



Small hands making a big impact at the Great Goderich Shoreline Clean-up

2022

When I look at Lake Huron beaches I see carefree summer vacations, show-stopping sunsets, and a place where memories are made. But I also see an enormous responsibility. As Great Lakes communities, we are the caretakers of 20% of the world's freshwater. The decisions we make and the positive actions we take impact the millions of people who live in, and rely on, the Great Lakes watershed.

Plastic pollution, water quality concerns, invasive species, and climate change are emerging as some of the most pressing environmental issues of our time, and we have been putting your donations to work taking action on these issues.

We are striving to bring community-based nature programming to as many people as possible by providing hands-on educational opportunities through our Coastal Conservation Youth Corps, shoreline clean-ups, Green Ribbon Champion beach-dune stewardship program, and Coast Watchers community science program. Because of your tremendous support, every day we are succeeding in our mission of providing people and communities with the knowledge, tools, and inspiration to protect the Great Lakes environment.

It has been inspiring and heartwarming to see individuals and families coming together again this year to care for our shoreline communities, and we look forward to another fantastic year ahead working with you to protect Lake Huron.

~ Erinn Lawrie, Executive Director



SHORELINE CLEANUPS MAKE A COMEBACK



Lake Huron Coastal Centre (LHCC) held three clean-ups in 2022 including the annual Great Goderich Shoreline Clean-up event, where 132 volunteers collected over 200 lbs. of garbage. This was an impressive feat since most of the items were small, making them even more dangerous to wildlife and more difficult to remove from the shoreline. The top littered items for all clean-ups this year included: cigarette butts (5,115), plastic pieces (1,344), and paper (667). Sadly, this is a common story. The most recent data states that cigarette butts are the most littered item in Canada with over 140,000 plastic (and toxin-filled) filters found on shorelines across the country. That doubles the number of small plastic pieces reported in Canada, which are the second most found item.

Shoreline clean-ups are essential when we consider that the equivalent of 40 dump trucks of

plastic pollution enters the Great Lakes every year. Volunteers and donors like you are helping improve the health of Lake Huron as well as the lives of wildlife (and humans!) that depend on it. We would like to thank everyone who helped make these clean-ups a success in 2022. It was incredible to see so many young people and families participate. This is what we can achieve when we work together!

We are not stopping here! With generous funding from donors and the Great Lakes Local Action Fund, we will be able to hold many more shoreline clean-up events and conduct more microplastic research from Sarnia to Collingwood in 2023. These fun, family-friendly events bring our community together to fight plastic pollution through education and volunteerism. Keep an eye out for volunteer opportunities on our social media accounts and website this year.



Please give generously so this important work can continue!

THANKS FOR WATCHING OVER LAKE HURON



Coast Watchers is LHCC's longest running program. Volunteers have collected 17 years of data related to plastic pollution, algae blooms, species-at-risk, human activity, and our changing climate to better understand the current health of Lake Huron.

This season we launched our brand new mobile application, which allowed 220 amazing community scientists to submit over 2,500 reports stretching across the Canadian Lake Huron shoreline from Sarnia to Georgian Bay. We also welcomed our first Michigan-based Coast Watchers, who are reporting from the Alpena



region. Over 19,000 unique data points were collected and relayed to interested environmental groups and organizations. Being informed on environmental issues is

“There is a big side benefit to Coast Watchers which is simply being outside in nature. I always have a sense of well-being when I’m the sole human amongst the dunes reporting on what I see... The more I’m out there, the more I get to feel at one with nature. I can’t say enough about having a chance to really witness and feel how dynamic this beach is every single day... My commitment to watching, observing, and measuring environmental conditions as a Coast Watcher has only heightened all aspects that brought me more in tune with this dynamic beach.”

~ Sandy Fair, Coast Watchers Volunteer

more important now than ever. Climate change and plastic pollution are urgent issues, making it crucial to have long-term data available to guide decision-making at a local and even national level.

Many volunteers utilize this program as an opportunity to learn new skills and enjoy nature while helping to protect their cherished beaches, which can be done with friends and family, or solo. Coast Watchers is growing and improving every season thanks to incredible volunteers and donors like you! We are excited to make even more strides next season with your support. To help us improve our Coast Watchers mobile app please donate this holiday season!

The pictures below were submitted by our incredible Coast Watchers. Keep an eye out for announcements on our website and social media (@coastalcentre) to find out how to become a Coast Watcher in 2023!



YOUTH MADE A SPLASH THIS YEAR



With your support, 48 youth chose to volunteer with the Coastal Conservation Youth Corps (CCYC) to learn about many facets of Lake Huron’s health including ecology, water quality, and shoreline resilience. While engaging in hands-on monitoring and restoration projects they logged over 1,200 volunteer hours in Saugeen Shores and Goderich this season. Your donations supported the hiring of a program assistant this year, which greatly enhanced the scope of program activities and allowed for larger group sizes. In fact, a CCYC participant from 2021, Cameron Hogg, was the successful candidate and elevated the experience for this year’s participants with his solid leadership and enthusiasm.

“It really opened my eyes to how large the impact of small actions can be.”





Programming opportunities were also expanded with the ability to hire busing for transportation to new restoration sites and allowed for a partnership with the Invasive Phragmites Control Centre (IPCC) in Baie du Doré. A new water quality monitoring and educational tool was also incorporated with the addition of a Water Rangers test kit.



“I felt that I was making an impact.”

