ONTARIO BENTHOS BIOMONITORING NETWORK (OBBN)
TRAINING COURSE SPRING 2016

LOCATION:

ST LAWRENCE RIVER INSTITUTE OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

(St. Lawrence College Campus, 2 St. Lawrence Drive, Cornwall, ON)

DATES: 17-19 MAY 2016

The **ONTARIO BENTHOS BIOMONITORING NETWORK (OBBN)**, coordinated by the Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change is an Aquatic Macroinvertebrate Biomonitoring Network for Ontario's Lakes, Streams, and Wetlands.

The St. Lawrence River Institute of Environmental Sciences is hosting an OBBN Course this summer at the River Institute in Cornwall. This cover will cover Biomonitoring Theory, Sampling Methods, Benthic-Invertebrate Identification, and Bio-assessment Calculations. This training is recommended for anyone interested in using Benthic Macroinvertebrates to monitor streams or lakes using provincially standardized protocols. Participants demonstrating proficiency will be certified as OBBN members.

The course will be held by OBBN certified trainers over three consecutive days, and will include a filed practicum. Registration Fee is $350 for the Course.

Space is limited. Advance Registration is Required.

To Register, please complete the attached document.

Contact:

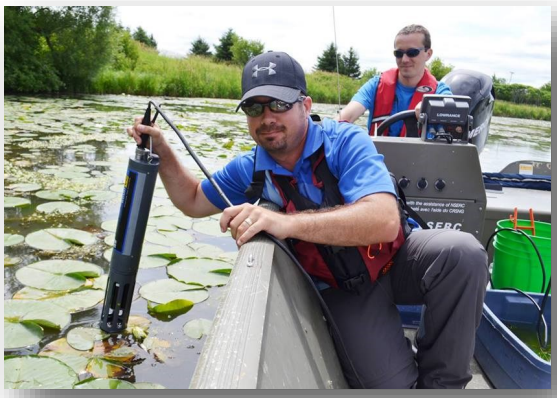
Louis Savard
Phone: 613-936-6620 (ext. 301)
e-mail: lsavard@riverinstitute.ca

Available classroom space can accommodate 25 students per course, and registration is first come - first served. Once your registration is received, the River Institute will invoice you for the course fee. The fee is due upon receipt of the invoice. Any registrant needing to cancel his/her registration must do so at least two weeks prior to the course date or order to have course fees refunded.

YOUR OBBN NSTRUCTORS

Dr. Brian Hickey works as a research scientist and is a certified OBBN instructor at the St. Lawrence River Institute of Environmental Sciences. His expertise is focused on behavioral ecology and the role of environmental variation on sensitive species and their habitat. He received his graduate training in biology at York University and has over 20 years project and research experience involving a wide range of taxa including fish, turtles, invertebrates and bats in both temperate and tropical ecosystems. Dr. Hickey joined the River Institute in 1999 and has focused his research on aquatic species in the St. Lawrence River and Lake Saint François geographic areas such as the Walleye, Lake Sturgeon, Cutlip Minnow and Map Turtle. The unifying theme throughout Dr. Hickey's interest is understanding the role environmental variation plays in determining responses of individual animals, and how these responses ultimately structure animal populations and communities.

Louis Savard is the River Institute's Program Leader for Applied Research and Technical Services and a certified OBBN instructor. He joined the River Institute in 2012 and has been involved in numerous projects including investigating cyanobacteria blooms in the St. Lawrence River, nearshore nutrient dynamics in fluvial Lake Saint François, contaminated sediment mapping within the Cornwall / St. Lawrence AOC, using benthic-invertebrates to assess the effect of runoff on their community structures and assessment of remediation efficiency for hydrocarbon-contaminated soils.



PERSONAL GEAR LIST

A variety of field and laboratory equipment, as well as Protocol Manuals and assorted hand-outs will be provided; however students are encouraged to be as self-sufficient as possible. Students having access to waders and microscope are particularly advised to bring these items to the course.

Suitable outdoor clothing, appropriate for the season is further suggested, as is sunscreen, insect repellant, rain wear, and a warm hat and gloves.

