



A diversity of peatland landscapes Extraction, restoration and conservation

Organizers

Peatland Ecology
Research Group (GRET)
Université Laval

Place or route

AM : Grande Plée Bleue
PM : Saint-Henri
Peatland (Premier Tech
Horticulture), Lévis
(Pintendre sector)

Duration

1 day

Capacity

To be determined

Cost

To be determined

Note

Don't forget your bug
spray

This tour offers the chance to visit a variety of peatland landscapes, from active peatland extraction sites, to restored sites, to non-disturbed natural sites. The tour begins with the Grande Plée Bleue peatland, one of the last sites in the St. Lawrence Lowlands (15 km²) where there was no peat harvest. An ecological reserve project aims to protect the majority (61% or about 900 ha) of this wetland. Prior to the project to create this ecological reserve, the Peatland Ecology Research Group (GRET) carried out part of the restoration of the site for the Ministry of Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks (MDDEP) in order to try to conserve the ecological integrity of this ecosystem that was impacted by two large drainage ditches dating to the 1950s. In 2010 and 2011, a dozen dams were built to restore hydrological conditions and promote rewetting of the bog. The visit will begin in the rewetted and revegetated area and will allow the observation of restoration techniques. The excursion will continue to a natural bog used for the purposes of education in peatland characterization. We then travel to the peatland of Saint-Henri, an industrial extraction peat extraction site. Here you will see peatland extraction for horticultural products, rewetted peatland, and peatland restored by transfer methods. Do not forget to bring your rubber boots and bug spray!

