

Journal

2013 • 2014 | ENGLISH VERSION



PARC NATIONAL DES
ÎLES-DE-BOUCHERVILLE



A NECKLACE OF ISLANDS IN THE HEART OF THE SAINT-LAWRENCE

Just a hop and a skip away from downtown Montreal, right in the middle of the mighty Saint-Lawrence River, five small islands make up the *Parc national des Îles-de-Boucherville*, a highly representative sample of the Saint-Lawrence Lowlands' natural heritage. This park offers green spaces, channels and thoroughfares rich in natural life, and trails adjoining the shores. Hikers, cyclists, canoeists and kayakers come over to breathe pure, fresh air and get away from the city's hustle and bustle. Others travel in time while discovering the First Nations that once inhabited these islands. In winter, *Île Sainte-Marguerite* offers hikers, snowshoers and cross-country skiers wonderful snowy scenery, and an atmosphere beyond just peaceful, perfect for observing wildlife and indicators of its presence.

In this outstanding environment, aquatic, semi-aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems mix. Wildland dominates a good part of the territory, testifying to these islands' agricultural past. They reflect nature's taking back its true identity. Here and there, a few wooded areas spring up, the largest of which is undoubtedly the Grosbois woodland, measuring 18 hectares in surface area. But these islands are also kingdom to freshwater wetlands. Marshes, bogs, sloughs, swamps and inundable meadows abound.

This is just part of the *Parc national des Îles-de-Boucherville's* take on Mother Nature. We offer over 25 kilometres of marked trails for hiking and cycling, as well as impressive channels and thoroughfares for canoeing and sea kayaking. Who knows, as part of your treks, you just may encounter a great blue heron, a red fox or a white-tailed deer.

ENTRY FEES VALID FROM APRIL 1, 2013 TO MARCH 31, 2014

CATEGORY OR GROUP	DAILY RATES	ANNUAL PARK CARD	ANNUAL NETWORK CARD
Adult (18 or over)	\$6.50	\$32.50	\$58.50
Child (6 to 17)	\$3	\$15	\$27
Child (0 to 5)	Free	Free	Free
1 adult with children 6 to 17	\$9.50	\$47.50	\$85.50
2 adults with children 6 to 17	\$13	\$65	\$117
Organized adults group	\$5.75	N/A	N/A
Organized youth group (aged 6 to 17)	\$2.50	N/A	N/A
School or student group	Free	N/A	N/A

Taxes included. Annual Park or Network card is valid for 12 months. The prices, terms and services mentioned in this journal are subject to change without notice.

Your Safety : Your Responsibility



Outdoor activities can involve certain risks. Make sure that you have the skills and abilities required for the activity you choose. It is important to know the risks inherent to this activity, to respect your limits and to use appropriate equipment. For more information, we invite you to consult our Web site at sepaq.com.



REGULATIONS



To contribute to improving the quality of the park experience, **an entry fee was established** by the government. You must always carry your receipt or your annual card during your visit.



To preserve the **natural riches** for future generations, it is prohibited to remove natural elements (animals, plants, dead wood, rocks, etc.).



The flora is sensitive to being trampled. If we multiply the impacts of thousands of visitors, it's easy to understand why it is mandatory to stay on the hiking trails.



Nature exhibits exemplary equilibrium. **The animals find everything they need to eat here, and that is why feeding wildlife is prohibited.** In this respect, it is also prohibited to leave food or garbage unsupervised. Keep them in your car.



Domestic animals are prohibited in Québec's national parks. But guide dogs and service dogs accompanied by their foster families are admitted. **However, these dogs must be easily identifiable, wearing the Mira scarf or harness.** Those in charge of the animal must carry **the foundation's letter of accreditation.**



It's great to enjoy an **authentic natural environment** that is clean and healthy! Carry out your garbage, leave it in the containers provided, and take home any harmful substances, such as soap, oil, combustibles or pesticides.



For the preservation of the milieu and for your safety, only a certain number of activities are allowed in these parks. Plan your visit and first check the **list of activities that are allowed** in the parks you plan to visit.

THE *LADY SHERBROOKE*: A TREASURE HIDDEN UNDER THE PARK'S WATERS!

BY ANNIE LÉVESQUE, NATURALIST AND PARK WARDEN, AND NATHALIE RIVARD, CONSERVATION AND EDUCATION DEPARTMENT MANAGER

Over your series of visits at the park, encountering a white-tailed deer, a red fox, a raptor, a great blue heron, a painted turtle basking in the sun, and a beaver not far from its hut has had you enraptured and filled with wonder.

Are you ready for even more surprise? Very few indicators allowed you to be aware that you are rubbing shoulders (or feet?) with this element of the scenery, very real in a bygone era, but now effectively hidden out of the way. Let us bring you over to the Molson area, named in honour of famous businessman John Molson, whose brewery he founded in Montreal bears his name and, of course, is internationally renowned.

No, no, it is not he who is hiding in there, but rather a part of his accomplishments! Could he have left us loads of beer casks buried under deep waters? Clueless! But it does lead us to the numerous channels that surround these islands, including the Molson channel.

From here on, the story unfolds all by itself. A distinguished, prosperous brewer whose transportation needs for his products are of ever-increasing concern in light of difficulties inherent to sailboat navigation launched construction of the first Canadian steamboats, including the very first one, the *Accommodation*, in 1809. The proximity of the *Îles de Boucherville* with the Montreal shipbuilding yards would then give these islands a special

purpose in the evolution of the marine companies in which the Molson family held a controlling interest. In the beginning, the islands' channels served as testing waters for maiden voyages, as a fleet parking location, including for winter storage and maintenance, as well as the stranding of obsolete hulls, hence our realizing the presence on these islands of a steamboat breaking up yard whose shipwrecks carry tremendous archeological wealth.

After the *Accommodation* followed a series of more and more improved steamboats up to 1815, when the boat we will focus on here, the *Lady Sherbrooke*, was set afloat. Right now, the latter is buried and exceptionally well preserved under very deep mud cover. This steamboat shipwreck is recognized as the oldest one to have been dug in the world. And when the water level is very low, we are privileged to see fragments of this superbly well camouflaged shipwreck stick out of the water. The *Lady Sherbrooke*, whose name honoured the wife of that era's Governor General of Canada, Sir John Coape Sherbrooke, was operational until 1826. It was the largest and fastest of all steamboats on the Saint-Lawrence.

In addition to being used for merchandise transport, steamboats constituted one of the first tourism industries, offering sumptuous, luxurious cabins and discovery cruises, and, in a more urban fashion, were used as shuttles.



FRAGMENTS OF THE *LADY SHERBROOKE* SHIPWRECK

DISCOVER THE FONDS PARCS QUÉBEC COLLECTION AND DO YOUR PART FOR CONSERVATION!

One dollar will be donated to Fonds Parcs Québec for each item purchased.



