Notice of Meeting
Meeting of the Membership #10-2024

Date: December 18, 2024
Time: 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm
Location: Administrative Centre, Wroxeter

Agenda

1. Welcome by the Chair
2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest
3. Approval of the Minutes: Meeting #9-2024 held on November 20, 2024.
4. Business Out of the Minutes:
   a) Review of Per Diem and Honorariums: Report #79-2024
   b) Conservation Lands Strategy-Comments: Report #80-2024
   c) Fees Policy-Comments: #81-2024
   d) Draft 2025 Fee Schedule-Comments: Report #82-2024
5. Business Requiring Decision and or Direction:
   a) Draft 2025 Work Plan & Budget: Report #83-2024
   b) Natural Hazard Asset Management Plans: Report #84-2024
   c) Ice Management Plan: Report #85-2024
   d) Draft Agenda for 2025 Annual Meeting: Report #86-2024
   e) Request from the Maitland Conservation Foundation: #87-2024
   f) First Call for Declarations for Chair, Vice & Second Vice Chairs: Report #88-2024
6. Chair and Members Reports
7. Consent Agenda:
   a) Revenue/Expenditure Report for November 2024: Report #89-2024
8. Closed Session: Personnel Matter-GM ST Performance Review
9. Adjournment: Next Meeting to be held on Wednesday, January 22 ,2025 at 7:00pm.

Membership Minutes

Membership Meeting #9-2024

November 20, 2024

Members Present: Alison Lobb, Ed McGugan, Alvin McLellan, Andrew Fournier, Vanessa Kelly, Anita Van Hittersum, Ed Podniewicz, Sharen Zinn

Members Absent: Matt Duncan, Megan Gibson, Evan Hickey

Staff Present: Phil Beard, General Manager-Secretary-Treasurer
Stewart Lockie, Conservation Areas Services Coordinator
Jayne Thompson, Communications, GIS, IT Coordinator
Jeff Winzenried, Flood Forecasting Supervisor
Sarah Gunnewiek, Water Resources Engineer
Jason Moir, Park Superintendent
Michelle Quipp, Executive Assistant

Others Present: Cory Bilyea, Midwestern Newspapers

1. Call to Order

Chair, Ed McGugan, welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

There were no pecuniary interests at this time.

3. Minutes

The minutes from the Maitland Valley Conservation Authority (MVCA) General Membership Meeting #8-2024 held on October 16, 2024.

Motion FA #96-24
Moved by: Alvin McLellan **Seconded by:** Sharen Zinn
THAT the minutes from the General Membership Meeting #8-2024 held on October 16 2024, be approved.
(carried)

4. Business out of the Minutes:

a) Draft Watershed Strategy-Comments: Report #70-2024

Report #70-2024 was presented to the members and the following motion was made:

Motion FA #97-24
Moved by: Ed McGugan **Seconded by:** Alison Lobb
THAT the Watershed Strategy be submitted to the Ministry of Natural Resources.
(carried)

b) Draft Administrative Review Policy-Comments: Report #71-2024

Report #71-2024 was presented to the members and the following motion was made:

Motion FA #98-24
Moved by: Anita Van Hittersum **Seconded by:** Sharen Zinn
THAT the Administrative Review policy be approved.
(carried)

c) Draft Policy re: Use of Technical Guidelines for Natural Hazards-Comments: Report #72-2024

Report #72-2024 was presented to the members and the following motion was made:

Motion FA #99-24
Moved by: Alvin McLellan **Seconded by:** Sharen Zinn
THAT the interim policy utilizing the most updated Technical Guidelines available to MVCA be used to review development applications in hazardous areas.
(carried)

5. **Business Requiring Decision and or Direction:**

a) Proposed Authority Funded Projects for 2025: Report #73-2024

Report #73-2024 was presented to the members and the following motion was made:

Motion FA #100-24
Moved by: Alison Lobb **Seconded by:** Vanessa Kelly
THAT the authority funded projects outlined in Report #73-2024 be included in the 2025 draft

budget and work plan
(carried)

b) Review of Fees Policy: Report #74-2024

Report #74-2024 was presented to the members and the following motion was made:

Motion FA #101-24
Moved by: Sharen Zinn **Seconded by:** Anita Van Hittersum
THAT the Fees Policy be amended to allow for the Fee Policy and Fee Schedule to be reviewed at the October Members meeting.
(carried)

c) Review of Draft Fee Schedule for 2025: Report #75-2024

Report #75-2024 was presented to the members and the following motion was made:

Motion FA #102-24
Moved by: Alvin McLellan **Seconded by:** Ed Podniewicz
THAT the proposed changes to the fee schedule will be posted on MVCA's website for public review and comment.
(carried)

Motion FA #103-24
Moved by: Alison Lobb **Seconded by:** Anita Van Hittersum
THAT MVCA survey other local conservation authorities and municipalities for their per diems and honorariums, and report back to the members.
(carried)

Motion FA #104-24
Moved by: Anita Van Hittersum **Seconded by:** Sharen Zinn
THAT MVCA mileage rate be increased to .58 cent per kms for both members and staff.
(carried)

d) Draft Agreement: Town of Goderich/MVCA re: Goderich Bluffs Stabilization Project: Report #76-2024

Report #76-2024 was presented to the members and the following motion was made:

Motion FA #105-24
Moved by: Alison Lobb **Seconded by:** Sharen Zinn
THAT the Authority authorizes the signing of the Goderich Bluffs WECI cost share agreement with the Town of Goderich.

(carried)

6. Chair and Member Reports

Chair Ed McGugan sent a response to Howick with respect to the Gorrie conservation area.

Alvin McLellan and Alison Lobb attended the Water Protection Steering Committee and shared what neighbouring communities are doing for protection.

7. Consent Agenda:

The following items were circulated to the Members for their information:

a) Revenue/Expenditure Report for October 2024: Report #77-2024

b) Office Hours over Christmas-New Years: Report #78-2024

c) Media Articles: Southern Lake Huron Coastal Action Plan; Brook Trout Return to Scott Drain

Motion FA #106-24
Moved by: Alvin McLellan **Seconded by:** Sharen Zinn
THAT Report #77-78 along with the respective motions as outlined in the Consent Agenda be approved.
(carried)

8. **Adjournment:** Next meeting: December 18, 2024, at 7:00 pm at the Administrative Centre, Wroxeter.

Motion FA #107-24
Moved by: Vanessa Kelly **Seconded by:** Sharen Zinn
THAT the Members Meeting be adjourned at 8:05pm.
(carried)

Ed McGugan
Chair

Phil Beard
General Manager / Secretary-Treasurer

Members Report #79-2024

To: Members, Maitland Conservation
From: Phil Beard, General Manager Secretary Treasurer
Date: December 4, 2024
Subject: Survey of Per Diems and Honorariums

Purpose:

To provide direction on per diem and honorarium rates for 2025.

Background:

On November 20, 2024, the following motion was approved.

Motion FA #103-24

THAT MVCA survey other local conservation authorities and municipalities for their per diems and honorariums, and report back to the members.
(carried)

MVCA Per Diem and Honorariums:

$66/half day meeting
$120/full day meeting
Chair: $1,500
Vice Chair: $500

Survey Results:
Conservation Authorities:

Ausable Bayfield CA	$102.25 per meeting	Chair: $1,262	Vice Chair: $0
Saugeen Valley CA	$75 half day $130 full day	Chair: $3,000	Vic Chair: $0
Grey Sauble CA	$52.50 half day $76 full day Committee mtgs only	Chair: $1,500	Vice Chair: $0
St. Clair Region CA	$108.24 mtg.	Chair: $3,550	Vice Chair: $1,675
Average	$84.50/mtg	Chair: $2,328	Vice Chair: $419

MVCA's meeting are less than 2 hours.

Municipalities:

Morris - Turnberry	less than 2 hrs $ 88.26 2-4 hrs $147.09 greater than 4 hrs $220.64	Mayor: $10,296.35	Deputy Mayor: $6,482.96
North Huron	Less than 2 hrs $82.40 2-4hrs $128.75 4 plus hrs $180.25	Reeve: $12,978	Deputy Reeve: $11,124
Howick	Less than 3 hrs $111 More than 3hrs $180	Reeve: $9,562	Deputy Reeve: $8,442
Average	Less than 2hrs $94 More than 4hrs $194	$10,945	$8,683

Note: Some of the conservation authorities and municipalities who were surveyed adjust their per diems and honorariums by cost of living each year.

Recommendation:

To be developed.

Members Report #80-2024

To: Members, MVCA
From: Stewart Lockie, Conservation Areas Coordinator
Date: December 9th, 2024

Subject: MVCA Conservation Areas Strategy – Comments received from public and Member Municipalities.

Purpose:

To review comments received on the draft Conservation Areas (C.A) Strategy.
To approve the Conservation Areas Strategy.

Background:

At the October 8th, 2024 Members meeting, Members approved the draft C.A. strategy and the requirements for public and stakeholder consultation.

The Draft C.A. strategy was posted on the MVCA website and was sent to all Member Municipalities for comment. Social media posts were also provided to inform the public of the draft C.A strategy and informed to provide comments by December 9th.

At the December 9th deadline, one public comment had been received which is included with this report. The received comment did not impact or require changes to the draft C.A. Strategy and can be considered in the future planning of recreational activities that are compatible with the Conservation Area.

One comment was received from a municipality and it is attached for consideration by the Members. Changes were also made to the Conservation Areas Land-use Categories list to include Blacks Point Conservation Area as mentioned at the November Members meeting. The amended draft Conservation Areas strategy has been attached to the end of this report.

Staff are also considering comments may be in the mail due to the Canada Post strike and would bring any comments received to the Members for direction at a later date if received.

Recommendation:

That the Members approve the Conservation Areas Strategy (or as amended).
And That the Conservation Areas Strategy be posted on the MVCA website.

From: [redacted]
Sent: October 21, 2024 8:55 PM
To: Stewart Lockie
Subject: Draft Conservation Areas Strategy

Good evening,

Thank you for the opportunity to read the draft conservation area strategy from your organization.
I believe we have some of the most ecologically diverse conservation areas and that is truly special for our region.

My comment is to ask if there would be consideration for a disc golf course to be added to Falls Reserve. As an avid disc golf player I travel to other areas of the province to play and have experienced the benefits of disc golf courses in parks and conservation areas providing a new recreational use that is very complementary to camping and hiking. I think disc golf would be a welcome addition to Falls Reserve and much needed in Huron following the removal of disc golf from Clinton.

It is well known that pickleball is the fastest growing sport in North America and I would suggest that disc golf would be the second! It s a fantastic activity for a range of abilities and encourages players to get outdoors for what could be described to someone not familiar with the sport as going for a hike and throwing a frisbee.

As we look to continue to encourage physical activity and provide opportunities for children, youth, families and older adults to be active disc golf would be a wonderful addition to Falls Reserve at a relatively low cost.

I would be happy to provide more information about disc golf if that would be helpful.
Thank you for taking a moment to consider this request.

Warm regards,
[redacted]

The Corporation of the Township of Huron-Kinloss

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E-mail: info@huronkinloss.com
www.huronkinloss.com

December 2, 2024

Maitland Valley Conservation Authority
Ed McGugan, Chair
Via email:mquipp@mvca.on.ca

Mr. McGugan,

Recently Council received a request for feedback on the Maitland Valley Conservation Authority's (MVCA) draft Conservation Area Strategy.

The draft Strategy was considered at the November 18, 2024 Committee of the Whole meeting. Please accept this letter with feedback on those discussions.

The MVCA staff are to be congratulated on producing a document that is concise, well written and easy to follow. Overall, the members are broadly supportive of the draft strategy as presented.

It was noted that with camping providing such strong financial benefits in the two areas permitted in the MVCA area, that there may be consideration within the strategy to increase opportunities for camping on MCVA lands. Additionally, a suggestion was made that increasing the number of multi-use trails would be beneficial, and that these uses include all-terrain vehicles as a permitted use.

The Township wishes to express appreciation for the work that the Maitland Valley Conservation Authority (MVCA) does within the community including building partnerships, tree planting and other ecological preservation projects.

Thank you for your commitment to engaging with Council on issues that are of shared interest.

Regards,

J. White

Jennifer White, Manager of Legislative Services/Clerk
519-395-3735 clerk@huronkinloss.com

Draft CONSERVATION AREAS STRATEGY 2024

Box 127, Wroxeter ON
N0G 2X0
519-335-3557
maitland@mvca.on.ca

Maitland CONSERVATION

Table of Contents

Conservation Areas Strategy

Purpose

This strategy has been developed by the Maitland Valley Conservation Authority (MVCA) to provide key objectives to inform decision making relating to the land owned and managed by MVCA. The strategy identifies the mandatory and non-mandatory programs and services that are provided on these lands, along with the sources of funding required to provide these services. Land use categories will lso be identified and used in a Conservation Authority owned land inventory.

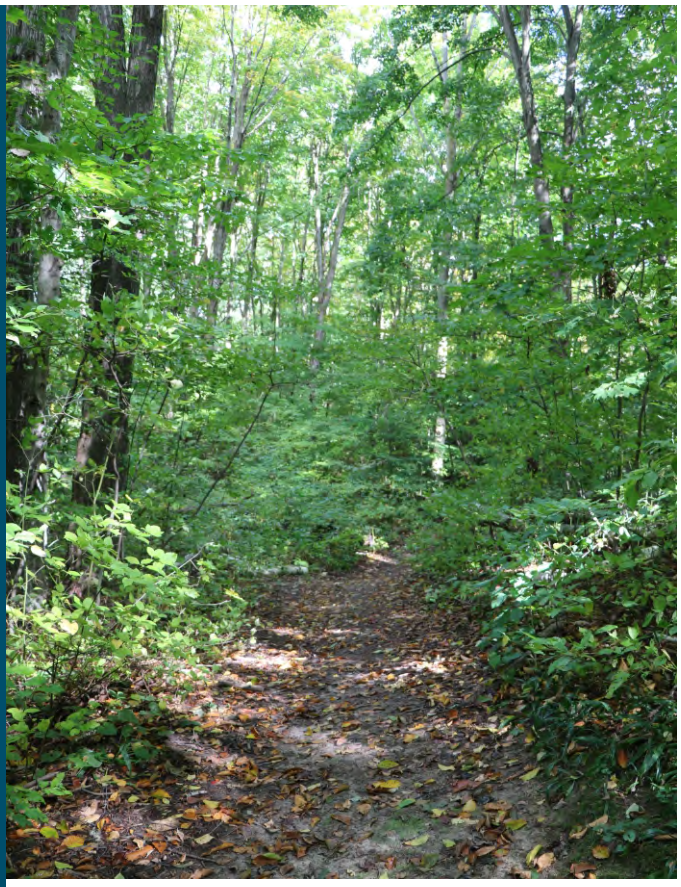
Legislative Requirements

Ontario Regulation 686/21 under the Conservation Authorities Act, sets out the Mandatory Programs and Services which must be delivered by all Conservation Authorities (CAs) in Ontario. Section 10 of the regulation requires all CAs to prepare a "Conservation Area Strategy" as a required component of the "Conservation and Management of Lands" mandatory CA program and service area. This strategy will meet the requirements of O. Reg 686/21.

Maitland Conservation's Vision, Mission and Ends

This strategy incorporates and considers Maitland Conservation's mandate and vision in the decision-making process of how lands owned by MVCA are managed or considered when acquiring and disposing of lands.

Conservation Area strategies will also meet the overall MVCA Watershed-Based Resource Management Strategy and its objectives to ensure the authority is providing by example in the management of its lands.



Vision

Working for a healthy environment.

Mission

Providing leadership to protect and enhance local water, forests and soils.

Ends

1. To protect life and property and prevent social disruption from flooding and erosion hazards.
2. To protect water and related resources for present and future generations.
3. To protect and expand natural areas

Short-term Goals (long-term effect)

1. To strengthen capacity of flood and erosion safety services.
2. To strengthen capacity of watershed stewardship services.
3. To ensure MVCA's financial stability.

Conservation lands offer outdoor recreation opportunities to the public when and where appropriate (e.g., hiking, canoeing, biking, etc.). These experiences build value among users for the watershed's environmental features and therefore function as an important tool to assist in achieving the Authority's goals or ends.

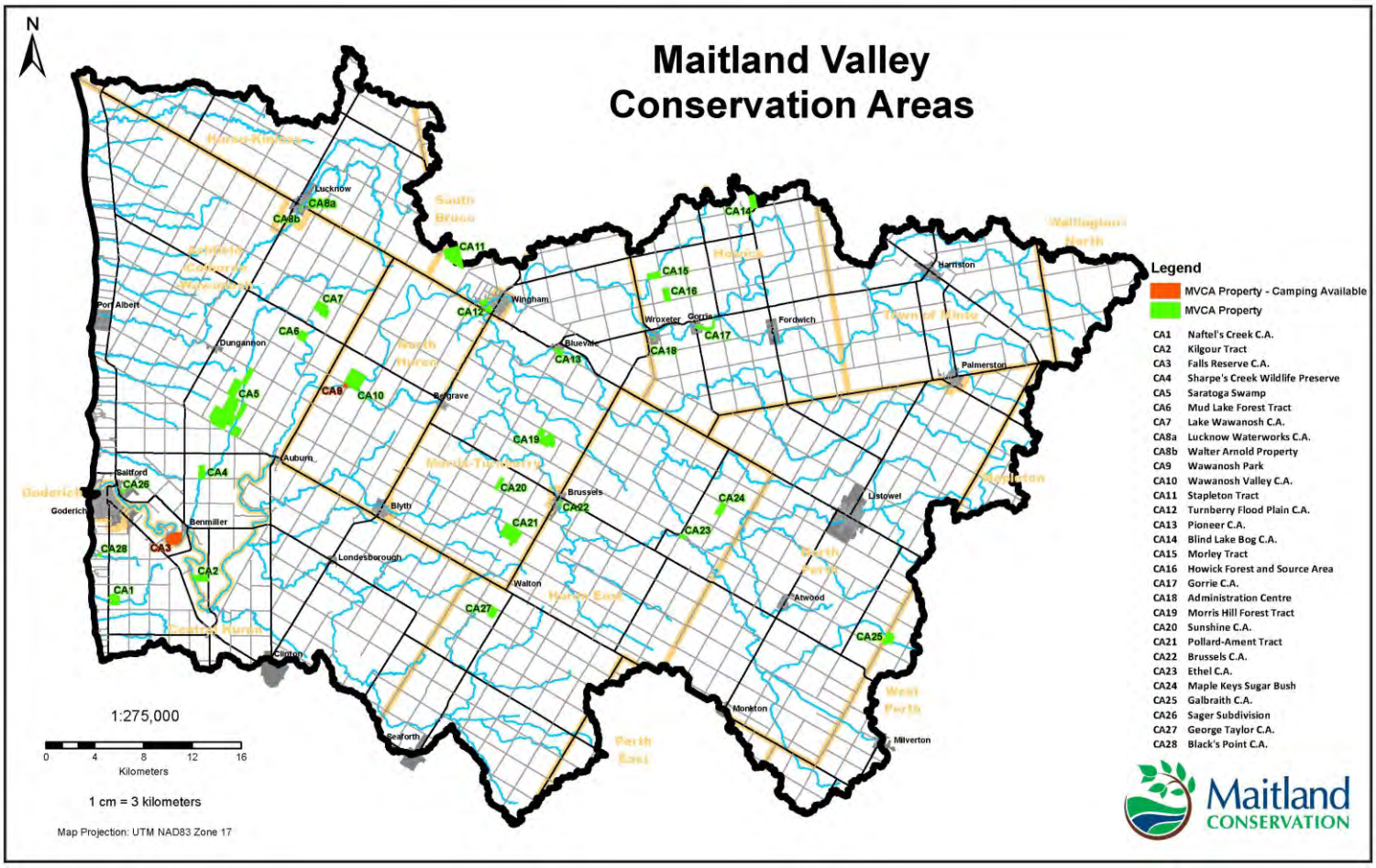
History

Formed in 1951, the MVCA is committed to working with our community partners to create a healthier environment. Our area of jurisdiction covers the watershed, or drainage area, of the Maitland, Nine Mile and Eighteen Mile Rivers, along with smaller watersheds on the Lake Huron shoreline.

