



Wild by the Water Potluck Passport



*Discover your wild neighbours.
Share a meal.
Rewild your yard.*

Experience your lake in a whole new way through the **Wild by the Water Potluck Passport**, a series of fun, hands-on gatherings for lakeside residents, cottagers, families, and anyone who loves nature!

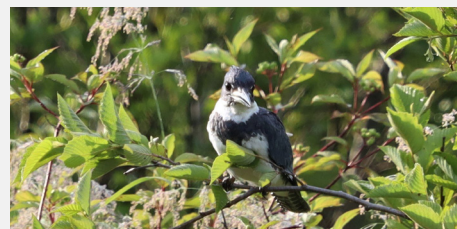
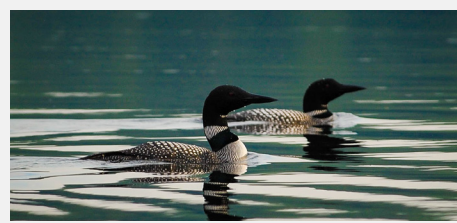
Choose an afternoon Lunch & Learn or an Evening Exploration where we'll spend two hours discovering the remarkable wildlife that lives just beyond your dock.

Each event begins with a lively 30-minute presentation led by a local biologist from The Land Between Charity, introducing some of the fascinating plants or animals that call your lake home. From turtles, loons, kingfishers, bats, and frogs to dragonflies, fish, aquatic insects, and more, you'll discover how these species live, why they matter, and the simple things you can do to help them thrive.

Following the presentation, enjoy a themed community potluck while taking part in hands-on conservation activities. Adults will create practical projects to take home, such as designing native pollinator gardens, rain gardens, or building wildlife habitat features such as duck boxes, or turtle nest protectors. Children will also become young habitat heroes by making bee hotels, toad homes, leaf mobiles, wildlife art, and other nature-inspired creations.

As you eat, create, and visit with neighbours, your local biologist will guide you in the activity and be available to answer questions about your property, shoreline, wildlife, invasive species, habitat restoration, and more. Whether you're wondering about a bird at your feeder, a turtle on the road, the best native plants for your yard, or how to make your property more welcoming for wildlife, you'll leave with practical ideas and expert advice.

Every gathering includes a themed potluck, so bring a favourite dish inspired by theme of the event. Learning about aquatic insects? Perhaps a gummy worm dessert. Exploring fish and minnows? Maybe your favourite fish pate. **Creative dishes, lively conversation, and shared discoveries make every event memorable!**



Guests are asked to bring:



A themed dish to share.

A small donation to help offset the cost of supplies for the take-home conservation projects.

At every event, participants receive a Rewilding Workbook. Our team will help you use what you learn, along with your own ideas, to start bringing your rewilding plans to life.

Please note that lake leaders can book an event with us and choose either an afternoon or evening gathering. We will also assist with promoting the event to your lake community. A minimum of six adult landowners is required to host a gathering.

To book an event, contact Jess Livingstone, Blue Lakes Program Coordinator jessbluelakes@thelandbetween.ca.



Wild by the Water Potluck Options

1 Bugs, Birds, and Bats, Oh My!

What do bats, butterflies, dragonflies, and birds have in common? They're some of the hardest-working neighbours around your lake! Discover who pollinates your plants, who helps keep mosquitoes and other insects in check, and how you can make your shoreline a welcoming place for them.

Activity: Native shoreland garden

Kids Craft: Native bee hotel

Potluck Theme: Sweet as honey



2 Who's Living at the Water's Edge?

There's a whole hidden world at the water's edge! Discover the tiny plants and creatures living in and around your lake, from algae and zooplankton to aquatic plants and benthic bugs, and find out the surprisingly big roles they play in keeping a lake healthy.

Activity: Fish habitat shoal bundle

Kids Craft: Plankton net

Potluck Theme: Supporting snacks



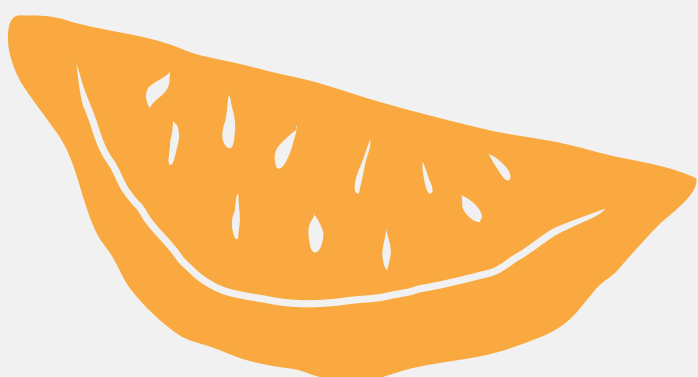
3 Magical Moth Night!