Donations to Fonds Parcs Québec serve to support the conservation of Québec's national parks. Through the funding of research, knowledge acquisition, and species population monitoring and inventory, vital data are obtained to particularly safeguard plant and animal species.

The collection is available at the Boutique Nature shop.

BOUTIQUE
NATURE
Parcs Québec

FONDS
Parcs Québec
fondsparcsquebec.com

DISCOVERING THE ISLANDS



Since any excursion requires at least a minimum amount of planning, let us guide you through the park... Refer to the map on pages 8 and 9 to locate the trails.

Cycling paths

Saddle your bicycle and view the park from our 21 km long cycling path. The course takes off from the Discovery and Services Centre and goes round all major islands in the park close to the river. Relish in the waterway's scenery and take advantage of the many stopovers to share a picnic with family and/or friends!

Hiking trails

You can decide to share the cycling paths with the bike riders, but for added safety and peace of mind, opt instead for a rustic hiking trail. *Île Sainte-Marguerite* offers you three choices for your hiking pleasure: the *Grand-Duc* (1.5 km), *Petite-Rivière* (2.5 km) and *Grande-Rivière* (4 km) trails all leave from the Discovery and Services Centre and allow you to explore the wilderness while remaining close to the river and cutting through woodlands here and there.

For a longer hike, try the *Île-aux-Raisins* trail (3.5 km, departing from the observation tower on *Île de la Commune*). Located in a preservation area, this trail twists and turns through the rich, bountiful flood plain ecosystem. Bordering the *Chenal du courant* marsh area, this trail is just right for watching birds and observing animals of all kinds!

Nautical trail

Come ride an adventurous wave! Go canoeing or kayaking amidst the dreamy charm of a waterway scenery. This trip on a marked 8-km nautical trail that lasts on average 3 hours allows you to slowly groove among the various channels and make exceptional encounters! Rent your craft on the spot or bring your own equipment.

In addition, canoeists and kayakers can take breaks at one or more of the stopovers fit up along the way; each one has been configured so as to provide access to the banks while ensuring their protection. We have also set up a nautical installation at the Grosbois warming hut (*Relais Grosbois*), including wharfs specially designed to support kayaks and canoes. Furthermore, we have laid out additional stopover areas near the La Passe footbridge and on the west shore of *Île Grosbois*, both of which enable you to picnic amidst delightful scenery.



DISCOVERY ACTIVITIES AT YOUR OWN PACE

The park offers a host of discovery activities to take in at your own pace and convenience for your added pleasure.

On bicycle

Interpretation signs "Islands to Browse Through"

Located right along the cycling path, these 14 interpretation signs highlight various prominent aspects of the park.

Île de la Commune Observation Tower

At over 15 m high, this tower is worth the detour! Enjoy a splendid view on the park's most important marsh area and *Île-aux-Raisins*, where fauna and flora add to the scenery.

Boucher-de-Grosbois Archæological Site

Travel in time and plunge back into the customs practised and way of life led by the aboriginals who inhabited the territory more than 2,000 years ago! Various facilities including the impressive aboriginal hut, interpretation signs and a brochure available on the site provide a host of information! As well, every summer weekend, a park warden on hand will provide further details on your findings. Consult the schedule on page 12.



On foot

"A Necklace of Islands in the Heart of the Saint. Lawrence" Exhibit

Located at the Discovery and Services Centre, this exhibit carries you into the very essence of the *Parc national des Îles-de-Boucherville*! From their formation as part of the last Ice Age up to the park's creation, these islands will reveal all their secrets. Animals, plants, history, scientific research... Lay your eyes on them all!



«Les secrets du sentier du Grand-Duc»

(in French only)

Pick up this brochure from the dispenser box located at this trail's departure point. This printed guide will unveil some unsuspected facets of the park from 11 stops identified along the circuit, which lasts around 45 minutes.

Historic Treasure Hunt

Available at the Discovery and Services Centre, this leaflet will test your knowledge along the Grand-Duc Trail. About a dozen numbered stops will lead you year-round on the footsteps of the islands' inhabitants.

Île-aux-Raisins Hiking Trail

The *Île-aux-Raisins* hiking trail includes 6 interpretation signs to help you appreciate the natural wealth of the flood plain. In addition, identification plates will single out the area's main tree species. The trail starts off close to the observation tower on *Île de la Commune*, and the circuit lasts about an hour and a half. Though the trail is accessible to hikers only, you can still reach it on bicycle and park the latter on a stand provided at the entrance to the trail.

"Birds for Watching"

Bird-watching tickles your fancy? Pick up this folder at the Discovery and Services Centre to browse the list of birds most often observed at the park.



On the water



"Discovering the Marsh"

Aquatic life fascinates and intrigues you? While canoeing or kayaking along the channels, meet with a remarkable living environment at the very heart of the St. Lawrence. The Rental Centre will lend you this full-colour guide free of charge upon your presenting a photo identification card.

Private sea kayaking

Courses are available upon reservation. Individuals or small groups. Duration : one hour and a half. For rates, please inquire at the Discovery and Services Centre.

Introductory sea kayaking course

Basic initiation, exploration of the site, information on safety rules and regulations, and practical advice are on the menu as part of this course.

Saturday morning, 9 A.M. to 12 P.M., from May 18 to September 21, 2013. Thursday evenings in June, July and August (departure time varies from one month to the next).

Rates: \$35.44 per adult, \$17.72 per 10 to 17-year-old youngster. (Equipment included; sales taxes and access rate extra) Please reserve early by calling the Discovery and Services Centre at 450 928-5088

N.B.: Organized groups (adults and youngsters) can take introductory canoeing and sea kayaking courses.



Huttopia

A PARCS QUÉBEC'S EXCLUSIVE!

Discover the **Huttopia tent**, a simple and comfortable way to discover the joys of camping without all the lugging.

Each unit includes:

- two big beds
- supplementary heating and lighting
- a propane-operated warming tray and a mini-fridge
- everything you need to prepare meals

2013 SEASON

80 new tents

2 new destinations:

- Îles-de-Boucherville
- Lac-Témiscouata

LOW SEASON ⁽¹⁾ : \$99 /night

HIGH SEASON ⁽²⁾ : \$116 /night

Capacity of 5 people (max. 4 adults)

(1) From Sunday to Thursday until June 20, 2013 and from September 8, 2013.

