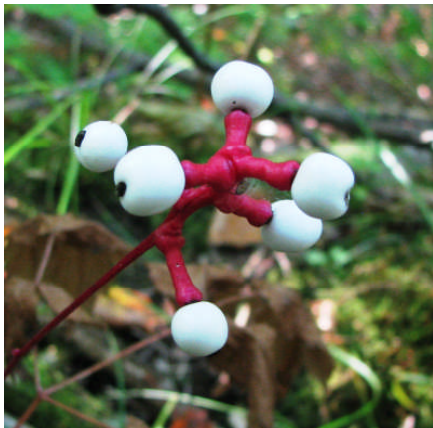




# 25 Years of Intimacy With Nature

A Presentation by Cliff Bennett

23<sup>rd</sup> March 2013



- **Purpose:**
  - Interest in and concern for our natural world.
- **Membership area:**
  - Mississippi Valley Watershed; more specifically Mississippi Mills, Carleton Place, Lanark Highlands, Beckwith and surrounding areas.
- **Current Memberships:**
  - 150 memberships: 310 members.
- **Incorporated:**
  - Board of Directors- 11 members
- **Charitable Status**
- **Affiliations:**
  - Ontario Nature      Nature Canada (CNF)

# Key Areas of Interest:

- undertake and sponsor study of natural history
- promote better understanding of Natural World
- partner with like organizations
- create and support active community involvement in our environment
- provide expertise and informed advice on environmental issues
- active monitors of natural environment
- promote MVFN as a key 'go to' source for nature issues and queries.

# **Flagship Activities:**

- Environmental Education Projects Program (EEPP) for schools and youth groups - “bringing nature to children”
- Annual Nature Bursary awards for post-secondary students within our area
- Indoor lecture series
- Field Trips and canoe journeys
- **New Project** : (2011) Formation of Mississippi Valley Young Naturalists Club



## Current Activities:

# Habitat Creation



Shore restoration & Opening  
of Mark's Lookout





**Current Activities:**

# Outdoor Nature walks





## Current Activities:

# Canoe / Kayak Activities

“Seeing nature from the water’s edge”





**Current Activities:**

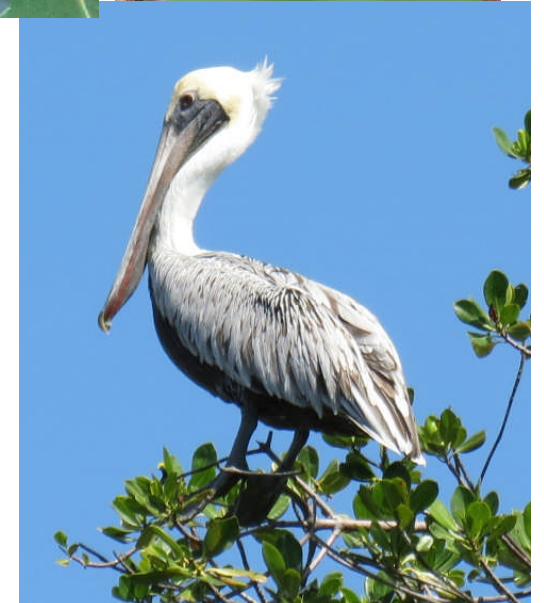
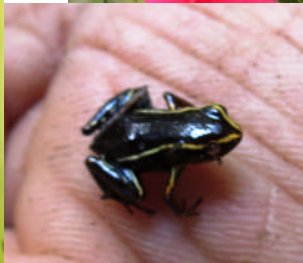
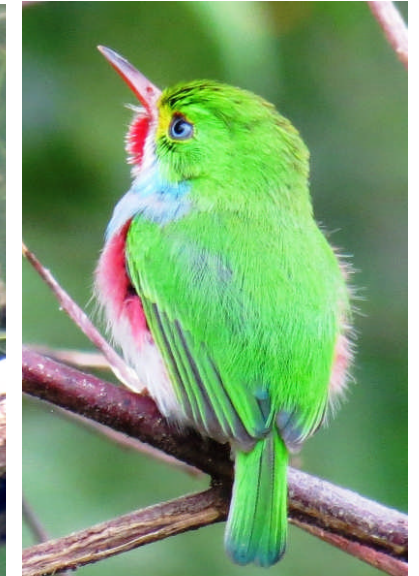
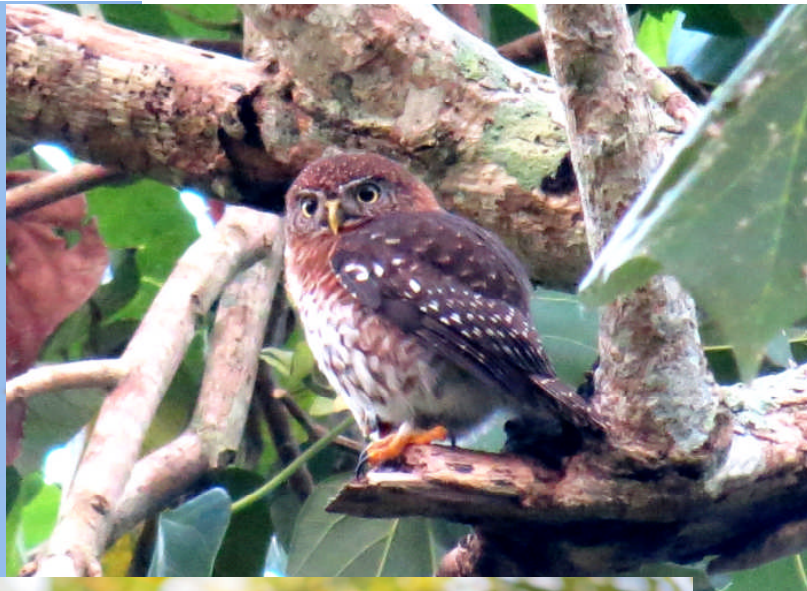
# Wilderness Canoe Camping





