



Mon, Aug 14th - 4:30pm
SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER
Becca Kempen

- Science Communicator
- Field & Stream Rescue Team Project Coordinator
- Naturalist
- Certified Ecosystem Restoration Practitioner (in Training)

AGES 14-24
ALL ARE WELCOME
Zoom Link in Bio

Special Guest Speaker: Becca Kempen

Becca Kempen is a Project Coordinator for the Field and Stream Rescue Team.

A little bit about her **educational background**, she attended the University of Guelph and earned her Honours Bachelor of Arts and Science with a double minor in Zoology and Geography ([program link](#)). She then attended Sheridan College and Niagara College to gain some hands-on skills.

Upon graduating from both she earned her Ontario College Certificate in Animal care (first from Sheridan) and then became a Certified Restoration Practitioner in training (from Niagara).

- [Link to Sheridan College Animal care programs](#)
- [Link to Niagara College program](#)

What is the Field and Stream Rescue Team?

- It is an environmental based charity that was started in 2001 ([website link](#))
- They do litter clean-ups, invasive species removals, native plantings, and bioengineering projects (such as slope stabilization, creek restoration etc.)
- Her tasks as a project coordinator:
 - Grant writing
 - Landowner outreach
 - Project design
 - Running board meetings

- Organising meetings
- Site assessments

Important and useful tools:

- Mapping Tools:
 - Conservation Hamilton Mapping tool ([link to website](#))
 - Conservation Halton WebMaps Tool ([link to website](#))
 - Niagara Navigator ([link to website](#))
 - [QGIS](#) or [ArcGIS](#) (bigger mapping softwares)
- Identification tools:
 - iNaturalist (iphone app) - ([link to download app](#))
 - Peterson Field Guides (Birds of Eastern and Central North America, Freshwater Fishes, Reptiles and Amphibians of Eastern and Central North America etc.) - ([link to website](#))
 - Newcomb's Wildflower Guide - ([link to a helpful website](#)) or ([link to buy book](#))
 - Trees of Canada and/or Michigan Trees A Guide to the Trees of the Great Lakes region - ([link to buy book](#))
 - Freshwater Macroinvertebrates of Northeastern North America ([link to buy books](#))

Words of Wisdom!

- *"Every skill you have is transferable, regardless of the field in which you gained the skill"* - Becca Kempen
- Get out and volunteer as much as possible!
 - Some more places she mentioned are:
 - Burlington Green ([LINK](#))
 - Field and Stream Rescue Team ([LINK](#))
 - Bay Area Restoration Council ([LINK](#))
 - Royal Botanical Gardens Canada ([LINK](#))
 - Conservation Halton ([LINK](#))
 - Hamilton Conservation Authority ([LINK](#))
 - Hamilton Naturalists Club ([LINK](#))
 - Green Venture ([LINK](#))
 - Nature Conservancy of Canada ([LINK](#))
 - By volunteering, you can expand your network, build connections and even expand your career choices.
- Think and act sustainably!
 - It doesn't matter how big or small the act is, as long as you are being sustainable
- Start building your toolbox!

Fun Facts:

- Becca lives in Hamilton, Ontario
- She has a 2 year old [Texas Heeler](#) puppy named River
- Becca has written 2 articles for [Starfish Canada](#)
- Becca's favourite animal is the Canada Goose - She loves them because of the movie [Fly Away Home](#)
 - You shouldn't feed wildlife like geese food such as bread or wheat as that kind of food isn't in their diet; this can cause digestive issues. Also, when you feed wild animals, it can cause them to become habituated to being fed, which means they will rely on humans to feed them rather than hunt or catch food themselves.
- Her other favourite animals are the [Tri-Coloured bat](#) and the [Sea Otter](#)

Becca Kempen - Contact Info

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