(2) Fridays, Saturdays, holidays and every day from June 21, 2013 to September 7, 2013. Taxes and entrance fee not included

Online reservation: parcsquebec.com/huttopia



GENERAL MAP PARC NATIONAL DES ÎLES-DE-BOUCHERVILLE

NEW SERVICES IN 2013

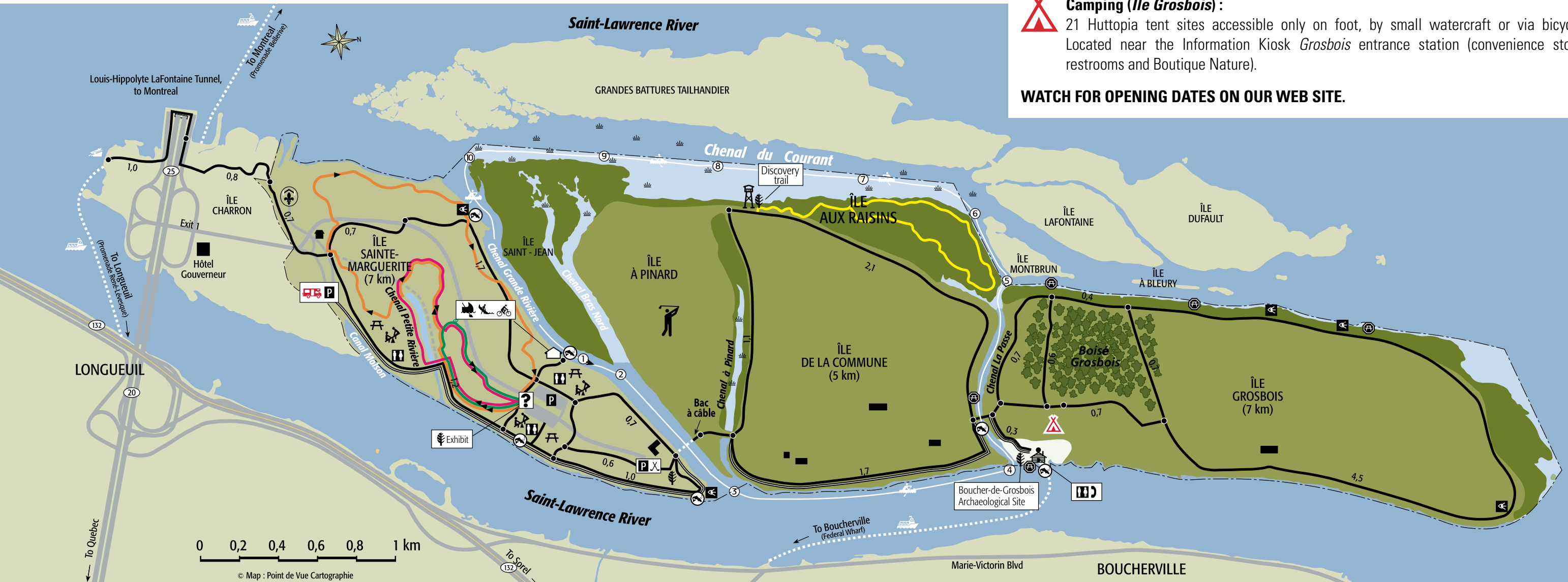


RV camping (Molson area):
15 RV sites with water and electricity. Garbage disposal station nearby.



Camping (Île Grosbois):
21 Huttopia tent sites accessible only on foot, by small watercraft or via bicycle. Located near the Information Kiosk *Grosbois* entrance station (convenience store, restrooms and Boutique Nature).

WATCH FOR OPENING DATES ON OUR WEB SITE.



Legend

Rustic Hiking Trails (Return trip)

- Le Grand-Duc (1.5 km)
- La Petite-Rivière: (2.5 km)
- La Grande-Rivière: (4.0 km)
- L'Île-aux-Raisins: (3.5 km)
- Bicycle and Hiking Trail
- Serviced Hiking Trail
- Marked Nautical Trail
- Service Area
- Intensive Recreation Area
- Ambience Area
- Conservation Area
- Aquatic Conservation Area

- Marsh
- Wooded Area
- Traffic Direction on the Trail
- Service Road
- Distance between Two Points (km)
- Park Bounds
- Road, Path
- Ferry Route
- Discovery and Services Centre
- VR Camping (Molson area)
- Camping (Île Grosbois)
- Rental Centre

- Information Kiosk Grosbois
- Administrative Centre
- Information Kiosk Molson
- Building
- Golf Clubhouse
- Golf Parking
- Parking
- Washroom
- Snack and Dairy Bar
- Phone
- Viewpoint
- Discovery Activity

- Nautical stopover
- Children's Play Area
- Bicycle Rental
- Watercraft Rental
- Boat Ramp
- Canoe and Kayak Ramp
- Observation Tower
- Golf Course
- Ferry
- Picnic Area
- Fishing



AVENTURE ÉCOTOURISME QUÉBEC AT
PARC NATIONAL DES ÎLES-DE-BOUCHERVILLE

The outfitters, members of Aventure Écotourisme Québec, in collaboration with the Sépaq, offer you several stays and guided activities especially conceived to have you discover exceptional natural spaces. AEQ groups together more than one hundred producers in adventure tourism and in ecotourism that join forces to offer you high-quality products.

Plan your next guided outing with:

ENVIRO KAYAK
Sea kayaking
450 403-0509



www.quebecadventure.ca

TWO NEW RAPTORS ARE NESTING ON THE ISLANDS



By DENIS HENRI, Naturalist and Park Warden

LONG-EARED OWLS

Monday, May 30, 2011. Another naturalist/park warden and I were systematically patrolling a pine forest in the *Parc national des Îles-de-Boucherville*. The purpose: reconfirm nesting of the sharp-shinned hawk, a common species that has nested annually in the park since 2004. Imagine our surprise when we observed, at this time of the year, a long-eared owl perched a few metres away from a large nest of branches! Could it be that this owl has settled here and is raising a little family? After lunch, armed with a camera, here I was climbing up the white pine that supports the nest, keen on finding out what is going on in there. A major surprise was waiting for me: three young long-eared owls in great shape had their picture taken to provide live proof of this species' initial nesting in the park. This owl is frequently seen in spring and autumn because it carries out small migratory movements. But to confirm its nesting? Now this is a first!

Quebec numbers 25 different raptor species. 10 of them, all various types of owls, are so-called night-time predators, while the other 15 are day-time predators (falcons, buzzards, hawks, eagles, fish-eagles, harriers and ospreys). Among all these raptors, eight are highly unlikely to nest in the Montreal region, for their distribution range lies generally much farther north: the rough-legged hawk, the bald eagle, the golden eagle, the gyrfalcon, the great grey owl, the snowy owl, the boreal owl and the Northern hawk-owl. Therefore, 17 raptor species are likely to nest in the *Parc national des Îles-de-Boucherville*.

In a previous article published in 2007, I wrote the following about forthcoming raptor nesters in the islands: "In the not-too-distant future, we can hope to be able to confirm nesting of the red-tailed hawk, long-eared owl, Cooper's hawk and Eastern screech-owl. What will the next discovery reserve in store for us?" The answer to this question came our way three years later: the Cooper's hawk, of which ornithologist Yves Gauthier discovered a nest in the spring of 2010 while making one of his almost daily visits in the park during the warmer season. The nest produced offspring, but unfortunately, we could not determine their numbers. A couple settled into the same nest in 2011 and also produced offspring, observed on Tuesday, June 28, 2011.