**Current Activities:**

# International Outing Programs

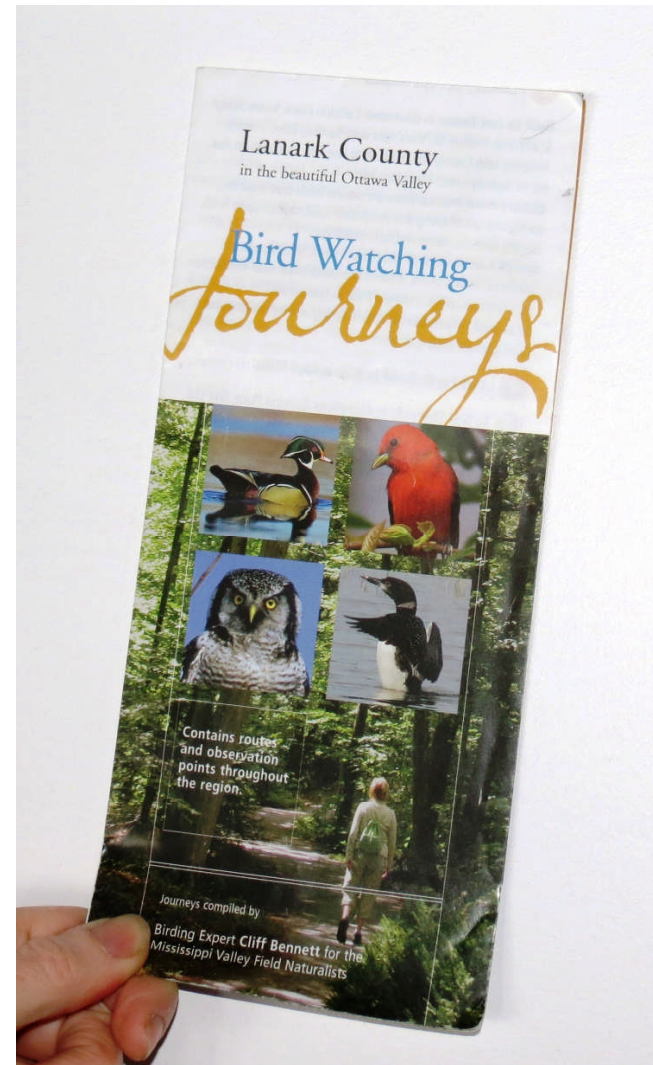
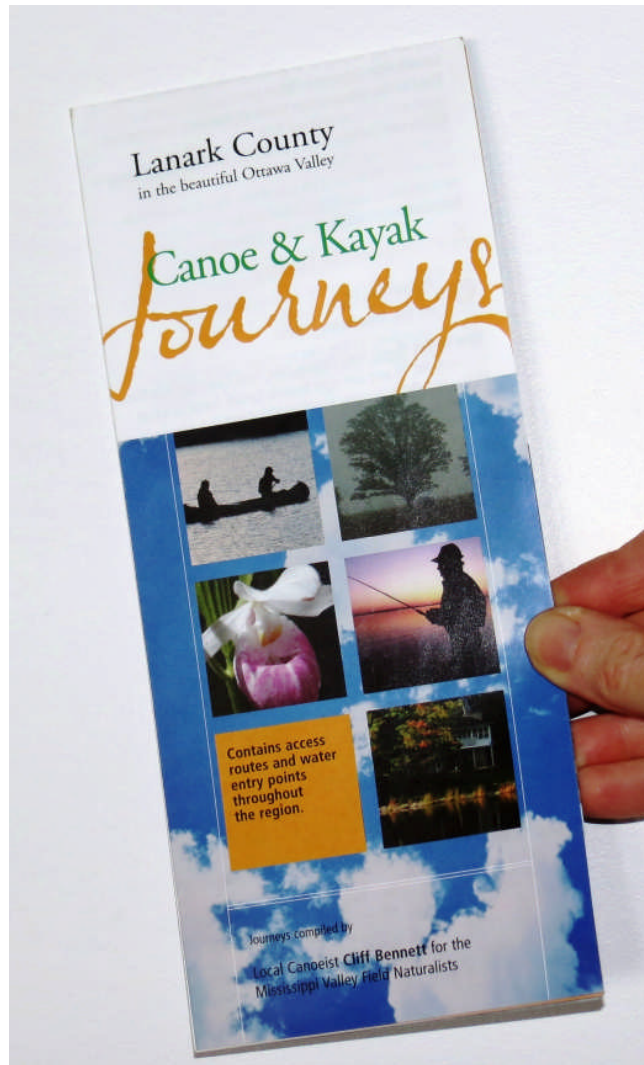