Launched in 2020, base funding from the Ontario Trillium Foundation supported the program design and implementation. Now at the end of this three-year grant, the future of this valuable program will rely on the generosity of our donor community. These experiences may help youth to define their education and career choices while the skills, leadership, and teamwork are highly transferable. With your help, our youth may step into the future to visualize and ultimately seek innovative pathways to realize a healthy and resilient Lake Huron.



“CCYC teaches people about the environment and lets youth make change happen!”

“I’m so much more knowledgeable about nature, geography and the environment thanks to CCYC!”

SANDY BEACHES NEED DUNES

Lake Huron is known for its beautiful sandy beaches. Healthy and intact sandy beaches support a wide variety of terrestrial and aquatic insects and wildlife, like the at-risk Monarch Butterfly and Piping Plover. Communities along the shoreline are incredibly fortunate to experience one of North America's rarest and most fragile ecosystems every single day. Green Ribbon Champion gives shoreline residents the knowledge and power to protect and preserve Monarch Butterfly and Piping Plover habitats so that future generations can experience Lake Huron's diverse beauty for years to come.

This year, more than 225 volunteers, including Green Ribbon Champion (GRC) shoreline residents and neighbours, high school students and teachers, municipal staff members, and

volunteers from the community helped restore more than 50 shoreline properties in Saugeen Shores, Kincardine, Huron-Kinloss, Grand Bend, and Ipperwash. In total, you helped us remove more than 1,500 lbs of invasive plants, plant more than 7,500 native grasses, wildflowers, shrubs, and trees, and install more than 1,000 feet of sand fencing and nearly 100 educational signs. It was the most successful GRC season yet, and it would not have been possible without your support!



"I became a Green Ribbon Champion participant in 2022. As a result, I now understand my responsibility in maintaining beach dune health. The program developed my awareness and educated me on many levels regarding the importance of conservation and protection of the shoreline. I intend to continue learning more about the importance of beach preservation and restoration so that I can become a more effective steward of our community shoreline. I am proud and excited to be a Green Ribbon Champion!"





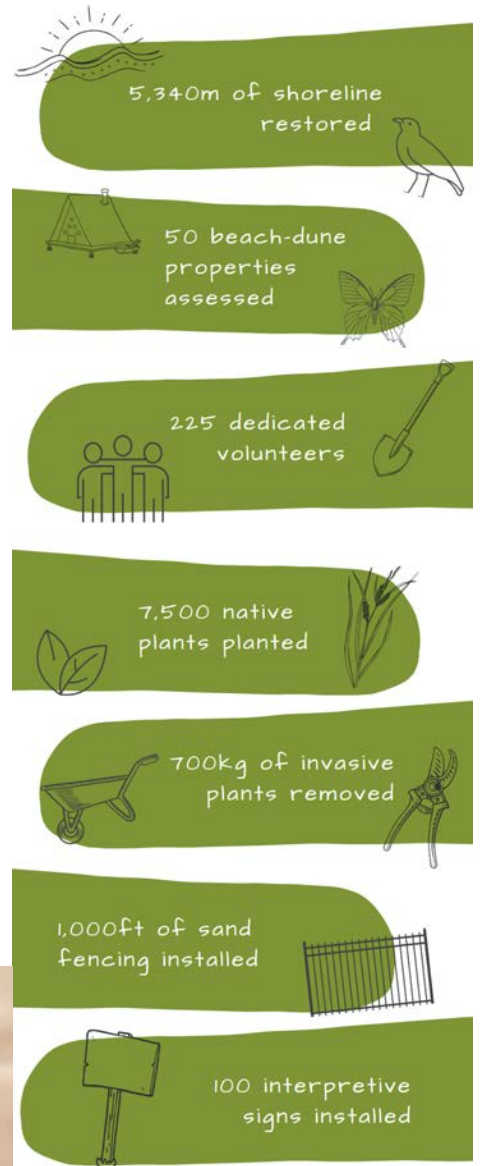
Boiler Beach is located in the Township of Huron-Kinloss and is named after the *Erie Belle* tug, a twice-rebuilt, Great Lakes steamship that exploded off the eastern shore of Lake Huron during a schooner rescue mission in 1883. During low water level periods, the remains of the exploded boiler can be seen on the beach.

This year, the LHCC partnered with the Township of Huron-Kinloss and the Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority to begin restoring degraded areas of the shoreline to reduce the impacts of blowing sand and snow, reduce erosion, and protect local water quality. With support from ICLEI, more than

100 volunteers planted nearly 1,000 native shrubs and trees and removed 25 garbage bags (187 lbs) of invasive plants along Boiler Beach Road. The Township is working with local residents to develop a *Friends of Boiler Beach* stewardship group to help monitor and maintain the work that was completed this year. If you are interested in joining, please contact us at coastalcentre@lakehuron.ca.

“I have become much more aware of the larger environmental importance of the dunes. Not only is the Green Ribbon [Champion] Program providing me with initial help of assessments, planting, fencing and signage, they are giving me the knowledge and support I need to go forward as a steward of the land.”

~ Green Ribbon Champion participant



WE NEED YOUR HELP

Did you know that Lake Huron Coastal Centre is a registered charitable organization and 97% of our work is funded through donations and grants? Your gift today will help ensure we pass on a positive environmental legacy to future generations!

PO Box 477
Goderich, ON, N7A 4C7
226-421-3029
coastalcentre@lakehuron.ca

Charitable Number #872138938RR001

THANK YOU

We are so grateful for the support of corporate partners, local businesses, and community organizations. Your generous contributions make coastal conservation possible!

