

PARC NATIONAL DE PLAISANCE

DISCOVERY GUIDE

2018

WELCOME TO THE PARK



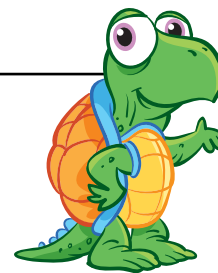
Over 250 bird species, many amphibians and of course turtles make their home in Plaisance! An outing to the heart of our wetlands is a trip to a magical place! Come discover our “singing” islands and peninsulas.

The parc national de Plaisance is without a doubt one of the jewels of Québec’s natural heritage. This network of marshes and resplendent forest located at the heart of the Ottawa River and at the mouth of the Petite Nation River also boasts a rich human history, which we will be pleased to tell you about!

We wish you many happy discoveries here!

Discover more at sepaq.com/plaisance

Please note that due to the 2017 flooding, some of the park’s infrastructure as well as paths and trails are still under reconstruction. We will update you as the work progresses. Thank you for your understanding!



**ODILE
THE TURTLE**

THE SNAPPING TURTLE, ANIMAL EMBLEM OF THE PARC NATIONAL DE PLAISANCE

The snapping turtle is fascinating. Encountering one on a trail will automatically be a highlight of your visit. This turtle right out of the dinosaur age is considered vulnerable in Canada. For all these reasons, this species was chosen as the park’s new animal emblem!

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Details at sepaq.com/parkscard

MUST-DOS



A LA SARCELLE MARSH

This sleepy little marsh is really worth a visit! The path of the same name will take you to this secret little corner of the park. Some amazing sights and an enchanting natural world await you.

(See p. 6)



B LA PETITE NATION CANAL

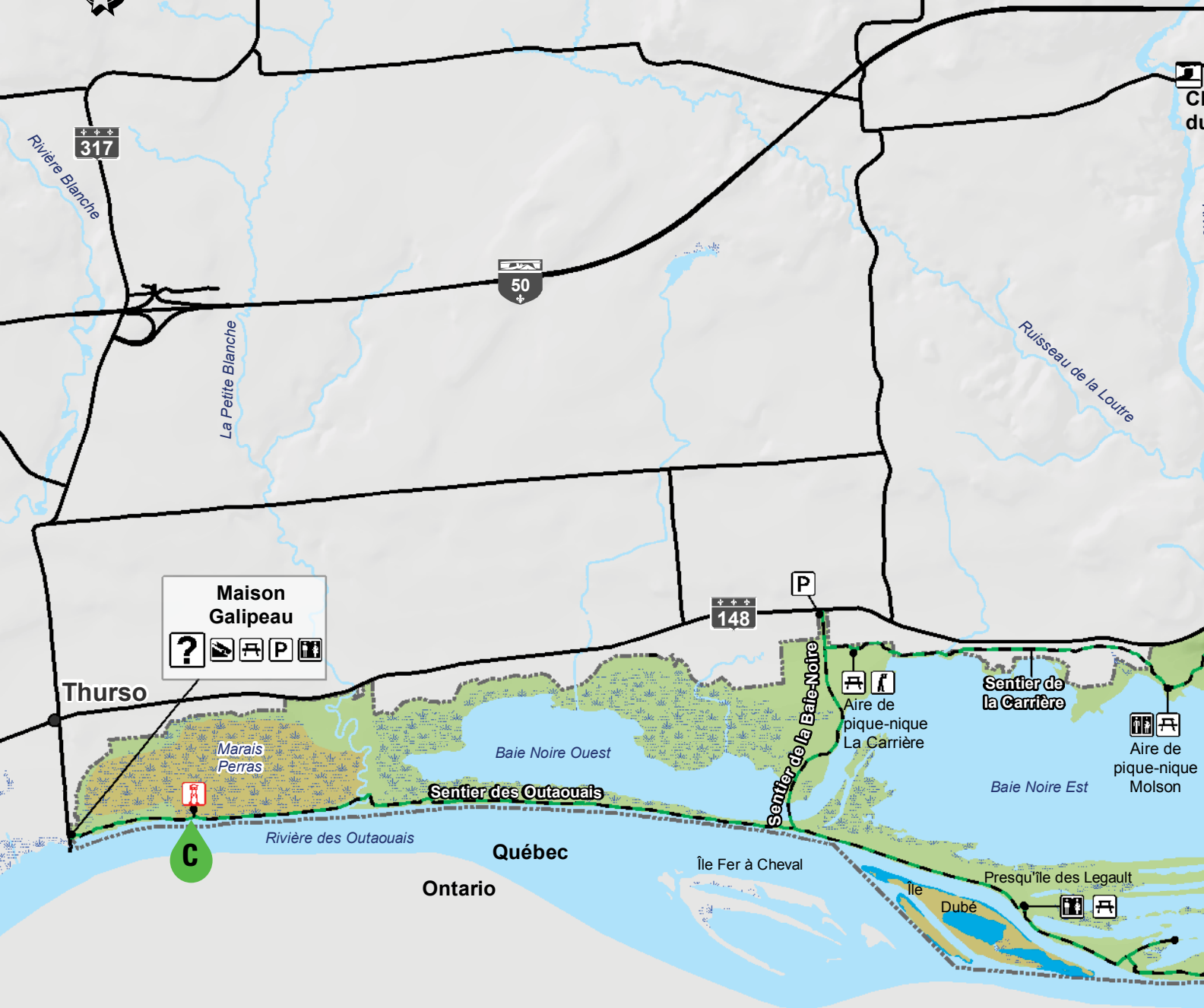
Built in 1949, this little canal – ideal for canoes – takes you to the head of the baie de la Pentecôte and its lush smaller bays. If a foray to the heart of the park’s marshes is on your “to do” list, you won’t be disappointed here!