Land acquisition began in 1954 through the establishment of a land acquisition committee with funding programs administered by the Province. This program continued with the majority of MVCA properties being acquired during the 1960's and 70's. The program ended by 1990 when funding was no longer provided by the Province. Property acquisitions after 1990, were limited to donations and considered only when the Authority deemed them as significant in terms of resource protection.

MVCA Owned Lands

MVCA owns and manages 28 properties which totals approximately 4,600 acres (1,862 hectares). These properties environmental features range from wetlands, river valleys, forests, rivers, and meadows. Small areas of parkland and agricultural fields also exist where compatible with the land and surrounding features.



Guidelines for Conservation Areas Management

Maitland Conservation lands have been categorized into four types of land-use. These categories are consistent with those developed by Conservation Ontario and are based on the types of activities that occur on each parcel or other matters of significance related to the parcel. Some Conservation Areas will have multiple types of land-use based on past development, usage and natural heritage features of the parcel. These parcels will meet the objectives for each type of land-use identified.

Ontario Regulation 686/21: Mandatory Programs and Services also includes three category descriptions and how those programs and services may be offered and funded. In 2022, the MVCA Membership approved the programs and services which are described under each land-use category along with the associated financing requirements. These programs and services area provided in Appendix A. The three categories for Conservation Authority programs and services are described below:

- Category 1 programs and services are mandatory and are defined in regulation. Municipal levy funds can be used for these programs.
- Category 2 programs and services are those provided at the request of a member municipality or municipalities and are funded through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) or Agreement with the participating municipality or municipalities. Currently, no programs or services are provided under this Category under Conservation Areas.
- Category 3 services are those other programs and services an Authority determines advisable by the Authority's Board and must be self-financing. Any municipal funds used for Category 3 programs and services must be provided under an MOU or Agreement. At present, all MVCA Category 3 programs and services on Conservation Area lands are funded internally and do not rely on municipal funding.

While specific objectives have been identified for each land-use category in this report, the following objectives pertain to all land-use categories and will be used when considering future management and planning:

General Objectives:

- Ensure all current and future landholdings contribute to the goals and objectives of the MVCA.
- Build resiliency and demonstrate good resource management on all authority owned lands.
- Promote and ensure the protection of natural heritage systems through naturalization and habitat creation.
- Ensure the Rules of Conservation Areas (O. Reg 688/21) are followed. Provide education and enforcement of these rules to encourage compliance.
- Identify permitted and prohibited uses while considering all environmental features.
- Land-use permits will be required for any requirement listed under O. Reg 688/21. Commercial operations will be restricted or limited based on the type of use proposed.
- Perform inspections to ensure land holdings are protected from encroachment or illegal activities.
- Ensure all infrastructure and lands meet appropriate safety standards.
- Incorporate accessibility standards when appropriate when replacing or creating new infrastructure.
- Identify essential infrastructure and dispose of surplus items.
- Monitor and manage invasive species, diseases and pests.
- Ensure signage is provided to convey desired information regarding safety, environmental or educational aspects and is accessible to users.
- Ensure service disruption notifications are provided to all applicable users in a timely manner.
- When appropriate, integrate municipal, provincial or other publicly accessible trials and lands with MVCA lands including any future land acquisitions.

Land Use Categories

1. Conservation Areas - Active Recreation

This category includes areas that require direct support or supervision and have been developed for compatible recreational uses including campgrounds. These lands are usually well promoted, require staffing of buildings, and require entrance and usage fees.

Active Recreation properties are identified as Category 3 services under Ontario Regulation 686/21 of the Conservation Authorities Act for Mandatory Programs and Services. These properties are currently self-funded using user-fees and require no municipal levy. Any Surplus revenue raised is used to fund infrastructure upgrades or major maintenance to facilities.

Conservation Areas with Active Recreation and Category 3 Services:

a) Falls Reserve Conservation Area

Falls Reserve Campground and day-use services provides camping, picnicking, hiking, biking, skiing, fishing, and educational services.

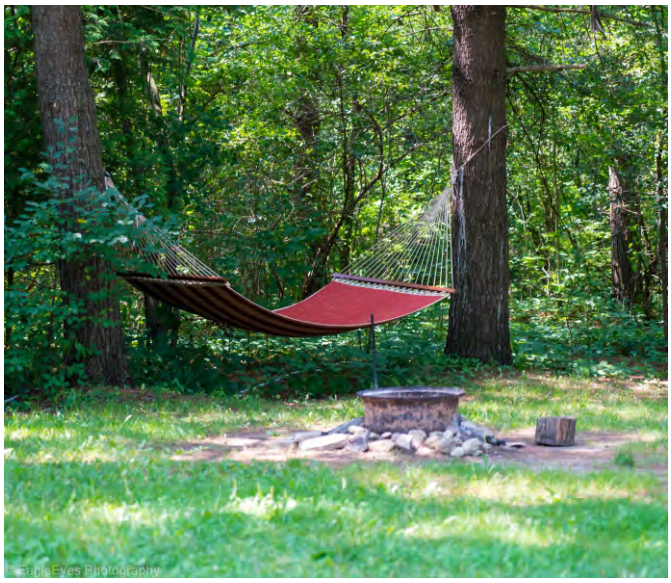
b) Wawanosh Valley Conservation Area

Wawanosh Park Campground Services provides seasonal camping, picnicking, and fishing.

Specific Objectives:

- Balance the protection of natural heritage features of the area with compatible public use.
- Enforce the rules and regulations of the C.A to ensure protection of the environment and the safety of all users.
- Identify and plan for future requirements of the conservation area to expand or enhance opportunities for active recreation when considered appropriate.
- Ensure financial sustainability of these areas by monitoring usage, trends, and yearly adjustment of fees.

Falls Reserve Conservation Area



Brussels Conservation Area

Turnberry Floodplain

2. Conservation Areas - Passive Recreation

This classification includes areas where day-use recreational opportunities are offered but do not require direct support or supervision. Recreational opportunities offered to the public include walking trails, picnic areas, pavilions, parking lots and urban parklands. Where recreational development has been completed on existing land for community use (soccer fields, ball diamonds, recreational multi-use pads, playgrounds, etc.) existing municipal partnerships will be required to operate and maintain this infrastructure for continued operations.

These properties are identified as Category 1 programs and services which are funded through municipal levy or funded through partnerships and donations.

Conservation Areas with Passive Recreation:

i. Gorrie Conservation Area
ii. Pioneer Conservation Area
iii. Brussels Conservation Area
iv. Lucknow Water Works Conservation Area
v. Turnberry Floodplain Conservation Area – Galbraith Soccer Fields

Specific Objectives:

- Partnerships with local municipalities to facilitate maintenance and development of these areas will be encouraged to provide existing or compatible services.
- Maitland Conservation will focus on the naturalization and environmental protection of these areas when future planning.
- Recreational uses will be monitored to ensure compatibility with the land and adjusted if required.

Gorrie Conservation Area

3. Management Areas

Management areas are lands where natural resources are protected or managed with limited or no recreational use. Properties may meet any of the following designations:

- Natural Heritage Lands
- Natural Hazard Lands
- Water Management Areas
- Forest Management Lands
- Environmentally Sensitive Lands, etc.

Recreational use is usually limited to hiking trails, hunting, fishing, boating and nature appreciation.

These properties are identified as Category 1 programs and services which are funded through municipal levy or from self-generated revenue. Funding assistance is also sought through various programs, partnerships and donations to assist in the maintenance and development of these properties

Conservation Areas Under a Management Designation

i. **Forest Management:**

Stapleton Tract, Morely Tract, Pollard-Ament Tract, Howick Forest and Source Area, Wawanosh Valley C.A, Ethel C.A, Naftel's Creek C.A, Morris Hill Forest Tract, Falls Reserve Conservation Area, Sharpes Creek Wildlife Preserve, Kilgour tract, Galbraith C.A, Maple Keys C.A, Blacks Point CA, Sager Subdivision, Sunshine C.A, Saratoga Swamp, Lake Wawanosh C.A, Blind Lake Bog C.A, George Taylor C.A

ii. **Agriculture Management Area:**

Wawanosh Valley Conservation Area

iii. **Conservation Lands** (Provincially Significant Wetlands, Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest, Habitat of endangered species, Community Conservation Lands):

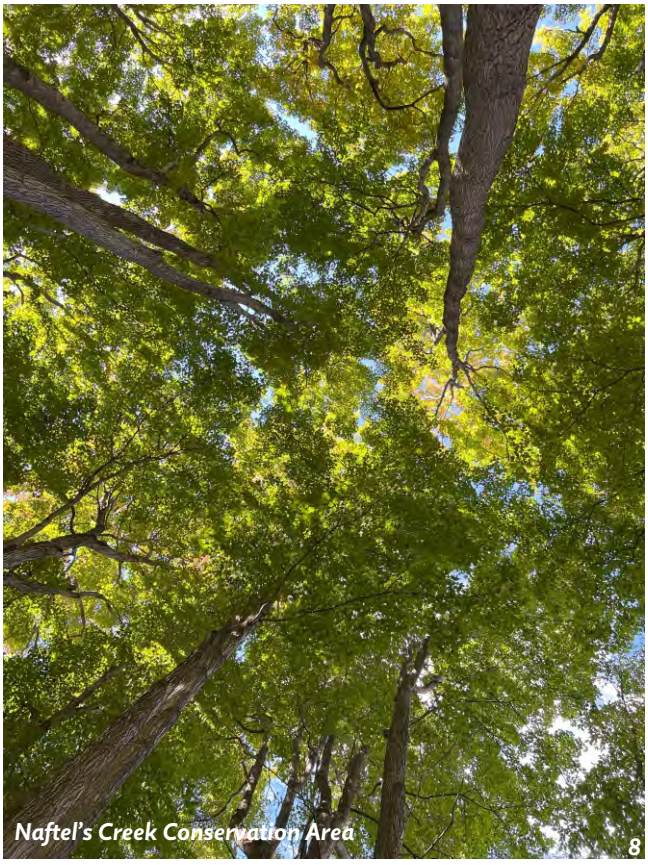
Saratoga Swamp, Mud Lake Forest Tract, Blind Lake Bog C.A, Turnberry Floodplain CA, Lake Wawanosh CA, Stapleton Tract, Morely Tract, Howick Forest and Source Area, Sunshine C.A, Pollard-Ament Tract, Maple Keys C.A.

iv. **Recreational Water Control Infrastructure:**

Pioneer, Brussels and Lake Wawanosh Conservation Areas

Lake Wawanosh Conservation Area

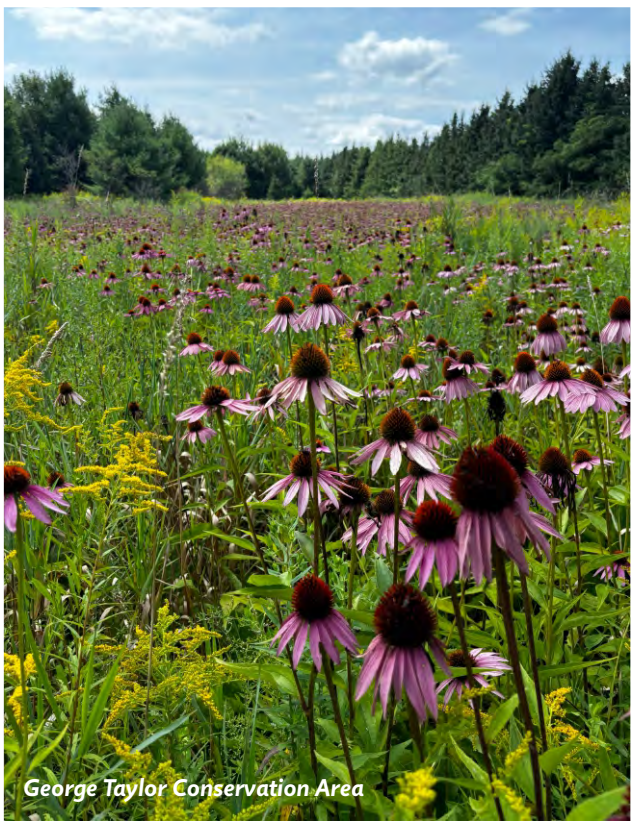
Lake Wawanosh Conservation Area



Naftel's Creek Conservation Area


Wawanosh Valley Conservation Area


Sharpe's Creek Wildlife Preserve


George Taylor Conservation Area

Specific Objectives

- Support environmental research (internally and externally). Organizations outside of MVCA will require to obtain a research permit. Research findings will be requested as part of the permit process to assist the MVCA in future planning and development.
- Forest Management Plans will be created or renewed for lands eligible under the Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program. Properties will be managed as indicated in the approved Forest Management plans based on the resources of the Authority.
- Forest management will consider forest succession, from plantations to healthy, mature hardwood stands where native local ecology can thrive and better resist invasive degradation. Climate change will be factored into forestry management planning.
- Lands that are designated under the Conservation Land Tax Incentive Program will be managed in accordance with the principles outlined in the program.
- Agricultural lands determined suitable for agriculture will be identified and offered for lease. Lease details will be determined based on the land features with a focus on best farming and environmental practices.
- Recreational opportunities will be limited and may include hiking, hunting, fishing, boating and nature appreciation. Hunting will be permitted on designated lands only and will require a permit to be obtained following O. Reg 688/21 requirements.
- Recreational Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure will be operated and maintained following operational plans where required. Financing agreements will be in place with the local Municipality following the approved cost sharing policy adopted by the Membership.
- Motorized vehicles will be prohibited from these lands


George Tayloe Conservation Area

4. Administrative Area

Administrative areas include those lands that contain buildings to support the operations and delivery of the Authority programs and services.

These properties are identified as Category 1 programs and services which are funded through the municipal levy.

Conservation Areas with Administrative Area designation:

Administrative Centre - This property consists of the main office building and workshops to support the operations of Maitland Conservation.

Specific Objectives

Infrastructure development or replacement will consider environmental products that can be used as demonstration and educational components with consideration to the Authority's resources.

Land Acquisition and Disposition

Historically, acquisition of properties by Maitland Conservation occurred prior to 1990 when provincial funding was available. Property acquisitions from 1990 to current, largely occurred from donations or through notification from other agencies of land that may benefit from Authority ownership.

Maitland Conservation recognizes that property ownership provides protection of natural heritage systems, hazard lands, and can provide community recreational opportunities. The MVCA does not actively seek land securement opportunities, however, considers potential parcels from willing landowners on an individual basis. Acquisition can be through donation, land bequest, or fee simple purchase.

A Land Acquisition and Disposition Policy will be developed based on the following principles and guidelines:

Land Acquisitions

Properties will be reviewed by Maitland Conservation staff to determine if it meets one or more of the required criteria for further investigation:

- Property joins an existing Maitland Conservation land holding.
- Property contains significant natural heritage or hazard land features.
- Property is within the MVCA watershed.
- Acquisition will further promote the objectives, and goals of the authority.
- Reviewed for potential concerns including structures, contamination and access.

MVCA Members are notified of potential acquisition for further review if acquisition meets the initial criteria.

A Land Acquisition Committee will be established consisting of the Chair, Vice Chair, and a Member representing the municipality where the property is located (or the 2nd Vice Chair if already represented) if motioned to proceed.

All acquisitions will be conducted in a confidential manner

Land Disposition

Disposal of land will be considered if the following apply:

- Property no longer meets the goals and objectives of the Authority.
- Property is determined to be surplus to the Authority's needs.

Disposal of properties obtained with Section 39 provincial funding will require approval from the Minister following the Conservation Authorities Act regulations.

Conservation Areas Strategy Review

The Conservation Areas strategy will be reviewed and updated every 3 years to ensure the priorities and objectives remain current, based on any changes in resources and priorities of Maitland Conservation. If the strategy remains current, the MVCA Membership may approve the strategy for another 3 years. Public consultation requirements on any revisions will be determined by the Membership, based on the revision and impact to the Conservation Areas Service.

Appendix A

Category 1: Mandatory Services:
Conservation Areas Services:
Includes the management, development, and protection of significant natural resource lands, features, and infrastructure on authority owned property. MVCA has 28 conservation areas with a land area of 4,600 acres (1,862 hectares).
Service Components: a) Management & Development of Authority Lands • Build resiliency and demonstrate good resource management on 28 Conservation areas ranging from day -use parklands, wetlands, and forest tracts. i) Lands and Infrastructure – inspections, maintenance and enforcement • Identification and removal of hazards to reduce liability • Maintain essential infrastructure and dispose of surplus items. • Manage public use that is compatible with the land and enforcement of regulations. ii) Water Control Structures – inspections, maintenance and operations • Operation of recreational dams following regulatory requirements • Develop and monitor funding agreements with Municipalities where dams are located for maintenance and major repairs. iii) Forest Management • Implement activities identified in managed forest plans to improve forest health including harvesting, tree planting and monitoring of woodlots • Removal of invasive species and monitoring of disease and pests. iv) Administration • Development of policies and procedures for conservation area use. b) Land Acquisition i) Review land donations or purchases for conservation purposes. • Identify benefits and concerns for potential land acquisitions for members direction. c) Leasing and Agreements i) Review Agreements that are compatible with the land -use ii) Monitoring of agreements.

Appendix B

Category 3 Programs & Services:
Falls Reserve and Wawanosh Campground Service:
• MVCA provides overnight and seasonal camping at the Falls Reserve Conservation Area. The Conservation area also provides day -use services. • MVCA provides seasonal camping at Wawanosh Valley Conservation Area. • Campgrounds are funded through user -fees. • All revenue raised is used to fund the operations of the campgrounds. Any surplus revenue is used to fund infrastructure upgrades and major maintenance to equipment and facilities.