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Kelly Lush

From: Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations <communications@foca.on.ca>
Sent: December 15, 2022 4:22 PM
To: Kelly Lush
Subject: here are the final Eler updates of 2022!

Happy Holidays! FOCA Eler ~ December 2022

[Having trouble viewing this email? Click to view as a webpage instead](#)

Make sure you see all the updates -
you're at the end when you see this image again:



image: Kirk Doughty

FOCA Serves Lake & Road Associations

event recap: FOCA Fall Seminar
held **November 19, 2022** by webinar

Our annual **Fall Seminar for Lake and Road Associations** had 170 registrants, and was packed with important updates. The theme was **"Gathering Momentum"** and all FOCA members are invited to login to the members-only section of the [event webpage](#) to download a copy of the extensive **Event Summary** which includes links to the slide presentations. Or, purchase digital access to the full 3-hour recording. (Members only)

Agenda:	
9:00am	Welcome
9:10am	FOCA Updates
9:30am	FOCA Member Benefits
9:40am	Member Survey Results
10:00am	Sneak peek at the revised FOCA website
10:15am	Break
10:25am	Preventing a Grass Carp Invasion: How you can help
10:40am	Accelerating your Municipal Partnerships
11:10am	FOCA Report release: the Economic Impact of Waterfront Property Owners in Ontario
11:30am	Question & Answer session
12:00pm	end

FOCA Association 'Toolkit': NEW Road Association Resource

At the Fall Seminar, we announced the release of a new member resource: a FOCA publication called **"Starting & Building an Effective Road Association"** that is the result of the efforts of our Board Working Group on rural road issues over the past two years. This new resource is a spin on the earlier FOCA publication, **"Starting & Building an Effective Lake Association"**. Both versions are available for member download in digital format from the website: <https://foca.on.ca/toolkit-overview/>


Starting and Building an Effective
Road Association



Reminder: A Holiday Appeal

Thank you to everyone who has already generously given gifts to FOCA in our **Holiday Appeal!**

Your kindness makes us warm, even on a cold winter day.

If you missed our message last week, or haven't yet heard why we're asking you to make a gift to FOCA this December, you can read the message and reach the donation link here: <https://conta.cc/3uSF3vQ>



FOCA's Gold level sponsors

Sponsors support our work, please support them.



FOCA Advocates for Responsive Government

FOCA and our Provincial Partners

FOCA was at Queen's Park in November for an **Invasive Species Awareness event** to inform elected officials about the looming threat of invasive species and the need for continued vigilance to prevent and manage these threats to our lakes, rivers and watersheds. In addition to meetings with the Parliamentary Assistant and **Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry**, we co-hosted a reception that saw 75 MPPs, the Minister and their staffs attend to speak with FOCA and our invasive species partners. Learn more about invasive species prevention, and get links to further information about particular invasives, from our webpage: <https://foca.on.ca/invasive-species/>



pictured: Minister Smith at the event

FOCA and our Federal Partners

Also in November, FOCA met with MP Michelle Ferrari and other environmental partners (pictured below) to discuss federal issues affecting our members, including the oversight and operation of **Historic Canals** (the Trent Severn Waterway and the Rideau Canal), the **Canada Water Agency**, and **climate resilience**.



Municipal Governments Sworn In

We have just completed the latest opportunity to shape our local political landscape with the **2022 Ontario municipal elections, held on October 24th**. Voting is important, but now the real work begins: it's time to introduce yourself and your issues to the local decision-makers. Learn how your Association can leverage municipal relationships in **FOCA's Municipal Engagement Guide**, available for member download from our webpage: <https://foca.on.ca/municipal-engagement-guide/>



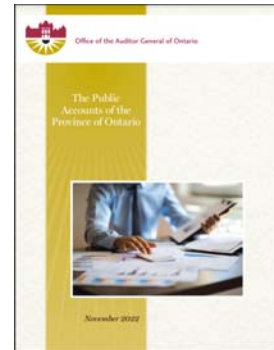
Bill 23

Following up on our report in the November Elert, FOCA and many other concerned organizations submitted detailed commentary on **Bill 23** - the so-called **"More Homes Built Faster" Act** that was introduced to the Ontario Legislature in late October. FOCA expressed concern about proposed Planning Act and Development Charges Act changes. This new legislation overrides some municipal powers related to planning of their own communities, lessens protections for natural heritage and wetlands, and may increase our

exposure to flooding. Access a copy of FOCA's analysis from our webpage: <https://foca.on.ca/land-use-planning-overview/>

Despite widespread environmental and public outcry, the Bill was passed on an accelerated timeline in late November.

Two days later, as part of the release of her **2022 Annual Report**, Auditor General Bonnie Lysyk warned of the need for more climate change adaptation, noting the Province does not have effective systems and processes in place to reduce the related risks of flooding. She also warned of threats from development (including Minister's Zoning Orders) on protected lands such as those in the Niagara Escarpment.



FOCA Champions Safe & Affordable Rural Living

Hydro One Rate Classes are changing

As FOCA has been informing our members for a number of years (learn more: <https://foca.on.ca/electricity-pricing/>) Hydro One is eliminating the **Seasonal** rate class, at the instruction of the **Ontario Energy Board (OEB)**.

The time for this change has now arrived. In the coming weeks, customers will be notified of their new rate class with an estimate of their new monthly bill.