What comes alive around your lake after dark? Join us for a special evening exploration as we set up a moth light and white sheet and wait to see who arrives! While we eat, we'll discover the amazing moths and other creatures of the night, why they matter, and how our nighttime choices affect them. We'll also explore natural ways to keep mosquitoes in check and simple lighting fixes that make nights friendlier for wildlife.

Activity: Moth light - see who comes to visit!

Kids Craft: Flying moth craft

Potluck Theme: Midnight munchies



4 Wild Beyond the Water

The lake doesn't end at the shoreline! Discover how wildlife moves between the water, shoreline, yards, and surrounding landscape, and why what happens on your property matters to the life in your lake. Learn simple ways to rewild your yard and create places for wildlife to feed, shelter, travel, and thrive.

Activity: Rewilding plan

Kids Craft: Backyard habitat

Potluck Theme: From the garden



5 Soaring Above!

Who's soaring, diving, and darting above your lake? Meet spectacular aerial neighbours, from plunging kingfishers and fish-catching ospreys to soaring eagles and beautiful songbirds. Discover their amazing behaviours, how they make a living around the lake, and what makes your shoreline an important home for birds.

Activity: Raptor perch

Kids Craft: Osprey nest strength test

Potluck Theme: Feeling peckish

6

FEATURE
GATHERING

Design Your Own Shoreline Garden

Bring a photo of your property and let's rewild it together! Work one-on-one with our team to create a custom design for your shoreline, while sharing ideas and learning practical solutions for erosion, geese, privacy screening, and more. You'll leave with your own shoreline design, recommended plant list, general cost estimates, and a seed sachet to help you get started.

Activity: Design your own shoreline garden

Take-home: Custom shoreline plan, plant list and seed sachet

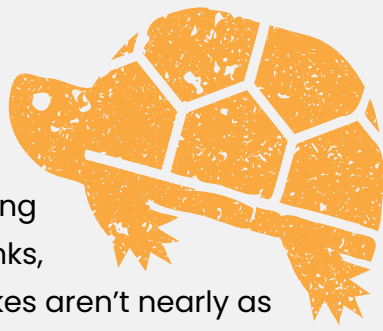
Potluck Theme: Garden to table

Please note: this gathering is designed for adults and does not include a children's activity.

Wild by the Water Potluck Options

7 Rockin' Reptiles

Meet the reptiles living around your lake! Discover the surprising lives of turtles, snakes, and skinks, why snapping turtles and snakes aren't nearly as scary as they seem, and the important roles these misunderstood neighbours play in keeping our lakes healthy and safe too!



Activity: Turtle nest protector

Kids Craft: Watch for turtle signs

Potluck Theme: Let's eat what turtles eat!

8 Awesome Amphibians

What's croaking, peeping, and hopping around your lake? Discover the amazing lives of frogs and toads: what they eat, how they hear, why they call, and where they disappear to in winter. Meet your amphibian neighbours and find out what makes your lake and shoreline a great place for them to call home.

Activity: Frog hotel

Kids Craft: Toad homes

Potluck Theme: Toady-ally tasty



10 Fantastic Fish

There's a whole world swimming beneath your dock! Discover the fascinating lives of the fish in your lake, from where they spawn and what they eat to the habitats they need to thrive. Meet some of our most remarkable local fish, including a very special lake trout found nowhere else in the world, and discover how healthy water and shorelines help keep them swimming.



Activity: Shoal bundles

Kids Craft: Fishy fidget toy

Potluck Theme: Aquarium appetizers

11 Alien Invaders?!

Who are the newcomers in your lake, and which ones are actually causing trouble? Meet some of our most common invasive plants and animals, learn how to spot them and how they got here, and discover simple ways we can help our lakes and native species stay healthy.

Activity: Basket weaving with invasive plants

Kids Craft: Native seed bombs

Potluck Theme: Foods from far, far away

12 Whooo's in the Woods?

What's happening in the woods just beyond your shoreline? Look up for owls, look down for salamanders, and discover the hidden world beneath the leaves! Explore how trees, fungi, tiny creatures, and wildlife are all connected, and how a healthy forest helps keep your lake healthy too.

Activity: Owl boxes

Kids Craft: Salamander fairy dominion

Potluck Theme: Forest floor feast



9 Loving the Loons...and Dabbling in Ducks

FEATURE
GATHERING

What makes a loon's call so beautiful and haunting? Why do ducks dabble, dive, and disappear beneath the water? Discover the fascinating behaviour and biology of loons, ducks, and other waterfowl, then work together to build a floating nesting raft (or two!) to give the lake's loons a safe place to raise their young.

Activity: Loon nesting raft

Kids craft: Duck whistles

Potluck Theme: Cheese and quackers