



Haliburton-Muskoka-Kawartha
**children's
water
festival**

2023
Volunteer Guide

Many thanks to ...



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Environmental Learning
"Living, Learning, Growing"

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... Thank You !

Thank you for volunteering with the Haliburton-Muskoka-Kawartha Children's Water Festival. This is an exciting event, bringing together students, teachers, and members of the community to explore water and remind ourselves how important it is to us.
Why should I help?

The Haliburton-Muskoka-Kawartha Children's Water Festival helps shape children's attitudes about respecting and conserving valuable water resources so they can ensure a reliable water supply for the future. About 100 volunteers support our Festival to plan and resource as well as staff the educational activity centres and ensure a smooth delivery of this unique event. Volunteers will help with running and setting up activities, act as greeters, directing groups through the site, and helping to keep the grounds safe and tidy.

Who will attend the Festival?

Each day of the Festival, will have approximately 400 elementary students visiting from grades 4 to 6. These students are coming from schools all across the Trillium Lakelands District School Board area: Georgian Bay, Muskoka, Huntsville, Wilberforce, Haliburton, Lindsay ...

What happens at the event?

The Festival has more than 30 hands-on activity centres that will challenge students to consider the importance of water to themselves as individuals, and to society as a whole. Small groups of 5-7 students with parent volunteers, flow through centres, spending 8-15 minutes at each to complete a learning activity and/or soak in a brief demonstration or presentation. The activities follow five themes: Water Conservation, Water Protection, Water Science, Water Technology and Water Attitudes. Each activity has one or two simple messages. Materials for those leading activity centres for background information and instructions for each activity are made available ahead of time for volunteers' review.

What do you get for helping out?

Volunteers receive lunch, beverages and snacks in appreciation. Also, you will gain experience and connections as an integral part of a water stewardship education team and will have a whole lot of fun! We can also provide a certificate of contribution should volunteers request this for addition to their portfolios.

How much time is needed?

Generally, a one-day commitment is necessary, from 8:30a.m. to approximately 3:00p.m. that day. We have some community volunteers who fill a morning or afternoon shift or help cover some activity centres during the lunch. If you would like to volunteer for more than just one day, to support our programs through the year, please let us know !

What is a typical day at the Festival like?

8:30 a.m.

Arrive at the Kinark Outdoor Centre and let registration know that you have arrived and they will explain where to park. Then meet at the Volunteer Welcoming Area (back of the dining hall) and help yourself to some coffee or tea. After checking in, receiving your activity folder, HMK Children's Water Festival bib (pinnie) and meeting your activity centre partner(s) you will be directed to the location and equipment for your role of the day. There will be time for you to set up and try the activity yourself, and make sure you are comfortable with leading the activity.

9:30 to 10:00 a.m.

About 400 elementary students start to arrive, get oriented and hit the activities.

11: 15 – 12:45 (Lunch)

Lunch is provided to volunteers at the Kinark Dining Hall. To accommodate differing schedules of attending schools, activity centres will remain open during this time, unless otherwise indicated. As a volunteer, you will be paired with someone at your activity station and you will rotate for lunch. One volunteer will take a half hour and go for lunch and then return and give your partner the next half hour. At the limited centres where there is 1 volunteer, shutting down for 12-12:30 when we have a special presentation available to students is advised.

There is no food available for sale on site. If you have a large appetite, feel free to bring your own snacks (*Litterless please!*). Feel free to bring a reusable mug for coffee and tea as well – it will be supplied throughout the morning.

Also, remember water! Please bring a re-useable water bottle / container. There will be water on site to re-fill with. **Thanks for helping make this a *single-use water bottle Free event*** (as students have encouraged in feedback from past years)

2:15 Activity Stations are shut down and equipment returned until approximately- **2:30 / 3 pm**

Clean up your station and pack away, take larger equipment to a place we will set and communicate on the day. Please return the activity centre folder, pine and any other materials that were given to you in the morning to the Volunteer Welcoming Area (back of the dining hall). Please advise organizing staff of any and all malfunctioning equipment, or anything that the activity will need stocked up for future use. If any of the activity materials are wet and require drying, please return these to the Volunteer Welcoming Area as well.