Extensive public input was led by FOCA's 2021 "Power Line" campaign that succeeded in getting nearly 2,000 homeowners to contact their MPPs about the negative financial impact of this change. As a result, in the OEB's final decision they stipulated that **bill impacts would be limited to a maximum of 10% per year**; thus, the increase you see on the next bill will be just the first of many annual increases.

Boating Safety developments

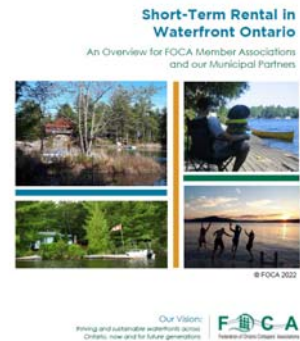
Transport Canada (TC) has indicated that work continues towards modernizing the **Vessel Operation Restriction Regulations (VORR)**, which will include a 2021 proposal to introduce a new schedule for **wake surfing** restrictions. Additionally, TC is collecting feedback from industry, safety and police organizations around possible regulatory amendments for **mandatory wear of Personal Floatation Devices (PFDs)**. Get updates and follow these issues here: <https://foca.on.ca/boating-overview/>



NEW FOCA Report: Short-Term Rental in Cottage Country

From a FOCA survey earlier this year, overall less than 10% of respondents are renting their waterfront property. However, those who have owned their property for less than 5 years are more than twice as likely to have rented, and are renting for more days each year.

FOCA's Board Working Group on **Short-Term Rental (STR)** has compiled a new summary report about STR in cottage country for our member Associations and our municipal partners. The report contains an overview of the issue, what problems are being experienced by neighbours, examples of municipal responses to public concerns related to STR, and examples of educational materials that might help to bridge some knowledge gaps for visitors new to rural living. Members can download a copy of the 16-page report from our website: <https://foca.on.ca/rental/>.



Municipal partners are encouraged to [contact the office](#) to access a digital copy.

Ice Safety

It is extremely important to be careful on the ice, which is just beginning to form on our lakes and waterways. [Review important tips about ice safety here.](#)

FOCA's President of the Board, Ian Crawford, reported a remarkable story that happened earlier this week in his bay on Whitestone Lake: a deer went through the ice, and a rescue was launched. [Read the story and find out what happened.](#)

image: Sue Turner



FOCA's Silver level sponsors

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FOCA Promotes Healthy Lands, Lakes & Rivers

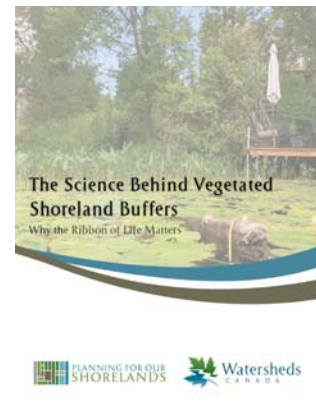
Biodiversity on the World Stage

COP15 (also known as the **United Nations Biodiversity Conference**, taking place in Montreal from December 7-19, 2022) brings together countries to agree on targets to ensure the survival of species, and stem the collapse of ecosystems across the world. COP15 is a once-in-a-decade opportunity to halt destruction of the natural world. Many scientists agree that biodiversity is at a tipping point, and decisions we make now may be our last chance to conserve the natural world and our existence as we know it. **Waterfront property owners have a role to play, in our property management decisions, in our consumer choices, and in how we vote.** More about FOCA and biodiversity: <https://foca.on.ca/ontario-biodiversity/>



The Science Behind Vegetated Shoreland Buffers

FOCA is on the Steering Committee of the **Planning For Our Shorelands (PFOS)** project with Watersheds Canada. As was presented at the FOCA Fall Seminar, the Committee is very pleased to have created several digital resources for homeowners and municipal partners about shorelands, including the newest guide, **"The Science Behind Vegetated Shoreland Buffers: why the ribbon of life matters"** (pictured at the side). Access this report, other resources about shoreline naturalization planting, and a regulatory guide that includes existing municipal by-law, policy and Official Plan examples worth emulating, from [FOCA's Healthy Waterfronts webpage](#).



Thank You, Volunteers!

International Volunteer Day was celebrated last week, and FOCA takes this opportunity to thank all the volunteers who make our waterfront communities great.

- Thank you to the hundreds of [Lake Partner Program](#) volunteers for your ongoing water sampling efforts.
- Thank you to the dozens of [Green Shovels](#) and [IsampleON](#) program volunteers for helping to prevent the spread of invasive species in cottage country.
- Thank you to FOCA's great volunteer [Board of Directors](#) who support this organization throughout the year.
- And thank you to each and every one of you who volunteer with your local [lake, cottage, camp, road or waterfront association](#). Your efforts matter!



Partner Updates & Regional Notices

event recap: Fall Cottage Life Show

November 11-13, 2022: FOCA was back in-person at the 2022 Fall Cottage Life Show! **Terry Rees** spoke on the main stage about short-term rentals with Michelle Kelly, Editor of Cottage Life Magazine, and FOCA's colleague **Peter Lillico** discussed cottage succession planning, among many featured talks. Thanks to everyone who stopped by our booth to say hello.



