

# Duncan Carruthers-Lay

## Contaminated Wetland Technician, Saint Mary's University

### Project Spotlight

Duncan has been busy contributing to various projects in the Dynamic Environment & Ecosystem Health Research group. At the beginning of the summer, Duncan was mostly working in the laboratory, preparing and analyzing soil samples. He also helped with plant assays, including investigating the use of goldenrod for remediating soils. In addition, he has conducted water quality testing, and analyzed insects and other invertebrates to determine the effects of mercury. He is now working on a project to determine the impacts of mercury on bald eagles. Duncan is helping lead the organization of logistics for field work for this project, as well as liaising with community partners. A highlight of the summer was dissecting a chicken as practice for future bald eagle dissections.

*Left: Some of the invertebrate samples Duncan has been analyzing.*

*Bottom: Duncan in one of the laboratories used for his projects at Saint Mary's University.*

### The Host

Saint Mary's University is committed to academic and research excellence, and to working with and for the community. Dr. Linda Campbell's Dynamic Environment & Ecosystem Health Research group carries out research and assessment of both aquatic and contaminated ecosystems across Canada and world-wide. Their research integrates multiple approaches from diverse fields such as environmental chemistry, aquatic ecology, fish biology and population health. The ultimate goal is to improve our understanding of the fate and effects of man-made and natural toxic agents in aquatic ecosystems and the way humans interact with aquatic environments.