Members Report #81-2024

To: Members, MVCA
From: Phil Beard, GM ST
Date: December 11, 2024

Subject: Review of Comments Received on Proposed Amendments to MVCA's User Fees Policy

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Purpose:

To review comments on the proposed amendments to MVCA's Fees Policy.
To provide direction on the proposed amendments to MVCA's Fees Policy.

Background:

On November 20th the Members passed the following motion:

Motion FA #101-24
THAT the Fees Policy be amended to allow for the Fee Policy and Fee Schedule to be reviewed at the October Members meeting.
(carried)

Comments Received:

MVCA has not received any comments on the proposed change to the Fees Policy as of the date of this report.

Recommendation:

THAT the 2025 Fees Policy be approved.

Members Report #82-2024

To: Members
From: Phil Beard, General Manager-Secretary-Treasurer;
Stewart Lockie, Conservation Areas Coordinator;
Jason Moir, FRCA/WPCA Superintendent
Date: December 11th, 2024

Subject: Review of comments received on proposed 2024 Fee Schedule

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Purpose:

To review comments on the proposed amendments to MVCA's Fees Schedule.
To provide direction on the proposed amendments to MVCA's Fees Schedule for 2025.

Background:

The following motion was approved at the November 20th meeting.

Motion FA #102-24
THAT the proposed changes to the fee schedule will be posted on MVCA's website for public review and comment.
(carried)

Comments:

No comments have been received as of the date of this report. If any comments are received between the date of this report and the meeting, they will be presented at the December 18th meeting for consideration.

Recommendation:

THAT the 2025 Fee Schedule be approved.

Members Report #83-2024

To: Members, Maitland Valley Conservation Authority
From: Phil Beard, General Manager-Secretary-Treasurer,
Danielle Livingston, Administrative-Financial Services Coordinator
Shannon Millar, Restoration Supervisor
Ben Van Dieten, Agricultural Stewardship Supervisor
Stewart Lockie, Conservation Areas Services Coordinator
Jayne Thompson, Communications, GIS, IT Coordinator
Patrick Huber-Kidby, Planning and Regulations Supervisor
Jeff Winzenried, Flood Forecast Supervisor
Donna Clarkson, DWSP Supervisor
Date: December 10, 2024

Subject: Draft 2025 Work Plan and Budget

Purpose:

To outline the priorities for each service area and the draft budget for 2025
To obtain direction on the draft work plan and budget for 2025.

Background:

On October 18th, 2024, the members passed the following motions:
Motion FA #89-24
Moved by: Alison Lobb Seconded by: Megan Gibson
THAT the three-year work plan outlined in Report #63a-2024 be approved for planning purposes as well as a guide for the development of the 2025 work plan.
(carried)

Report #63B-2024 was presented to the members and the following motion was made:

Motion FA #90-24
Moved by: Evan Hickey Seconded by: Megan Gibson
THAT the 2025-2027 financial forecast be accepted with the addition of the inclusion of including a proposed levy increase of $128,394 for 2027 for planning purposes;
AND THAT the 2025 draft budget include a proposed levy increase of $175,000;
AND FURTHER THAT the amount of the approved levy allocated for projects be increased by $10,000 per year over the next three years.
(carried)

MVCA has developed the following vision, mission, and ends:

Vision:

Working for a healthy environment

Mission:

Providing leadership to protect and enhance local water, forests, and soils.

Ends:

1. To protect life, property and prevent social disruption from flooding and erosion hazards.
2. To protect water and related resources for present and future generations.
3. To protect and expand natural areas

Priorities:

Maitland Conservation has developed a three-year work plan that focuses our resources on delivering core services. Our priorities for the next three years are to:

1. Help our member municipalities reduce the potential for loss of life, property damage and social disruption in flood and erosion prone areas.

2. Help our member municipalities and landowners develop and implement soil and water conservation systems that will help keep soil and nutrients on the land and out of watercourses and Lake Huron.

3. Ensure that management of our conservation areas sets high standards of conservation practices and are safe for the public to use.

4. To ensure that MVCA has a stable financial base so that we can help our member municipalities to develop a healthy, resilient, and prosperous watershed.

Service Area Priorities:

A) Corporate:

1. Update MVCA's three-year forecast to cover the years 2026-2028.

2. Corporate Services will review the existing services & programs agreement and identify if any changes need to be made to the next agreement that will have to be approved by member municipalities before July 1, 2026.

3. Corporate Services will continue to work with WSC Canada, University of Guelph and the One Health Institute to develop the environmental pillar for Healthy Watersheds, People and Wildlife Approach

4. Corporate Services will continue to encourage the Healthy Lake Huron Steering Committee to incorporate the Healthy Watersheds, People and Wildlife approach into their terms of reference and work plan.

5. Corporate Services will continue to consult with First Nations and Meti Councils through the Shared Pathway collaborative regarding land use planning as well as any other projects that are of mutual interest.

Budgetary Impacts of the draft 2025 work plan: Increases are due to increases in wages and benefits and estimated increases in insurance and supplies. Includes increased support for Communications GIS IT Coordinator in 2025.

B) Flood & Erosion Safety:

1. Flood & Erosion Safety (FESS) will identify equipment and a strategy to replace the existing radio telemetry utilized in the headwater portions of our flood forecasting monitoring network. Although still functioning, the existing telemetry is no longer in production or supported by the manufacturer.
2. FESS will develop a framework for identifying where new flood hazard mapping is needed in the rural areas of the watershed as well as a cost sharing approach with those municipalities where rural flood hazard mapping is needed.
3. FESS will continue work on the Southern Lake Huron Adaptation Action Plan, continuing modelling and data gathering work, and initiating the development of a Littoral Cell Steering Committee to guide the four year project.
4. FESS will complete new flood hazard mapping in Lucknow pursuant to a successful Flood Hazard Identification and Mapping Program (FHIMP) funding application.
5. FESS will also update the flood hazard mapping for Wingham to reflect the impact of the removal of the Howson Dam pursuant to a second successful FHIMP funding application.

Budgetary Impacts of the draft 2025 work plan: Projected revenue for reviewing Development and Planning Applications expected to decrease. Freeze on fees increases for planning and regulations expected to be extended to end of 2025.

C) Watershed Stewardship:

The focus of Watershed Stewardship is to assist landowners and municipalities to restore the health of rivers, wetlands, and forests as well as to implement rural stormwater management systems, improve soil health and soil conservation projects. MVCA provides technical advice, project planning, and assistance with funding applications.

1. Our priority for 2025 will be to promote and implement projects that will restore the health and resiliency of rivers, wetlands, and forest ecosystems.

2. We will be reviewing our restoration approaches and seeking to incorporate a greater understanding of ecosystem restoration principles as well as climate change science to ensure our stewardship approaches will have the most benefit and highest chance of success. We will work with new partners to undertake river and wetland restoration projects with the watershed.

3. Stewardship services is seeking to develop the capacity to deliver pro-active stewardship in priority areas including the Middle Maitland watershed and North Shore sub-basins.

Budgetary Impacts of Work Plan: Includes funding from Forestry Management Accumulated Surplus to support Watershed Forester Position in 2025. Three year forecast includes funding to cover this position in 2026.

D) Watershed Health Assessment and Monitoring:

Watershed's forests and rivers have many stresses that are affecting their health. They respond to these stresses in different ways. These stresses can create conditions that can make people, livestock and/or wildlife sick. For example, algae blooms watercourses caused by excessive nutrients. Assessment allows MVCA to determine how the health of forests and streams are changing and identifies problems. Once MVCA can identify the causes of ill health, we will then focus our efforts on identifying how to improve the health of forests and rivers in the watershed.
The two core services for assessment and monitoring are:

1. Surface & Ground water Monitoring
   - 2025 continue field work to collect water samples for the provincial surface and ground water monitoring program. This is a mandatory service.
2. Watershed Health Assessment
   - Build on the aquatic assessment begun in 2024 by finishing the peak temperature survey of watercourses
   - Survey watercourses to gather metrics to determine the health and stressors within watercourses work towards building priority setting matrix for stewardship action.
   - Build on work done in forest health assessment by completion of the landowner survey and review of stewardship programs to support landowners in improving forest health.
   - Gather data to determine the outcomes of interventions like buckthorn control and ash land enrichment to improve the health of forests by addressing priority stressors to health

Budgetary Impacts of the 2025 Work Plan:

MVCA's Watershed Health assessment has been financed by donations over the past three years. This work is essential to understanding the health of forests, rivers, and wetlands across the watershed. The three-year forecast includes increases in the levy in 2025 and 2026 to phase in the resources needed to stabilize the resources needed for this program.

E) Conservation Areas:

1. Conservation Areas Infrastructure: Management of infrastructure will focus on the disposition of identified surplus buildings including the removal of two structures and a privy tank at the Maple Keys Conservation Area. MVCA will also work with the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry to transfer surplus parkland at the Pioneer Conservation Area.
2. The Privy at Naftel's Creek Conservation Area will be replaced with an accessible design including access improvements from the parking lot. This will provide improved and safe recreational opportunities at this very popular Conservation Area.
3. Administrative Office Renovations and Repairs: Several projects are planned for 2025 including washroom upgrades at the south part of the building and asphalt replacement at the south entrance and parking lot. These renovations are necessary to maintain the administrative office and will consider efficiency and environmental considerations.
4. Invasive Species Control: To showcase good forestry management practices, buckthorn and phragmites control will continue in 2025 to suppress the encroachment of these invasive species on C.A land. Buckthorn control along the agricultural land at Wawanosh Valley CA will also continue to prepare for future naturalization of marginal farmland areas.
5. Falls Reserve Conservation Area Improvements: To provide continued recreational opportunities at FRCA, several infrastructure projects are planned. Renovations to the entranceway and gatehouse parking areas will help to provide improved access. Signage will also be replaced at many locations throughout the park to help keep park users informed. Washroom improvements are also planned to update and improve these important facilities by replacing old plumbing, stall partitions, and the resurfacing of shower floors. Accessibility improvements are also planned to provide access to the day-use facilities/washrooms and includes several new picnic tables.
6. Wawanosh Park Conservation Area: A review of the seasonal camping operations will be undertaken to identify any liabilities and compatibility concerns associated at this conservation area. A report will be provided for Members consideration and direction.

Budgetary Impacts of the 2025 Work Plan: Increases in the operational budget are mainly due to wages and estimated property taxes. Projects require the use of applicable Reserves (working capital, forestry management, FRCA) to complete.

F) Drinking Water Source Protection:

1. Governance & Leadership: Maitland Source Protection Authority meetings, to receive annual progress reports and program updates; Joint Management Committee meeting to recruit Source Protection Committee (SPC) member;
2. Communications: promotion of drinking water source protection program to the public.

3. Implementation/Technical Support: review of planning and development applications located within municipal well head and intake protection areas; Issue confirmation notices for new wells in Harriston and Palmerston in the Town of Minto, and initiate amendment to the Maitland Source Protection Plan

Budgetary Implications for 2025 Work Plan:
The funding for this program is provided by the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks.

2025 Draft Operating Budget

The draft operating budget is summarized by service area. The following table includes the 2024 approved budget, 2025 draft budget and the rationale for any changes. A summary (Table 1) is attached to this report.

Flood and Erosion Safety Services	2024 Budget	2025 Draft Budget	Rationale for Changes
Flood Control Structures	3,026	3,147	Salary changes
Erosion Control Structures	1,600	1,640	Salary changes
Flood Forecasting & Warning	297,174	308,642	Salary changes, slight increase to data collection expenses
Hazard Prevention	24,467	24,568	Salary changes
Natural Hazard Information	69,935	72,550	Salary changes, slight increase to plan input expenses
Regulation Administration	313,059	333,210	Salary changes
Total	708,261	743,757	

Drinking Water Source Protection	2024 Budget	2025 Draft Budget	Rationale for Changes
	22,950	22,300	Budget amendment
Total	22,950	22,300	

Watershed Health & Monitoring	2024 Budget	2025 Draft Budget	Rationale for Changes
Monitoring	141,977	124,914	Staffing change from monitoring to WH assessment
Watershed Health Assessment	0	61,074	Shift from project budget to operating budget
	141,977	185,988	

Corporate Services	2024 Budget	2025 Draft Budget	Rationale for Changes
Administration	380,010	388,566	Salary changes
Financial Management	115,177	123,679	Increases for insurance, audit, banking services
Governance	16,600	18,100	Increase to meeting expenses
Service Area Support	54,449	54,600	
Communications - GIS/IT	244,824	313,073	Added contract Communications position to Communications Coordinator with several short-term projects, increases to publication, printing, subscriptions, advertising, website design, photography, promotional, computer maintenance, software, licensing expenses
Total	811,060	898,018	

Watershed Stewardship Services	2024 Budget	2025 Draft Budget	Rationale for Changes
Extension	172,428	183,050	Salary changes and less time covered by projects.
Forestry	171,944	203,971	Salary changes, higher tree stock expenses that will generate more sales.
Total	344,372	387,021	

Conservation Areas Services	2024 Budget	2025 Draft Budget	Rationale for Changes
Falls Reserve Conservation Area	716,698	743,715	New capital projects to improve infrastructure, Falls CA Accumulated Surplus.
Wawanosh Park Conservation Area	20,357	21,808	Salary changes and less time covered by FRCA staff.
Management/Development/Ops.	307,813	322,426	Salary changes, increase in property taxes.
Motor Pool	27,570	30,150	Increase to vehicle and equipment repairs and maintenance
Total	1,072,438	1,118,149	

2025 Draft **Operating Budget Summary - Maitland Valley Conservation Authority** **Table 1**

ITEM	Revenue	Levy Funds	Deferred Revenue	Reserve Funds	Expense	NET Surplus/ Deficit
Administration	77,617	292,561		18,388	388,566	
Financial Management		123,679			123,679	
Governance		18,100			18,100	
Services Areas Support		54,600			54,600	
Communications, IT, GIS	2,500	268,843		41,730	313,073	
Source Water Protection	22,300				22,300	
Flood Control Structures		3,147			3,147	
Erosion Control Structures		1,640			1,640	
Flood Forecasting and Warning	36,424	272,218			308,642	
Hazard Prevention		24,568			24,568	
Natural Hazard Information		72,550			72,550	
Regulations	76,500	256,710			333,210	
Watershed Monitoring and Reporting	2,000	122,914			124,914	
Watershed Health Assessment Reporting		61,074			61,074	
Extension Services		183,050			183,050	
Forestry Services	174,100			29,871	203,971	
Management/Development/Operations	10,425	312,051			322,476	
Motor Pool	57,104				30,150	26,954
Falls Reserve Conservation Area	743,715				743,715	
Wawanosh Park Conservation Area	21,808				21,808	
Total	**1,224,493**	**2,067,705**		**89,989**	**3,355,233**	**26,954**

2025 Projects Budget

The 2025 Projects Budget includes both new and ongoing projects

Some projects are long term in design and will have funding carried over from 2024. We will not know the exact amount of funding that will be carried over into 2025 until the end of the year.

Flood/Erosion Safety Projects	Draft Budget	Outline, Funding, Status
Flood Control/Preventative Maintenance	30,000	Preventative maintenance, equipment upgrades/replacements: levy
ECCC Natural Hazards Outreach and Education	38,284	Outreach and Education Lake Huron shoreline; Federal funding
NRCAN Coastal Resiliency Strategy Implementation	228,280	Sediment Bypass Project-Goderich; Federal funding and special levy.
Total	296,564	

Watershed Stewardship Projects	Draft Budget	Outline, Funding, Status
Watershed Health Assessment	91,541	Aquatic Health Assessment, Funding: WCAS, MCF
Carbon Footprint Initiative	2,907	Provides support for Initiative, multi year project, Deferred
Garvey Glenn Coordination	85,869	Multiyear project, Ministry of Environment, Conservation & Parks and deferred. Funding not confirmed for 2025-2026.
Middle Maitland Restoration	22,000	Long term project, Funded by Middle Maitland Restoration Fund and MCF, Deferred revenue carried forward
Huron Clean Water Program	500,000	Multiyear project funded by Huron County
Watershed Stewardship Projects	4,786	Multiyear project, Deferred revenue
Total	688,265	

Conservation Areas Projects	Draft Budget	Outline, Funding, Status
Forestry Management	19,000	Invasive species management at several Conservation Areas, managed forest plan renewals and planting trees to improve forest health. Forest Management Accumulated Surplus
Vehicle and Equipment Replacement	127,000	Replace ½ ton truck and compact tractor-loader-backhoe with similar fuel-efficient models. Motor Pool Surplus and Forest Management Surplus,
Carbon Sequestration	700	Plant trees to sequester carbon from MVCA operations and Members mileage. Motor Pool Accumulated Surplus
Conservation Areas	35,600	Decommission surplus structures at Maple Keys CA and transfer part of Pioneer CA parkland to Municipality. Replace the privy at Naftel's Creek CA and replace several signs at Conservation Areas. Obtain updated dam decommissioning costs for Authority owned structures. Working Capital Accumulated Surplus
Total	182,300	

Corporate Projects	Draft Budget	Outline, Funding, Status
Admin Centre	67,300	Driveway replacement Admin. Centre; back washroom renovation, Levy
GIS/IT/Communications	46,100	Computer hardware, software; Levy and Working Capital Accumulated Surplus
Total	113,400	

ITEM	Revenue	Levy Funds	Special Levy Funds	Deferred Revenue	Working Capital Reserves	Forest Management Reserves	Motor Pool Reserves	Expense	Net Surplus / Deficit
Corporate Services Projects									
Administration Centre		67,300						67,300	
GIS/IT Management/Communications		32,700			13,400			46,100	
Flood Forecasting Monitoring Network		30,000						30,000	
ECCC Natural Hazards Outreach & Education				38,284				38,284	
NRCAN Coastal Resiliency Strategy Implementation	190,780		37,500					228,280	
Watershed Health Assessment Project	25,900				65,641			91,541	
Carbon Footprint Initiative				2,907				2,907	
Garvey Glenn Coordination	10,000			75,869				85,869	
Middle Maitland Headwaters Restoration	17,000			5,000				22,000	
Huron Clean Water	500,000							500,000	
Watershed Stewardship Projects				4,786				4,786	
WS ECCC Restoration									
Forestry Management						19,000		19,000	
Vehicles/Equipment Replacement						36,000	91,000	127,000	
Carbon Sequestration Planting							700	700	
Conservation Area Projects					35,600			35,600	
Total	**743,680**	**130,000**	**37,500**	**126,846**	**114,641**	**55,000**	**91,700**	**1,299,367**	

Summary:

Projects Budget

The total draft Projects Budget is $1,299,367. The Projects Budget is based upon utilizing $261,341 from accumulated surplus.

