



*Join Friends of the Grand River at Belwood Lake Conservation area on the First Saturday in June.*

# Grand Opportunities

Ontario's on river fly fishing forum.

This event is a celebration of fly fishing and the Grand River Tailwater fishery. Join in the fun!

Grand Opportunities attracts visitors and friends to share a day of fly fishing and fishing tales. It began in 1994 and since that time has become an annual highlight of the Grand River fly fishing calendar. This event usually falls on the first Saturday in June and is held around the Hampton Barn at Belwood Lake Conservation area. Come out and join in the fun as park admission is the only fee to attend this event.

Something for everyone!

People come to Grand Opportunities for a variety of reasons. Veteran fly anglers come out to visit old friends that they may have not touched base with over the past season. New fly anglers come out for the free fly fishing seminars that are held on the water. If you have gear you would like to turn into new gear there is the province's largest fly fishing equipment yard sale! The Women's only course is another highlight of this day. Others come for the steak lunch that has become an annual tradition. You can also try out a demo rod and pick up a few casting tips in the casting area or watch a fly tyer whip up some special Grand River creations. It all happens at Grand Opportunities.

Oh, the fishing on the Grand is also in prime shape during this time of year. Make sure to bring some caddis and mayfly imitations and some cash to maybe pick up some "new" equipment at the used equipment sale.

Since 1996, Grand Opportunities has helped raise over \$60,000 for the Grand River tailwater fishery

Commitment to the River!

Members of FOGR look forward to this day for a variety of reasons. This is a social event where you may find a new fishing buddy, secret honey hole or see a magic fly pattern created. You might also sit in on a seminar from a local expert or possibly win a new high end fly rod combo. But, the real value of this event is for the river. Grand Opportunities generates funds to support FOGR initiatives and helps generate new members and friends of this special trout fishing resources.

**Grand Opportunities**  
June 1, 2013  
Belwood Lake Conservation Area



Belwood Lake Conservation Area is on Wellington County Rd #18, 4km east of Fergus



**Friends of the River**  
Helping the Grand River environment since 1994.



# Grand Opps Programs

## Used Equipment Exchange



The used equipment sale has been a great benefit for fly fishers and the river. The way it works is you bring your unwanted equipment on this day (preregistration is greatly appreciated). Friends of the Grand sells it (you can help here too!) and then they cut you a check for 80% of the sale price, the remainder goes towards helping a super fishery. Talk about a super yard sale!

## FREE! On River Seminars

One big attraction of Grand Opportunities are the free on river seminars. Yes, we do pass around a creel to collect a few bucks (what better use for a wicker creel) but you can learn new techniques and tactics from an experienced angler with on-the-water instruction, you just don't get that for a "fin" or a "toonie" anymore! The river makes a much better classroom than a club meeting room or school gym and the proceeds of these sessions donated by top local fly anglers and FOGR members. Learn about the Grand River and see the techniques right before you on the river. Real water... real fish... real instruction.



## For Women Only!

Fly fishing is a wonderful activity that women often excel at. For this reason this event has a women's introduction to fly fishing course. It is free, but you do need to pre-register for this popular program taught by Sheri and Heather.



# FOGR Conservation Rod Draw



*The Friends of the Grand River Conservation Rod Draw winner is announced at this event annually. Since 2000 this draw has raised over \$40,000 for conservation projects.*

## Raising funds for river improvements

Over the past several seasons Friends of the Grand River has partnered with Bob MacKenzie Agencies to hold a conservation rod draw. The 350 tickets that cost \$10 each are usually sold out by noon of the Grand Opportunities event. This gives Friends of the Grand River financial resources to support projects like river access improvements, tree planting and research education to help identify needs in and around the river.



## Get Involved with super people and rewarding projects.

Friends of the Grand River is always looking for people to join the cause. Their efforts truly do make the Grand River the fishery it is today. Think about it. Who stocks the fish bucket by bucket? Operates the



Garbage Kiosk and river clean up program? Plants trees along the river and its tributaries? Conducts research on the tailwater? Negotiated and improved the fishing access sites you use? Sits on the committees that help governments support and direct this fisheries future? Friends of the Grand River does. You can help. Become a member and be part of a super fishery.

For more information or to get involved with Grand Opportunities visit [www.friendsofthegrandrivers.com](http://www.friendsofthegrandrivers.com) or call Larry McGratton (519) 843-3102 or email [stephen.may@ontario.ca](mailto:stephen.may@ontario.ca)