(See Les Petites Baies route, p. 8)



C PERRAS MARSH TOWER

All along the des Outaouais Path, small viewpoints, sun shelters and different types of landscape amaze cyclists, walkers and runners alike! But this year, the highlight of the path will undoubtedly be the new Perras Marsh Tower – being built this summer – and the bird’s eye views it will offer of this marsh teeming with life.

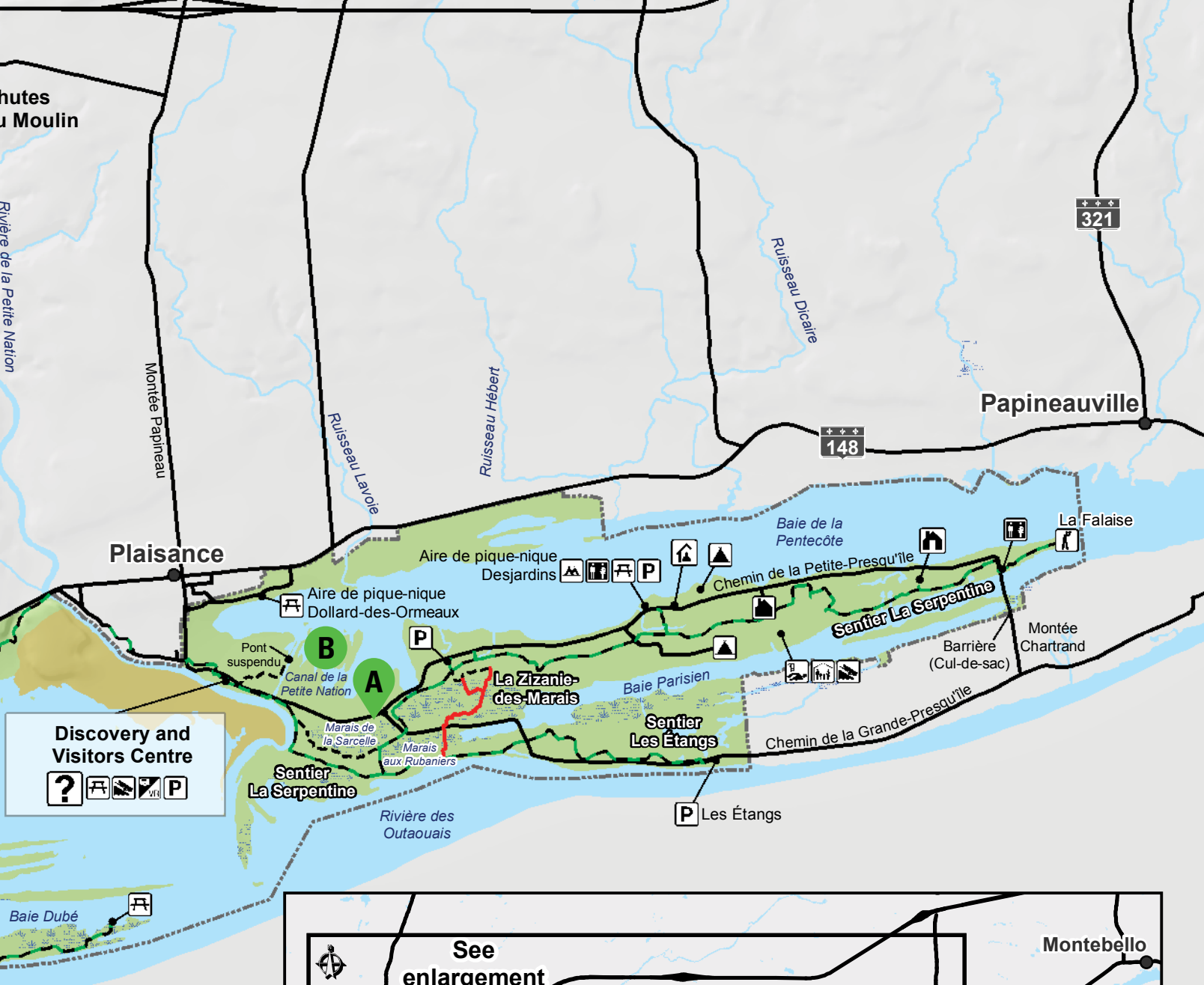


	Registration centre / Information		Rustic accommodation		Bike path
	Picnic area		Pavillon Ménard		Trail
	Semi-serviced camping		Swimming pool		Road network
	Group camping		Boat launch ramp		Under construction sector (2018)
	Cabin		Community hall		National park boundary
	Waterfall		Observation site		Wetland
	RV area		Parking lot		Conservation zone
	Washroom				