Total Budget:

MVCA's total draft budget for operating and projects for 2025 is $4,654,600.

A copy of the draft cost apportionment for 2025 is attached to this report.

Draft Information Package For Member Municipalities:

Staff will develop a draft information package to circulate to our member municipalities with respect to the draft 2025 work plan and budget. The information package typically includes the following:

i) Letter from the Chair
ii) Highlights from 2024
iii) Priorities for 2025
iv) Summary budget tables for operating and projects
v) Draft Cost Apportionment Schedule

Staff would appreciate the Members' input with respect to the information that they would like to see included in the letter that is to be sent to Member Municipalities.

Recommendation:

THAT the 2025 draft budget, work plan and levy be approved for review and comment by MVCA's member municipalities; AND THAT the final work plan and budget be brought back to the Members on March 19, 2025, for final review and approval; AND FURTHER THAT the municipal information package be developed and circulated to member municipalities in January based upon the direction provided by the Members.

2025 Draft Cost Apportionment Schedule Increase Amount: $175,000 Municipality	% of Municipality In Watershed	2024 CVA (modified) in Watershed $	Municipal Population in CA jurisdiction	CVA Based Apportionment Percentage	2024 Approved General Levy	2025 Draft General Levy	2025 Draft Special Levy	2025 Draft Total Levy
Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh Township	100	$1,366,086,081	4,559	12.5000	$ 251,643	**$ 274,712**	**$ 10,000**	**$ 284,712**
Central Huron Municipality	76	$1,030,972,224	4,619	9.4400	$ 192,770	**$ 207,463**	**$ 10,000**	**$ 217,463**
Goderich Town	100	$1,161,508,274	6,118	10.6300	$ 215,434	**$ 233,615**	**$ 17,500**	**$ 251,115**
Howick Township	92	$480,737,403	2,645	4.4000	$ 89,620	**$ 96,699**		**$ 96,699**
Huron East Municipality	72	$1,121,489,171	5,685	10.2600	$ 211,405	**$ 225,485**		**$ 225,485**
Huron-Kinloss Township	43	$664,332,688	2,523	6.0800	$ 121,737	**$ 133,620**		**$ 133,620**
Mapleton Township	5	$97,525,427	383	0.8900	$ 18,205	**$ 19,561**		**$ 19,561**
Minto Town	64	$778,354,167	4,134	7.1200	$ 140,760	**$ 156,476**		**$ 156,476**
Morris/Turnberry Municipality	95	$561,603,312	2,702	5.1400	$ 105,407	**$ 112,962**		**$ 112,962**
North Huron Township	100	$608,527,015	3,884	5.5700	$ 113,476	**$ 122,412**		**$ 122,412**
North Perth Municipality	98	$2,504,629,622	11,017	22.9200	$ 460,198	**$ 503,713**		**$ 503,713**
Perth East Township	9	$192,490,588	858	1.7600	$ 35,677	**$ 38,681**		**$ 38,681**
South Bruce Municipality	1	$7,700,881	71	0.0700	$ 1,435	**$ 1,539**		**$ 1,539**
Wellington North Township	16	$301,047,804	1,479	2.7600	$ 55,428	**$ 60,657**		**$ 60,657**
West Perth Municipality	3	$50,531,590	226	0.4600	$ 9,510	**$ 10,110**		**$ 10,110**
Total		$10,927,536,247	50903	100.0000	$ 2,022,705	**$ 2,197,705**	**$ 37,500**	**$ 2,235,205**

Members Report #84-2024

To: Members, MVCA
From: Jeff Winzenried, Flood Forecasting Supervisor
Date: December 18, 2024

Subject: MVCA Natural Hazard Asset Management Plans

Purpose:

To approve and submit the Asset Management Plan for MVCA's three Flood & Erosion Control Structures: Listowel Conduit, Goderich Bluffs and McGuffin Gully.

Background:

Ontario Regulation 686/21, under section 5 of the regulation, mandates All Conservation Authorities to provide the development and implementation of an asset management plan for all natural hazard infrastructure that the authority owns or manages by December 31, 2024.

B.M. Ross, which has experience completing these plans at the municipal level was contracted to complete the plans for the Listowel Conduit, Goderich Bluffs and McGuffin Gully.

The Draft MVCA Asset Management Plan has been attached to the end of this report for Member review and comment.

Recommendation:

That the Members approve and submit the Draft Natural Hazard Infrastructure Asset Management Plan

MAITLAND VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN

BMROSS
engineering better communities

MAITLAND VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN

December 11, 2024

B. M. ROSS AND ASSOCIATES LIMITED
Engineers and Planners
62 North Street
Goderich, ON N7A 2T4
Phone: 519-524-2641
www.bmross.net

File No. 23350

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B. M. ROSS AND ASSOCIATES LIMITED
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File No. 23350

MAITLAND VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Province of Ontario has mandated (O. Reg. 686/21) that all Conservation Authorities prepare an Asset Management Plan for flood and erosion control infrastructure that each Authority owns or manages. The Maitland Valley Conservation Authority (MVCA) owns many properties and buildings; however, only three specific sections within the watershed are currently owned and/or managed by the MVCA that were specifically constructed for flood or erosion control purposes. This asset management plan focuses on the three assets and includes the full associated with the assets even thou the cost to maintain the asset are shared with the municipality within which the asset is located.

With the creation of this asset management plan, the goal is to ensure that MVCA's flood and erosion control infrastructure continues to operate as intended. This plan includes information describing the state of the existing infrastructure, a 10-year capital budget plan, and recommendations for maintenance activities to help preserve the infrastructure and manage risk while achieving its designed function.

The Asset Management Plan will be referenced during the annual budget process to determine how proposed funding levels will address the recommended asset work. Any identified budget shortfalls will require a decision by the Conservation Authority as to whether the work can and will be delayed and whether alternate funding options will need to be pursued.

The assets included in this assessment were reviewed in 2024, but it is recommended that a follow-up inspection be conducted where concerns have been identified, to confirm the infrastructure does not deteriorate faster than anticipated and changes to the timelines are required. As a minimum, the assets and Asset Management Plan should be reviewed and updated about every 5 years.

2.0 STATE OF LOCAL INFRASTRUCTURE

The three sections of the watershed that are maintained include the Listowel Conduit, McGuffin Gully and the Goderich Bluffs. A description of each follows but for reference purposes, the Listowel conduit has been further broken down into smaller sections.

Listowel Conduit

The Listowel conduit was constructed over a period from 1986 to 1991. It spans from the downstream limit of the C.N.R. bridge southwest of Union Street, to the upstream limit at the Davidson Avenue Bridge. The flood control works consist of open channel revetment, a closed concrete conduit, an open channel with concrete retaining walls, and an open channel utilizing vegetated banks. The works were completed as a joint project between the Town of Listowel, the MVCA, and the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR). The MVCA does not own property or have easements for any portion of the structure. The purpose of the Listowel Conduit is to convey floodwaters through the downtown portion of Listowel.

The Union Street Bridge, Elma Street Bridge, Elizabeth Street Bridge, and hospital footbridge all cross the conduit but are not considered part of the flood control structure; as such they have been excluded from this assessment. Similarly, the C.N.R bridge and the Davidson Avenue bridge are not part of the flood control structure and have been excluded.

The maintenance of this structure is a shared responsibility between the Municipality of North Perth and the MVCA.

McGuffin Gully

The McGuffin Gully is located on Lot 27, Concession 1 (Summerhaven Street), in the Municipality of Central Huron, Goderich Ward. Over a period between 1979 and 1985, the gully itself was reconstructed, and a 900 mm diameter corrugated steel pipe was installed to convey the 1:5 year rainfall event from the table and to Lake Huron. The work was completed as a joint project between the MVCA, the abutting landowners, and the MNR. There are registered easements in favor of the MVCA for the works themselves and maintenance activities.

Goderich Bluffs

The Goderich Bluff stabilization project is located at Rotary Cove in the Town of Goderich, north of the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The project involved regrading the eroded slope and stabilizing it with bio-engineering techniques. It was a joint project between the MVCA, the Town of Goderich, the MNR, and private landowners. The subject works are 200 m long, measured along the bluff. MVCA does not own property or have easements on any portion of the site.

A list of the assets reviewed and assessed are presented in the following table. This information was either collected during our review, extracted from the OSIM reports completed by other consultants on behalf of MVCA, or supplied by MVCA staff. Within Appendix A is a more detailed breakdown of the information gathered and some photos to help illustrate the components, where available.

Table 1 – State of Infrastructure

Asset Name	Asset Description	Year Built	Condition Rating	Acceptable Performance	Replacement Value (2024 $)
Listowel Concrete Retaining Wall north of Conduit L-05	344m of concrete retaining wall, about 4.3m tall along sides of the Maitland River channel north of Elizabeth St. in Listowel	1980	75	Yes	$12,500,000
Concrete Conduit L-05 under Listowel	Concrete box culvert conduit with 9.8m span, 213.5m long passing under the central portion of Listowel streets and a few buildings.	1980	72	Yes	$40,000,000
Channel and Gabion Basket Walls South of Conduit L-05	Channel with gabion basket retaining walls south of underground conduit and north of Union St. Listowel	1985	70	Yes	$1,500,000
Listowel Channel North of Conduit L-05	Channel located between the retaining walls north of the underground conduit in Listowel	1985	Indefinite	Yes	N/A once created only have to be maintained
Goderich Bluff Slope	Reconstructed slope about 200m long and 100m down the slope, starting north side of Sunset Drive at Lake bank in Goderich	1995	Indefinite	Yes	N/A once slope reconstructed, only have to maintain
McGuffin Gully Structure	Structure consists of 110m of 900mm dia corrugated steel pipe with concrete inlet structure with headwalls. A road passes over the culvert location	1976	65	Yes	$452,000
				TOTAL	**$54,452,000**

Notes:
1. Scoring for the concrete conduit was provided by GEI within their OSIM report.
2. Replacement costs exclude HST, property purchase requirements or compensation to property owners, if needed to complete work but includes allowance for Engineering fees.
3. Condition rating include a score out of 100 with 100 being in excellent condition, 40 being the start of poor condition and due for replacement. A poorer score than 40 is possible, but suggest the structure is at increased risk of failure.
4. The Municipality where the assets are located also have some responsibility associated with the cost to maintain these assets.

3.0 LEVEL OF SERVICE SCORING METHOD

It is the goal of the MVCA is to ensure their assets provide an acceptable level of service to achieve their goals as a conservation authority and minimize the costs associated with maintaining these assets. The following two paragraphs outline a couple parameters that should be monitored to achieve the goals.

First, condition of the components, i.e. the BCI/Condition score should be monitored. A score between 0 and 100 may be assigned and while a score of 100 suggests the component is in excellent condition, a score of 0 suggests the component is in an unsafe condition and likely has already failed. It is recommended that the component or asset should be replaced once it has obtained a score of 40 or lower.

The second, component to monitor is the adequacy of the asset to serve its purposes. Occasionally, a component can be in fair to good condition, but it is not adequately serving its purpose. For example, the drainage area upstream has changed, and a culvert is undersized to help ensure the culvert will perform in an acceptable manner and does not cause flooding or otherwise prevent the conservation authority form satisfying their goals. At the time of this review all the assets appeared to be performing satisfactorily.

The condition and performance of the assets should be monitored over time and updated when the asset management plan is updated in the future.

4.0 ASSET MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

With the preparation of the asset management plan, it is hoped that some strategies will be incorporated that help to reduce the cost of maintaining the assets over time. There are a couple key ways to help accomplish that.

First, implementation of maintenance work typically helps to extend the life of the assets. To help identify the need for maintenance work, it is necessary to periodically inspect the assets. For example: there may be large branches that become lodged in the end of a culvert that restricts the capacity of the culvert and causes erosion around the inlet of the pipe. Some of the maintenance work pertains to monitoring and detailed measurements to check if the condition of a component has deteriorated. Within the scope of maintenance work identified, we have left the cost at zero dollars when it was assumed the work can be completed by MVCA staff; however, when it was anticipated assistance from another company is required, a dollar amount for the maintenance work has been included.

Secondly, to extend the life of an asset it is often cost effective to complete some rehabilitation work to a structure / asset. Some rehabilitation needs have been identified and we have provided suggested timelines for the work. The list of needs identified includes information identified by other consultants when they completed their review and some comments or recommendations that we have identified and recommend. While probable costs and recommended timelines for completion of the needs have been provided, these recommendations are based on our opinion but there may be other alternative ways to address the needs and given the uncertainties it is

difficult to accurately predict the necessary timelines within which the repairs must be completed. A summary of the recommended needs is included in the table below.

Table 2 – Infrastructure Rehabilitation Needs

Asset Name	Rehabilitation Needs	Timeline	Replacement Value (2024 $)
Listowel Concrete Retaining Wall	Replace handrail	6 to 10 years	$50,000
Listowel Concrete Retaining Wall	Drainage improvements and outlet through retaining wall, to slow or prevent further deflection of the wall	1 year	$81,000
Concrete Conduit under Listowel	Concrete repairs to top and soffit of concrete box culvert, then waterproof and seal the top to prevent water from penetrating top slab. Complete when doing other repair work in area. Until investigation work takes place to confirm location of leaks relative to surface features it is difficult to predict the costs.	6 to 10 years	$500,000
Listowel Gabion Basket Walls	Bottom row of baskets are failing and rocks falling out, reface with short concrete wall, anchored in place with soil anchors or implement alternative methods to preserve integrity of the gabion basket wall	1 to 5 years	$396,000
		Total	**$1,027,000**

Notes:

1. Timelines with the specific years has not been provided but it is assumed that the Conservation Authority will review and schedule the work when it fits into their timeline.
2. The dollar amounts listed for the needs, exclude HST, and costs associated with disruption to business affected when the construction takes place.

5.0 FINANCING STRATEGY

It is difficult for the MVCA to implement most of the above-listed options, given its size and the type of capital improvements typically required. The MVCA will presumably continue working with Municipal Partners as applicable, applying for grants when they become available and, if necessary, using money from reserves or debt financing to address emergencies. It is hoped that reserve funds can be accumulated in the future for emergency repairs. Maintaining up-to-date cost share agreement agreements with the Town of Goderich for the Goderich Bluffs and the Municipality of North Perth for the Listowel conduit is recommended.

6.0 CONCLUSION

The Asset Management Plan, as presented in this report, outlines the recommended strategies and associated probable costs to help maintain the assets over the next 10 year period. It is recommended that this plan be updated again in 5 years.

All of which is respectfully submitted for your approval.

B. M. ROSS AND ASSOCIATES LIMITED

Per _____
Ken D. Logtenberg, P. Eng

Per _____
Steve Jackson, P.Eng.

:hv

APPENDIX A

INDIVIDUAL SITE REPORTS

Structure L-05 - Retaining Wall North of Culvert

Description: Concrete retaining wall, along sides of stream channel, with some portions leaning forward.

				Notes:
Total Length		344.4		110.5 Elizabeth to Conduit, 80.5m and 20m west side and 110.5 east side, 66.7m x 2 north of Elizabeth
Height		4.3		Only 4m height north of Elizabeth but otherwise 4.3m high
Additional height		1.2		Assumed additional wall depth below grade
Thickness		0.4		
Footing length, assumed		4		
Footing thickness, assumed		0.4		
Concrete cross-section area		3.8	m2	
Total Concrete volume		1308.72	m3	
	$	9,580	$/m2	Based on probable cost calculations, converted to a cost per cubic meter
Replacement Costs	$	12,500,000		
Rounded				
Year of Construction		1980		
Life Expectancy		100		Require major maintenance to achieve potential life expectancy
Service Life		2080		
Inspection Date:		Dec. 15, 2023		
Inspection By:		GEI		
BCI (Condition Score out of 100)		75		
Repair Needs				
Cost calculated in 2023	$	50,000		Handrail replacements
Inflated to 2024	$	52,500		
Year of need		6 to 10 years		
Probable cost 2024	$	81,000		Drainage improvements to delay major repairs where wall is leaning
Year of need		1 year		
Maintenance Needs				
	$	500		Bi-annual inspections
	$	5,000		Monitor wall for deflection, bi-annually

Retaining wall looking south

Example of typical drainage pipe through wall, and holes around pipe

Retaining wall, showing top leaning out, looking north

Retaining wall near the base of the wall where leaning out

Retatining wall at north limits of section leaning outward

Retaining wall showing typical vertical cracks in the wall

Showing where holes were drilled in the wall to let surface water through

Showing a crack in the wall, allow water penetrate through the wall

Channel North of L-05 in Listowel

Description: River channel north of structure L-05

			Notes:
Total Length	200		Channel from north limit of maintain section to underground conduit
Width	25		
Total channel area	5000	m2	
Replacement Costs	N/A		
Year of Construction	1980		
Life Expectancy	-		Indefinitely if maintained
Service Life	-		
Inspection Date:	Dec. 15, 2023		
Inspection By:	MVCA / BMROSS		
BCI (Condition Score out of 100)	85		
Repair Needs			
Cost calculated in 2023	$ -		
Inflated to 2024	$ -		
Year of need	-		
Maintenance Needs			
	$ -		Annual inspections, may need to clean out in the future

Channel north of L-5 looking south

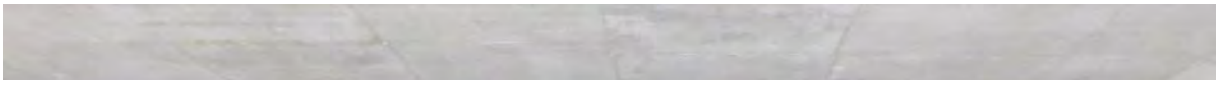
Channel North of L-5 looking north

Structure L-05 - Concrete Conduit under Listowel

Description: Concrete box culvert constructed under a central portin of the town, under some buildings.

			Notes:
Total Length	213.5		Structure goes under buildings, ignore property expenses
Width	10.9		
Total culvert area	2327.15	m2	
	$ 17,160	$/m2	Based on probable bridge replacement costs, plus allowance to either
Replacement Costs	$ 40,000,000		provide shoring or replace 4 buildings and premium for dewatering and traffic control. Road surface as typical included in typical bridge price. Does not include, lost business costs of other costs.
Year of Construction	1980		
Life Expectancy	100		Typically requires major maintenance to achieve potential life expectancy
Service Life	2080		
Inspection Date:	Dec. 15, 2023		
Inspection By:	GEI		
BCI (Condition Score out of 100)	75		
Repair Needs			
Expose and Waterproof top	$ 500,000		When doing street reconstruction work, exposed culvert top, concrete repairs and waterproof top.
Year of need	6 to 10 years		Rough budget provided, investigate, to sellect targetted locations to do repairs. Not full length.
Maintenance Needs			
	$ 500		Bi-annual inspections

North Entrance to the Conduit, looking south



Inside of conduit, looking south

Example of construction joint leaking

Example of cracks mid-way in culvert letting water penetrate top slab.