Finally, to complete the series of new potential nesting raptor species in the park, a huge red-shouldered hawk nest, regularly visited by two adults, was observed and reported on Thursday, April 14, 2011. We even had to close a trail off to park visitors in order to provide the newly settled couple with some peace and quiet. In 2012, another couple re-built another nest in another area, but observations enabled us to conclude that this couple did not succeed in raising offspring at that nest. Maybe 2013 will mark the kick-off year for this hawk's nesting in the park!



SCHOOL PROGRAMS

The haven of conservation and education that is the *Parc national des Îles-de-Boucherville* provides a bona fide natural-environment laboratory. Come over and discover an astonishing natural environment, with guidance from our enthusiastic park wardens! This territory's astounding beauty and integrity as well as its cultural and historical features have inspired a whole slew of discovery activities. Intended for elementary and high-school kids, these enlivening activities will enable them to open up to their environment, more intimately understand its fragility, and experience privileged real-life ties with Mother Nature...

As you like it, you can put together an à la carte day for your students by selecting from a broad range of activities. Among these, particularly worthy of mention is the Excursion to the Iroquoian Site, a four hour activity on foot that immerses students in the social and cultural world of the Saint-Lawrence's Iroquois aboriginals. The guided visit of the Iroquoian camp animated by a park warden is a true revelation for many. Please note that these excursions are paid activities.

In-Class Visit for First-Year High-School Students (Geography Classes)

As part of the activity, "Quebec National Parks: Protected Territories," a park warden visits students in class to introduce them to and familiarize them with Quebec's national parks, their mission and history, and spark a reflection process regarding the balance between the two main aspects of our parks' mission: conservation and accessibility. Following the in-class visit, students are lead into planning themselves the creation of a fictitious national park.

This activity neatly integrates with the first-year high-school geography program. Price: \$105 per class (sales taxes extra).

Duration: 60 to 75 minutes

For further details or to make a reservation, please contact us at 450-928-5088 or visit our Web site at address www.parcquebec.com.

TRACKING OF THE WHITE-TAILED DEER POPULATION AND ITS IMPACT ON THE PARK'S FLORA

BY NATHALIE RIVARD, CONSERVATION AND EDUCATION DEPARTMENT MANAGER

The *Parc national des Îles-de-Boucherville* is located in the heart of the Saint-Lawrence River within the Boucherville archipelago. The latter numbers 12 islands, five of which make up the protected park. In spite of its small area (8.14 km²) and proximity to Montreal and its suburbs, the *Parc national des Îles-de-Boucherville* boasts an exceptional fauna and flora. This wealth is due in part to its varied ecosystems: open areas (fields), wooded areas (there are five woodlands in the park) and wetlands (marshes, bogs, sloughs, swamps, channels and thoroughfares).

Arrival of the White-Tailed Deer in the Park

When the park was created in 1984, the white-tailed deer was virtually absent from the territory, since only one individual had been observed. However, during the winter of 1988-89, it is believed that several such deer crossed the Saint-Lawrence using the frozen channel that links the archipelago and the city of Boucherville to reach the park.

Upon their arrival in the park, the white-tailed deer encountered conditions highly favourable to their survival:

- abundant food and suitable resting areas;
- very few predators, since hunting is forbidden within park boundaries.

The deer's main predator on the islands is the coyote, which first set paw in the park in the winter of 2004-2005. Since then, it has lived mostly on *Île de la Commune* and *Île Grosbois*. However, it is well-recognized that even though the coyote is a white-tailed deer predator, it cannot all by itself regulate a large white-tailed deer population.

Surveying the White-Tailed Deer

Since 2006, during the month of February, the Conservation and Education Department conducts a survey of the white-tailed deer population living in the park, using a hovering aircraft. In the chart below, you will find the numbers of deer surveyed per year.

Despite the park's welcoming close to 350,000 visitors every year, the white-tailed deer has adapted very well to human presence. Visitors can easily observe white-tailed deer, at any time of the day.

White-Tailed Deer Survey

Year	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Number of Deer	193	203	127	86	117	119

Impact on Flora

The white-tailed deer is a fairly opportunistic herbivore! In summer, it feeds on tree, shrub and herbaceous plant leaves and twigs, as well as fruits and mushrooms. In winter, it nibbles buds and twigs off thujas, cedars, sumacs, dogwoods, ash trees, cherry trees, poplars, willows, honeysuckles, lindens and pines. In the *Parc national des Îles-de-Boucherville*, it is also fond of two other plants currently at risk: the narrow-leaved springbeauty (*Claytonia virginica*), and the bloodroot. A high-density white-tailed deer population can negatively impact on the park's flora. Indeed, the deer's intensive nibbling and treading can lead to hindering and even blocking plant succession. In nibbling seedlings and plantlets, the deer prevents them from growing and reaching maturity, and thus stops a forest from regenerating naturally. In addition, the deer's treading has the effect of compacting the soil and thus jeopardizing plant species' growth.

Methods Used for Preserving the Park's Flora

In order to preserve both the park's flora and the deer population, managers at the *Parc national des Îles-de-Boucherville* decided in favour of measures that protect seedlings, young trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants. Two methods have been implemented over the past few years:

Protective Mesh Screens

We have installed almost 900 protective mesh screens around trees to allow them to grow and prevent deer from nibbling on them. This technique is indeed effective, but demands extensive time and maintenance on an annual basis to ensure its effectiveness. These mesh screens were installed as part of the tree plantation process a few years ago, and will be removed when the trees reach a height of about two metres.

Exclosures

Since 2006, we have installed three exclosures in the park: metallic fencing that protects a certain area of land. Thus deer and other wildlife have no access to the vegetation inside the fencing. Follow-up and tracking are also in progress to measure impact of nibbling on both woody and herbaceous species. One of the exclosures was erected in the Grosbois woodland, which includes, among others, the narrow-leaved springbeauty



(*Claytonia virginica*), in order for us to find out the consequences of the deer's presence on this at-risk vascular species. We are currently comparing the average abundance of springbeauty individuals between the plots located inside and outside the exclosures. It is still too early to jump to conclusions from our follow-up and tracking, but we do notice that the springbeauty populations within the exclosure are maintaining their abundance.

Exclosures for the Future!

The white-tailed deer population survey combined with the installation of six additional exclosures on *Île de la Commune*, and eventually on other islands of the park, will enable us to appropriately follow up on and track the deer population, protect the narrow-leaved springbeauty and plan for creating patches of forest.

