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For immediate release

### Bay of Quinte RAP needs volunteers to monitor wetlands

The Bay of Quinte RAP (BQRAP) is looking for volunteers to monitor wetlands in the Quinte Region. Every year, the BQRAP's Community Wildlife Monitoring Program needs volunteers to monitor frogs and birds in local wetlands, as these species are great indicators of the health of wetlands.

Can you tell a Bullfrog's croak from a Spring Peeper's peep or a Least Bittern from a Virginia Rail. If you're not even sure, what they are, don't worry. There is someone who is such an expert on all these species he will make learning the differences seem easy. In an evening workshop, Quinte area naturalist and columnist, Terry Sprague will walk everyone through the ins and outs of marsh monitoring. You don't have to be a professional to do this. Terry is readily available to help guide each individual through the monitoring. "The majority of wetland species of frogs and birds have calls that are different enough from each other that they can be identified with little trouble...It is also a great program for families to become involved in as young children can help out with the frog monitoring." says Terry.

Over the course of this evening, Terry is able to teach everyone how to monitor a marsh, whether it's in your backyard, at the cottage, or a selected monitoring site. Whether you are interested in frogs or birds, Terry will show you how to monitor for either or both species. "Monitoring for frogs and birds in our marshes is a way for outdoor enthusiasts to enjoy their pastime while at the same time, contributing to our knowledge of the Bay of Quinte wetlands and their quality."

There are two programs to choose from: the Marsh Monitoring Program, where you can monitor for both frogs and birds or Frog Watch Ontario which is super for the kids, as they only have to monitor once a week from April to June and submit their results on-line.

Terry will be hosting one workshop which will focus on both frog and bird monitoring training. It's on Monday, March 5, 2012, from 7pm to 9pm at Quinte Conservation.

There is no cost to attend the workshop. If you are interested in attending, please contact Terry Sprague at 613-476-5072 or [tsprague@kos.net](mailto:tsprague@kos.net)

The Bay of Quinte Remedial Action Plan is in partnership locally with Lower Trent Conservation and Quinte Conservation