Goderich Bluff- Slope Remediation

Description: Slope reconstruciton and remediation work.

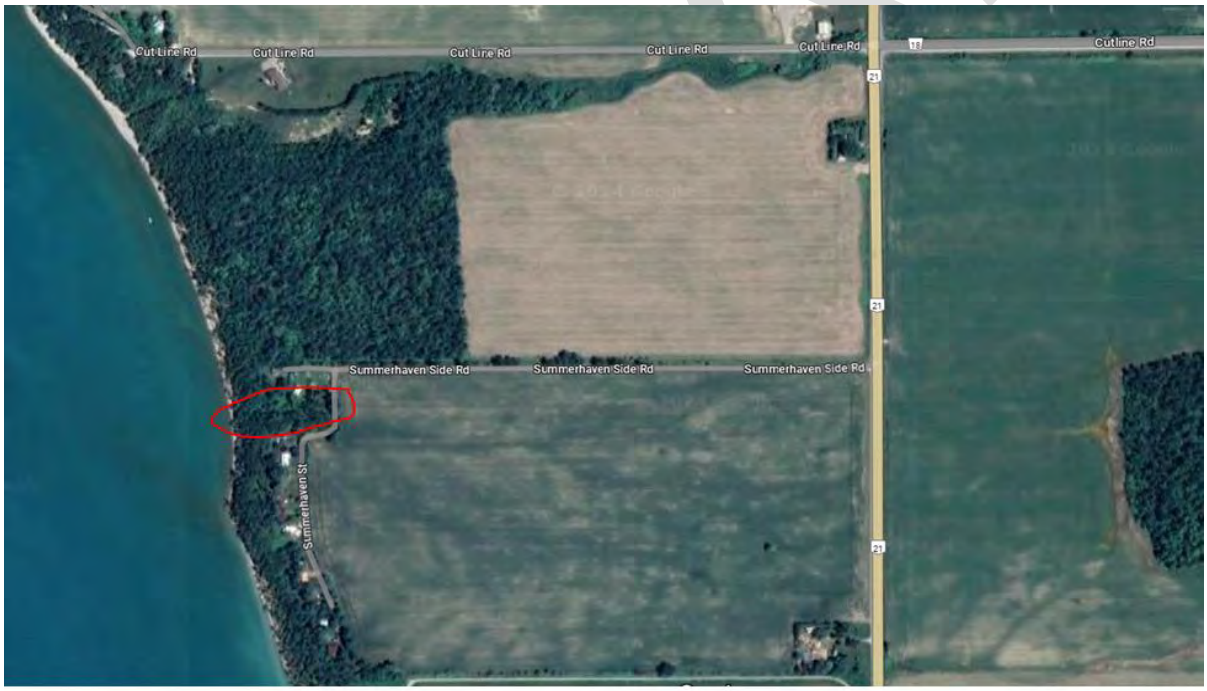
			Notes:
Length along the slope		250	Area was re-graded with excess material removed and slope re-vegetated with
Length measured down the slope		100	stable vegetation. Area approximated.
Total culvert area		25000 m2	
Replacement Costs	$	-	As the excess soil was removed, should never need to be reconstructed. May need reconstruction and probable some mainteance work on the slope
Year of Construction		1985	
Life Expectancy		-	Indefinitely
Service Life			
Inspection Date:		Dec. 15, 2023	
Inspection By:		SVCA Staff	
BCI (Condition Score out of 100)		90	Rated at 90 because assumed minor erosion present but no concerns identified at the time of the review.
Repair Needs			
N/A			No rehabilitation needs identified
Year of need		N/A	
Maintenance Needs			
Annual Inspection	$	-	Inspection to check for need of maintenance work to for example prevent erosion.

Location of Goderich Bluff's Slope Reconstruction Project

McGuffin Gully

Description: Section of 900mm dia. CSP installed 110m long along a reconstructed gully, with concrete headwall.

		Notes:	
Length along the gully	110 m	Area was re-graded with fill material and re-vegetated with	
Diameter of culvert	900 mm	stable vegetation. Concrete headwall, with wingwalls and apron.	
Replacement Costs	**$ 452,000**	As the excess soil was removed, should never need to be reconstructed.	
		May need reconstruction and probable some mainteance work on the slope	
Replacement components for pricing:			
Culvert Price, supply and place	$ 242,000	110 m Unit price, supply and i	$ 2,200 $/m
Concrete headwall	$15,000		
Removal of existing and dewatering	$50,000		
Environmental Protection & rip rap	$25,000		
Overhead, Mobilization, Insurance	$30,000		
Contingency	$40,000		
Engineering, Admin. Approvals	$50,000		
	$ 452,000		
Year of Construction	1978		
Life Expectancy	50	Based on the video inspection and report provided it does not appear	
Service Life	2028	that replacement of culvert is needed at this time or with next 10 years.	
		However, nearing theoretical end of life so review again within 10 years.	
Inspection Date:	April, 2023		
Inspection By:	Headway Engeering		
BCI (Condition Score out of 100)	65	While some deformed section of pipe and poorly aligned connections, the	
		pipe is not badly corroded yet and is in fair condition.	
Repair Needs			
N/A		No rehabilitation needs identified	
Year of need	N/A		
Maintenance Needs			
Annual Inspection	$ -	Monitor and have staff review the site annually.	



Location of McGuffin Gully Culvert

Channel South of L-05 - Channel and Gabion Basket Wall South of Conduit L-05

Description: Gabion basket retaining wall, along sides of stream channel, with some portions failing.

Channel Length		100	m	**Notes:**
Channel Width		25	m	
Total Channel Area		2500	m2	
Channel Replacement Cost	$	-		Channel has no replacement cost, if maintained will never need to be reconstructed.
Total Length		137		12m west, 21m east, just south of closed conduit, 98m west and 6m east side north of Union St.
Height		3.3		Only 4m height north of Elizabeth but otherwise 4.3m high
Thickness		0.9		
Thickness, bottom assumed		1.8		
Cross-section area		3.78	m2	
Total volume		517.86	m3	
	$	2,859	$/m2	Based on probable cost calculations, converted to a cost per cubic meter
Total Replacement Costs	$	1,500,000		
Year of Construction		1985		
Life Expectancy		75		Require major maintenance to achieve potential life expectancy
Service Life		2060		
Inspection Date:		18-Oct-24		
Inspection By:		BMROSS		
BCI (Condition Score out of 100)		70		Score out of 100, with 100 excel, 40 poor and should be replaced.
Repair Needs				
Probable cost, wall repairs	$	396,000		Reconstruct front toe of baskets, full length
Year of need		1 to 5 years		
Probable cost, channel	$	20,000		Remove silt from channel to restore engineered bottom.
Year of need		1 to 5 years		
Maintenance Needs				
	$	-		Bi-annual inspections wall and channel

Gabion Basket, east side just south of conduit

Gabion basket wall, west side just south of conduit

Gabion Basket Wall, west side north of Union St.

Gabion Basket Wall, west side, showing bulding and failing baskets

Gabion Basket Wall, west side, showing buldging and failing baskets

Gabion Basket Wall, east side north of Union St.

Gabion Basket Wall, looking north along west side of the river, north of Union St.

Members Report #85-2024

To: Members, MVCA
From: Jeff Winzenried, Flood Forecasting Supervisor
Date: December 18, 2024

Subject: MVCA Ice Management Plan

Purpose:

To approve and submit MVCA's Ice Management Plan.

Background:

Ontario Regulation 686/21, under section 4 of the regulation, mandates All Conservation Authorities to provide the development and implementation of an ice management plan by December 31, 2024.

This plan is intended to be an internal document, written for and to be updated by MVCA flood forecasting staff.

The Draft MVCA Ice Management Plan has been attached to the end of this report for Member review.

Recommendation:

That the Members approve and submit the Draft Ice Management Plan.

Maitland Conservation Ice Management Plan

Version 1.0
(DRAFT)

Jeff Winzenried

Updated
December 10, 2024

Maitland
CONSERVATION

1. Table of Contents

2. Background

The Conservation Authorities Act was updated in 2022 via Ontario Regulation 686/21, which outlined mandatory programs related to natural hazards. 'Ice Management' is specified in Section 4:

> ***4.*** *(1) An authority shall provide programs and services for ice management within its area of jurisdiction, if the authority determines that ice management is necessary to reduce the risks associated with natural hazards referred to in subsection 1 (1).*
>
> *(2) Programs or services provided under subsection (1) shall include the development and implementation of an ice management plan on or before December 31, 2024 that identifies,*
>
> *(a) how ice within the authority's area of jurisdiction may increase the risk of natural hazards; and*
>
> *(b) the steps that are necessary to mitigate these risks, including identifying equipment and resources needed to carry out these steps.*
>
> *(3) An authority may update the ice management plan referred to in subsection (2) from time to time as the authority considers it advisable.*

The Maitland Valley Conservation Authority (MVCA) delivers the Flood Forecasting & Warning program (ON Reg686/21 section 2) for its member municipalities through the development and maintenance of a flood forecast system that includes the monitoring of and communication of potential flood hazards. Flood risk associated with river ice is inherent to the Maitland River watershed and can occur at any location within the river system. The MVCA Flood Forecasting program accounts for river ice flood hazards and has dealt with numerous ice-related flood events in the past. MVCA provides warning and information to member municipalities during ice-related flood hazards and does not coordinate mitigation measures. This document aims to summarize the ice-related flood hazards that have potential to occur in the Maitland watershed and formalize the ice-specific flood forecasting practices already established.

3. Ice-related Flood Hazards

Similar to most cold-climate Canadian watersheds, there are primarily two types of ice-related flood hazards that have the potential to occur during the winter months in the Maitland River system: ice jams and frazil ice. Each differ in formation but can both result in obstructions that reduce flow capacity and lead to localized flooding.

Ice Jams

Ice jams result from the breakup and rapid accumulation of fragmented river ice, which can obstruct flow and lead to sudden increases in water level. The severity of jamming can primarily be attributed to river ice thickness and the rate of river ice breakup.

River Sheet Ice Formation

Surface water sheet ice begins to form in rivers where flow velocities are less than 0.6m/s and water temperatures are below 0℃. These ice sheets grow downward from the surface and build thickness according to accumulated degree days of freezing. The rate of sheet ice growth is primarily influenced by wind, snow cover and flow velocity. Greater ice thickness generally leads to greater potential of severe ice jams when breakup eventually occurs.

River Ice Breakup

The rate of river ice breakup is driven by the rate of runoff; whether by snowmelt, rainfall or a combination of both. A slow rate of runoff and gradual increase in river flow generally leads to gradual decay and erosion of ice cover without a significant impact on peak water levels. In contrast, significant runoff events that are accompanied by rapid increases in river flow can cause a sudden breakup of ice cover and subsequent movement of ice pieces downstream.

Ice Jam Formation

The transport of broken ice downstream builds momentum that contributes to further breakup and movement of the ice sheet until it lodges at a point of greater resistance, where ice can accumulate rapidly and result in jams. These locations typically include: **channel constrictions** (i.e., restrictions in river geometry, edges of strong ice cover); **areas of decreased flow velocity** (river confluences, sharp meander bends); **river island features** (aggraded river reaches); **narrow passages** (i.e., bridge piers and culverts); and **shallow river reaches** (slow-moving sections of river with markedly lower bed slope).

Frazil Ice

Frazil ice forms in extreme cold temperatures where open (non-ice-covered), turbulent water can become supercooled. Rather than form an ice sheet, frazil ice crystals remain suspended and can adhere to each other and accumulate, creating a slushy medium. These growing ice clusters can form ice pans that travel downstream, where they may eventually pile and freeze together and build ice cover. While in suspension and at sufficient flow velocities, frazil ice can be carried downstream, beneath ice cover; however, at lower velocities it can begin to build up to form 'hanging dams' (**Figure 1**). Frazil ice can also form 'anchor ice' which adheres to and builds up on the river bed. All of the aforementioned forms of frazil can result in a rapid and significant reduction in river capacity. These flow blockages can lead to fast increases in upstream water elevation and flooding.

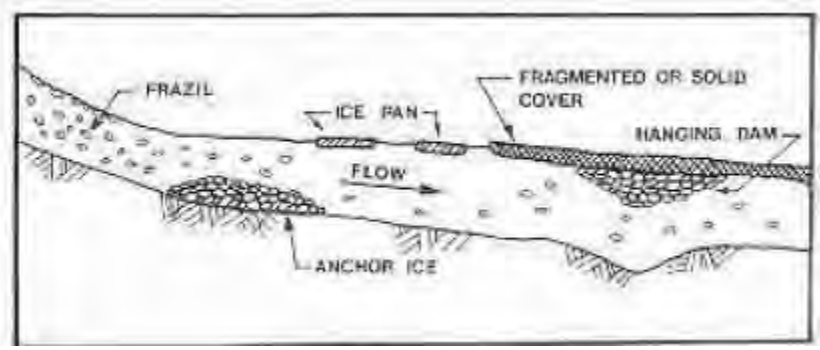


***Figure 1**. Types of frazil ice movement and accumulation (New Brunskwick River Ice Manual)*

4. At-Risk Areas

It's important to note that the conditions required to form ice jams and/or frazil ice can occur throughout the entire Maitland River watershed. Ice jams are generally unpredictable and can result in significant localized flooding that may be brief or persist for long durations. In the event of an ice jam-related flood, MVCA's flood hazard mapping can be used as guidance to gauge the potential flooding extent (**Figure 2**). It should be noted that it's possible for blockages to result in localized areas of flooding that exceed these mapped limits.

While MVCA continuously monitors conditions for ice jam and frazil ice potential, there are two locations within the watershed where ice issues have been more prevalent and are more directly monitored during the ice season. These locations include Goderich, and Port Albert, ON, each delineated by yellow circles in **Figure** 2.

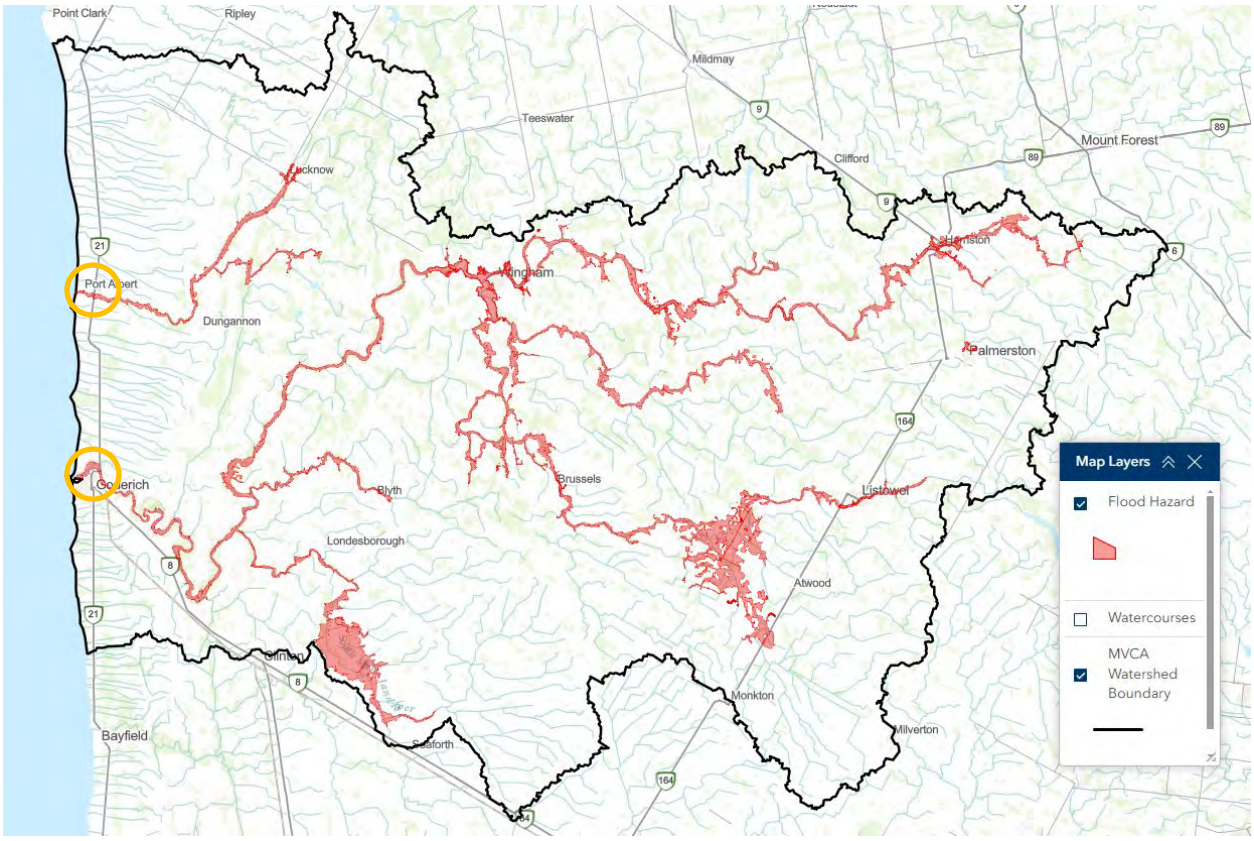


***Figure 2**. Mapped flood hazard layer for the Maitland River*

Saltford

The Highway 21 bridge over the Maitland River in Goderich, ON has historically served as a major point of ice jam potential. Several factors contribute to the jamming risk. Foremost, being at the bottom of the watershed, this location receives a high volume of river ice as it receives supply from the entire Maitland River system. Flow velocities are reduced due to the confluence with Lake Huron, where the

river channel widens and bed slope decreases. Conditions on the Lake can also affect the river outlet, including lake water level, wind and degree of shore ice. The bridge piers further contribute to jamming risk by locally obstructing flow and recruiting river ice.

While the flooding hazard in this area is generally contained by a confined valley system, there are some residential properties at risk upstream of the bridge in Saltford. The ice jamming also has the potential to significantly impact the Highway 21 bridge structure (**Figure 3**). Significant jams in the past have built to reach elevations nearing the height of the bridge deck. Ice jams of this magnitude require warnings and eventual closure of the highway.

***Figure 3**. Ice building up at the Highway 21 bridge during an ice jam event in 2011*

Port Albert

During extreme cold spells, the Nine Mile River in Port Albert has frequently been the site of significant frazil ice formation. The frazil ice is derived from the turbulent water generated by the Port Albert Fishway, a man-made fish ladder structure approximately 780m upstream from confluence with Lake Huron. The fishway bridges a significant reduction in grade and creates a significant amount of localized turbulence (**Figure 4**). If exposed to extreme cold air before sheet ice cover can form, the turbulence

and open water conditions result in frazil ice formation. The conditions required for frazil ice to form at this location are summarized in **Table 1**. These conditions are anecdotal based on observations from past events.