GUIDED DISCOVERY ACTIVITIES

(Activities scheduled are offered in french only but are available in english upon reservation)

Spring: April 21 to May 31, 2013

Days	Time	Activities	Rate	Meeting	
April	Saturday - Sunday On and after April 20	1:30 P.M. to 4 P.M.	1 Behold Migrating Ducks	Adult : \$10.18 - Child : \$5.09	Rental Centre
		1:30 P.M. to 3 P.M. 3:15 P.M. to 4:45 P.M. Saturday from : 5 P.M. to 6:15 P.M.	12 In the Footprints of the White-Tailed Deer	Adult : \$7,25 - Child : \$3.63	Discovery and Services Centre
May	Saturday 4 Sunday 5	1:30 P.M. to 3 P.M. 3:15 P.M. to 4:45 P.M.	12 In the Footprints of the White-Tailed Deer	Adult : \$7,25 - Child : \$3.63	Discovery and Services Centre
	Saturday - Sunday	9:30 to 12 P.M.	1 Behold Migrating Ducks	Adult : \$10.18 - Child : \$5.09	Rental Centre
	Saturday 4, 11 Sunday 5, 12	9: to 12 P.M.	15 Introduction to Bird-Watching	Adult : \$16.09	Discovery and Services Centre
		1:30 to 4 P.M.	20 Discovery Stand (presence of a park warden)	Free	Near the cable ferry descent
		1:30 to 4 P.M.	21 Animation at the Iroquoian Hut	Free	Boucher-de-Grosbois (Île Grosbois) Archæological Site
	Saturday 18, 25 Sunday 19, 26	9: to 12 P.M.	16 Introduction to Bird Songs	Adult : \$16.09	Discovery and Services Centre
		1:30 to 4 P.M.	20 Discovery Stand (presence of a park warden)	Free	Near the cable ferry descent
		1:30 to 4 P.M.	21 Animation at the Iroquoian Hut	Free	Boucher-de-Grosbois (Île Grosbois) Archæological Site
June	Monday 20	9: to 12 P.M.	16 Introduction to Bird Songs	Adult : \$16.09	Discovery and Services Centre
		1:30 to 4 P.M.	21 Animation at the Iroquoian Hut	Free	Boucher-de-Grosbois (Île Grosbois) Archæological Site
		1:30 to 4 P.M.	20 Discovery Stand (presence of a park warden)	Free	Near the cable ferry descent

Summer: June 1 to August 31, 2013

Days	Time	Activities	Rate	Meeting	
June	Saturday - Sunday (except June 9)	9:30 A.M. to 12 P.M.	2 Rabascaw Ride in the Marsh*	Adult : \$10.18 - Child : \$5.09	Rental Centre
		1:30 P.M. to 2:45 P.M.	8 The Mysterious Investigations of Inspector Nature	Free	Discovery and Services Centre
July	Saturday - Sunday Legal Holiday, Monday 24	1:30 P.M. to 4 P.M.	20 Discovery Stand (presence of a park warden)	Free	Near the cable ferry descent
		10:30 A.M. to 4 P.M.	21 Animation at the Iroquoian Hut	Free	Boucher-de-Grosbois (Île Grosbois) Archæological Site
August	Saturday June 8	9 A.M. to 12 P.M.	19 Introduction to Sport Fishing	Adult : \$16.09 - Child : \$8.26	Île Pinard (cable ferry drop-off)
		9:30 A.M. to 11:30 A.M. 1:30 P.M. to 3:30 P.M.	14 Mission: Biodiversity	Adult : \$9.67 - Child : \$4.84	Île Pinard (cable ferry drop-off)
September	Saturday June 9	10:30 A.M. to 4 P.M.	23 Animation at the Observation Tower	Free	Observation Tower (Île de la Commune)
		9 A.M. to 12 P.M.	19 Introduction to Sport Fishing	Adult : \$16.09 - Child : \$8.26	Île Pinard (cable ferry drop-off)
October	Saturday - Sunday 15-16-22-23 and Monday 24	9 A.M. to 12 P.M.	17 Introduction to Bird Behaviour	Adult : \$16.09	Discovery and Services Centre
		6:30 P.M. to 8 P.M.	4 The Beaver at Sundown	Adult : \$7.52 - Child : \$3.76	Rental Centre
November	Date to be determinatated between June 14 and 30	6 P.M. to 9 P.M.	18 Inventory of Birds in the Marsh	Adult : \$16.09	Rental Centre
		10:30 A.M. to 4 P.M.	20 Discovery Stand	Free	Near the cable ferry descent
December	Saturday - Sunday Legal Holiday, Monday 1	9 A.M. to 12 P.M.	3 Rabaskaw Ride to the Iroquoian Site	Adult : \$10.18 - Child : \$5.09	Rental Centre
		1:30 P.M. to 3:30 P.M.	22 The River's Far Side	Free	Inquire at the DSC!
January	Saturday	8:30 P.M. to 9:30 P.M.	7 Echoes in the Night !	Free	Amphithéâtre Grosbois
		1:30 P.M. to 3:30 P.M.	24 Bicycle Ride Around the Islands	Adult : \$9.67 - Child : \$4.84	Rental Centre
February	Wednesday	7 P.M. to 8:30 P.M.	5 Sunset Safari	Adult : \$7.25 - Child : \$3.63	Discovery and Services Centre
		10:30 A.M. to 4 P.M.	21 Animation at the Iroquoian Hut	Free	Boucher-de-Grosbois (Île Grosbois) Archæological Site
March	Friday-Sunday	9 A.M. to 11 A.M.	13 Around the Island by Trailer Train	Adult : \$9.67 - Child : \$4.84	Discovery and Services Centre
		1:30 P.M. to 4 P.M.	20 Discovery Stand	Free	Near the cable ferry descent
April	Saturday	7:30 P.M. to 8:30 P.M.	6 A Few Acres of Park Land	Free	Amphithéâtre Grosbois
		1:30 P.M. to 2:45 P.M.	9 First in the field	Free	Discovery and Services Centre
May	Sunday	10:30 A.M. to 4 P.M.	21 Animation at the Iroquoian Hut	Free	Boucher-de-Grosbois (Île Grosbois) Archæological Site
		6:30 P.M. to 8 P.M.	5 Sunset Safari	Adult : \$7,25 - Child : \$3.63	Discovery and Services Centre

Autumn: September 1 to October 14, 2013

Days	Time	Activities	Rate	Meeting	
September	Sunday 1 Legal Holiday, Monday 2	10:30 A.M. to 4 P.M.	20 Discovery Stand	Free	Near the cable ferry descent
		10:30 A.M. to 4 P.M.	21 Animation at the Iroquoian Hut	Free	Boucher-de-Grosbois (Île Grosbois) Archæological Site
October	Saturday	10 A.M. to 12 P.M.	14 Mission: Biodiversity	Adult : \$9.67 - Child : \$4.84	Île Pinard (cable ferry drop-off)
		1:30 P.M. to 3 P.M.	10 Beavers on the Islands	Free	Discovery and Services Centre
November	Sunday	10:30 A.M. to 4 P.M.	20 Discovery Stand	Free	Near the cable ferry descent
		10:30 A.M. to 4 P.M.	20 Discovery Stand	Free	Near the cable ferry descent
December	Saturday - Sunday Until Sunday 13, Monday 14	10 A.M. to 12 P.M.	14 Mission: Biodiversity	Adult : \$9.67 - Child : \$4.84	Île Pinard (cable ferry drop-off)
		1:30 P.M. to 3 P.M.	10 Beavers on the Islands	Free	Discovery and Services Centre
January	Saturday - Sunday Until Sunday 13, Monday 14	9 A.M. to 10:15 A.M.	11 "Hoo-oo-oo" Are You?	Free	Discovery and Services Centre
		10:30 A.M. to 4 P.M.	20 Discovery Stand	Free	Near the cable ferry descent
February	Saturday - Sunday Until Sunday 13, Monday 14	1:30 P.M. to 3 P.M. 3:15 P.M. to 4:45 P.M. 5 P.M. to 6:15 P.M.	12 In the Footprints of the White-Tailed Deer	Adult : \$7,25 - Child : \$3.63	Discovery and Services Centre

