



Our Forests: Exploring Biodiversity

8:00-8:50 **Registration and Refreshments**

9:00-9:45 **Theme: Ontario's Natural Diversity**
Opening **Speaker: Steve Hounsell, Ontario Power Generation**
Plenary The conference will open with a photographic overview of the wealth of natural diversity in Ontario-from landscapes to species.

9:45-10:00 **Exhibitions/Silent Auction/Refreshments**

10:00-10:50 **Rare Forest Species of Ontario**
Session 1A **Speaker: Natalie Helferty, Ontario Nature**
Natalie will discuss some rare species that can be found in Ontario and the importance of protecting their habitat.

10:00-10:50 **Biodiversity Indicators in Your Woodlot**
Session 1B **Speaker: Ken Towles, Ganaraska Conservation Authority**
Ken will describe typical plant communities associated with different forest types and discuss tools to assess biodiversity in your woodlot.



10:50-11:10 **Exhibitions/Silent Auction/Refreshments**

11:10-12:00 **Tree Diversity in the Woodlot**
Session 2A **Speaker: Martin Streit, Leeds County Stewardship Council**
How to manage your forest for enhanced diversity of tree species and forest structure.

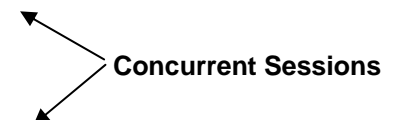
11:10-12:00 **Recreational Impacts on Natural Resources- 2008 Envirothon topic!**
Session 2B **Speaker: Ian Buchanan, York Region Forester**
Ian will discuss the things we do in our recreational lives we may not realize impact our environment.



12:00-12:40 **Threats to Biodiversity: Looking Ahead**
Keynote **Speaker: Rowan Sage, University of Toronto**
Address Global change will be the context for a discussion of current and future threats to biodiversity with a focus on invasive plant species.

12:40-2:30 **Lunch/ Awards/Auction: Minister of Natural Resources, Donna Cansfield is invited**

2:30-3:30 **Promoting Wildlife Diversity in your Woodlot**
Session 3A **Speaker: Brian Naylor, Ministry of Natural Resources**
Brian will describe wildlife habitat features of the of the Great Lakes, St. Lawrence forest region.



2:30-3:30 **Fire as a Silvicultural Tool**
Session 3B **Speaker: Ed Ducharme, Ministry of Natural Resources-Forest Fire Management Branch**
Fire is an important management tool for ecosystem restoration.

3:30-4:15 **Break/Refreshments/Exhibits**

4:15-5:00 **Annual General Meeting and Members Forum**

4:15-5:00 **President's Reception: All are welcome**