If you missed Terry and Michelle's live talk, you can revisit their August 2022 podcast discussion, and get related links and information here: <https://foca.on.ca/rental/>

Haliburton Police Services News

As reported in a recent **Cottage Life** article, the **Ontario Provincial Police** confirmed to Haliburton County in early November that they are considering making the existing Haliburton detachment into a satellite location of Lindsay in the Kawartha Lakes, over an hour's drive south. [Read about it online.](#)



Great Lakes Progress Reports

As part of its responsibilities under the **Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement**, the **International Joint Commission** has released progress reports on each of the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence Seaway. For an overview by lake basin, see their online summaries about [Lake Superior](#), [Lake Michigan](#), [Lake Huron](#), [Lake Erie](#), [Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River](#), and the [Great Lakes basin-wide](#).

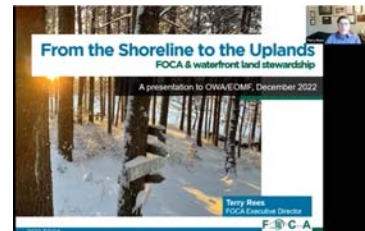
2022 PROP Highlights by Location

The below numbered list corresponds to the dots on the map. Scroll through the list to see a selection of activities described in the 2022 PROP.



event recap: Ontario Woodlot Association

December 7, 2022 - FOCA participated in the Annual Seminar of the **Ontario Woodlot Association (OWA)**, titled "From the Shoreline to the Uplands: FOCA & waterfront land stewardship". A presentation to OWA/ECMF, December 2022. Terry Rice, FOCA Executive Director. [P X B ZpvUvcf diiboofm/](#)



Lake of the Woods: Walleye Catch Limits

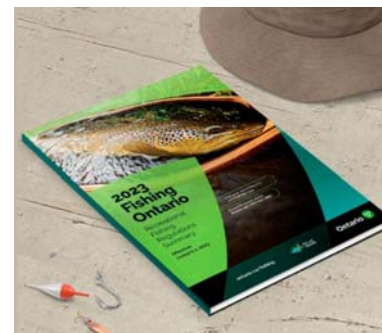
The **Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF)** are proposing changes to the recreational catch limits and size limits for walleye in **Lake of the Woods** in order to address risks to the quality of the fisheries. The MNRF monitoring data on Lake of the Woods indicates that the walleye population is vulnerable to continued high-levels of harvest to the point where the current harvest poses a risk to the quality of the walleye fishery. The [comment period](#) ends **January 9th, 2023**.



Walleye image: Kirk Doughty

Speaking of fish...

The **2023 Ontario Fishing Regulations Summary** is now available for download from the provincial website: <https://www.ontario.ca/document/ontario-fishing-regulations-summary>. This is the annual guide to the rules and regulations for recreational fishing in Ontario. It contains information about recreational fishing licences, open seasons and catch limits, and up-to-date fishing regulations for each fishing zone.



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Final Thoughts

Making the Most of Every Season

Looking for a short read? Check out this recent article from *The Guardian* titled, "[Bad weather is good for you: take a walk in the wind and rain](#)" that searches for the good side of bad weather. Enjoy the great outdoors!



FOCA's Holiday Hours



The FOCA office will be **closed for the holidays** from December 24th, reopening on Tuesday, January 3rd.

On behalf of the staff and Board of Directors, we wish you and your families the very best for the season and a happy and safe New Year!

See you in 2023...

FOCA is the Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations,
the voice of the waterfront for the past 60 years.

Connect with our channels:



Find out more about **YOUR ROLE**, today.
info@foca.on.ca | 705-749-3622 | <https://foca.on.ca>



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**Ministry of Municipal
Affairs and Housing**

Office of the Minister

777 Bay Street, 17th Floor
Toronto ON M7A 2J3
Tel.: 416 585-7000

**Ministère des Affaires
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Bureau du ministre

777, rue Bay, 17^e étage
Toronto ON M7A 2J3
Tél. : 416 585-7000



December 16, 2022

Dear Head of Council, Municipal Chief Executive Officer and Clerk, and AMO Staff

**Re: Greenbelt Amendments and Revocation of the Central Pickering Development Plan and
O. Reg. 154/03**

The government is committed to taking bold action to address Ontario's housing supply crisis by building 1.5 million homes over the next 10 years.

That is why the government has taken further action to support this goal by making changes to the Greenbelt and revoking the Central Pickering Development Plan and the associated Minister's Zoning Order (O. Reg. 154/03) to help build at least 50,000 new homes, while leading to an overall expansion of the Greenbelt by approximately 2,000 acres.

Further to the letters sent on Nov 4, 2022 regarding proposed amendments to the Greenbelt and the letter on October 25, 2022 regarding the proposed revocation of the CPDP, I am writing to provide an update that the government has approved Amendment No. 3 to the Greenbelt Plan (by OIC 1745/2022), amended the Greenbelt Area boundary (O. Reg. 59/05), and revoked the Central Pickering Development Plan (by OIC 1746/2022). The amendments were approved as proposed without modifications.

As Minister, I approved the related amendments to the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan (O. Reg. 140/02) and revoked the Central Pickering Development Planning Area and the related Minister's Zoning Order (O. Reg. 154/03).

Information on the Greenbelt Area boundary regulation, and the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan, and the revocation of the Central Pickering Development Plan and Minister's Zoning Order can be found at:

- Designation of Greenbelt Area (O. Reg. 567/22) - <https://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/r22567>
- Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan (O. Reg. 568/22) - <https://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/r22568>
- Zoning Area - Regional Municipality of Durham, Part of The City of Pickering (O. Reg. 566/22) - <https://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/r22566>

Further details on these changes, including updated mapping, will be available online soon.

Thank you to those municipalities who provided feedback. The province looks forward to continued collaboration with municipal partners to get more homes built faster.