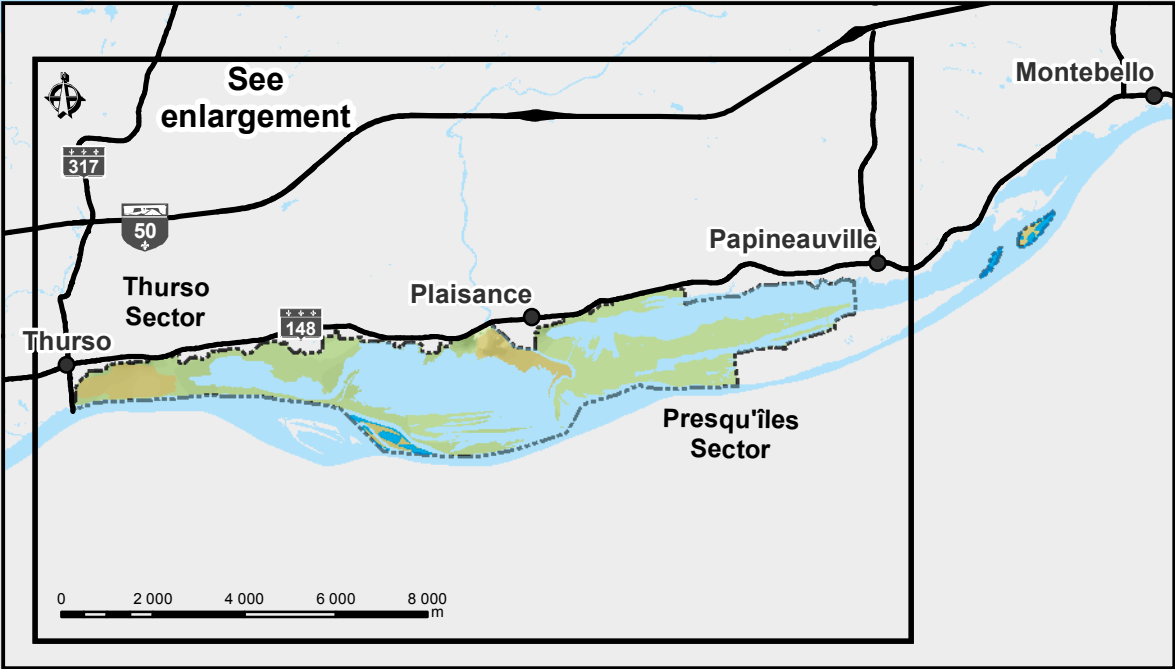
Cette carte intègre de l'information géographique de source gouvernementale. Pour des besoins de représentation, certaines données ont subi des transformations et des adaptations qui ont pu modifier la donnée originale.

Données originales utilisées : Années 2018
 Banque de données Sépaq
 Cartes topographiques à l'échelle de 1/20 000 : 2000
 Source des données utilisées : Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles
 © Gouvernement du Québec












Discovery and Visitors Centre



2 000 3 000 m

DISCOVER OUR TRAILS

CYCLEPATH		LENGHT AND TIME		DIFFICULTY
	<p>La Serpentine – Access all the services available in the Presqu’îles area and take in unforgettable views at La Falaise (cliff). Starting point : Discovery and Visitors Centre</p>	17 km round trip	1:45	E
	<p>Les Étangs – Especially during migration season, this path will have some wonderful “winged” discoveries for you at the Grande Presqu’île ponds. Lieu de départ : Discovery and Visitors Centre The path starts at kilometre #2 of the La Serpentine path. You can get there by cycling or walking.</p>	8 km round trip	50 min.	E
	<p>Des Outaouais – This path running along the majestic Ottawa River features the dynamic natural habitat of the Perras Marsh and the Legault peninsula. Starting point : Maison Galipeau in Thurso</p>	21 km round trip	2 hrs.	E
	<p>La Carrière – Take this quiet route to the Thurso area that avoids Highway 148 – and be rewarded with stunning views of a former quarry. Starting point : Discovery and Visitors Centre</p>	11 km round trip	1 hr.	I
	<p>De la Baie-Noire – This path is a shortcut to the heart of the des Outaouais Path as well as to the view-point on the La Carrière Path. Starting point : Parking lot beside Highway 148</p>	2 km round trip	15 min.	E

HIKING TRAIL		LENGHT AND TIME		DIFFICULTY
	<p>La Sarcelle Marsh – This short path approximately 850 m long borders a magnificent marsh featuring turtles and water fowl. Starting point : About 500 m from the Discovery and Visitors Centre – which is included in the total distance.</p>	3 km round trip	1:15	E
	<p>Suspension Bridge – Stressed out? Take a break along this short stretch of trail that offers a beautiful view of the La Petite Nation canal! Starting point : Discovery and Visitors Centre (walk across the Fer-à-Cheval campground)</p>	1 km round trip	20 min.	E

 Hiking  Bike
E : easy **I** : intermediate



DISCOVERY TIME



Check our bulletin boards for information on our discovery activities and the schedule. Please note: activities offered in French only.

EXCURSION INTO THE BAYOUS!

There's nothing like an outing in a rabaska canoe to discover our floating gardens. One of our park wardens will lead you through this "water world" and introduce you to the special flora and fauna found there.

