



AN INVITATION TO STUDENTS ACROSS SAULT STE. MARIE | JK - 12TH GRADE

World Water Day, Sault Ste. Marie Monday March 22nd, 2021

Please Join Us At Our Inaugural Event

www.freshwaterwise.com

The United Nations recognizes this annual, global event to raise awareness about freshwater ([World Water Day 2021 | 22 MARCH WORLD WATER DAY](#)). The International [Decade of Action](#) listed *Water for Sustainable Development* as a top priority, bringing greater focus around the globe to freshwater here in the Sault. Across our community freshwater forms part of our everyday stories.

In celebration and protection of freshwater, as we share stories, backed by science and research, to raise awareness of the huge importance these incredible waterways have in the world, highlighting threats faced along with actions for change.

Water Wise, and the LSSU Center for Freshwater Research and Education, invite everyone to tune in to this educational platform to learn and think about water, a little bit differently.

STORYTELLING CHALLENGE

[#freshwater4change](#)

Our focus is on students, as inspired and entrusted agents of change, from Pre-Kindergarten up to 12th Grade. We are challenging students to share freshwater stories in the classroom, at home and with us, through artwork, photographs, video clips and words.

We want to hear about your favourite freshwater memories.

HERE'S HOW

Share a photograph, picture of your artwork, writing or a home video that shows what freshwater means to you, living in the Sault Ste. Marie area.

Students you can choose a story prompt to get started, or make up your own

1. My favourite place by the water and how it makes me feel
2. My favourite experience on the lake or river in the summertime
3. My favourite way to spend the winter on the lake
4. My favourite springtime memory by the water
5. My favourite autumn memory by the water



SUBMISSIONS

Of Photos, Pictures of your Artwork Videos

- Through Instagram using the hashtags #freshwater4change and #water2me to join in our local storytelling challenge and global campaign
- Submissions must be posted by a teacher, through a school account or by a family member, on behalf of students under the age of 13 (Instagram rules).

What a great way to connect to water with classmates, friends and family, in thinking about the value of our experiences with water.

Literary Submissions

- Poems, short stories and words about freshwater to be emailed to flow@freshwaterwise.com

SELECTED SUBMISSIONS

- Students whose photo, video, artwork and/or literary submission gets selected, will be contacted to complete an online waiver form at www.freshwaterwise.com/challenges
- Winning photo and video entries will be showcased in a special World Water Day Video, shared on March 22nd on our event website, alongside featured literary submissions

IMPORTANT TO KNOW

Deadline for All Submissions: March 15th, 2021

Literary Submissions by Email: flow@freshwaterwise.com

Photos & Videos, 60 seconds or less through Instagram (account holder age 13+)

Winning Submissions must complete a waiver form online

www.freshwaterwise.com/challenges to be featured online for our World Water Day event

We are excited for you to share your freshwater stories with us!

SPECIAL WORLD WATER DAY PRESENTATION

Monday March 22nd, 9:15 - 10am

Catch of the Day? Ontario's Water Resources!

**By Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry Science and Research Branch's
Tom Johnston, Mike Burrell and Trish Westman**

Register www.freshwaterwise.com

Our water is home to some amazing plants and animals and keeping tabs on them is important to monitor the overall health of our environment. Community Science is becoming

increasingly important to track those animals and plants and iNaturalist has emerged as a favourite for people of all interest levels. Mike Burrell will guide students and teachers in the use of iNaturalist and how this data is used to make decisions and protect biodiversity here in Ontario and the wonderful variety of plants and animals living in watery habitats. A special takeaway challenge will be offered using iNaturalist.

Who likes a good fish story? Dr. Tom Johnston will introduce the idea of bioaccumulation of things like mercury and other contaminants in fish. The presentation will touch on how students can explore Ontario Fish Consumption Guidelines to learn more about fish species in our area.

Meet the Speakers



Trisha Westman

Trish Westman is the Director of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources Science and Research Branch. Trish and her team lead research and monitoring programs across the province to explore how Ontario's natural resources, like water, wildlife and forests can be used sustainably and how to keep them healthy and flourishing. Originally from Sault Ste. Marie, the siren call of the big lakes lured Trish back to Algoma where she continues to seek adventure outdoors whenever she can. Trish has a Bachelor of Engineering from the University of Guelph and a Master of Applied Science in Engineering from Carleton University. Trish's favourite beach in the whole world? Pancake Bay Provincial Park!



Mike Burrell

Mike Burrell is a zoologist with the Natural Heritage Information Centre which tracks rare species around the province. His work is split between doing targeted field surveys for rare animals and helping to review and manage the provincial record on rare species observations and occurrences. He works with conservation partners to ensure data from all sources, including community science projects like iNaturalist and eBird make their way into the provincial record. He's previously worked at the MNRF district level, Ontario Parks, and for the ENGO Birds Canada. Mike holds a Bachelor of Science in Biology from Trent University and a Master of Science in Forestry from the University of Toronto. In 2019, Mike and his brother Ken co-authored the book "Best Places to Bird in Ontario".

**Tom Johnston**

Tom Johnston is a Research Scientist with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry. Tom was born and raised in Northern Ontario and always had a passion for fishing. This passion led him to study fish in University and a job in fish research. He studied fish in various places in Canada from the Prairies to the East Coast, finally returning to Northern Ontario. He studies many things about fish – where they live, what they eat and how they reproduce. One of the main things that Tom studies is how fish accumulate contaminants and how that affects their quality as food for people.



Hosted by

[Algoma University](#)**WE ARE EXCITED TO HAVE YOU JOIN US AT WORLD WATER DAY 2021**