

2023 Highlights



FLOOD & EROSION SAFETY SERVICES

- Monitoring of weather and gauge data 24 / 7. Molesworth and Harriston rain gauge stations relocated.
- Draft North Perth floodplain mapping completed.
- Updated Shoreline Hazard Mapping now available.
- Coastal Resiliency Project - connecting with shoreline communities to explore nature-based approaches to improve resiliency in a changing climate.
- Responded to high numbers of development inquiries and drain reviews - 55 Drainage Act reviews, 203 general inquiries, 120 development and alterations permissions, 83 planning reviews with comments.

CONSERVATION AREAS SERVICES

- Galbraith - lease agreement finalized with the Town of North Perth.
- Wawanosh Valley - demolition of barn and shed structures. Nine bat houses installed and monitored. Invasive species removal work.
- Lucknow Waterworks - decking on bridge replaced with support from the Township of Huron-Kinloss.
- Naftel's Creek - boardwalk and trail improvements.
- Falls Reserve - accessible washrooms and showers added.
- Brussels - severance of Logan Mill site nearing completion.
- Over 2,000 seedlings planted at Conservation Areas.



Naftel's Creek Conservation Area

DRINKING WATER SOURCE PROTECTION



DWSP Water Wise event, 2023

- Updated Source Protection Plans submitted to the province for approval
- Review of changes to Lucknow and Century Heights wellhead protection areas.
- Planning staff inclusion of DWSP in application reviews.
- Communications support for the implementation of Source Protection Plans.
- Water Wise events held at the shoreline as well as in Goderich, Monkton and Dublin. Focus on providing DWSP information and facilitating sampling of private well water. Held in partnership with local service clubs or community groups.

WATERSHED STEWARDSHIP SERVICES

- 173 new Huron Clean Water Projects approved and six new Wellington Rural Water Quality projects approved in 2023.
- Six cover crop workshops held over the summer and three peer-to-peer stewardship workshops.
- Facilitated the planting of over 26,500 trees, 47 planting projects completed and inspected.
- Two wetland creation projects undertaken with support from the landowners and agency partners. Two dam removal projects completed, one along Naftel's Creek and one near Dungannon.
- Rural landowner and shoreline stewardship workshops held.



WATERSHED HEALTH ASSESSMENT

- Draft Forest Health Study report completed, peer review of the report also completed.
- Forest bird assessment undertaken by staff, along with 10 community volunteers and Birds Canada.
- Forest pollinator assessment and spring wildflower survey completed.
- Extensive water sampling done through the Provincial Water Quality Monitoring Network, Provincial Groundwater Monitoring Network and Pesticide Project. On-going water quality data management work.
- Preliminary surveying of watercourses done to prepare for upcoming Aquatic Health Assessment project.
- Watershed Monitoring story map added to website.

CORPORATE SERVICES

- Tours and information sessions provided for Maitland Conservation Members, municipal councillors and area MPPs.
- Draft 3-year work plan and budget developed and reviewed by Members in October.
- MOUs for Maitland Conservation services and programs now in place for all member municipalities.



2023 Maitland Conservation Members

Back row (left to right) - Alvin McClellan (Municipality of Huron East), Sharen Zinn (Municipality of Morris-Turnberry), Myles Murdock (Town of Goderich), Andrew Fournier (Township of Perth East, Municipality of West Perth), Matt Duncan (Municipality of North Perth), Evan Hickey (Township of Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh)

Front row (left to right) - Ed McGugan (Township of Huron-Kinloss, Municipality of South Bruce), Alison Lobb (Municipality of Central Huron), Anita van Hittersum (Township of North Huron)

Missing from photo - Ed Podniewicz (Township of Mapleton, Town of Minto, Township of Wellington North), Megan Gibson (Township of Howick)

Questions?

Contact your Maitland Conservation Member. Contact information is posted on our website at mvca.on.ca or email us at maitland@mvca.on.ca.