AGENDA

DAY 1

Time*	Topics
08:30-09:00	Sign-In
09:05-09:25	Welcome; Purpose and format of Course; Goals for Day 1
09:25-09:45	Background
09:45-10:15	Bio-assessment Study Designs and Bio-criteria
10:25-11:30	OBBN Methods
11:30-12:00	Protocol Question and Answer
12:00-13:00	Lunch (and gather sampling equipment)
13:00-15:30	Sampling: Rotary Creek and St. Lawrence River
15:40-17:30	Process samples to obtain 100-count sample

DAY 2

Time*	Topics
09:00-09:10	Goals for Day 2
09:10-10:30	Introduction to benthic macroinvertebrate identification (27-group level; slide show)
10:30-10:40	Break
10:40-12:00	The major groups of benthic macro-invertebrates (demonstration using River Institute reference
12:00-13:00	Lunch
13:00-17:00	Practice identification skills and use of keys

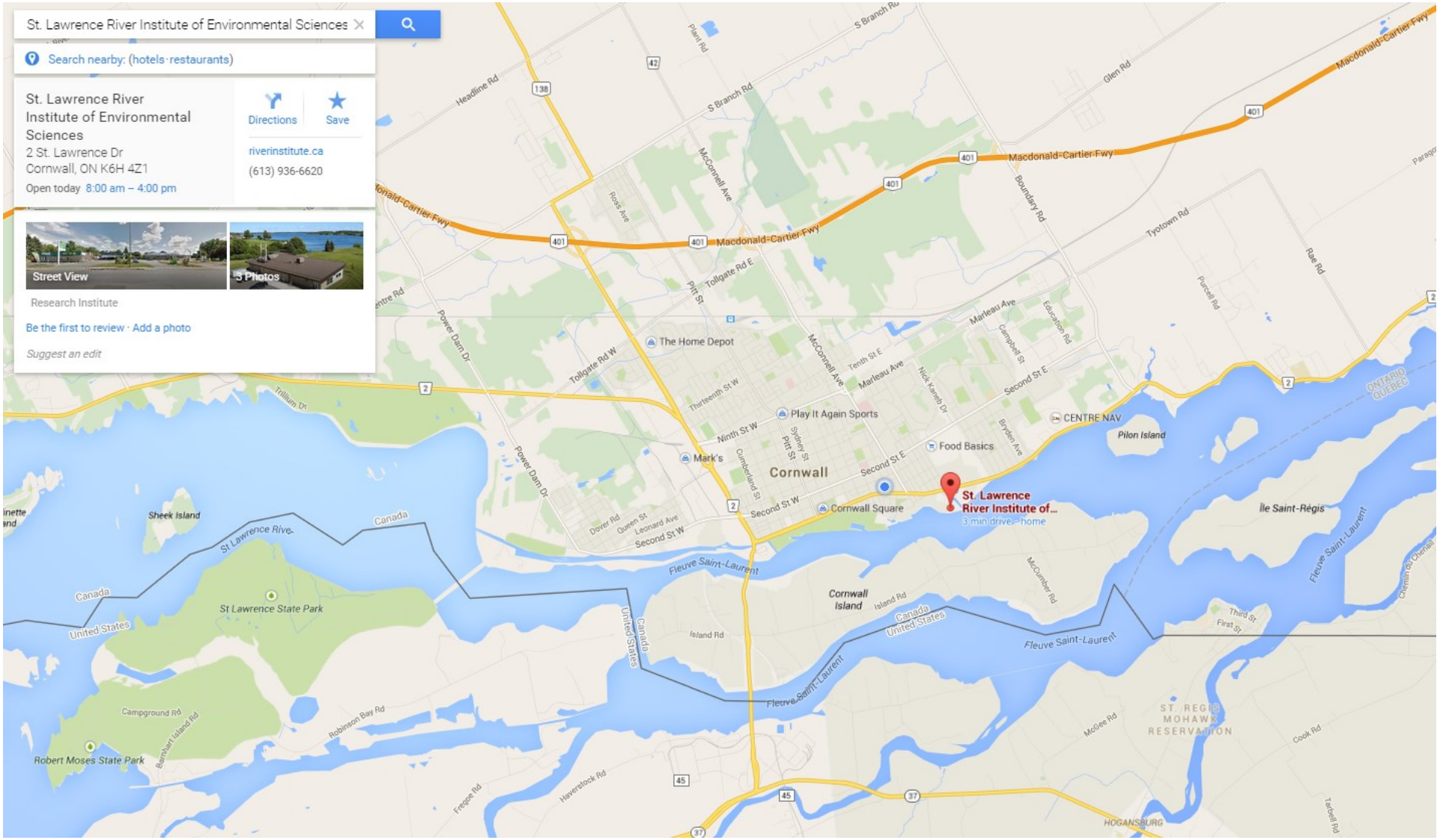
DAY 3 *(morning session)*

Time*	Topics
09:00-10:00	Review
10:00-12:00	Standard OBBN certification quizzes

DAY 3 *(afternoon session, optional)*

Time*	Topics
13:00 - 15:00	Demonstration: statistical concepts and calculations involved in a bio-assessment - Matching reference and test sites - Summarizing composition with indices - Evaluating test-site conditions

* Timeslots are approximate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Open today 8:00 am – 4:00 pm
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