🚣 RABASCAW ACTIVITIES

1 Behold Migrating Ducks*

Aboard a rabascaw, discover the variety of ducks that stop over in the marsh and take advantage of this unique habitat as a staging area!

2 Rabascaw Ride in the Marsh*

Marshes as natural environments are often largely unknown and sometimes ignored, but how rich in animal and plant variety! A park warden will guide you aboard a rabascaw in this area where your senses will wake up and revel!

3 Rabascaw Ride to the Iroquoian Site*

Aboard a typically North American aboriginal means of transportation, the rabascaw, travel through time and meet with the First Nations that inhabited the park's islands thousands of years ago. Encounter their customs, visit their reconstituted campsite and let your imagination glide beside the campfire where aboriginal legends and stories will be on the menu. **N.B.: This activity's duration is between 2 ½ and 3 hours.**

🌟 ON EVENINGS

4 The Beaver at Sundown*

Take an excursion off the beaten track, aboard a rabascaw at nightfall. Learn about the beaver's behaviour in its habitat at the times of day best suited for its observation!

5 Sunset Safari*

Take a vehicle ride to visit the park when everything is quiet and peaceful. Or is it really? This safari will lead you into the "night life" of these islands' inhabitants.

6 NEW! A Few Acres of Park Land:

Come over and revel at participating in this quiz catering to the whole family, in which teams have to mime, draw and perform on stage to take up the park warden's challenges! Lots of fun in store!

7 NEW! Echoes in the Night!

Bats have always intrigued you? Come over and find out more about these little flying creatures as part of an interactive chat animated by an enthusiastic park warden! Later on, as part of a short excursion, discover the sound of their echoes, and, who knows, maybe you will get a chance to observe some of them!

🚶 ACTIVITIES ON FOOT

8 The Mysterious Investigations of Inspector Nature

Guided by a very special inspector, discover what in the world could have happened to Mr. Vole. Who are the suspects? What clues to their mischief did they leave behind? After the activity, children can leave with their investigator notebooks as souvenirs.

9 First in the Field*

The park conceals numerous mysteries... Come and unveil its unique landscape, multiple habitats, principal trees and diversified fauna!

10 Beavers on the Islands*

This ingenious rodent has left its mark all through our territory's history! Take part in this excursion on the islands to debunk this fascinating natural builder and its particular way of life.

11 "Hoo-oo-oo" Are You?*

The islands shelter several types of owls during their autumnal migrations. Come and find out why! You may even be privileged enough to observe them...

🚗 VEHICLE ACTIVITIES

12 In the Footprints of the White-Tailed Deer*

Take a vehicle ride and set off to discover the behaviour and habitat of the largest animal in the park! A park warden will lead you to the various places on the islands where it is most likely to be found.

13 Around the Island by Trailer Train*

To find out more about the park's fauna, flora and history, board the trailer train and discover the territory's features through a visit of *Île Sainte-Marguerite*.

14 Mission: Biodiversity*

Take advantage of Parks Day to come over and visit *Île de la Commune* and *Île Grosbois* aboard a trailer train, and discover a fascinating biodiversity like you have never dreamed of!

🦋 INTRODUCTORY ACTIVITIES

15 Introduction to Bird-Watching*

Looking to learn to identify birds, but have no idea of where or how to start? This activity is meant just for you! After an in-class session that teaches you basic identification techniques, offers sound advice and shows you how to use binoculars, your abilities are put to the test as part of a guided hike that enables you to catch sight of some of the numerous avian species inhabiting the park. Material provided on site.

16 Introduction to Bird Songs*

A bird has just sung nearby, but which bird is it? Learn to distinguish birds by their calls and songs in a practical training session. An interpretive talk followed by a guided hike will enable you to hone your ears!

17 Introduction to Bird Behaviour*

You have observed a bird that exhibited a particular behaviour, and you wish to find out the significance underlying its actions? This activity was designed for laypeople to decode avian demeanours that everyone may notice sooner or later. The in-class session is followed by a guided excursion. Discover the world of avian behaviour and open up to out-of-this-world beauty.

18 Inventory of Birds in the Marsh *

Have birds piqued your interest? Want to take part in an avian inventory guided by an ornithological expert? Sign up for this original activity that consists in accompanying a park warden who takes stock of the marsh's bird populations in a rabaskaw at sundown. The "head count" takes place from 6 P.M. to 9:30 P.M. between June 14 and 30 (exact dates to be determined). Keep an eye on our bulletin boards and Web site, and join us when the time comes ! **N.B.: Participants must be at least 12 years of age.**

19 Introduction to Sport Fishing *

Discover the fascinating world of sport fishing. With guidance from a park warden, discover the various aquatic habitats jutting the Îles-de-Boucherville and their dwelling species. A theoretical session precedes technical training on fishing equipment and how to use it. Then try your luck on the Saint-Lawrence, and who knows, just maybe you will come up with the catch of your life!

N.B.: Fishing permit not required for the weekend of June 8 and 9 due to the Fête de la pêche. Equipment provided for the activity (bring your rain boots and raincoat in case of bad weather).

ACTIVITIES AT YOUR OWN PACE WITH A PARK WARDEN

20 Interpretation Stand

Got a shower of questions concerning the park, its flora, fauna and history? Come meet our park wardens cable ferry. They will make it a pleasure to satisfy your curiosity. In addition, mounted animals and information signs will reveal this territory's distinctive features.

21 Animation at the Iroquoian Hut

Based on archaeological excavations, this site has been laid out to show the way of life of Iroquoians who inhabited these islands long ago. Visit this campsite, located close to the Relais Grosbois, with a park warden who will fill you in on a surprising historical aspect of this park. **Time schedules subject to change.**

22 The River's Far Side

Aquatic habitats and surroundings seem entirely mysterious viewed from the surface... What creatures live in the St. Lawrence? Fishers, grab your nets! Root out the secrets of life under fresh water! Maybe you too will unearth a miraculous draught? Material provided on site. Remember to bring your sandals or water boots.

