



Education and Outreach Programs

About Us

Lower Trent Conservation, established in 1968 is a non-profit, community based environmental protection organization dedicated to protecting, enhancing, and restoring local natural resources within the Lower Trent Watershed Region.

Lower Trent Conservation recognizes that the students of today are the environmental stewards of tomorrow. We value youth environmental education, to help ensure that our environment is healthy, and vibrant for many years to come.

Background

Lower Trent Conservation has offered a variety of educational programs since 1971, and continues to do so today. *Connecting KIDS with NATURE*, established in 2016, is a community sponsored umbrella program offering numerous educational activities to local students entirely **free of charge**. (Transportation where applicable not included.)

This program was developed with the focus of educating students, through a variety of presentations and experiential activities, about the importance of environmental protection and stewardship of our natural world.



Programming

The programs that we offer have been designed to closely match the curriculum demands set out by the Ontario Ministry of Education. The lessons and activities we facilitate are all in-class, within your school community, or conservation area, except the Tri-County Children's Water Festival which happens annually in the village of Batawa. All of these programs provide children with hands-on, interactive activities working to connect them with nature.

All programs can be adapted depending on grade and the desired learning outcomes. If you have any questions please feel free reach to Nicholas Reynolds environmental education technician nicholas.reynolds@ltc.on.ca

Or fill out a [program request form](#) on our website.

Our Focus Programs

Tri-County Children's Water Festival

Grade(s): 4 (including split 3/4 & 4/5 classes)

Length: Full day

Availability: Spring

Location: Village of Batawa;

Description: The Tri-County Children's Water Festival, for the counties of Hastings, Northumberland, and Prince Edward, is an annual two-day event held in the village of Batawa. Students will engage in water stewardship activities in their homes, classrooms and communities. This youth environmental education program features over 30 interactive, hands-on learning activities, providing youth with opportunities to learn about our most precious natural resource – water!

You must pre-register for the festival. Registration opens to schools the beginning of March. Please visit [Tri-County Childrens Water Festival](http://www.cwec.org) to register your classroom.



Love Your Watershed

Grade(s): 7-12

Length: Project is ongoing throughout the school year

Availability: Year round

Location: Conservation Lands and in Class
Students will have the opportunity to choose from a selection of projects aimed at improving the natural aspects and or overall experience of our conservation areas. Students will plan and implement all aspects of their chosen projects allowing for creative control and problem solving for the project. The proposed projects will cover many elements of the curriculum and focus on STEM through; skilled trades, Engineering and design process, the environment, and many other areas of the school curriculum. Students will create a proposal for their plan and will receive funding to help with implementation, they will work throughout the school year towards a day at the conservation area installing or implementing their project.



All About Water

All of these programs can be tailored to different grade expectations and to the curriculum for:

- Science and Technology
- Social Studies
- Geography
- The Arts
- Language

Water Cycle

Activity Length: 1- Hour

Availability: Year-round

Location: Classroom Presentation

Description: A brief introduction will demonstrate the water cycle and show students up close the process water takes when it evaporates, condenses and precipitates. Students will become a part of the water cycle as they transform into a water droplet and travel between different areas to understand the journey a water droplet makes.

Wetlands

Length: 1-Hour

Availability: Year-round

Location: Classroom Presentation

Description: Students will learn about Wetlands, how they function and their role within our natural ecosystems. They will get the opportunity to observe some of the amazing functions a wetland performs through creating and testing wetland models.

Augmented Reality Sandbox

Length: 1- 2 Hours

Availability: Year-round

Location: To Be determined

Description: The AR Sandbox creates a topographic map that moves with the movement of the sand and simulates the movement of water throughout a watershed. Students will experience how water functions as it works its way through different landscapes. The AR sandbox is a great way to learn how a watershed works, and the risks of flooding and erosion posed by changes to the landscape.

Drinking Water Source Protection

Length: 1-2 Hours

Availability: Year-round

Location: Classroom Presentation

Description: Learn about where our drinking water comes from and what we do to keep it clean and safe to drink. Through interactive activities and games students will learn what can be a threat to clean drinking water and the steps conservation authorities as well as municipalities take to ensure the water coming out of your tap is safe to drink.