Hand in your assigned HMK Children's Water Festival bib (pinnie) to the volunteer coordinator and, please fill out an evaluation form on site or emailed to you.

Thanks to some volunteers who are lending extra hands-on help and vehicles with Festival shut-down.

Pat yourself on the back, and head back to school, work or home. Thank you for a job well done!

Tips for your day at the Festival:

- **Wear comfortable boots/shoes**, or bring a second pair. You will be spending most of the day standing.
- ***Dress for the weather!*** Activities will run rain or shine. You will be outside most of the day. Please wear comfortable clothing you don't mind getting a bit dirty or wet. Be sure to check the weather report before you leave the house!
- You will receive a HMK Children's Water Festival bib (pinnie) in the morning when you arrive and sign in at the Volunteer Welcoming Area. This bib (pinnie) will fit over whatever clothing you need to wear to keep you comfortable throughout the day. These are important visual aids to help students, teachers and parents know you're a volunteer. **These bibs (pinnies) are to be handed back into the Volunteer Coordinator at the Volunteer Welcoming Area at the end of the day!**
- If you have a question or problem at the Festival, contact your marshal for your area ... we are here to help and make this a great experience for you!
- **Preparing ahead of the Festival:**
- A list of resources is attached if you want to read more for background knowledge.
- Read through this guide, and the information on how to operate your activity centre / complete your role ahead of time (descriptions of the activity centres and other festival information can be found at labelled tabs of the HMKCWF website, www.hmwaterfestival.ca). It will give you all the information you need to run your activity (select activity Tab, link of name & then "Download pdf for complete guide) . If you need additional information, or have questions, feel free to ask the organizers.
- **Covid Safety;** Thanks for helping keep this mostly-outdoor festival safe and respectful of a diversity of participants needs. We will provide masks with a 'see-through' window for lip-reading / easier communications for all volunteers as an option to use when needed to protect yourself or others.
- Should you develop Covid symptoms, infection or be exposed to someone with a confirmed case, anytime within the week before the event, including the morning of, please contact your team lead so we can adjust plans and maintain safety.
- If you have questions, concerns or last minute changes to your health please contact your team lead or Festival Coordinator; Kara Mitchell m: 705-471-0272 or hmkchildrenswaterfestival@gmail.com

Volunteer Roles

There are four different volunteer positions with the Haliburton-Muskoka-Kawartha Children's Water Festival.

- 1) JOB TITLE:** Activity Centre Animator / Facilitator
LOCATION: Children's Water Festival site, Kinark Outdoor Centre

PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Staff and operate the assigned/selected activity centre during school visits
- Deliver "water message" pertinent to the activity
- Ensure active participation by all students

BEFORE THE FESTIVAL:

- Read over the activity description, and be sure you are comfortable with the purpose and concepts of the activity

ON THE FESTIVAL DAY(S):

- Report to the Volunteer Welcoming Area (back of the dining hall) at 8:30 a.m.
- Pick up your Festival bib (pinnie) and material for your centre, including maps of activity centres (information about last minute changes, etc.)
- Meet your activity centre volunteer partner
- Tour Festival site with committee staff for quick orientation
- Report to your activity centre and, with volunteer partner, review the activity
- Discourage all participants (adults included) from accessing the lake edge
- Advise volunteer committee of missing or broken materials before, during and after the school groups have been through
- Have fun!
- Return the activity centre folder and Festival bib (pinnie) to the volunteer welcoming area.
- Fill out your evaluation form before you go / in follow-up on-line

REMEMBER:

- You are helping students to discover their relationships to water, not teaching
- Use open-ended questions to guide the discussion
- Use comparisons to places, measurements, and time spans that the students would be familiar with
- Share the task of message delivery and demonstration with your partner(s)
- Be open, positive and enthusiastic, and even dramatic
- No smoking at the activity centres
- Dress appropriately for the weather ... we run rain and shine! (cancel for severe storm and provide emergency shelter if such arises unexpectedly)
- HAVE FUN!