Adults: \$10.44. Free for children up to 17 years old accompanied by an adult, excluding youth groups.

Where: Campground docking area

ART-NATURE EXHIBITION

In 2017, seven professional artists created works inspired by the Ottawa River and the park (around the theme "peoples of the rivers"). Visitors can do a short artistic "pilgrimage" to see these permanent works in their enchanting setting.

When: visit on your own, whenever you like

Where: Dollard-des-Ormeaux picnic area

Our park warden will be leading guided tours this summer.

DU MOULIN FALLS IN A CANOE!

With a vertical drop of over 60 metres (higher than Niagara Falls), these falls, also called the Plaisance Falls, are best seen from a canoe! But fear not: you'll be seeing them from below, not sailing over them! This is a great outing, easy enough for beginners.

Starting point: Discovery and Visitors Centre

Length: 3.5 hrs. (10 km)

LES PETITES BAIES BY CANOE

There's no better watercraft than a canoe (or kayak) to discover the magnificent marshes at the baie de la Pentecôte. This circle tour, marked with signage buoys, follows the La Petite Nation canal, which dates from the 1940s. This is an ideal activity for families.

Starting point: Discovery and Visitors Centre

Length: 60 min. (3 km)



A REFRESHING BREAK?

After a hike, a break at the pool is often most welcome! This summer, we are also building a splash pad to keep kids of all ages happy!

Pool schedule

(June 23 to September 2, 2018)

10:00 a.m. to noon; 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Cost: Adult: \$6.96 | Child: \$3.48

FREE if staying on site upon presentation of the receipt for your stay (invoice).

Splash pad schedule

All day, from sunrise to sunset.

Park entry fee is compulsory.

DISCOVERY AND VISITORS CENTRE

Reception and rental desk, exhibition, shop, boat launch and picnic area.

Schedule

April 27 to June 14 juin and September 3 to October 14

Sunday to Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Friday 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

June 15 juin to September 2

Sunday to Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Friday 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.



YOU LEFT YOUR EQUIPMENT BACK HOME?

EQUIPMENT	DAY	4 hours	1 hour
Rowboat	\$43.50	\$30.25	\$15.00
Electric motor	\$35.00	\$24.50	
Canoe	\$49.50	\$34.50	\$17.25
Recreational kayak – single	\$45.00	\$31.50	\$15.50
Recreational kayak – tandem	\$54.00	\$38.00	\$19.00
Sea kayak – single	\$50.50	\$35.50	\$17.50
Sea kayak – tandem	\$67.75	\$47.50	\$23.75
Stand-up paddle board	\$43.00	\$30.00	\$17.25
Child's bicycle	\$20.50	\$14.25	\$7.00
Adult bicycle	\$41.00	\$28.50	\$14.25

Starting April 27 for bicycles and rowboats and May 19 for canoes, kayaks and stand-up paddle boards. Taxes not included.

CONSERVE FOR TOMORROW



THE EMERALD ASH BORER... AND BEAVERS

Some 20% of the park's forest consists of ash trees and the recent arrival in the park of a pest – the emerald ash borer – cannot help but impact our forest. On top of that, the prevalence of beavers in the park due to a lack of predators will also drastically affect how the park's forest evolves. A research project conducted in collaboration with the Institut des sciences de la forêt tempérée (ISFORT) is getting underway this year to study these animals' impact on the park's biodiversity and find ways of managing this new reality.



SOS CHAUVES-SOURIS – SAVING OUR BATS

For the past few years, we've been tracking the park's bat population and, like the rest of the province, we've been seeing the numbers of some species drop sharply. Were you aware that the park is home to at least six species of bats and that they're in danger of going extinct in North America? Do you know the possible consequences if they disappear? And, most importantly, do you know how to help them?

Attend the popular SOS Chauves-souris activity talking about our bats.