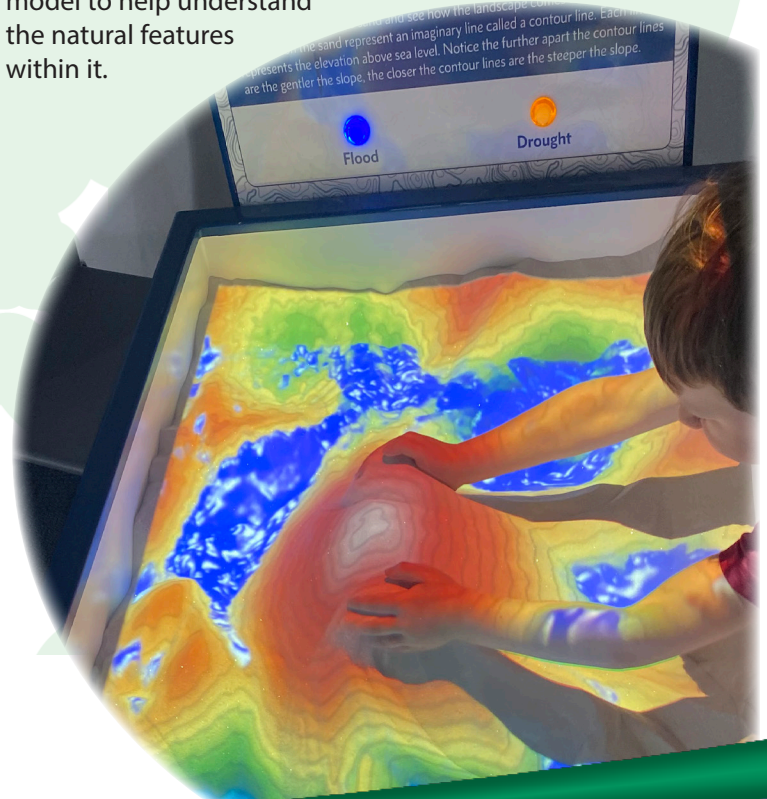
What is a watershed?

Length: 1- Hour

Availability: Year-round

Location: Classroom Presentation

Description: Through interactive models' students will explore what a watershed is and how we define it. They will experience how all of the water is interconnected, while learning the rivers and tributaries within their community. Students will take a closer look at the Lower Trent watershed region through a 3D model to help understand the natural features within it.



Soil, Lands, and Natural Hazards

Natural Hazards

Activity Length: 1-Hour

Availability: Year-round

Location: Classroom Presentation

Description: Students will learn all about the natural hazards of flooding, erosion and dynamic beaches and the role Lower Trent Conservation plays in keeping our community safe. Students will also have the opportunity to learn about rising natural hazards and our changing environment.

Erosion Busters

Activity Length: 1-Hour

Availability: Year-round

Location: Classroom Presentation

Description: Students create an interactive model to help understand the role that plants and trees play in stabilizing our shorelines and preventing erosion. Students create different planting scenarios to understand the importance of the vegetation in our environment and community.

Pollinator Seed Balls

Activity Length: 1-Hour

Availability: Year-round

Location: Classroom Presentation

Through interactive learning and presentation students will learn about the different parts of plants, various native pollinator species, their habitat, how pollination occurs, and the benefits to our ecosystem. The class will then go outside to make clay seed balls to take home. All seeds and equipment are provided.

At our Conservation Areas

Forest Hike with Active Games

Length: 1- 2 Hours

Availability: Year-round

Location: Goodrich -Looms, Proctor Park, Seymour, Sager, Kings Mill, Bleasdale Boulder

Description: : Join us for a hike at one of our conservation lands where students will play interactive games focusing on habitats and the plants and animals that call our conservation lands home. A great way to get outside and learn about the natural systems within our watershed.

Pond Dipping / Water Bugs

Activity Length: 1-Hour

Availability: Year-round

Location: Offered at Goodrich-Loomis Education Centre

Through hands-on investigation students will explore a water system and the wonderful benthic invertebrates, or "water bugs" that live in the water. Students will learn about some of the adaptations these bugs have to survive in these spaces, how the needs of these bugs are met, and how these bugs play an important role in indicating water quality to scientists..



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