Sincerely,



Steve Clark

Minister

- c. Kate Manson-Smith, Deputy Minister, Municipal Affairs and Housing
Sean Fraser, Assistant Deputy Minister, Municipal Affairs and Housing, Planning and Growth Division
Hannah Evans, Assistant Deputy Minister, Municipal Services Division



Media Release

Dec. 19, 2022

Grey Bruce Public Health launches new logo, visual identity

As Grey-Bruce continues to emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic, the area's Public Health Unit is thrilled to announce that it will be breathing new life into its corporate brand identity.

The Grey Bruce Health Unit will now be known as Grey Bruce Public Health to better reflect its mission, on-the-ground work in the community, and collective passion – protecting and promoting public health in Grey-Bruce.

Grey Bruce Public Health is also launching a new logo that features an artistic interpretation of the Grey-Bruce region, with its highly recognizable coastline along Lake Huron and Georgian Bay.

This element is surrounded by a hexagon, which represents the esoteric balance of nature. Historically, hexagons have been used in symbology to represent changes for the long-term good, health, strength, and the potential for unity and healing.

The hexagon surrounding the Grey-Bruce region also indicates protection – a key part of Public Health's mission and purpose.

"Brand identity is a big part of modern communications and is key to aligning our organizational values with how we're perceived in the mind's eye of the public and the partners we interact with," says Grey Bruce Health Unit Communications Coordinator and creator of the new brand, Nelson Phillips.

"This new look and outlook on the promotion of health represent a fresh start we feel is going to positively influence our community partners, staff, and the community. After a massive cultural shift like we've seen happen with COVID-19, sometimes a fresh perspective and look can open doors to new ideas and new ways of making change."

The rebranding process comes as Public Health continues to lead the region in the "**recovery phase**" of the emergency management process by reinstating its programs and services while incorporating the lessons learned during the emergency response, to renew its path moving forward to the future.

Newly elected Chair of the Grey Bruce Board of Health, Alan Barfoot, believes the rebranding has come at an ideal time, benefitting from public health authorities across the globe having the eye and ears of the general public like never before.

A healthier future for all.

101 17th Street East, Owen Sound, Ontario N4K 0A5 www.publichealthgreybruce.on.ca

“I think the new look will serve the health unit very well for years to come and will help to usher in a refreshed perspective of our local public health unit... At first glance you obviously see Bruce Grey, both counties – I think it looks good and I look forward to seeing it roll out,” says Barfoot.

“I believe Nelson’s work on the new visual identity for Public Health and the branding campaign captures our vision to advance our organization on the road to the Centre of Excellence for Rural Public Health to better the health of the communities in Grey-Bruce and beyond for years to come,” says Grey Bruce Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Ian Arra.

“Nelson single-handedly has designed and led the campaign in-house saving us the need for external experts. The health unit is well served by his expertise that would overshadow many of the external firms we could have dreamed of contracting.”

The campaign has been developed completely in-house, without the need for an external consultant or additional funding. The process has also been transparent – another key value of Public Health – with regular updates both internally and externally through the Grey Bruce Board of Health. The goal has been to reimagine and deploy a brand that embodies Grey Bruce Public Health’s pride in supporting and protecting community health.

With the name change also comes a new acronym – GBPH – which addresses confusion between Public Health and other organizations that shared very similar acronyms.

Grey Bruce Public Health will also have new typographic guidelines and brand colours, inspired by the natural surroundings within Grey and Bruce counties. The website and other external communication tools will be updated to adhere to the new brand and visual identity.

The new logo has been released digitally via social media and can be viewed on GBPH’s various platforms:

Instagram: [Grey Bruce Public Health \(@gbpublichealth\)](#) • [Instagram photos and videos](#)

Facebook: [Grey Bruce Public Health | Owen Sound ON | Facebook](#)

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/grey-bruce-public-health/>

Twitter: [Grey Bruce Public Health \(@GBPublicHealth\) / Twitter](#)

For More Information:

To connect with the medical officer of health or the program manager, please contact:

Denis Langlois, Communications Co-ordinator,

Grey Bruce Health Unit,

519-376-9420 or 1-800-263-3456 ext. 1315,

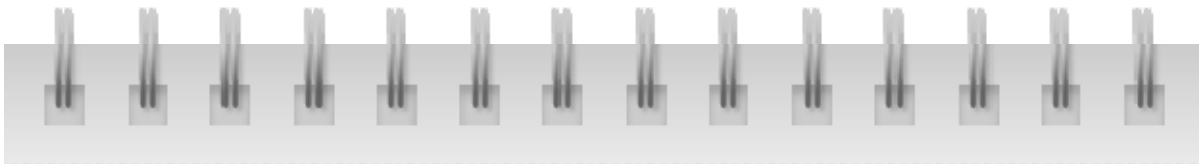
Communications@publichealthgreybruce.on.ca

Kelly Lush

From: Ausable Bayfield Maitland Valley Drinking Water Source Protection Region
<info@sourcewaterinfo.on.ca>
Sent: December 22, 2022 10:44 AM
To: Kelly Lush
Subject: Notice of commencement of consultation on source protection plan amendments

This email is to offer you updates about drinking water source protection in Maitland Valley and Ausable Bayfield areas. Thanks for having subscribed to this email newsletter. You are welcome to unsubscribe at any time.