Photos by Howard Robinson



## Current Activities:

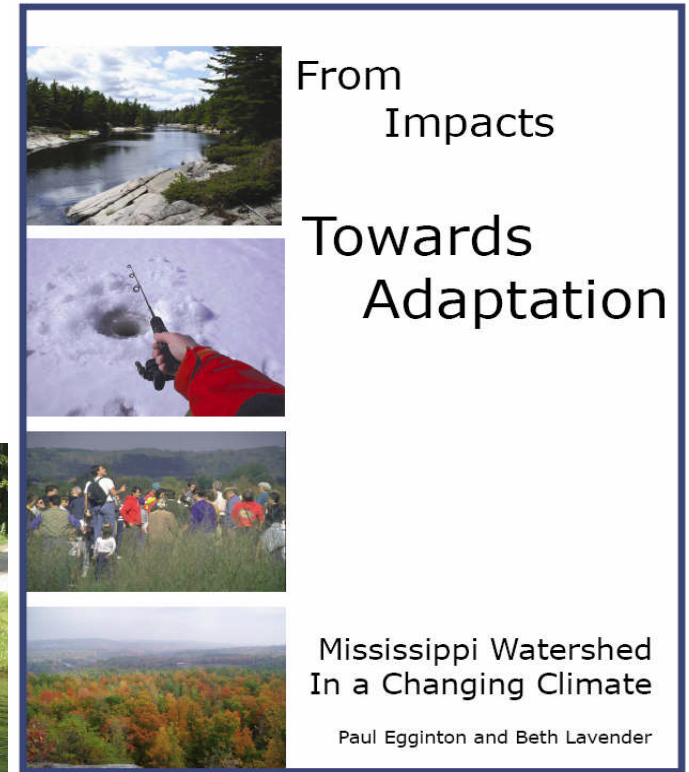
# Publisher of canoe and birding guides for Lanark County





## Current Activities:

# Environmental work with Mississippi Valley Conservation





# Current Activities: Conducting Bio-Blitzes





## Current Activities:

# Constructing & Maintaining Nature Trails



**First walk to investigate Gunn Creek Trail**

Photo by Howard Robinson



**Rehabilitaion of Potvin bird observation Tower**

Photos by Neil Carleton



**Current Activities:**

# Conducting Christmas Bird Counts

Carleton Place & Lanark Highlands





# MVFN has representation on:

- Community Stewardship Council of Lanark County
- Mississippi Mills Environmental Advisory Committee
- Lanark Highlands Environmental Advisory Committee
- Town of Carleton Place Environmental Advisory Committee
- County of Lanark Community Forests Working Group
- County of Lanark Trails Advisory Committee
- Lanark-Mazinaw Forest Management Advisory Committee
- Mississippi Madawaska Land Trust Conservancy BOD
- Climate Change working group with MVC



***"Learn all you can about our natural world.  
Do all you can, anything you can, even a little act,  
to help protect our natural world  
and make our environment better  
than it was five minutes ago."  
'annonymous'***



Photos by Howard Robinson