



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Guilty Pleas for Altering Wetlands

Two parties plead guilty last week to charges of interfering with wetlands associated with properties located in Brighton and Quinte West.

The charges were a result of the construction of an unauthorized 350 metre long boardwalk in the provincially significant wetlands on Presqu'île Bay in the Municipality of Brighton, and unauthorized tree and vegetation removal and site grading in a small wetland near Tremur Lake in the City of Quinte West.

Under Section 28 of the *Conservation Authorities Act*, any development activities in environmentally sensitive areas such as wetlands, watercourses or shorelines require a permit from Lower Trent Conservation.

Through Ontario Regulation 163/06 (Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation), Lower Trent Conservation strives to ensure that development will not be impacted by flooding or erosion problems and that new development does not aggravate flooding problems upstream or downstream. Environmental impacts are also taken into consideration before issuing a permit.

“We encourage prospective buyers, landowners or developers to get in touch with us prior to any nearshore or in-water work so that flooding or erosion issues associated with watercourses, flood plains, wetlands, steep slopes, inland lakes/ponds, and Lake Ontario/Bay of Quinte shoreline are considered,” says Janet Noyes, Manager, Watershed Science & Services.

Anyone seeking information about environmentally sensitive features on a particular property prior to purchase or development activities can now submit a property inquiry online at www.ltc.on.ca (click on **Planning & Permits**), or contact Lower Trent Conservation to discuss their proposal at 613-394-4829.

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For more information, contact:

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