- 3) JOB TITLE:** Hands-On Labour Volunteer (during Festival)
LOCATION: Children's Water Festival site, Kinark Outdoor Centre

PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Assist HMKCWF committee members with set up of all activity stations and support facilities as directed
- Tear-down of Festival activity centres

ON THE FESTIVAL DAY(S):

- Report to Registration at 8:30 am or Volunteer central, back of Dining Hall at the time arranged with our volunteer coordinator ahead of time
- Tour Festival site with committee staff to ensure all materials are in place
- Provide support as required to committee staff
- Alert committee staff to any risk situations
- Assist with directing buses and other vehicular traffic
- Circulate in assigned area, providing help where required
- Provide directions if asked
- Distribute refreshments and snacks to activity station volunteers
- Pick up litter and transport equipment as assigned
- Encourage use of garbage and recycling receptacles
- Check with committee contact before leaving

AFTER FESTIVAL:

- On the final day of the festival at 2:30 p.m., report to the committee contact. Assist with teardown of activity stations as assigned. Assist truck loading at stations and unloading at the truck.

REMEMBER:

- You are an important part of the Festival – set a positive tone
- Discourage students, parent helpers and teachers from accessing the lake edge
- No smoking while schools are on site please
- Dress appropriately for the weather ... we run rain and shine!
- HAVE FUN!

- 4) JOB TITLE:** Hands-On Labour Volunteer (pre- and post-Festival)
LOCATION: Children's Water Festival site, Kinark Outdoor Centre

PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Assist HMKCWF committee members with set up/take down of all activity stations and support facilities as directed

BEFORE AND AFTER THE FESTIVAL:

- Report to the Nova Centre at 9:00 AM / when arranged
- Assist truck unloading at trailer/cube van, and unloading of pick-up truck at activity centres
- On final day of festival report to the registration tent at 2:30 p.m. Assist with tear-down of activity centres as assigned
- Assist with loading of pick-up truck and unloading at trailer/cube van

ON VOLUNTEER DAY(S):

- Provide support as required to committee staff
- Alert committee staff to any risk situations
- Pick up litter as assigned
- Check with committee staff before departure to collect signed volunteer letter (if required for secondary school students' volunteer hours)

REMEMBER:

- Come appropriately attired for heavy work in any weather conditions
- Hard-toed shoes/boots preferred. No open-toed shoes will be allowed

Thematic Overview of Activity Centres

All of the activity centres listed below are accessible to all children at the Festival. For most of the activities we have attempted to include the most relevant learning expectations from the Ontario curriculum. These lists of learning expectations are not exhaustive. By providing some of these learning expectations we intend to assist teachers in identifying activities which best suit their grade level and program. Some activities are described as 'open' to all grades because the visiting presenters have not identified specific Ontario Curriculum learning expectations.

For the purpose of assisting teachers in planning their itinerary, we have grouped the activity centres into five themes, encoded below. We recognize that many of the activities could belong to several or all of the five themes and have identified one predominant theme to facilitate the focused or diverse itinerary.

WC: Water Conservation **WA:** Water Attitudes **WT:** Water Technology **WP:** Water Protection
WS: Water Science **CC:** Climate Change