***Figure 4**. Port Albert fishway (left); concrete drop structure and turbulent water (right)*

Parameter	Observed condition during frazil formation
Air Temperature	-10°C (maximum), most often -15 to -20°C (typically associated with 'Polar Vortex' weather events)
Water Temperature	Not yet recorded; unconfirmed
Ice Cover	Minimum of open water from fish ladder to Central Syndenham Street
Wind	Strong winds suspected to contribute, but unconfirmed
River Flow	>1m^3/s suspected, but unconfirmed (per Lucknow A & B gauge stations)
Lake Level & shore ice	High lake levels and/or shore ice is likely to contribute to loss of flow velocities and heightened risk of blockages

***Table 1**. Summary of conditions typically observed during frazil ice formation at the Port Albert fishway*

Blockages have typically been localized to just downstream of the fish ladder structure, typically within the vicinity of the Central Syndenham Street bridge, where sheet ice is usually established. By accumulating and building upstream of existing sheet ice, the frazil ice leads to a hanging dam scenario, with water levels rising just upstream of the bridge. A municipal parking lot immediately north, at the top of the right bank of the Nine Mile River provides relief to flood waters and contain the spill until levels reach the threshold of breaching Central Syndenham Street. A map delineating this scenario along with accompanying photographs is provided in **Appendix B**. Many structures downstream of the fish ladder are at risk during a severe frazil ice flood event. Due to the rapid formation of these floods, MVCA staff give informal notice (typically via email) to ACW Public Works officials any time conditions with frazil ice potential are forecasted.

5. Monitoring, Forecast & Warning

In delivering Ontario's Flood Forecasting and Warning program, the MVCA provides continuous assessment of flood risk throughout the watershed. Weather and climate information used to determine flood potential generally consists of a combination of forecast products and real-time data. The MVCA flood forecasting monitoring network provides a steady stream of hydrometeorological data that can be used to determine real-time conditions throughout the watershed. This data can specifically be used to directly and indirectly gauge the potential for both ice jam and frazil ice events.

Ice jam risk is generally inferred through the estimation of ice sheet thickness and conditions leading to sudden breakup. Frazil ice potential is primarily ascertained through extreme cold air temperatures and degree of open channel water (lack of sheet ice). Monitoring of flow gauge stations can directly indicate the presence of a of jam where significant rises in water elevation don't coincide with the forecasted rate and magnitude of expected peak flows. A summary of real-time data and forecast indicators useful for assessing ice related flood potential is provided in **Table 2**.

Real-time Data	Hydrometeorological Forecast Products
• Air and Water Temperature • Cumulative degree days of freezing • Net radiation • Wind • Precipitation • River discharge/water elevation	• Weather (temperature, precipitation, wind) • Arctic Oscillation and Polar Vortex Forecasts • River flow forecasts • Lake Huron water level

***Table 2**. Summary of parameters and forecast products used to infer ice conditions and flood risk*

The use of remote cameras has proven to be beneficial by providing near real-time images of ice conditions. Visuals from the field help to verify assumptions derived from data as well as directly identify ice jam or frazil ice formation. In the event that a significant ice jam and associated flooding is identified, MVCA can carry out further monitoring through direct staff observation. If conditions permit, staff can utilize a drone to collect images and/or coordinate reconnaissance flights provided by local aviation services (contact for local aviation services provided in **Appendix C**). Birds-eye vantage points provide an efficient way to assess ice conditions and determine jam locations and the extent of backwater flooding. This is illustrated in the sample drone and flight reconnaissance photographs provided in **Figures 5** and **6**, respectively.

***Figure 5**. Photograph taken with use of a drone, easily identifies flow pathways and weakened sections of ice cover*

***Figure 6**. Photograph taken during flight reconnaissance to assess river ice conditions*

Remote cellular trail cameras are employed full-time for the duration of the season to aid monitoring of our at-risk areas of both Saltford and Port Albert. These cameras are set to operate on a 'time-lapse' mode and provide daily images (**Figure** 7). For the purpose of conserving battery life and prolonging the operation of these cameras, they're generally limited to 2-3 images per day, typically scheduled during daylight hours. The installation locations are described in the following sections along with example images.

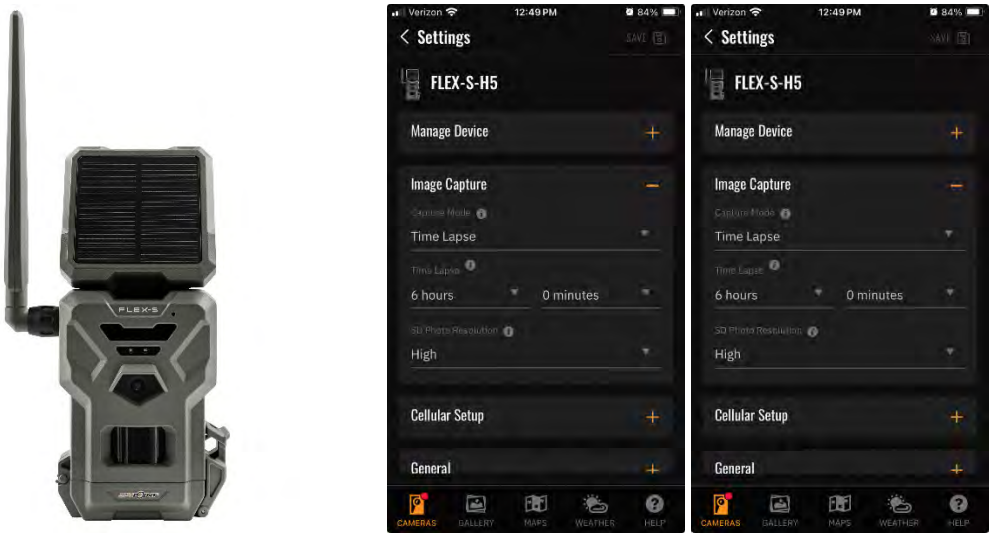


***Figure 7**. SPYPOINT Flex-S cellular camera used to monitor field conditions (left); App-view of camera status and setttings (middle, right)*

Saltford

The Saltford camera is positioned to monitor Highway 21. To date, the best set up has been the use of the treeline along the left bank of the Maitland River. This location is accessed by parking on the shoulder of Highway 21 just west of the bridge, nearing the access point for the Goderich Millenium Trail. **Figure 8** displays the location and typical installation of an ice-monitoring camera in Saltford. Example photographs from that setup are provided in **Figure 9**.

***Figure 8**. Position and vantage point of Saltford camera (left); installation in tree on west valley slope (right)*

***Figure 9**. Sample photographs from Saltford setup: near complete sheet ice cover (left); flowpath eroded through ice after thaw (right)*

Port Albert

The Port Albert camera is installed on a lamp post at the downstream edge of the fish ladder. The fish ladder is easily accessible via Central Wellington St (**Figure 10**). To deter theft, the camera is mounted with a strap and secured with a cable lock. It's mounted approximately 15-20' from base level, requiring a ladder to access. Example photographs are displayed in **Figure 11**.

***Figure 10**. Position and vantage point of Port Albert Fishway camera*

***Figure 11**. Sample photographs showing end of ice sheet cover and frazil formation (left); noticeable increase in water elevations (right)*

Key Messages

When communicating the risks and hazards associated with ice-related flood events, the following details should be considered:

- Ice jams are unpredictable and it is difficult to estimate how long flooding conditions will persist
- The constant movement of ice pieces and jams can result in rapid fluctuations in localized water levels
- During the formation of frazil ice, jamming and flooding can materialize rapidly
- Reminders to never attempt to drive or walk through flood areas

6. Summary

MVCA accounts for ice-related flood risks in the delivery of the Provincial Flood Forecasting and Warning program. The winter season and periods of extreme cold can contribute to heightened risk due to significant ice sheet thickness and the formation of frazil ice. The conditions that lead to ice jam- or frazil ice- flooding can occur anywhere within the Maitland River and Nine Mile watersheds and are especially prone to occur at the high risk areas of the Saltford Highway 21 bridge and Port Albert Fishway. Weather forecasts and real-time data that provide indicators of ice jam or frazil ice potential are constantly monitored to infer flooding potential. When high risk conditions for ice-related flood events materialize, MVCA staff issue formal flood statements and messaging to municipal partners and increase monitoring of site-specific jams by means of direct observation, drone imagery, or flight reconnaissance. The MVCA is able to provide detailed information and analysis throughout an event, but does not coordinate ice mitigation measures.

7. Works Cited

The New Brunswick Subcommittee on River Ice. (1989). *New Brunswick River Ice Manual.*

Regulation 686/21. (2022). Mandatory Programs and Services. under Conservation Authorities Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. C.27.

APPENDIX A – Saltford Highway 21 Ice Jam Events

Ice build up surrounding the Highway 21 bridge in 2011

Saltford, viewing upstream from Highway 21, March 2011

APPENDIX B – Port Albert Frazil Ice Flood Events

Ice removal at the Port Albert Fishway, date unknown

Ice removal at the Nine Mile River confluence with Lake Huron

Flow path of flood waters during a frazil related ice jam at the Port Albert Fishway in 2016

Flood waters spilling into the Parking lot north of the Fishway in 2016

Flood waters breaching Central Syndenham Street (left); Ice removal efforts from the fish ladder parking lot (right

Appendix C – Aviation Service Contacts

Papple Aviation	Summer Papple, Chief Pilot Tyler Papple, Pilot Bart Potsma, Pilot
Bases	Seaforth, Goderich
Satellite bases	Wingham, Lucan, Port Elgin, Kincardine
Email	PappleAviationFlights@gmail.com
Phone	519-318-4224 226-378-9268

Members Report #86-2024

To: Members, Maitland Valley Conservation Authority
From: Phil Beard, General Manager Secretary Treasurer
Date: December 9, 2024

Subject: 2025 Annual Meeting: A time to Celebrate Partnerships

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Purpose:

To obtain direction on the agenda, time, and location for the 2025 Annual Meeting.
To determine if the Members would like to continue to focus the Annual Meeting on celebrating partnerships that MVCA is involved in.

Background:

The Annual Meeting is traditionally used to review the authority's progress over the past year, recognize staff service awards and retiring Members, and the election of officers. The 2024 Annual Meeting was focussed celebrating some of the partnerships that MVCA is involved in.

Maitland Conservation has been a strong advocate for developing partnerships and collaborative networks to advance conservation. In 2023 we celebrated four partnership initiatives, including Healthy Lake Huron, Howick Trails, leasing of Galbraith to the Municipality of North Perth and the Huron Clean Water Project. Maitland Conservation has many other partnerships that we could recognize and celebrate at the 2025 Annual Meeting including:

1. Carbon Footprint Initiative: This initiative was started by MVCA in 2012. We collaborate with local companies and municipalities to identify how we can work together to reduce the use of fossil fuels and to sequester carbon through the restoration of natural areas across the watershed.
2. Middle Maitland Rejuvenation Committee: This committee was established in 2000 with support from MVCA. The MMRC is a group of volunteers from North Perth who are focused on restoring the health of the Middle Maitland River upstream and downstream of Listowel.
3. Maitland Conservation Foundation and the John Hindmarsh Environmental Trust Fund: The MCF and the JHETF have been raising money to support projects that MVCA would like to undertake to improve the health of the watershed as well as conservation area infrastructure. The MCF and the JHETF have been raising money

and volunteering their time to help MVCA since 1975 for the MCF and since 1995 with respect to the JHETF.

We could invite representatives from each of the four groups to attend the Annual Meeting and provide them with an opportunity to talk about their initiative. This would allow MVCA to formally thank each of the groups for their willingness to work with us to further conservation in the watershed.

Tentative Agenda if the Members would like to recognize these partnerships at the Annual Meeting.

1. Welcome and Introduction of Members & Guests
2. Chairs Remarks
3. Staff Service Awards
4. Election of Officers: Chair, Vice, and Second Vice
5. Celebration of Partnerships:
6. Closing Remarks: Chair
7. Social Time

Date:

The Annual Meeting is traditionally held the third Wednesday of the month in the afternoon. The third Wednesday is February 19th.

We may want to establish a snow date in case the weather is not suitable on the 19th.
The snow date could be set for the fourth Wednesday, which is February 26th.

Location:

The meeting could be held in the upstairs hall at the Wroxeter Community Centre if it is available.

Time:

Over the past few years, the Annual Meeting has been held in the afternoon starting at 2:00 pm and finishing by 3:30pm.

Recommendation:

That the Annual Meeting be held on February xxx at xxxx
And that the draft agenda outlined in Report #86-2024 be approved.

Members Report #87-2024

To: Members, Maitland Valley Conservation Authority
From: Phil Beard, Interim Executive Director, MCF
Date: December 10, 2024

Subjects: Fundraising Update from the Maitland Conservation Foundation
Request for Support for GM to act as Interim Executive Director in 2025

Purpose:

To provide the Members with a progress report on the MCF's fundraising campaign.
To request that the MVCA Members allow the GM-ST to act as Interim Executive Director for the MCF in 2025.

Background:

The Maitland Conservation Foundation is a non-profit charitable organization that has been established to raise money for projects that the Maitland Valley Conservation Authority. The MCF is governed by a Board of Directors comprised of volunteers from the watershed.
MVCA's General Manager Secretary Treasurer has acted as Interim Executive Director for the MCF for several years. The MCF appreciates MVCA for providing this support to the MCF.
2024 Board of Directors:

Chair, Jordan Nairn; Vice Chair, Nigel Bellchamber
Directors: Ruth Knight, Ben Miltenburg, Francis Hogan, Peter Shephard, John Thompson, Beth Ross, Kriss Snell and MVCA appointee, Vanessa Kelly.
Secretary-Treasurer: Lori Gordon
2024 Donation to MVCA:

The MCF (and the JHETF) has raised a total of $150,630 dollars in 2023 and 2024 to help support the following projects:

1. Aquatic Health Assessment Project
2. Watershed Stewardship Projects: 17 projects including: wetland restoration & watercourse buffering across the watershed
3. Privy Replacement at Naftel's Creek Conservation Area
4. Invasive Species Control at Galbraith and Lake Wawanosh Conservation Areas
5. Equipment/Installation of a Ground water monitoring network at the Scott Municipal Drain Restoration Project
6. Tree/Shrub planting at the Turnberry Conservation Area

Newsletter & Fundraising Stories: The MCF has written several stories about some of the projects that they have provided support for over the past few years. These stories are circulated to potential donors as part of the "We Are Inspired by Nature" Campaign.
A copy of each story is attached.

1. Bodmin Farms Restoration Project
2. Smith Farms Wetland Restoration Project
3. Forest Health Project
4. Lake Wawanosh Conservation Area Project
5. Naftel's Creek Conservation Area Project
6. Garvey Glen Watershed Project

We have also enclosed a copy of the John Hindmarsh Environmental Trust Fund's newsletter for 2024.
This newsletter is circulated to existing and potential as part of their fundraising campaign.

Interim Executive Director Support:

The MCF Board a passed a motion at their November 28th meeting requesting that the MVCA allow the GM ST to serve as Interim Executive Director in 2025.
The GM ST has advised the MCF Board that he is interested in serving in that role in 2025 if the Members support providing this support.

Recommendation:

THAT the General Manager Secretary Treasurer continue to serve as Interim Executive Director to the MCF Board in 2025;
AND THAT the MCF and JHETF Boards be thanked for their donation to MVCA in 2024.

NEWSLETTER 2024

Thanks to your donations the John Hindmarsh Environmental Trust Fund continues to work towards ensuring a strong natural environment both for today's world and for the future one that belongs to our children.

This summer, we're proud to sponsor the Coastal Conservation Youth Corps through the Lake Huron Coastal Centre! Thanks to your generosity, our dedicated youth are making a meaningful impact in Goderich through hands-on environmental stewardship. They are engaged in vital activities such as dune restoration, invasive species removal, shoreline surveys, plant identification, and beach clean ups.

New boardwalk at the popular Naftels Creek Conservation Area

Krystal Brideau, (Huron Backyard Ecosystems) Susan Chan at Froggy Fest

Interactive puzzle from Middle Maitland Rejuvenation Committee

We proudly sponsor Froggy Fest, a grassroots festival that champions accessibility, inclusivity, and sustainability while empowering youth and promoting environmental wellness. Their innovative spirit earned them the Spirit of Success - Community Impact Award, celebrating their efforts to preserve our Earth for future generations.

Donations to Nature Last More than a Lifetime

You can help the John Hindmarsh Environmental Trust Fund support environmental and conservation projects.
1. Online donations -Visit www.canadahelps.org and search for the Maitland Conservation Foundation. On the Foundation page look for the John Hindmarsh Environmental Trust Fund.
2. Credit Card—Please contact us at foundation@mvca.on.ca or 519 335 3557 ext 246 to make arrangements
3. Cheque or cash- Please make cheques payable to the Maitland Conservation Foundation and mail to:

Maitland Conservation Foundation
Box 127
Wroxeter, ON N0G 2X0

Please indicate the JHETF with your donation.

4. E-transfer –To e-Transfer a donation to the MCF please use the email address foundation@mvca.on.ca to send your donation. Please let us know your address for your receipt and specify that your donation is to the John Hindmarsh Environmental Trust Fund.

Thanks to our dedicated volunteers and generous donors, we raised funds to support environmental initiatives and promote sustainability in our community. Your contributions helped us bring together nature lovers, gardening enthusiasts, and eco-friendly advocates!

At JHETF, our commitment to environmental stewardship inspires us to actively engage in projects that enhance local ecosystems and uplift our communities. We are excited to share some of the vital initiatives we are currently undertaking:

1. Invasive Species control at Conservation areas
2. Privy replacement at Naftel's Creek for 2025
3. Watershed Assessment:
4. Scott Drain Groundwater monitoring

Your generous donations allow us to continue this important work.

JHETF Annual Plant Sale May 11th, 2024, in Goderich.
The next JHETF Annual Spring Hike, Plant and Compost Sale will be May 10th, 2025, in Goderich

We are committed to protecting the privacy of our donors. We do not make our mailing list available to other organizations. If you would prefer to not receive our mailings please contact us.

The John Hindmarsh Environmental Trust Fund is administered by The Maitland Conservation Foundation (MCF). The MCF is a registered, charitable non-profit organization that supports conservation and environmental projects being undertaken by the Maitland Valley Conservation Authority. Charitable number 119029403 RR001

Restoring Nature and Welcoming Ducks

The Maitland Valley Conservation Authority helped the Procter family reforest 18 acres and construct a new duck pond - improving water quality and habitat. *By Kate Procter*

Concern for the environment has always been part of the Procter family's overall farm management plan. The Middle Maitland River runs through the farm, with steep slopes leading down to the river and the flood plain. These areas have never been cropped, and with the help of Maitland Valley Conservation Authority staff, they have been naturalized to help improve the health of the river and increase diversity for bird and wildlife habitat.