23 Animation at the Observation Tower

Stop over at the observation tower located on the north bank of Île de la Commune, and meet a naturalist park warden who will let you discover a thousand and one secrets behind this environment rich in fauna and flora.

🚲 CYCLING ACTIVITY

24 Bicycle Ride Around the Islands *

Saddle your bicycle and sally forth on the park's cycling paths along with a park warden! This guided ride of about 8 kilometres is ideal for everyone wanting to catch sight of the islands from another viewpoint. Bring your own bicycle! Extra-cost rentals available on site.

* To participate in these activities, please register either in person at the Discovery and Services Centre or by calling 450 928-5088.

N.B.: A minimum of 6 people is required for any activity on the program to take place. Children must be at least 6 years of age to participate in rabascaw excursions.

Group Reservations

Groups can take part in all these activities on weekdays. In addition, other activities, namely "Ride Around the Island", "Birds Ahead!" and "A Few Acres of Parkland" are also an integral part of our offer. For information and reservations, please phone 450 928-5088.

THE ISLANDS IN WINTER



Since Opening Day over 20 years ago, the park has always been open year-round. During winter, *Île Sainte-Marguerite* offers hikers, snowshoers and cross-country skiers new scenery and an atmosphere that is beyond just peaceful. The islands' flat terrains make practising these activities accessible to the whole family.

The marked, packed rustic trails planned and set up specifically for hiking feature three loops: *Grand-Duc* (1.5 km), *Petite Rivière* (2.5 km), and *Grande Rivière* (4 km). Skiers and snowshoers can take advantage of 7 kilometres of marked, non-mechanically groomed trails. Snowshoes (for adults and children) can be rented on site.

A large part of our islands' fauna stays active even in cold weather. Thus owing to the snow's white blanket and the trees bare of any leaves, winter is highly

Winter Wonderland by Night

In January and February come over and revel in a torch-borne hike on foot or snowshoes less than 10 minutes away from Montreal. You will trek out on a self-guided excursion through a marked 4-km circuit where you will discover the park's attractions under the stars. You will also get a chance to taste delicious chocolate tidbits and a decadent wood-stove baked chocolaty pizza. A discovery activity with a park warden is also offered (inquire about the dates for this activity at the park's Discovery and Services Centre).



General Information

(Discovery and Services Centre)

Phone : 450-928-5088
Fax : 450-928-8719
 parc.boucherville@sepaq.com
 www.parcsquebec.com/ilesdeboucherville

Administration

55, île Sainte-Marguerite, P.O. Box 310
 Boucherville, Québec J4B 5J6
 Phone : 450-928-5089
 Fax : 450-670-2747

Cover Page : Photography, Mathieu Dupuis
Graphics : Cournoyer communication marketing
Printing: Solisco
Photography :
 Jean-François Bergeron, Nelson Boisvert, Annick Boivin,
 Dominic Boudreault, Mathieu Dupuis, Denis Henri,
 Sylvain Ménard et Pierre Pouliot.



This document is printed on 100% recycled paper made in Quebec, containing 100% post-consumer fibers and no elemental chlorine. Inks used in producing this paper contain vegetable oils.

