



### La Maison de la Rivière celebrates WWD in Geneva, Switzerland

To celebrate the World Wetland Day, [La Maison de la Rivière](#) hosted a booth in Geneva on Sunday February 6th 2011. Although in the middle of the winter, it was a very sunny day and many visitors were able to learn more about invasive species of the Lake Geneva like the zebra mussel or the killer shrimp or how fishes are being tagged during studies. It was a very good opportunity to show some of the local actions being done in the region and we are looking forward to participate again next year.

The Foundation [La Maison de la Rivière](#) is a Swiss center for management and renaturation of aquatic ecosystems based in an idyllic spot overlooking Lake Geneva and facing the Alps. Founded in 2007 by 2 Universities ([UNIL](#) and [hepia](#)) and 1 Organization ([ATL](#)), its goals are to allow studies, research, protection, conservation and promotion of aquatic ecosystems and respecting sustainable development.

To achieve these goals, the Foundation develops and promotes research and [environmental education](#). The ultimate goal is to become a national resource center in aquatic ecosystems in Switzerland.

Many projects are ongoing in collaboration with the local universities, from basic research ([fish population dynamics](#), fish mating strategies) to applied research such as the [Clim-arbres](#) project. This project plans for example to lower the local temperature by planting trees along rivers.

Next to these activities, an environmental education program has been created. Our flagship activity called « [NCSI : Nature Crime Scene Investigation](#) » is aiming at raising environmental awareness of school kids around the theme of the famous TV series. Indeed, kids have to elucidate a crime (an animal skeleton is found) by analysing water quality of the passing-by river and the lake, searching presence indices or by casting footprints of animals.

A [building](#) is going to be renovated and a glass tunnel will allow the visitors to see the submerged life of a river. The foundation is looking forward to being able to welcome the public.

Nathalie Kummer

La Maison de la Rivière