Cattle grazed these slopes and flood plain for many years however, in 2022 a new plan for these areas began to take shape. Maitland Valley Conservation Authority (MVCA) staff were vital to planning and implementing the project. Ducks Unlimited also became involved as one of the areas included the construction of a new duck pond along with tree planting a variety of species.

The entire project retired 6.3 acres of marginal floodplain along the Middle Maitland River. A total of 1.2 acres of wetland was created and 18 acres were planted with 10,400 native trees and shrubs to buffer the river.

The project helps collect and filter sediment and nutrients that flow from surrounding farmland. It helps slow down water running off the landscape and flowing through the river during high flows, which helps to relieve flooding stress downstream. It

George Procter watches as a new crop is planted on land that was used as pasture.

also attracts diverse wildlife. Additionally, increased carbon is being removed from the atmosphere and sequestered in the trees and organic matter within the wetland over time. Reforestation efforts could bring harvest value in future if the forest is managed appropriately.

The final project area along the river has a portion that stays wet year-round. It has provided a valuable service as a natural holding area for water coming from the field tile drain outlets and allowed any sediment to settle out before reaching the river. MVCA staff in conjunction with Ducks Unlimited (DU) developed a plan for a duck pond that would support ducks and still retain its settling pond function.

After the excavation of the pond in the fall of 2023, White Cedar, Tamarack, White Pine, White Spruce, Silver Maple, Black Willow, Basswood, Bur Oak, and Sycamore were planted in 2024. The effects of climate change were considered when choosing the species that would thrive and provide long term diversity and forest health.

Support for the project has come from Maitland Conservation Foundation, Huron Clean Water Project, Environment and Climate Change Canada, and Ducks Unlimited Canada.

You can get involved as a landowner by working with MVCA to develop a plan for your own property. You can also be a donor through the Maitland Conservation Foundation.

Bird's eye view of the project along the Middle Maitland River.

It All Flows To the Lake— New Wetland Improves Water Quality Downstream

Maitland Valley Conservation Authority helped landowners plant native species and create a new wetland, encouraging ducks, improving habitat, and water quality. *By Kate Procter*

Brothers Bill and Mike Smith care about protecting the land and improving water fowl habitat. Bill has long been concerned with reducing erosion, planting trees, and protecting the natural environment. As a hunter, Mike noticed a decrease in duck populations and wanted to do something to address this decline and help the ducks thrive. Maitland Valley Conservation Authority staff developed a plan, helped obtain funding, and ensured the vision became reality.

Their project will improve water quality and quantity by collecting and holding overland flow from the adjacent farm field and filtering it before it reaches the municipal drain and the nearby Maitland River. They constructed two ponds that maintain continuous water levels throughout the year. Then grade 7/8 students from the North Perth Westfield Elementary School helped plant 600 trees and shrubs, including oak, tulip trees, high bush cranberry, and red maple. Species were chosen that would readily adapt to the changing climate in this area. In addition to improving water quality, this wetland will also attract a variety of wildlife including turtles, frogs, waterfowl, deer, and wild turkey.

In 2022, the brothers started working with staff at Maitland Valley Conservation Authority (MVCA) and Ducks Unlimited to address a 2.2 acre parcel of a low-lying wet area that was being taken over by invasive buckthorn. This piece of land was not suitable for farming and they wanted to plant beneficial native species.

New ponds in the wetland created to enhance water fowl habitat and improve water quality.

MVCA staff helped them plan the project that transformed this space into a 1.3 acre wetland and one acre plantation of native

trees and shrubs. In addition, 1,600 feet (487 m) of municipal drain was buffered with trees, which will help to keep the water cooler as it flows into the Maitland River. Light excavation was completed for the wetland to ensure the maximum depth of five feet (1.5 m) to encourage waterfowl. Uneven edges and depths mimicking a natural wetland will increase plant and wildlife diversity.

This project was supported by the Maitland Conservation Foundation, Huron Clean Water Project, Environment and Climate Change Canada, Ducks Unlimited Canada and the Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association.

You can get involved as a landowner by working with MVCA to develop a plan for your own property. You can also be a donor through the Maitland

Native trees and shrubs help to increase diversity and compete against invasive species.

Settling ponds help keep sediment from reaching the river.

Forests are struggling reveals Forest Health study

One in five trees are dead and invasive plants and insects are taking their toll but education can help landowners encourage forest regeneration

By Lisa Boonstoppel-Pot

Forest health is a big issue, not just because trees are valuable but because forests are homes to wildlife, offer recreational and hunting opportunities to humans and are, "absolutely beautiful" says Erin Gouthro, who has been known to hug a tree or two.

"Forest products are an important way to diversify income on the farm and they also create resilience in the landscape by channeling water into the ground," said Gouthro, a watershed ecologist for the Maitland Valley Conservation Authority. "Their deep root systems make them the most effective plant in the landscape to do that. Plus, mature trees can transfer thousands of gallons of water into the atmosphere on a hot summer's day which gives us oxygen and stabilizes our local climate."

Globally, forests are in decline — a trend which can be found even on our own doorsteps. After a century of over exploitation, forests within the Maitland Valley were left devastated and the land was left without protection from wind and water. People suffered without the cultural and economic benefits they depended on from forests. By the 1930s, a major effort began to protect remaining forests and replant lands. "One hundred years later, our remnant forests still face enormous challenges," said Gouthro.

To understand their current condition and evaluate progress and identify problems, a Forest Health study was done. The results reflected the current global trend. Local forests are fragile and precariously perched with respect to their health. One in five trees in the forests are dead.

"That is 20 per cent of our trees gone," said Gouthro. The loss of ash trees to the Emerald Ash Borer is well-known but beech trees are dying due to beech bark disease and have shown a 95 per cent decrease in the sample set since the last survey done in 2000. Other forest species, such as hickory and ironwood, while not declining, are not increasing either.

Invasive pests and insects, invasive plants, woodcutting and storm events are the top four disturbances in forests.

Maple trees are abundant but they are the "last man standing." As a valuable tree, there will be economic pressure to cut them and in the broader scale, forests dominated by one species are not diversified enough. "We need management to enrich forests with species that should be common. Every upland forest should have a complement of bur oak, cherry, basswood and other native trees, for instance," said Gouthro.

Doug and Cathy Walker stand in front of the woodlot that has provided them with income when their farm needed it but now serves as a location for joy and discovery. They are now keen to conserve the bush as a legacy for the next generation and took part in the Forest Health study to learn how healthy their bush is and what they can do to improve it.

Even maples have their struggles. Despite being common, some woodlots are seeing few to no young sugar maples in the understory. “We are seeing plots with no maple regeneration.”

It’s a mystery, and a concerning one. Gouthro wonders if there are too few mature trees to cast seed. Are maples being cut too young? She explained that the cycle from tree germination to the tree becoming an adult is 150 years. “That is two human lifetimes,” she said. “A tree that started growing in 1850 is just reaching adulthood now.”

She encourages farmers with woodlots to check on their forest regeneration, to see if maples and other healthy tree species are sprouting. If they only see ash or buckthorn regeneration, additional management steps are required to preserve the health of the woodlot.

“They could consider a planting program to enrich the forest with other native trees,” advised Gouthro.

Size wise, forests dominated the landscape before Europeans settled. After settlement, forests declined to about 10 per cent, with conservation and replanting forests recovered to 18 per cent of that original forest cover. Since then, the watershed has lost an additional 400 acres decreasing forest cover to 16 per cent.

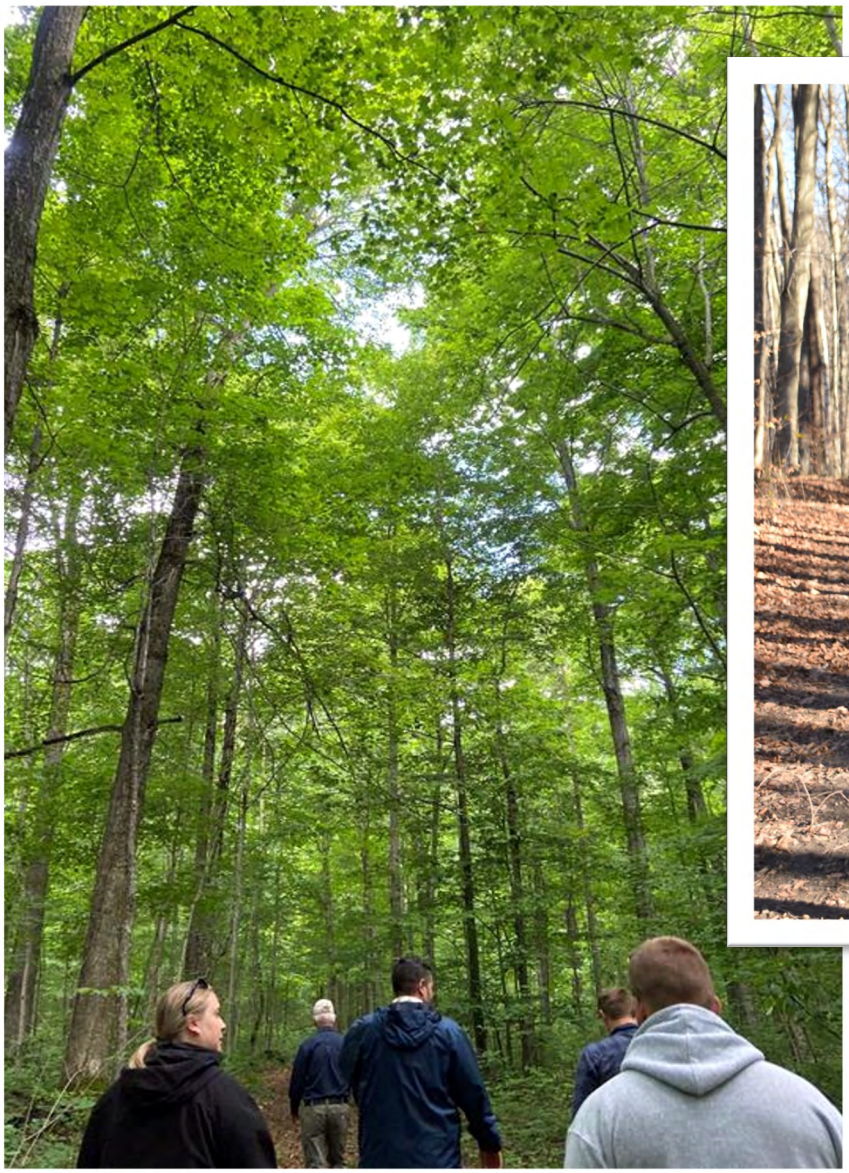
Ultimately, the protection and stewardship of forests requires a cultural shift. When it comes to harvesting wood, forests have been seen as a “golden goose that keeps laying golden eggs.” The Forest Health study shows forests are under intense pressure from multiple disturbances happening all at once which is pushing some woodlots to becoming unhealthy and in need of enhanced care and restoration. The lesson forests are teaching is that they aren’t inexhaustible and we have moved beyond a frontier landscape. “Our relationship with them needs to mirror this,” said Gouthro.

Landowners could take the stress and pressure off forest by harvesting less often, and leaving a few trees to grow to maturity to encourage forest regeneration.

“That’s why this study is so important and valuable,” said Gouthro. “It aims to increase knowledge at the local level and empower landowners to understand the conditions of their forest so they can see the bigger picture and make good decisions for their forest.”

It’s hard to manage what you don’t know and without health assessment and monitoring information, forest management has fallen into a “one-size fits all” approach. Sharing knowledge from this study is high on Gouthro’s list and with the backing of good science from the Forest Health Study, she is excited to share it with landowners.

“The future of our forests is in the hands of our landowners,” said Gouthro. “It’s critically important they have relevant information. This study has been well



Forests provide clean air, aid in soil and water health and are home to Ontario’s wildlife which is why Erin Gouthro, a watershed ecologist with the Maitland Valley Conservation Authority, was eager to spearhead a Forest Health Study which has revealed some disturbing statistics about the health of our forests.

received and landowners I have spoken to found the study useful because it builds knowledge and understanding. It think it gives them confidence to know what they have observed is real and provides a foundation on which to ask questions and act."

One of those owners are Doug and Cathy Walker who, when told they had a very healthy woodlot, were kind of awakened to the treasure they had on their farm. "We had not really realized that before," said Cathy, who walks on trails through the bush every day, enjoying the thriving understory and the "mother trees" that were left after logging.

The forest has served many purposes for the Walkers over the years. During hard times on the farm, they did log the bush for income and thankfully, had the luck to hire loggers who respected the woodlot and could see a longer vision for it. One logger removed all the ash and another preserved older maples so they could grow into full maturity.

"As we got older and the farming was more profitable, we could turn our attention to sustainability. Plus, at our age, you start to think about your legacy for future generations," said Cathy when asked why they want to conserve and preserve their woodlot. "In the last 10 years, we have seen the bush in a different light." Through reading and education from the MVCA, the Walkers learned to stay on trails so as not to disturb the canopy. They are protective of the mature trees which will repopulate the forests. And their biggest piece of advice is to choose loggers carefully. "I don't feel we have the right to say to young people they shouldn't log their bush. We did it when money was tight. What I would say is choose your loggers carefully. We have seen examples of woodlots that were decimated. The loggers took everything and left huge ruts up and down which caused erosion. Those areas don't recover and invasive plants move in."

Cathy said woodlots are an investment for the long term in terms of income, but also in terms of lifestyle. "You need to take the long view and recognize there is a generation that will follow you who will benefit from your woodlot in many ways. One is logging. The other is to enjoy the trees and wildlife. We have an obligation to save trees and wildlife," added Cathy.

The MVCA continues to do its part by improving the health of forests owned by Maitland Valley. These forests are monitored and used as demonstration sites for forest health actions. MVCA also has a forester working with landowners to increase forest cover by planting trees in the watershed. Funds provided by the Maitland Conservation Foundation and the John Hindmarsh Environmental Trust Fund have been essential in getting more trees into the ground, as well as supporting the Forest health Study.

Funds may also be used to develop forest management plans to help landowners get their forests properly marked. Landowners can take action themselves by enriching their forest by planting diverse, native species. They can take advantage of tree and shrub order opportunities for spring and fall tree plantings. The MVCA also provides expertise and funds for restoration projects such as windbreaks, buffers and reforestation on a cost-share basis.

Gouthro also recommends that landowners be careful about introducing invasive plant species to their forests and to protect spring ephemerals (trilliums, trout lily, bloodroot, etc) which are under stress but have a vital role in providing nitrogen to tree seedlings.

Forest health is everyone's responsibility and data from the Forest Health Study provides the science to inform landowners about the current condition of our forests and what work needs to be done. "Ultimately the Forest Health Study is about leadership," concluded Gouthro. "It's about us providing information to the community so they can use it to improve the health of their forests."

Ecologist Erin Gouthro of the Maitland Valley Conservation Authority walks with Stewart Lockie, MVCA's Conservation Areas Coordinator, examining the trees and explaining the benefits trees make to the landscape. Gouthro is sharing knowledge about the status of forests in the MVCA watershed which were gleaned from the recent Forest Health study.

Water champions have transformed the Garvey-Glen

Forty landowners banded together to take a systems-approach to water and soil conservation by creating berms, grassed waterways and planting a lot of trees

By Lisa Boonstoppel-Pot

It's not every day that landowners are called champions but in the Garvey-Glen watershed, where 40 landowners have come together to protect water and soil health, they are called just that.

The Garvey-Glen watershed is a 16.85 kilometre square watershed encompassing 4,200 acres located along the shores of Lake Huron in the Township of Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh. It has been serving as a demonstration site on how to improve water quality and quantity since 2011.

"These champion landowners saw a need for a systematic approach," said Ben Van Dieten, an Agricultural Stewardship Supervisor with the Maitland Valley Conservation Authority who helps inform, guide projects and secure funding for agricultural stewardship practices.

The Garvey-Glen (named for two drainage systems in the area) is an area of land that gently slopes down to Lake Huron. Water quality at this end is affected by farming practices inland. As farms become more intensively managed with removal of fence rows, tile drainage, increased field size, less complex rotations, fewer pastures and sometimes, reduced soil health, severe rain events can cause water to rush over the landscape, carrying soil right down to the lake. This affects lake quality and also, the health of farmer's fields.

"These champion landowners saw the soil erosion as they witnessed more water rushing through and hopping over municipal rains, and taking their soil and nutrients with it," explained Van Dieten. Of the 40 landowners involved, 25 are actual farmers while others are cottagers or rural non-farmers.

If only one farmer were to build a berm or grassed waterway, it wouldn't be enough to control the water. So the original farmers, keen to make a change, banded together and got organized. They approached the MVCA for support and together, visited all the landowners in the watershed as a trust exercise.

"Not everyone is best friends with conservation authorities," admitted Van Dieten. "So these champion landowners bridged the gap and overcame obstacles." The project has been so successful these

Ben Van Dieten, Agricultural Stewardship Supervisor with the Maitland Valley Conservation Authority says buffering streams with tree plantings is one of the many water and soil conservation projects that have made the Garvey-Glen watershed an ideal demonstration site of what can be done to manage and protect water quality and quantity.

past dozen years that Van Dieten says "we have a great relationship with a lot of the landowners. They know we aren't spying over their shoulders and we aren't burdening them with regulation."

Community events were held to identify the issues all the landowners were facing. These include soil loss, soil erosion, flooding in fields (leading to delayed planting and harvest) and compaction from working on wet land.

To help solve the problem, funding, advice and connections with contractors were provided by MCVA to build grassed waterways (a total of four kilometres), erosion-control berms (30 were constructed) and water sediment and control basins (WASCOBs). "The goal is to get water running underground instead of over the soil surface," said Van Dieten.

Creek banks were planted with trees and cover crops were promoted. "Tree plantings create a buffer between agricultural lands and water courses," explained Van Dieten. Trees also serve as filters for overland run-off that passes through the buffer. The trees also serve to protect soil from wind erosion while also offering biodiversity improvements. In total, 10 kilometres of windbreaks were planted and 90 per cent of streams were buffered (of which there are 25 kilometres).

"We also encouraged peer-to-peer learning in the Garvey-Glen where farmers could discuss how to implement cover crops in their operations," said Van Dieten. "Neighbors are a trusted, vetted source who can explain cropping better than I can." Typically, 70 per cent of acres are covered with residue or cover crops during the non-growing season.

Ultimately, the projects led to better soil health, with improved soil aggregation, reduced nutrient loss and the soil ability to retain moisture when it needs it, and release it when it doesn't.