Version française disponible

OUR SERVICES



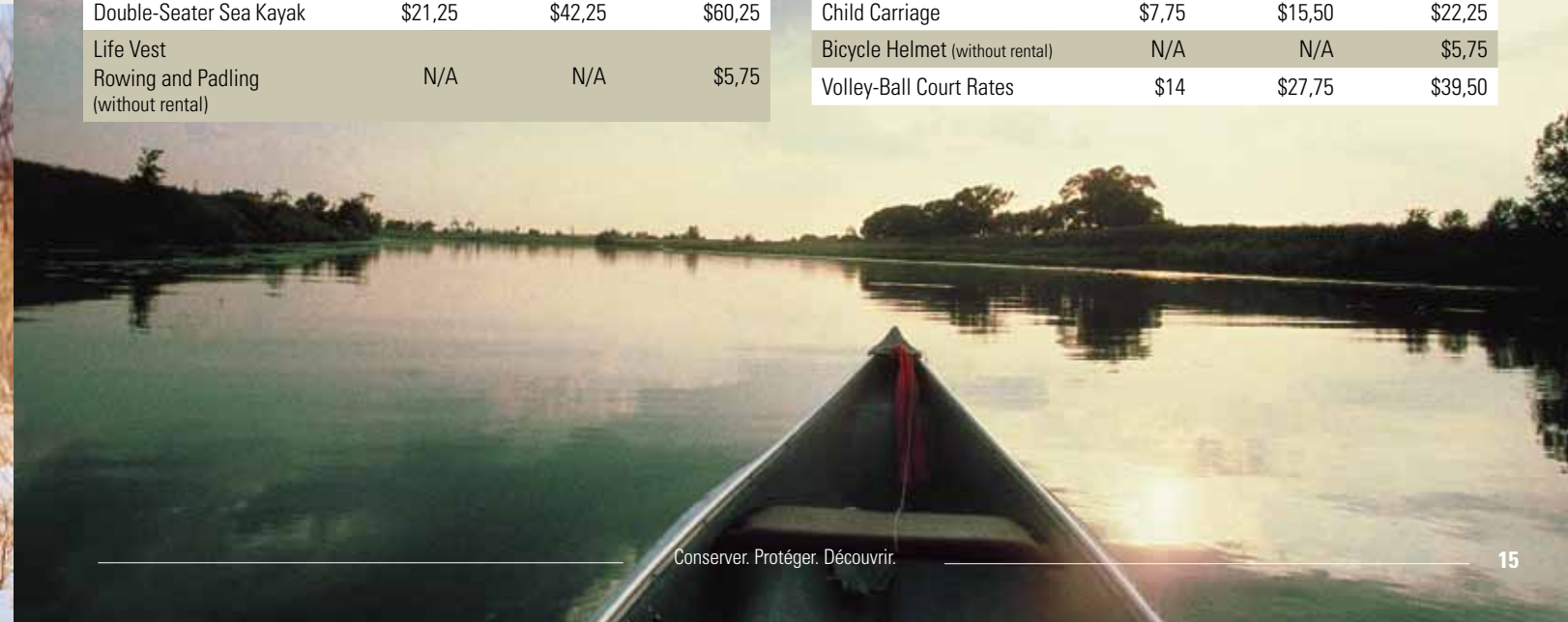
CALENDAR AND OPENING HOURS

SERVICE	DATES OPEN	HOURS	DAYS
Discovery and Services Centre	April 1 to May 5	9 A.M. to 5 P.M.	7 days/week
	May 6 to September 2	8 A.M. to 7 P.M.	7 days/week
	September 3 to October 27	9 A.M. to 5 P.M.	7 days/week
	October 28 to April 1, 2014	Visit our website	Visit our website
Cable Ferry (Bac à câble)	May 4 to September 2	10 A.M. to 7 P.M.	Weekends + Legal Holidays
	May 6 to September 2	10 A.M. to 6 P.M.	Weekdays
	September 3 to October 14	10 A.M. to 5 P.M.	Weekdays, hourly service
	September 3 to October 14	10 A.M. to 6 P.M.	Weekends + Legal Holidays
Snack and Dairy Bar	October 15 to October 27	10 A.M. to 4 P.M.	Weekends
	May 18 to May 20	11 A.M. to 4 P.M.	Weekends + Legal Holidays
	May 25 to September 2	11 A.M. to 6 P.M.	Weekdays
	May 25 to September 2	11 A.M. to 7 P.M.	Weekends + Legal Holidays
Bicycle and Watercraft Rental *	September 7 to October 14	11 A.M. to 5 P.M.	Weekends + Legal Holidays
	May 4 to May 20	9 A.M. to 5 P.M.	Weekends + Legal Holidays
	May 25 to September 2	9 A.M. to 7 P.M.	Weekdays
	May 25 to September 2	8:30 A.M. to 7 P.M.	Weekends + Legal Holidays
Snowshoe Rental *	September 3 to September 22	9 A.M. to 5 P.M.	7 days/week
	September 23 to October 14	9 A.M. to 5 P.M.	Friday to Monday
	December 1 to March 31, 2014	Visit our website	Visit our website

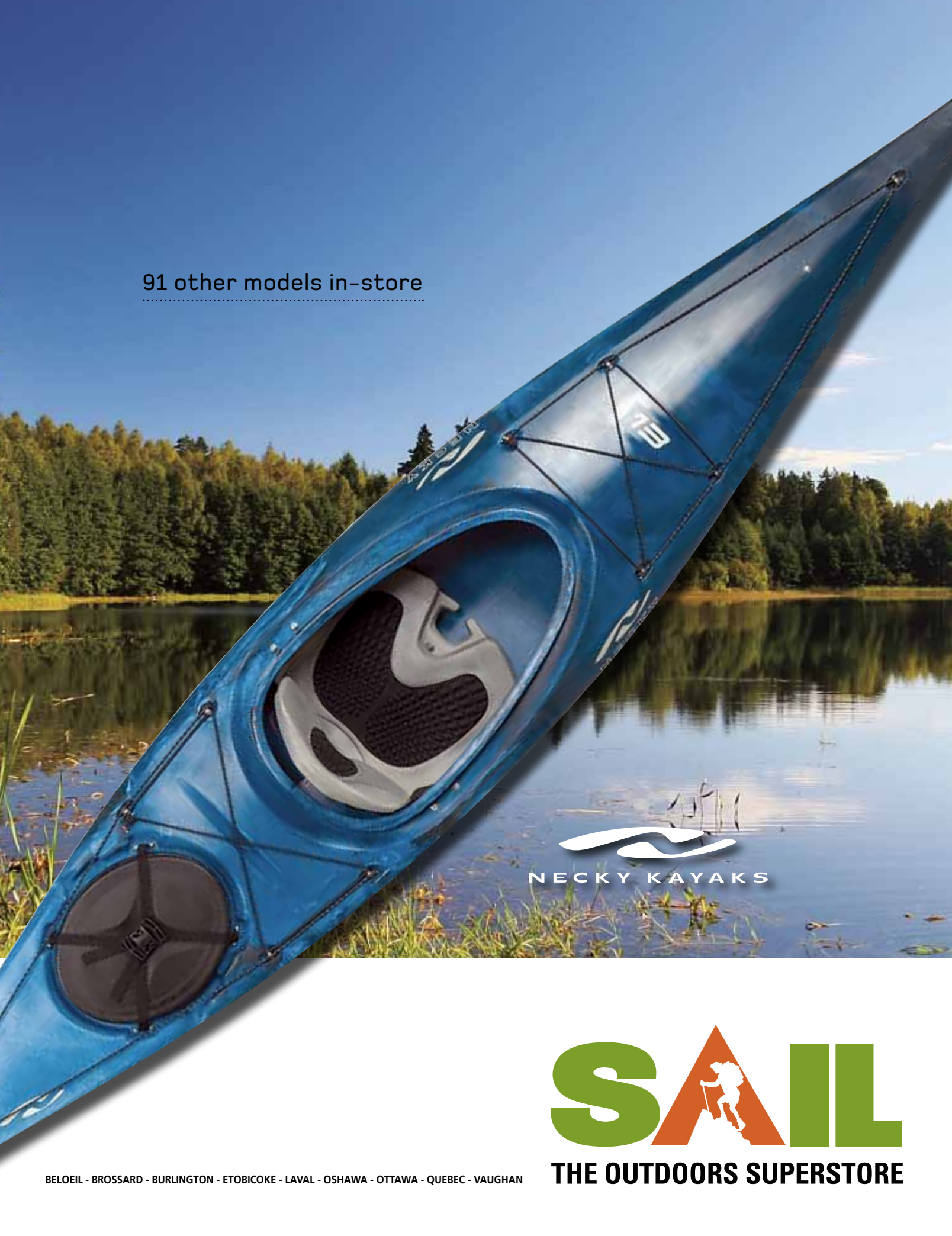
*Equipment must be returned before closing time. The last rental takes place at the latest one hour before closing time. The annual sale of rented equipment will take place beginning September 3, 2013 for watercraft, and starting October 15, 2013 for bicycles. The calendar and opening hours are subject to modifications depending on temperatures and customer traffic. You can refer at all times to the park's Web site to find out about changes to the calendar and opening hours. Prices, payment terms and services are subject to change without prior notice.

BICYCLE AND WATERCRAFT RENTAL RATES (BEFORE SALES TAXES)

TIME	1 HOUR	4 HOURS	1 DAY	TIME	1 HOUR	4 HOURS	1 DAY
Canoe	\$15,25	\$30,25	\$43	Adult Bicycle	\$12,50	\$25	\$35,75
Rowboat	\$13,75	\$27,50	\$40,25	Child Bicycle	\$7,25	\$12,25	\$17,25
Rabascaw	\$65	\$130	\$185,75	Tandem Bicycle	\$18,25	\$36,50	\$52,25
Single-Seater Sea Kayak	\$15,50	\$31	\$44,25	Trailer Bicycle	\$7,75	\$15,50	\$22,25
Double-Seater Sea Kayak	\$21,25	\$42,25	\$60,25	Child Carriage	\$7,75	\$15,50	\$22,25
Life Vest				Bicycle Helmet (without rental)	N/A	N/A	\$5,75
Rowing and Padling (without rental)	N/A	N/A	\$5,75	Volley-Ball Court Rates	\$14	\$27,75	\$39,50



91 other models in-store



NECKY KAYAKS



BELOEIL - BROSSARD - BURLINGTON - ETOBICOKE - LAVAL - OSHAWA - OTTAWA - QUEBEC - VAUGHAN

THE OUTDOORS SUPERSTORE