[View this email in your browser](#)



Source Protection Committee seeks public input on drinking water source protection plan updates

Our local committee, working to protect municipal drinking water sources, is proposing updates to source protection plans for the Ausable Bayfield and Maitland Valley areas.

The plans have been prepared under the Ontario *Clean Water Act, 2006*, to protect municipal sources of drinking water and to ensure their sustainable use into the future.

The Ausable Bayfield Maitland Valley Source Protection Committee (SPC) invites the public to review and comment on the proposed updates to these plans.

Please submit your written comments by February 10, 2023 to mmacdonald@abca.ca

The local committee developed the source protection plans and the Province of Ontario approved them in 2015. The plans need to be updated because of recent changes.

Download the full consultation notice here:

- [Notice of Consultation](#) – PDF file (200 KB; medium-sized)

The wellhead protection area for Belgrave is updated to reflect a new water well. There are also minor changes to wellhead protection areas for Wingham, Palmerston, and Auburn. Policies in the plans are revised to reflect new provincial technical rules and to improve implementation. Key policy changes address road salt, fuel storage, and snow storage.

The proposed changes may affect properties close to municipal wells. If you live or work in these vulnerable areas, plan policies may affect how and where certain activities, which could impact drinking water sources, can occur.

Matt Pearson, Chair of the SPC, says people are invited to attend open houses, or a webinar, to learn more and to ask questions.

“Locally developed plans have helped to protect municipal drinking water sources since 2015,” he said. “It is now time to revise the plans to keep them current. We want the public to know about proposed changes to policies and we would like to hear people’s questions and comments.”

The public consultation continues until February 10, 2023. To review the proposed updates to source protection plans, visit:

- [Source Protection Plan Amendments Consultation Web Page](#)

‘[Have your Say](#),’ a short video featuring SPC member Allan Rothwell, describes some of the proposed changes.

The video is available on the [source protection program videos web page](#) on YouTube,

on the [Ausable Bayfield channel](#).

Public Events (Open Houses and Webinar)

You are invited to find out more at the following public events:

- **Webinar:** Wednesday, January 11, 2023 from noon to 1:30 p.m. Please pre-register by email to mmacdonald@abca.ca
- **Wingham open house:** Wednesday, January 18, 2023, 4:30-7 p.m., Hot Stove Lounge, North Huron Wescast Community Complex, 99 Kerr Drive
- **Clinton open house:** Wednesday, January 25, 2023, 4:30-7 p.m., Board Room, Central Huron Community Centre Complex, 239 Bill Fleming Drive

For more information or to review a paper copy of the documents please call source protection staff at 519-235-2610, or toll-free 1-888-286-2610, extension 247.



Drinking water source protection program

launches public education campaign on local and social media about snow storage and salt storage and application

The Ausable Bayfield Maitland Valley Source Protection Region, in partnership with Conservation Ontario, is sharing a public information campaign on local and social media called '*Salt Responsibly.*'

This educational campaign began in November and continues each Wednesday until March with the hashtag identifiers **#WinterWednesday** and **#WaterWednesday**

The posts are on Ausable Bayfield and Maitland Valley social media platforms.

Here is an example of a post and some examples of photos used in the campaign:

Snow removed from roads and parking lots may be contaminated with salt, oil, and heavy metals. Once snow melts, these contaminants may reach groundwater or surface water. Local source protection plans help manage the risk posed to drinking water sources. To learn more visit:

- [Salt Responsibly Story Map](#)

**#SourceWaterON #DrinkingWaterSources #SaltResponsibly #WaterWednesday
#WinterWednesday**



Source Protection Committee honours retiring committee members

The Ausable Bayfield Maitland Valley Drinking Water Source Protection Committee honoured two retiring members, at its November 30 meeting, for their years of dedicated service to protect local sources of municipal drinking water.

In this photo, Matt Pearson, SPC Chair (centre), thanks Ian Brebner (left) and Myles Murdock (right).

Ian served on the committee since it was first formed in 2007, first as a representative of the region's southern municipalities and later as a property owner representative. Ian worked with other original SPC members meeting monthly for day-long sessions to review technical material and to negotiate policies that formed the first source protection plans in the region which took legal effect in 2015.

Myles joined the SPC in 2015 as a North municipal representative having earlier participated in regional source protection working groups which started in 2008. The SPC develops and updates local source protection plans to protect municipal drinking water sources from contamination and overuse.

Notice – Call for Applications

Position available on local Source Protection Committee

The Ausable Bayfield Maitland Valley Drinking Water Source Protection Committee is reducing risk to local municipal drinking water sources. It is doing this through implementation of locally developed, provincially approved source protection plans.

Ausable Bayfield Source Protection Authority, on behalf of Ausable Bayfield Maitland Valley Source Protection Region, is seeking applications for one vacancy on the committee.

The vacancy is for a representative from the following interests:

- Property owner (1)

It is anticipated there will be up to four half-day meetings per year.

There is remuneration for time and travel.

For summary of member obligations and full job description please visit:

- [The Committee web page](#)

For requirements under Ontario Regulation 288/07 (Source Protection Committees) please visit [ontario.ca](#)

To learn more call Mary Lynn MacDonald, Program Co-Supervisor,
at 519-235-2610 or toll-free 1-888-286-2610, extension 247, or email
mmacdonald@abca.ca

Submit cover letter, attached to résumé, by Monday, January 2, 2023 to:

Brian Horner,
General Manager and Secretary-Treasurer, Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority,
71108 Morrison Line,
RR 3 Exeter, ON
N0M 1S5

Made possible with funding support from the Province of Ontario.



