.

For more information on EAB in Muskoka, please read:

<https://muskokaconservancy.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/2018-EAB-Report-Final.pdf>

For more information on identifying EAB, please read:

www.invadingspecies.com/emerald-ash-borer/

Forest Tent Caterpillar

The cycle of defoliation caused by Forest Tent Caterpillar outbreaks have occurred on average in Ontario every ten to twelve years with each outbreak lasting about three to five years. In 2017, moderate to severe defoliation was seen in the Parry Sound District as a result of a new infestation. In 2018, moderate to severe defoliation continued in areas of the Parry Sound District.

Outbreaks of tent caterpillars appear destructive, however they are important for insect eating birds including many at-risk warbler species. Please use discretion when attempting to manage this species.



EAB adult and larvae (edrrontario.ca)



Forest Tent Caterpillar (ontario.ca)