Funding for all of it was critical. Provincial funding, County funding via the Huron Clean Water program and funds from the Maitland Conservation Fund (MCF) were essential for farmer buy-in to create a systems approach to the problem of water quality and quantity. Van Dieten credited the MCF funds for allowing a continuity of staff to support the project. "Those funds provided a con-

Aerial photos taken in the Garvey-Glen watershed show how construction of berms and grassed waterways keep water off the fields during rainstorms which protects the soil and keeps the water clean before it ends up in Lake Huron.

sistent, long-term approach beyond the scope of two-year provincial funding," said Van Dieten.

Moreover, MVCA staff provided knowledge-transfer, the hiring and vetting of contractors, construction oversight and then monitoring and evaluation once the project is completed. They also connect farmers and provide a watershed-wide view.

The Garvey-Glen program has been so successful, it's now being used as a model for other landowner groups also banding together to create a systems approach to solving water issues. "Landowners outside the Garvey-Glen have seen this work and are adopting these practices on their own land," said Van Dieten. Tours and farm workshops are held to explain the project. Landowners and volunteers eager to participate take part in tree plantings and join the Lower Maitland Stewardship Group. The best way to make a sizable difference is to "get organized and get your local community and neighbors excited about addressing water quality and quantity issues," said Van Dieten.

"Our approach is to enable and assist landowners to complete great environmental projects," said Van Dieten. "We support what farmers want to do and what fits on their farm." □

Ben Van Dieten stands beside a drain with a grassed waterway behind him in the 4,200 acre watershed known as the Garvey-Glen while below, he checks on a Water Sediment and Control Basic (WASCOB).

Lake Wawanosh a shining example of clean water

Lake Wawanosh provides recreation and education on how to manage a healthy inland lake or pond

By Lisa Boonstoppel-Pot

Stewart Lockie helps manage Lake Wawanosh, an inland lake that offers visitors a place to fish, canoe, kayak and hike while also serving as an example of how to keep a lake healthy.

Flanked by birch trees, a new forest of pine and spruce and an old forest of maples, Lake Wawanosh near St. Helens might be one of the prettiest conservation areas within the Maitland Valley Conservation Authority (MCVA)

It's also one of the best examples of how landowners with ponds can keep their view of the water while also creating a healthy watershed and encouraging biodiversity, says Erin Gouthro, a Watershed Ecologist with MVCA.

On a tour around the lake and through the forest surrounding it, Gouthro, along with Stewart Lockie, Conservation Areas Coordinator, pointed out how the trees grow right to the water's edge. "Those trees are important to channel groundwater into the lake and as it bubbles into the lake, it provides thermal refuge for the fish living in it," explained Gouthro.

Moreover, there are areas of meadowwhere pollinator plants flourish. Semi-aquatic vegetation thrives at the water's edge and behind that, native shrubs fill the landscape leading into the wooded area. All this growth and biodiversity does not impede the view, or access to the lake for birders, canoers and kayakers and fisherman.

"Northern pike and smallmouth bass reside in the lake," said Lockie, adding that the property is well-known for its wildlife including deer, fox, turkey, beaver, songbirds, raptors, snapping turtles and a wide variety of migratory birds.

Critical to this balance between human and wildlife is the provision of infrastructure such as a maintained roadways, lanes and a parking area which makes access easy for visitors, while also protecting nature from vehicular and human trespass. Two gates were installed to prevent four-wheelers and trucks from damaging the woodlot and they have been very effective, said Lockie.

Lake Wawanosh (formerly known as McTavish Lake) is one of Huron County's few inland lakes and was acquired by MVCA in 1978. At that time, the man-made lake was surrounded by several acres of marginal agricultural land, swamps and upland forests. The goal was to protect the land from development and create a low-impact recreational area for residents.

The road, a privy and signage was installed. In 2005, 20 acres of land were planted in trees under the Forest 2020

program. In 2015, another 8-10 acres of marginal, sloped land was planted into pine and spruce trees to control soil erosion and protect water quality in the lake. Funding for this was accessed via the Trees Ontario 50 million program. Then, to add diversity to the property and to offset the MVCA's own carbon footprint, another three acres were planted.

The Maitland Conservation Foundation provided funding for phragmites control. This two-year project had been highly successful in removing this invasive reed grass.

To respect the surrounding Amish community which enjoy using the area, the John Hindmarsh Foundation funded the installation of a horse hitch at the site.

The most recent updates at Lake Wawanosh have been an upgrade of the privy and installation of an information kiosk.

The MVCA's role also includes monitoring and this means managing the lake and its surrounding forests. Gouthro says Lake Wawanosh is "really, really clean compared to other watercourses we see in the watershed." Its cleanliness can be attributed to the forest reaching right down to the water's edge. She explained that back before settlement, all waterways would have been framed by forests. While those days are past, landowners with inland lakes or ponds can enhance the beauty of their aquatic features by planting trees and shrubs instead of mowing all around the ponds. Choose the spot where you can enter and view the lake, then plant the rest, using Lake Wawanosh's meadows and semi-aquatic vegetation as an example of how it can be done. The benefits of this approach are low maintenance and increased biodiversity.

"At Lake Wawanosh, you can still see nature but not interrupt it," she said.

Gouthro also credits an investment in infrastructure at Lake Wawanosh with protecting the natural areas. "With no infrastructure, people can drive all over the place," she said.

Lockie encourages people to visit Lake Wawanosh and appreciate it. That is what it was created for. If visitors want to support the Lake by protecting its natural resources and improving infrastructure, they can donate to the MCF's Inspired by Nature campaign which helps restore floodplains, river valleys, stream buffers, streams and forests. Campaign funds also pay for projects as trails, bridges and picnic shelters to allow access to nature.

Future plans at Lake Wawanosh include expanding the trail system (currently usable but not maintained) so visitors can enter the maple forest at the east end of the lake. Largely untouched and featuring mature, healthy trees, this forest is a real gem. "These untouched forests are very rare in our area," said Lockie.

Lake Wawanosh (centre) is an inland lake surrounded by hardwood forest and a coniferous plantation (top) which prevents soil erosion from surrounding farm fields into the lake, explains Stewart Lockie (standing by trees and gate). Fundraising has allowed for installation of gates and upkeep of infrastructure to protect the walking trails and native vegetation.

Lake Wawanosh is located on Creek Line in the township of Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh.

New boardwalk and bridge improves access at Naftel's Creek Conservation Area

The boardwalk allows visitors to walk through a wetland while the bridge crosses Naftel's Creek

By Lisa Boonstoppel-Pot

Five days out of seven, Doreen and Stuart Reid of Bayfield take their dog Vita for a walk in the Naftel's Creek Conservation Area because it's their favourite place to hike.

"The fall trees are fabulous and we love the creek and bridges," said Stuart, while Vita wagged her tail.

One of the bridges over Naftel's Creek, along with a serpentine boardwalk, are new additions to this conservation authority on Highway 21, south of Goderich. With funding from the Maitland Conservation Foundation, along with money from the John Hindmarsh Environmental Trust Fund, the total costs of cedar lumber was covered. Members of the Goderich Lions club then helped build the boardwalk.

"The boardwalk helps make this a safe trail and allows the community to experience all the different environments at this property," says Stewart Lockie, Conservation Areas Coordinator with the Maitland Valley Conservation Area (MVCA) that owns and operates this park. Part of the MVCA mandate is to protect these natural areas while practicing best management practices within the conservation areas to educate others. Also, to provide natural spaces to the public for the benefit of their physical and mental health.

"While protecting the environment, we also allow compatible uses such as hiking, skiing and snowshoes," added Lockie. Bird watching, tree identification, picnicking, fishing (during open season) and dog walking are also encouraged at the park.

Naftel's Creek CA is one of the most popular MVCA sites and Lockie believes that is because of its diversity. The conservation area once belonged to area farmers including John Hindmarsh, who donated it to the MVCA. Each owner had passion and foresight to reforest the sandy property with species such as Norway spruce, White pine, White spruce, Larch and Red oaks. These oak now towered amongst the other coniferous and deciduous species adding to the diversity. There is a highland and lowland portion of the conservation area which is quite wet and why the construction of the new

Naftel's Creek is Doreen and Stuart Reid's favourite conservation area and they walk it with their dog Vita five times a week. They appreciate the beauty of the natural area including the new bridge and trail upgrade.

boardwalk was imperative.

Following the path of a former boardwalk that was installed 30 years ago, the new boardwalk allows visitors to walk through the marshy lowlands which have their own distinctive flora and fauna, bird species and amphibians. Deer abound in the property and owls and raptors are commonly reported.

The boardwalk leads to a new bridge, also constructed to replace an aging bridge. Rough-cut cedar was used instead of pressure-treated wood to respect the environment. The bridge allows visitors to cross over the river, watch the fish, or just linger and enjoy the scents and sounds of this remarkable area.

Funding is what helps to maintain the bridges, boardwalk and privies that make the conservation area user-friendly. Lockie says fundraising brings the community together and take pride in keeping their local sites and attractions in good working order. One hundred percent of the funding required for the new boardwalk and bridge were raised by the MCF and John Hindmarsh Environmental Trust Fund. Volunteer labor from the Goderich Lions Club was the icing on the cake to complete the project in 2024.

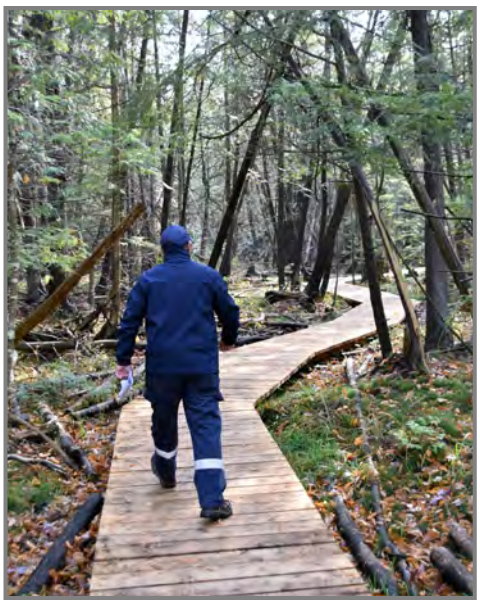
"These properties benefit the entire community and allow access so they can experience the natural environment," said Lockie. The benefits of nature and exercise are well-known and having accessible trails allows everyone to experience the diverse landscape of Naftel's Creek.

The work continues! The trails running through Naftel's Creek have other wet areas that need better materials. In 2025, the goal is to improve the front trail access with gravel as a sub-base, then adding a plastic geo-grid (to spread the weight of traffic), before covering it with gravel. This raises the height of the trail, prevents muddy and wet shoes, and protects the path and the surrounding woods from some hikers forming new trails and disturbing the understory of the forest.

Also, the MCVA is fundraising to replace the privy and make it wheelchair accessible in 2025. Funding for this goal has already been met!

Naftel's Creek is located at 79152 Bluewater Highway, Municipality of Central Huron and features mixed forest, including 60 acres of plantation, 46.53 of lowland conifers and hardwoods and 14 acres of upland hardwoods. The extensive trail system reaches all these areas including a small fishpond and Naftel's Creek which traverses the south half of the property flowing in a westerly direction. Naftel's Creek had been rated by the Ministry of Natural Resources as a Class 1 trout stream.

To the Reids and their dog Vita, it's a place for daily walks amongst the vistas and landscapes, winding paths and seasonal beauty they know they will find at Naftel's Creek.



Stewart Lockie (right), Conservation Areas Coordinator with the Maitland Valley Conservation Authority, walks the upgraded boardwalk at Naftel's Creek Conservation Authority on his way to the new bridge over the creek (middle). At bottom, members of the John Hindmarsh Environmental Trust Board pose with MVCA staff on the bridge.

Members Report #88-2024

To: Members, MVCA
From: Phil Beard, General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer
Date: December 10, 2024

Subject: First Call for Declarations for Chair, Vice & Second Vice for 2025

Purpose:

To provide an opportunity for the Members to identify any possible candidates for Chair, Vice Chair and the Second Vice Chair for 2025.

Background:

It is the conservation authority's practice to provide an opportunity for any Member to declare whether they are interested in running for Chair, Vice or Second Vice at the Annual Meeting in February.

There is no requirement for anyone to put their name forward at this time.

This report is provided for the Members information and discussion. The call for declarations will also be included in the agenda for the January 22, 2025, Members meeting.

It should be noted that the Chair and Vice Chair may only stay in their respective positions for a maximum of two years. The current Chair and Vice Chair have only served one year.

There is no maximum term for the Second Vice Chair position.

Member's Report #89/24

To: Member's, Maitland Valley Conservation Authority
From Danielle Livingston, Administrative and Financial Services Coordinator
Date: December 10, 2024

Subject Corporate Services - Accounts Paid and Received for:
November 2024

Recommendation

That the financial report be accepted as presented for the month of November 2024 ; **and that** accounts outlined in the appendix to this report be approved.

Financial Summary Report Ending	November 2024
Revenue Invoiced	$87,446.83
Accounts Paid	$310,782.75

Financial Status at Month Ending	November 2024
Bank Loans Outstanding	$0.00
Bank Balance at Month End	$1,846,253.97
Total	$1,846,253.97

Maitland Valley Conservation Authority
Accounts Receivable as of November November 30, 2024

Operating Budget Revenue			
Corporate			
Corporate Services	sale office support/rent office equipment	$	1,137.55
	Drinking Water Source Protection rent/overhead	$	230.00
	bank interest	$	6,865.42
	Huron Clean Water Project administration	$	475.75
		$	8,708.72
Source Water Protection	ABCA funding	$	1,047.88
		$	1,047.88
	Total Corporate Services	**$**	**9,756.60**
Flood Safety			
Planning/Regulations	planning application fees	$	615.00
	property advisory fees	$	90.00
	solicitor inquires	$	950.00
	CWMS/watercourse regulations	$	1,185.00
	regulation applications	$	1,335.00
		$	4,175.00
	Total Flood Safety Services	**$**	**4,175.00**
Watershed Stewardship			
Forestry	seedling planting plan fee	$	3,650.00
	seedling user fees	$	6,444.70
		$	10,094.70
	Total Watershed Stewardship Services	**$**	**10,094.70**
Conservation Areas			
FRCA	camping and park admission	$	521.64
	reimbursement of equipment services	$	556.64
	reimbursement of motor pool	$	262.35
		$	1,340.63
MDO	property revenue	$	8,023.11
		$	8,023.11
Motor Pool	revenue	$	3,941.65
		$	3,941.65
	Total Conservation Areas Operations	**$**	**13,305.39**
	Total Operating Budget Revenue	**$**	**37,331.69**

Projects Budget Revenue

Watershed Stewardship		
Middle Maitland Restoration donations	$	2,000.00
	$	2,000.00
Huron County Clean Water funding	$	48,115.14
	$	48,115.14
Total Watershed Stewardship Services	**$**	**50,115.14**
Total Operating and Project Revenues	**$**	**87,446.83**

Maitland Valley Conservation Authority
Expense Reports
As of November 30, 2024

Date	Num	Name	Amount
11/06/2024	25226	Headway Engineering	-847.50
11/06/2024	25227	John Braecker	-3,000.00
11/06/2024	25228	Adam Braecker	-3,000.00
11/06/2024	25229	Municipality of Central Huron	-5,257.41
11/06/2024	25230	Huron Centennial Parent Council	-1,518.00
11/06/2024	25231	Coleman Farms c/o John & Brandon Coleman	-1,250.00
11/06/2024	25232	Friends of Hullett	-1,366.88
11/06/2024	25233	FAB Broadcasting Corp	-254.25
11/06/2024	25234	Lake Affect Media	-734.50
11/06/2024	25235	Bell Mobility Inc. 500181172	-974.50
11/06/2024	25236	Bell Canada-properties	-499.19
11/06/2024	EFTNov24	Sun Life Financial	-6,488.21
11/06/2024	25237	Laurel Bauer	-991.57
11/06/2024	25238	Mark Penhale	-450.00
11/06/2024	01093	B.M. Ross & Associates Limited	-5,813.11
11/06/2024	01094	Conservation Ontario	-9,627.42
11/06/2024	01095	ContinulT Corp.	-3,645.41
11/06/2024	01096	F.S. Partners	-178.85
11/06/2024	01097	Karlene Zurbrigg	-894.53
11/06/2024	01098	Mathew Shetler	-50.00
11/06/2024	01099	Patrick Huber-Kidby	-67.03
11/06/2024	01100	Peter Overholt	-7,119.00
11/06/2024	01101	Sepoy Trade Solutions	-819.23
11/06/2024	01102	Sparlings Propane-Parkland Corporation	-849.37
11/06/2024	01103	T Giesbrecht Custom Service Ltd.	-452.00
11/06/2024	01104	Watson's Home Hardware	-563.03
11/06/2024	01105	Yellow Pages	-33.44
11/15/2024		Payroll	-45,885.79
11/22/2024	25239	CIBC Visa Centre	-5,084.04
11/22/2024	01106	Blyth Printing Incorporated	-67.78
11/22/2024	01107	Brandt Security	-22.60
11/22/2024	01108	Foxton Fuels Limited	-445.21
11/26/2024	01109	Beard, Phil	-136.65
11/26/2024	01110	Borrmann's Garage	-203.34
11/26/2024	01111	Eric Cox Sanitation Ltd.	-94.24
11/26/2024	01112	GRIT Engineering Inc.	-220.35
11/26/2024	01113	Halltech Aquatic Research Inc.	-10,654.77

11/26/2024	01114	Mars-Bluewater Recycling Association	-189.84
11/26/2024	01115	R. J. Burnside & Associates	-16,035.25
11/26/2024	01116	Robert's Farm Equipment	-667.32
11/26/2024	01117	Shannon Millar	-306.12
11/26/2024	01118	Waste Management of Canada Corporation	-1,577.10
11/26/2024	01119	Yellow Pages	-16.72
11/27/2024	25240	Debra Corrie	-2,666.80
11/27/2024	25241	Mark Penhale	-150.00
11/27/2024	25242	CDW Canada Corp.	-16,934.77
11/27/2024	25243	Forest City Landworks Ltd.	-14,068.50
11/27/2024	25244	Wightman Telecom Ltd.	-1,022.53
11/27/2024	25245	Buddsteel Architectural Products	-553.70
11/27/2024	25246	James Armstrong	-900.00
11/27/2024	25247	Jakejan Farms Ltd.	-6,000.00
11/27/2024	25248	Bryan Vincent	-1,000.00
11/27/2024	25249	TAS Excavating & Rentals Ltd.	-3,396.40
11/27/2024	25250	Xerox Canada Ltd.	-79.80
11/27/2024	25251	Rob McClure	-1,500.00
11/27/2024	25252	Purolator Courier Ltd.	-35.63
11/30/2024		Payroll	-42,992.29
11/30/2024	EFTNov24	Minister of Finance	-2,775.48
11/30/2024	EFTNov24	Workplace Safety & Insurance Board	-4,272.97
11/30/2024	25253	Receiver General	-36,754.35
11/30/2024	EFTNov24	OMERS	-37,327.98
			-310,782.75