Activity Centre	Theme	Location	Map #
Atlantic Salmon Loss and Restoration	WP & WS	The Pines	32
Algonquin Highlands Fire Service	WT	Eagle's Nest (Outside, bball courts)	23
Beaver Fever	WP	The Pines -The Challenge Course	29
Blooming Jeopardy	WP	The Pines	36
Bugs in the Mud	WS	Waterfront (Under Open Shelter)	7
Creeks and Critters *	WP	Waterfront	9
Earth in the Balance	WP	Baseball Diamond / Dining Hall Field	13
Froggy ... You are Outta There!	WP	Baseball Diamond Field	22
Haliburton Fire Crew	WT	Waterfront	6
How Wet is Our Planet?	WS	Waterfront (Under Open Shelter)	8
It's a Trout's Life	WP	Waterfront	2
Just Dam It!	WP	Waterfront (craft cabin porch)	1
Lather Up!	WC	The Pines	33
Migration Headache (2 Groups @ once)	WP	Baseball Diamond Field	35
Ontario Provincial Police Marine Unit	WA	Down Rd from Eagle's Nest	19
Osprey Survivor	WS	Below Dining Hall (Outside)	16
Peat's in a Bog !	WS & CC	Eagle's Nest	24
Pioneer Water Race *	WA	The Pines	34
Polar Melt Down!	WP & CC	Eagle's Nest (Inside Upper Level)	27
Reign in Garbage! (model)	WP	Eagle's Nest (Inside Upper Level)	24

(continued next page)

Activity Centre	Theme	Location	Map #
River Race	WP & WA	Field below Dining Hall	18
Rolling Through the Shed	WP	Baseball Diamond (Hill Beside)	15
Round You Go, H ₂ O!	WS	Waterfront	3
Shoreline Do's & Don'ts *	WP	Eagle's Nest (back porch)	28
Stream Savers	WP	The Pines	37
Surprise Activity - Grade 8 Students led		To be determined	38
The Great Swim Off	WP	Waterfront	5
The Power of Water	WT	Behind Dining Hall (Under Shelter)	12
Tread Lightly *	WA & WP	By Dining Hall	11
Turtle Guardians	WP	Dining Hall (downstairs)	18
Turtle Trauma	WP	The Pines	21
Unwelcomed Guests	WP	Baseball Diamond Field	20
Up on the Watershed	WA & CC	The Pines	31
Wash Out!	WA	Waterfront	30
Water Hero Scavenger Hunt	WA & WC	Throughout Festival Grounds, Finish at Water Hero Headquarters	16
Water Runs Downhill	WS	Eagle's Nest (/ Infront of)	26
Water Storybook Walk *	WP	On trail between Field and road to waterfront	10
What's Coming?	WS	Baseball Diamond (top of Hill Beside)	14
Wonderful Wetlands	WP	Waterfront	4
*May be run as a self-guided activity "tbc"= to be confirmed			

