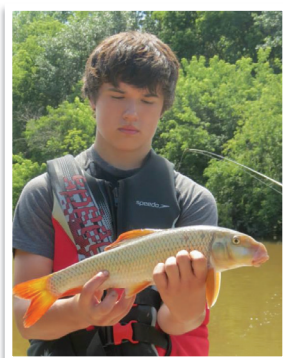


Local students enhance education with SNC summer jobs

SNC is connecting hands-on work and mentor experience with 18 local post-secondary students whose career goals lead naturally to working in a Conservation Authority. With support from federal and provincial government funds, SNC is the largest student employer in the area. Summer hires are enhancing their educational direction with opportunities in the field such as carrying out site maintenance, and monitoring habitat with fisheries staff experts. Many work out of SNC offices in Finch, developing communication, financial, and corporate experience for up to 16 weeks.



SNC annual fish camp reels in young anglers



SNC provides local youth with the skills and tools to fish responsibly every summer. For 12 young anglers at Cass Bridge Conservation Area in North Dundas, the free three-day camp is more than reeling in the big one. Knowing the rules, where to drop a line, and how to identify fish species are all on the agenda. SNC offers the opportunity to

have fun learning about fly fishing from the experts, to help familiarize young people with the natural environment in the watershed. New skills are put into practice by casting out lines for some catch and release.

Ottawa and Prescott & Russell stream health get SNC check up

SNC summer fisheries students are evaluating habitat, assessing bugs, and sampling fish communities in the watershed's wadeable streams. The emphasis is in the Bearbrook sub-watershed located in Ottawa and Prescott and Russell. This is part of the Ontario Stream Assessment Protocol (OSAP)—a series of screening standards useful for making recommendations for enhancing the overall health of aquatic ecosystems. Students, along with SNC fisheries staff experts, are electrofishing at 25 sites to sample fish populations, most notably Northern Pike and Smallmouth Bass. This is a common survey method that results in no permanent harm to fish.

SD&G Library & SNC partner for children's programming

Public outreach and education activities abound in the summer months. SNC is partnering with SD&G library staff to deliver curriculum-based, one hour Watershed Adventure programs. SNC students are making presentations to county branches, reaching out to over 160 local children. Youngsters across the watershed are learning how they can help protect turtle species at risk and how bugs contribute to their local ecosystem.

SNC snail snagaroo

Invasive species like the mystery snail can damage the environment. SNC staff, in partnership with the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters (OFAH), are controlling their spread and removing them from areas of concern in North Dundas. About 300 litres of snails are being taken for measurements to be added to previously collected data. SNC hosts an OFAH student every summer to support invasive species monitoring and outreach.



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