Best wishes for the season from the Source Protection Committee

The Ausable Bayfield Maitland Valley Source Protection Committee would like to wish you and your loved ones all the best of the holiday season and a happy, healthy, clean-water New Year!

Source protection committee members in photo are, front row, left to right: Bert Dykstra (Agriculture); Ian Brebner (a founding SPC member who has retired in 2022); Matt Pearson (SPC Chair); Mary Ellen Foran (Agriculture); Jennette Walker (Environment); and (back row) Philip Keightley (Commercial); Alyssa Keller (Public-at-Large); Rowland Howe (Industry); Paul Heffer (Municipal – Central Group); and Dave Frayne (Municipal – South-West Group). Not in photo (but also wishing you the best of the season!) are: Allan Rothwell (Municipal – East Group); Myles Murdock (Municipal – North Group; retiring from committee in 2022); and John Graham (Environment).



Source Protection Committee to protect drinking water sources in the Maitland Valley and Ausable Bayfield areas. If you have received this e-mail in error, or no longer wish to receive this update e-mail, you are welcome to unsubscribe. Thank you for everything you do to protect water.

Our mailing address is:

Ausable Bayfield Maitland Valley Drinking Water Source Protection Region c/o ABCA
71108 Morrison Line
RR 3
Exeter, Ontario N0M 1S5
Canada

[Add us to your address book](#)

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)

Monday, January 9th, 2023

Dear Member Municipalities,

I am the Flood Forecasting and Warning Coordinator at Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority (SVCA). I am reaching out to provide you with early information about a new program being initiated by SVCA called Flood Watch. The program seeks to engage the public in monitoring water levels in the streams, rivers, and on the Lake Huron shoreline within the SVCA watershed.

Flood Watch reporting signs will be installed with unique reference numbers and contact information (including a QR code) for people to reach out to our conservation authority with their observations from that location. Flood Watch locations in each municipality will be placed in historical areas of interest. Some municipalities may only have one sign, while others may have a dozen based on their infrastructure, watercourses, and history of flooding.

Information gathered through this public reporting will increase our ability to assess conditions promptly, limiting risk and helping keep communities safe.

Signage will be placed beginning mid-January 2023, with public rollout through a social media and marketing campaign commencing in early March 2023. I may be in contact with your municipality regarding sign installation at certain locations. An information session about SVCA's Flood Forecasting and Warning will be offered in April 2023 to municipal staff.

I look forward to your support with this exciting new program, and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

James Pearson

Flood Forecasting and Warning Coordinator

1078 Bruce Rd 12, PO Box 150 Formosa, ON N0G 1W0

Office: 519-364-1255 ext. 239 | Cell: 519-369-8247

Email: j.pearson@svca.on.ca | www.saugeenconservation.ca/reportflood



Sample of 12"x12" reflective signage.

The first two letters indicate the geographic area, and the numerals indicate the specific location in that region.

Signs may be installed on posts or structures.

Kelly Lush

From: Lake Huron Coastal Centre <coastalcentre@lakehuron.ca>
Sent: December 30, 2022 10:04 AM
To: Kelly Lush
Subject: You are the key to conservation in 2023



Happy New Year from the Lake Huron Coastal Centre!

New Year's Eve can be time to set goals for the year ahead. As stewards of the coast we promise to provide programs that make Lake Huron a healthier place.

New Year's Eve can also be a time of reflection. Click below to see how we put your donations to work in 2022.

[Annual Newsletter](#)

A Year in Review



Because of you, 182 volunteers removed **237 pounds** of litter for the Lake Huron shoreline including over **5,000 cigarette butts**.

With your help we will be holding **12 beach clean-ups** in 2023 from Sarnia into Georgian Bay and much more!

Because of you, 48 youth engaged in hands-on monitoring and restoration projects logging over **1,200 volunteer hours** in Saugeen Shores and Goderich through the Coastal Conservation Youth Corps.

CCYC members will be taking on even **more conservation projects in your community in 2023**.



Because of you, more than **1,500 pounds** of invasive plants were removed, **7,500 native grasses, wildflowers, shrubs, and trees** were planted, more than **1,000 feet of sand fencing** and nearly **100 educational signs** were installed through the Green Ribbon Champion program.

We are hoping to expand beach stewardship and restoration practices next year, meaning even more **fragile beach-dune ecosystems will be restored**.

Because of you, 220 incredible community scientists submitted over **2,500 reports** totaling **19,000 unique data points** to help us better understand the current health of Lake Huron.

In 2023 we plan to improve our Coast Watchers app to make reporting data even easier for volunteers!



This is why your donations matter so much.

As a small local charity, **every single dollar** you donate and **every hour you volunteer** has a **HUGE** impact! Join the hundreds of others – your neighbors and friends - who are contributing to Lake Huron’s future.

Donations received on or before December 31 will receive a 2022 charitable tax receipt.

[Donate Today](#)



On behalf of the Lake Huron Coastal Centre, thank you, and best wishes for a happy year to come!

Sincerely,

Erinn Lawrie, Executive Director



The Lake Huron Coastal Centre is a registered charity founded in 1998 with the goals of protecting and restoring Lake Huron's coastal environment. We are the voice for Lake Huron.



www.lakehuron.ca

Lake Huron Coastal Centre | PO Box 477, Goderich, N7A 4C7 Canada www.lakehuron.ca

[Unsubscribe info@huronkinloss.com](mailto:info@huronkinloss.com)

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