



Severn Sound Environmental Association

67 Fourth Street, Midland Ontario L4R 3S9

Tel: 705-527-5166 Fax: 705-527-5167 Website: www.seversound.ca

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SEVERN SOUND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSOCIATION RECOGNIZES LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERS

MIDLAND, ON, November 14, 2017 – Severn Sound Environmental Association (SSEA) recognized local environmental leaders at the annual SSEA Partners Reception on November 9th in Victoria Harbour.

“The success and sustainability of our work monitoring and protecting the water quality in Severn Sound and its tributaries is possible because of these amazing community environmental champions” says Julie Cayley SSEA General Manager.

The SSEA acknowledged the many contributions made by landowners, partners and volunteers to various SSEA programs and projects, and presented a number of awards recognizing local environmental champions.

Pat Woodford was announced as this year’s winner of the Bob Whittam Environmental Award for her many accomplishments, including her contributions to citizen science in the Copeland Forest. The award, named for local biologist and naturalist Bob Whittam, was started in 2000 and aims to recognize individuals or groups dedicated to improving the Severn Sound ecosystem. Bob Whittam who remains keenly interested in all aspects of the Severn Sound ecosystem and in the progress of the SSEA, paid tribute to Woodford “Pat was an early proponent and mentor for many volunteers who today we call Citizen Scientists. It is so wonderful to see that Pat is still training Citizen Scientists ... as chair of the ecology and sustainability committee of the Copeland Forest Friends Association”.

Other awards handed out during the event included:

- SSEA Student Environmental Awards:
 - Courtney Lockhart from Georgian Bay District Secondary School
 - Marina Clarke, Meadow Eadie, Krisily Geldart-Gillespie, Paige McIntyre, and Taylor Richardson from James Keating Elementary School.
- SSEA Stewardship Awards:
 - Jeff Hamelin and Emily Agar
 - Friends of Tiffin Pond & Tiffin Homeowners Association
 - Tracy Roxborough.

The Seven Sound Environmental Association mission is to sustain environmental quality and ensure continued protection through implementing a legacy of wise stewardship of Severn Sound and its tributaries. For more information about water quality in Severn Sound, visit us at www.severnsound.ca

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photos included below

For more information:

Michelle Hudolin
Wetlands & Habitat Biologist
Severn Sound Environmental Association
mhudolin@midland.ca
Phone: (705) 527-5166 ext. 202



Pat Woodford, winner of the 2017 SSEA Bob Whittam environmental award.



Left to right: Jill Dunlop (representing MPP Patrick Brown), Mike Lauder (Town of Penetanguishene Councillor and SSEA Board Member), SSEA Stewardship Award winners Jeff Hamelin and Emily Agar, Anita Dubeau (Town of Penetanguishene Deputy Mayor), Avery Bassett (representing MP Bruce Stanton), Carl Lesperance (SSEA Lead Monitoring Technician)



Left to right: Laura Baldwick (Township of Tiny Pollinator Project Coordinator), Steffen Walma (Township of Tiny Deputy Mayor and SSEA Board Chair), SSEA Student Environmental Award winner Courtney Lockhart, Avery Bassett (representing MP Bruce Stanton), Jill Dunlop (representing MPP Patrick Brown)



Back row, left to right: Steffen Walma (Township of Tiny Deputy Mayor and SSEA Board Chair), Jill Dunlop (representing MPP Patrick Brown), Avery Bassett (representing MP Bruce Stanton), Mike Ross (Town of Midland Deputy Mayor), Patricia File (Town of Midland Councillor and SSEA Board Member); front row, left to right: Anna McClymont (SSEA Invasive Species Program Coordinator), SSEA Stewardship Award winner Sonya Hudson (Friends of Tiffin Pond & Tiffin Homeowners Association)



Left to right: Avery Bassett (representing MP Bruce Stanton), Steffen Walma (Township of Tiny Deputy Mayor and SSEA Board Chair), SSEA Stewardship Award winner Tracy Roxborough, Patricia File (Town of Midland Councillor and SSEA Board Member), Jill Dunlop (representing MPP Patrick Brown)