THE EXOTIC COMMON REED

Once again this year, the park's conservation and education team are working to eradicate the small patches of common reed that have gained a foothold in the park. In collaboration with students from the Louis-Joseph-Papineau high school, with Transports Québec and with other local partners, we have also set up projects to increase awareness and control of this plant in the area.



PLAY IT SAFE



In the wild, your **safety** is your **responsibility**



Photo: Steve Deschênes, Parc national des Grands-Jardins

Sépaq's mission is to ensure the widest possible access to Québec's most beautiful natural treasures. Sépaq is committed to the safety of its visitors and urges you to play it safe!

Preparing yourself adequately is the first step in the safe and enjoyable practice of your favourite activities. **YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR OWN SAFETY** and risk management is an integral part of your experience.

Before leaving for an excursion, **MAKE SURE YOU HAVE THE SKILLS AND ABILITIES REQUIRED** to practice your chosen activity **AND RESPECT YOUR PHYSICAL LIMITS**. Your outing should leave you with nothing but pleasant memories. There are a number of organizations that can help you plan your activities safely. Do not hesitate to contact them. We also invite you to consult our safety guides for Sépaq activities on our website at

sepaq.com/security

CHECKLIST

BEFORE YOU LEAVE HOME

- Plan on going with at least one other person.
- Check the weather report.
- Pack water and food, even if the activity is only for a few hours.
- See that you have appropriate clothing and footwear for anticipated weather conditions.
- Let somebody know the exact location of your destination and the time you plan to return home

ONCE YOU ARE ON SITE

- Do not rely on your cellphone.
- Check how much time it will take to complete your activity.
- Obey signs and notices, including bans on open fires.

WHEN YOU GET BACK

- Once you have completed your activity, make sure that you report to our staff anything wrong or any damage or problems you encountered.

REMINDERS

-  During your visit to a national park, you must always carry your entry fee receipt or your annual entry card.
-  To preserve our natural riches, you are not allowed to remove any natural elements (animals, plants, dead wood, rocks, etc.). Please also keep to established hiking trails to avoid trampling flora.
-  Animals find all they need to eat in nature. Feeding wildlife can be very damaging. Keep food or garbage out of reach of animals.
-  We ask you to carry out all your garbage.
-  Domestic animals are not accepted in Québec's national parks. However, guide dogs and service dogs are admitted.

PILOT PROJECT AUTHORIZING DOGS

A pilot project is in place authorizing the presence of dogs in FRONTENAC, JACQUES-CARTIER and OKA national parks. As of May 18, 2018, the project will be expanded to include AIGUEBELLE and LAC-TÉMISCOUATA national parks. Please read the applicable rules and authorized places at sepaq.com/animals.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY : 911

SÛRETÉ DU QUÉBEC: 310-4141 (general number) / *4141 (for cellphones)

*Where cellphone networks are available. The costs and expenses incurred in conducting search and rescue operations are the responsibility of the beneficiary. You can obtain protection against these risks from an insurer.

Parc national de Plaisance

1001 chemin des Presqu'îles
Plaisance, Québec J0V 1S0
Information: 819-427-5334
Reservations : 1-800-665-6527
parc.plaisance@sepaq.com
www.sepaq.com/plaisance

Legal Deposit : 2018
Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec

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Municipalité de
Plaisance



Our municipality is pleased to contribute to the
success of *Parc national de Plaisance*.

275, Principale St., Plaisance, Québec J0V 1S0 (819) 427-5363
www.ville.plaisance.qc.ca



Thurso

The municipality is a proud partner of
Parc national de Plaisance as the entrance
to the west area of the park.

161, Galipeau, Thurso, Québec J0X 3B0
(819) 985-2000 • www.ville.thurso.qc.ca
Email : ville.thurso@mrcpapineau.com



Voilà!

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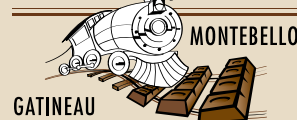
Parc national
de Plaisance

To take the Parc national de Plaisance
road means taking the rhythm
of vacations...

Thanks for slowing down!



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