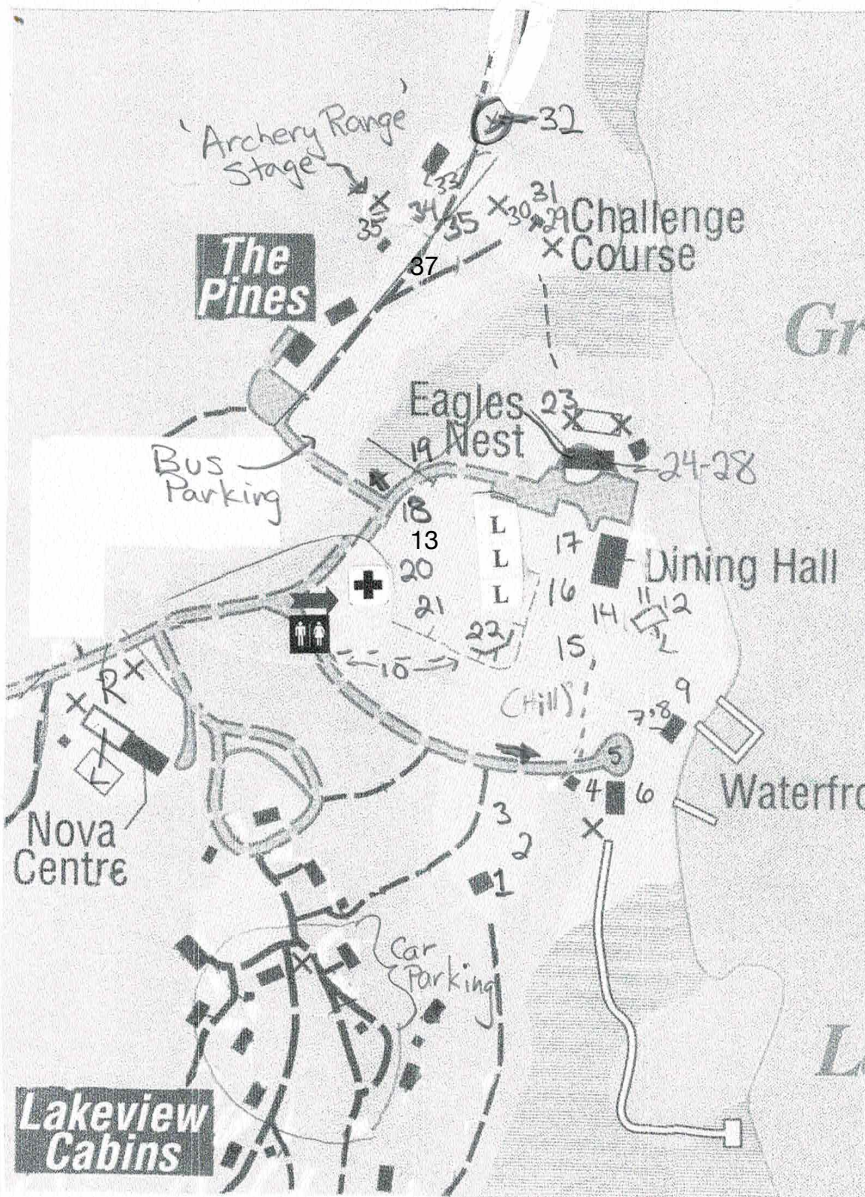
Kinark Outdoor Centre (1766 Queen's Line, North of Minden, West of Carnarvon)
 - 2023 map to come a week before the festival.



2022

Activity Centres Map

- | | | | |
|-----|--------------|-----|--------------------------|
| R | Registration | L | Lunch Tents for Students |
| + | First Aid | → | Directional Signage |
| ♂ ♀ | Washrooms | --- | = trail |



Festival Activities

1. Wash Out !
2. It's a Trout's Life
3. Round You Go, H2O
4. Wonderful Wetlands
5. The Great Swim Off !
6. Haliburton Fire Crew
7. Bugs in the Mud
8. How wet is our planet ?
9. Creeks and Critters
10. Story-book Walk (self-led)
11. Tread Lightly
12. The Power of Water
13. Earth in Balance (Field by Dining hall)
14. What's coming
15. Rolling Through the Shed
16. Osprey Survivor
17. Water Hero Headquarters
18. Turtle Guardians
19. OPP Marine Unit
20. Unwelcome Guests
21. Migration Headache
22. Froggy You are Outta There !
23. Algonquin Highlands Fire Service
24. Peats in a Bog (inside lower)
25. Reign in the Garbage (inside upper)
26. Water Runs Downhill (in front)
27. Polar Melt Down (inside upper)
28. Shoreline Do's and Don'ts (back porch)
29. Beaver Fever !
30. Just Dam It !
31. Up on the Watershed
32. Atlantic Salmon Loss & Restoration
33. Lather up !
34. Pioneer Water Race
35. Turtle Trauma
36. Blooming Jeopardy
37. Stream Savers (in the Pines section)

Websites of Interest

This is a listing of some of the websites provided to the teachers as resource sites. You may find them useful as well. There is a great deal of information on water in these sites, which may help you prepare for your day(s) at the Haliburton-Muskoka-Kawartha Children's Water Festival. Don't panic – you aren't expected to do this! These are just resources for your information.

