



Update on CONSERVATION

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Leading the way to abundant clean water within a healthy landscape.

Clean Water Act Aims to Protect Sources of Our Water



Wherever we live, whether nestled on several acres in the woods, or in a high-rise apartment in the city, our drinking water comes from lakes, rivers, streams or underground sources. With water use increasing about twice as fast as the human population, we Ontarians are now experiencing water availability problems and boil water advisories are commonplace.

Water is vulnerable to contamination, as the tainted water supply in Walkerton, Ontario showed us, when seven people died and thousands became sick after drinking their tap water. An inquiry into the tragedy produced the Walkerton Report, which called for a coordinated, proactive approach to safeguarding our water supply 'from source to tap'.

The report made several key recommendations, one of which was to implement a multi-barrier approach to protecting drinking water. The barriers include protecting water at its source;

using adequate water treatment and distribution systems; water testing; and the training of water managers.

The provincial *Clean Water Act*, introduced this past December, commits to ensuring that every watershed in Ontario has a plan of action to protect their water resources. This will be accomplished through the creation of source protection plans developed over a period of about five years, for which the provincial government has committed \$67.5 million.

Locally, Kawartha Conservation will work with its watershed municipalities and other stakeholders to provide technical expertise; to bring stakeholders together to form the Source Protection Planning Committee; and to coordinate the development of the plan.

The Source Protection Plan will consider the amount of water flowing through our watershed, including what enters, leaves, and is stored annually, and it will identify potential threats to our watershed's sustainability.

Throughout the province studies will soon begin on municipal groundwater wellheads and surface water intakes. This will give us important information on how best to protect our municipal drinking water supplies. Private wells are not addressed in the Act so rural residents will need to continue monitoring their wells and exercising care around their wellheads to ensure that they are protecting their own drinking water supplies.

With ever increasing pressure on water quality and water quantity throughout Ontario, we all need to step up our efforts to protect our water at its very source, so we can enjoy abundant clean water today and into the future. ♡

Excerpted from Discover Nature in the Kawarthas, March 10, 2006 edition of The Daily Post.

To learn more visit:

www.kawarthaconservation.com/projects_services/source_water/

www.conservation-ontario.on.ca/source_protection/index.html

www.ene.gov.on.ca/envision/water.htm

New Website Launched

On February 1st, 2006 Kawartha Conservation launched its new website, the first upgrade since 2003. "We have incorporated many new pages and features to make the site more interesting and more functional for our watershed residents," says Lezlie Goodwin Communications Specialist. "The many forms now available online will provide faster service and in some cases, save residents a trip into our offices."

Primary links in the site include News and Events; About Us; Conservation



Areas; Projects & Services; Resources; and Contact Us.

Application forms, reports, surveys and upcoming events are all available online. Be sure to visit soon. www.kawarthaconservation.com. ♡

Current Events:

March 8

Marketing Waterfront Property course (RECO certified), Port Perry

March 22, April 26

Board of Directors Meeting, Lindsay
World Water Day

March 29

Shoreline Naturalization
Workshop, Coboconk

April 22, 23

Spring Garden Show, Port Perry

April 26

Shoreline Naturalization
Workshop, Omeme

Update is produced by Kawartha Conservation, 277 Kenrei Rd., Lindsay, ON K9V 4R1.

FAST FACT Native shoreline plants such as dogwood are hardy and virtually maintenance free, provide deep root structure to help reduce erosion, and deter geese from making your lawn 'home'.



Alex Ruth, Chair



Larry O'Connor, Vice Chair

2006 Board of Directors

Kawartha Conservation is pleased to announce that Alex Ruth of Cavan-Millbrook-North Monaghan will serve a third year as Board Chair. Larry O'Connor representing the Township of Brock will serve as Vice Chair.

2006 Directors include John Huke, Audrey Holden and Donna Villemaire of the City of Kawartha Lakes; Lynn Philip Hodgson and Blair Martyn of the Township of Scugog; Guy Scott of the Township of Galway-Cavendish & Harvey; and Don MacArthur, of the Municipality of Clarington. ♦

Scugog Township Hosts Annual Meeting

A good crowd braved difficult driving conditions to attend Kawartha Conservation's Annual Meeting on January 18th at the Scugog Municipal Building in Port Perry. This is the first time the event has been held in Scugog Township, one of Kawartha Conservation's six watershed municipalities.

Amy Terrill of the Lindsay and District Chamber of Commerce performed the Master of Ceremonies duties and welcomed representatives from neighbouring municipalities, the provincial government and Conservation Ontario.

The highlight of the evening was no doubt aerial photographer and pilot Lou Wise, who wowed the audience with photographs of the Kawartha Region watershed and his short film 'The Rivers Run Through'. ♦



The Scugog Municipal Building was the site of this year's AGM.



Lou Wise shared some spectacular aerial photographs and anecdotes of flying the Scugog area.



Enjoy the outdoors at Ken Reid Conservation Area

Are you getting tired of hibernating? Then consider visiting Ken Reid Conservation Area for a breath of fresh air and an invigorating walk in a beautiful natural setting. Bring your dog along for some exercise too, but be sure to keep them leashed to minimize the disturbance to the park's wildlife inhabitants.

Ken Reid is located on Kenrei Road, just minutes north of Lindsay, and is easily accessible from both Angeline Street and Highway 35. Admittance and parking are free. ♦

Learn more at www.kawarthaconservation.com/conservation_areas

Start planning your shoreline garden now

Spring is almost here and that means it's time to think about gardening again. If you live on the water, then this is a great way to get a jump on the season. Kawartha Conservation's Shoreline Naturalization program is once again hosting its popular evening workshops across the watershed. Come out for an evening of practical information and demonstrations. Be sure to bring questions and photos of your property too.

Workshop topics include:

- ♦ advantages of using native plants
- ♦ reducing shoreline erosion
- ♦ discouraging Canada geese
- ♦ alternatives to chemical lawn care
- ♦ guest speakers on a variety of topics

2006 Workshops

- March 29, Coboconk
- April 26, Omeme
- May 9, Caesarea
- May 17, Bobcaygeon
- May 24, Fenelon Falls

Registration is required for these no cost workshops that run from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. Contact Caroline Zawadzki at 705.328.2271 ext. 212, toll free 1.800.668.5722 ext. 212, or email czawadzki@kawarthaconservation.com.

For more information about shoreline naturalization, including a complete schedule of 2006 workshops, visit www.kawarthaconservation.com. ♦

Thank you, John Huke



Director John Huke was recently recognized for ten years of service on the Kawartha Conservation Board of Directors. Mr. Huke first sat on the Board in the 1980's, then returned in 2001, filling the role of Chair from 2001 to 2003. ♦