



## Memorandum

**To:** Municipal Partners – Recreation and Economic Development Contacts  
**From:** John Mesman, Team Lead, Communications and Outreach  
**Date:** May 14, 2020  
**RE:** **Conservation Areas and River Access Open Dates**

South Nation Conservation (SNC) is committed to supporting municipalities, partners, and people as the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic unfolds. Updates and changes to our operations and business continuity are posted online: [www.nation.on.ca/coronavirus](http://www.nation.on.ca/coronavirus).

In accordance with the Government of Ontario’s Emergency Orders, many outdoor physical recreational amenities were closed. Thank you to our municipal partners who have supported various closures and maintenance activities.

Following the Provincial announcement on May 14<sup>th</sup> and the direction received from the Eastern Ontario Health Unit, SNC plans to re-open public boat launches and river access points and select Conservation Areas.

Some sites will open on Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup>; some on Tuesday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

**The following Conservation Area continue to remain open and maintained for passive recreation (walking):**

- Two Creek Forest Conservation Area (Morrisburg)
- Oschmann Forest Conservation Area (Ormond)
- Robert Graham Conservation Area (Glen Stewart)
- Warwick Forest Conservation Area (Berwick)
- J. Henry Tweed Conservation Area (Russell)
- W. E. Burton Conservation Area (Russell)
- Reveler Conservation Area (Crysler)
- Nokomis Park (Limoges)

There are no physical structures, permanent washrooms, or amenities at previously open sites. There are maintained pedestrian bridges and recreational trails.

Regular maintenance activities including grass cutting, tree replacement and trail grooming continue. SNC will not be installing portable washrooms for the time being.

New signs with public health directives will be reinstalled at all sites on Tuesday, May 19<sup>th</sup>.





**The following Conservation Areas and municipal partner sites for river access and boat launching will open on Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup>:**

- High Falls Conservation Area (Casselman)
- St. Albert Conservation Area (St. Albert)
- Crysler Park Boat Launch (Crysler)
- Embrun Boat Launch (Embrun)
- Chesterville Boat Launch (Chesterville)
- Spencerville Mill Boat Launch (Spencerville)

**The following Conservation Areas and municipal partner sites for river access and boat launching will open next week, beginning Tuesday, May 19<sup>th</sup>:**

- Cass Bridge Conservation Area (Winchester)
- Jessup's Falls Conservation Area (Plantagenet)
- McIntosh Park Conservation Area (Berwick)
- Oak Valley Pioneer Park Conservation Area (Winchester Springs)
- Chesterville Waterfront Docks and Boat Launch Docks (Chesterville)

**The following Conservation Areas will remain temporarily closed:**

- Camp Sheldrick Conservation Area (Winchester)
- Findlay Creek Conservation Area (Ottawa)
- Alfred Bog Walk (Alfred)

Structures in parks remain closed, and distancing directives must be followed. Dogs are not permitted off leash, visitors must not litter, and people are asked not to congregate in fishing areas and not use water control structures to access rivers or to fish.

People are encouraged to only visit parks with members of their household and maintain appropriate distances from other visitors. Picnic tables will remain off site, for now.

Visitation is monitored (car and trail counters in place, sites inspected weekly). Your staff are welcome to access sites to address issues as they arise within your communities. If you notice increased or inappropriate use, please let us know so that we can respond.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Mesman', written over a light grey rectangular background.

John Mesman,  
Team Lead, Communications and Outreach  
South Nation Conservation  
[jmesman@nation.on.ca](mailto:jmesman@nation.on.ca) | 1-877-984-2948