- **Freshwater Website – Environment Canada**
<http://www.ec.gc.ca/water/index.htm>
Contains information about the nature of water and management. Site has good teacher's corner and a large list of publications.
- **Great Lakes Information Network**
<http://www.great-lakes.net>
Information about life in and around the Great Lakes. Teacher resources provide quizzes, mini lessons on Great Lake topics. U.S and Canadian partnership.
- **Envirozine – Environment Canada's Online Newsletter**
http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/eppp-archive/100/202/301/science_environ-e/html/2001/07-08/home_e.cfm.html
Discusses different environmental issues each week
- **Canadian Water Resources Association**
<http://www.cwra.org>
An organization for individuals and organizations interested in the management of Canada's water resources.
- **Adopt-A-Pond**
<http://www.torontozoo.com/adoptapond/>
A wetland conservation program operating out of the Toronto Zoo that allows people and groups to adopt a pond.
- **Otonabee Region Conservation Services**
<http://www.otonabee.com>
- **Peterborough Utilities Services**
<http://www.puc.org>
- **Waterfront Regeneration Trust**
<http://www.waterfronttrail.org>
A southern Ontario ENGO that organizes projects designed to enhance the Lake Ontario shoreline on the Canadian side.
- **Ontario Clean Water Agency**
<http://www.ocwa.com>
- **Lifewater Canada**
<http://www.lifewater.ca>
Donations and volunteering overseas on water-based projects.
- **Watershed Science Centre**
<http://www.trentu.ca/wsc>
Information about watershed research.
- **Water – Ministry of the Environment**
<http://www.ene.gov.on.ca/water.htm>
Information on various water-related issues, including wells, conservation, drinking water monitoring, the Great Lakes and more.
- **Project Wet**
<http://hctfeducation.ca/product/project-wet/>
A Canadian program to promote the appreciation and knowledge of water resources in the classroom.
- **Water Survey of Canada**
<http://www.ec.gc.ca/rhc-wsc/>
National water quantity survey. Looks at water-related issues facing various provinces
- **Water Environmental Association of Ontario**
<http://www.weao.org>
An organization for technical and professional individuals.
- **U.S Environmental Protection Agency**
<http://www.epa.gov/kids> or <http://www.epa.gov/teachers>
Kids' site has online activities. Teachers' site has information such as curriculum ideas and other links.
- **Waterweb**
<http://www.waterweb.org>
A consortium listing water-related and environmental websites in Canada and internationally.
- **University of Wisconsin Extension Programs, Environmental Resources Education Site**
<http://www.uwex.edu/erc/ywc>
Educating Young People About Water. Has links to curriculum materials and ideas.
- **The Groundwater Foundation (USA)**
<http://www.groundwater.org/>
Site for kids with activities and info.
- **Water Science for Schools, U.S Geological Survey**
<http://education.usgs.gov/>
General information for kids and teachers, as well as online activities.

- **American Water Works Association**
<http://www.awwa.org>
- **Great Lake Information Management**
<https://www.ec.gc.ca/grandslacs-greatlakes/default.asp?lang=En&n=BB02C773-1>
Resource - Kids resources
- **Canada's Aquatic Environments**
<http://www.aquatic.uoguelph.ca>
Promotes awareness of aquatic ecosystems
- **Ducks Unlimited Canada**
<http://www.ducks.ca/>
- **Canadian Centre for Inland Waters- Water research in the Great Lakes**
<https://www.ec.gc.ca/inre-nwri/>
- **RiverSides Stewardship Alliance-Acts to facilitate behavioural attitudes**
<http://www.riversides.org>
- **Ontario Streams-Stream restoration information and education**
<http://ontariostreams.on.ca>
- **The Veins of Life Watershed Society Environmental Education and Outreach activities**
<http://www.salishsea.ca/>
- **Conservation Ontario- Network of 38 conservation Authorities**
<http://www.conservation-ontario.on.ca>
- **Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources- Water Management and planning**
<http://www.mnr.gov.on.ca/mnr/water>
- **Water Environment Federation - Dedicated to water preservation and enhancement**
<http://www.wef.org/awk/default.aspx>
- **Water Use It Wisely**
<http://www.wateruseitwisely.com/game>
Incorporates water conservation tips into a memory game

Thank you for helping us make a "Splash" in water education!