



CATFISH CREEK CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

WATERSHED

• NEWS AND INFORMATION •

1998 Annual Report Issue

CHAIRPERSON'S MESSAGE

The year 1998, can be looked upon as a major stepping stone toward the new millennium.

The many accomplishments and technological advancements made by the Catfish Creek Conservation Authority

during this past year provided a solid foundation on which to continue to build and deliver sound environmental programs and services to the residents and municipalities of the Catfish Creek watershed.

Exciting new initiatives in the fields of Geographical Information System (GIS) mapping, bio-engineering, stormwater management, fund raising, communications, and marketing were successfully implemented. The overwhelming support received from our community, municipal, and conservation partners helped to reinforce the need for a strong CCA to provide active and progressive environmental leadership, guidance, and expertise in the future.

A knowledgeable and dedicated Board of Directors and staff made my job as Chairperson very educational and enjoyable. My sincere thanks goes out to each and everyone of these individuals for their support.

Encouraged by the accomplishments during this past year, we at the Catfish Creek Conservation Authority look forward with optimism to the challenges of 1999.



1998 Full Authority Membership

Municipality	Member
Township of Malahide	George Cleminshaw, Chairperson
Town of Aylmer	Roger Vandierendonck, Vice-Chairperson
Municipality of Central Elgin	Dan Dale
Township of South-West Oxford	Carl McQueen
City of St. Thomas	Marie Turvey



HIGHLIGHTS OF 1998

CORPORATE SERVICES

- full computerization of accounting and financial records of the Authority
- developed policies, procedures, programs and services which ensured watershed residents and municipalities received the most value for their dollars
- ensured accountability to member municipalities, ratepayers, partners and senior levels of government
- provided training and part-time employment opportunities for 60 individuals from the local community
- joined the Elgin Middlesex Oxford Purchasing Cooperative

COMMUNITY INFORMATION/EDUCATION

- developed a Marketing Communications Strategy
- provided financial and human resources to other community partners to produce various environmental publications for Elgin County
- member of Volunteer Elgin
- active participant in the newly formed Southwestern Ontario Leave A Legacy Program
- joined the provincial Conservation Services Cooperative to access printed resource materials for distribution to landowners through the CCCA Resource Centre

FORESTRY

- 23,050 trees planted throughout the watershed to improve air and water quality and enhance wildlife habitat
- supplied and planted native trees at various Conservation Areas through the Community Forest Commemorative Program
- provided certified staff to approve Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program Plans for private landowners
- completed Management Plans for Authority owned Agreement Forests
- delivered large stock hardwoods to local municipalities for roadside planting
- provided landowners with technical expertise and a wide range of tree planting services
- implemented a Tree Marking Program for municipalities and private landowners

FLOOD FORECASTING AND WARNING

- worked with Environment Canada to install and program new water level equipment
- maintenance and operation of four water level gauges and one weather station
- channel sounding and map production to determine potential dredging sites in Port Bruce
- removed 6000 cubic yards of material from Catfish Creek in Port Bruce for flood control purposes
- pro-active Ice Monitoring Program
- operation and maintenance of the Springwater Dam
- examined more effective ways and means of dealing with ice jams in the Hamlet of Port Bruce
- updated Flood Warning and Operations Plans to incorporate changes through municipal restructuring

CONSERVATION AREAS

- upgraded the electrical services at the Springwater C.A.
- installed a new septic system at the 1885 Springwater Schoolhouse
- stabilized and rehabilitated sections of the Springwater Pond shoreline through the Community Fisheries Improvement Program
- completed trail improvements in the Springwater Forest
- provided easements to the Town of Aylmer for the installation of municipal services to improve water quality

ENVIRONMENTALLY SIGNIFICANT AREAS

PROTECTION

- 1998 Calton Swamp Operational Agreement with Aylmer District Ministry of Natural Resources
- accepted a land donation along Bradley Creek
- developed stronger partnerships with national, provincial, & local agencies in coordinating significant land protection
- identified and mapped Authority properties eligible for the Conservation Land Tax Rebate Program
- acquisition and stewardship of Provincially Significant Areas
- hosted a workshop with Nature Conservancy Canada to educate the public on the significance of Carolinian Canada

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

- worked to protect valley lands and flood plain areas by processing 13 permits under Section 28 Regulations of the Conservation Authorities Act
- provided environmental input to watershed municipalities by responding to 70 Planning Act applications or documents
- reviewed and provided comments on 9 Municipal Drain Reports
- reviewed 52 property inquiries (legal, real estate and general information)
- further developed the Authority's GIS capabilities
- improved water quality within Bradley Creek by working with Mid-Erie Developments and the Town of Aylmer to provide an effective natural stormwater management system for a new subdivision
- signed an Agreement with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans to protect and promote healthy fisheries within the watershed

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

- The CCCA is grateful for the thousands of hours of volunteer work and financial support provided by community groups and individuals in completing stream rehabilitation, co-ordinating conservation area special events, tree planting, campground and trail cleanups and fund raising. Many of our projects would not be possible without volunteers.



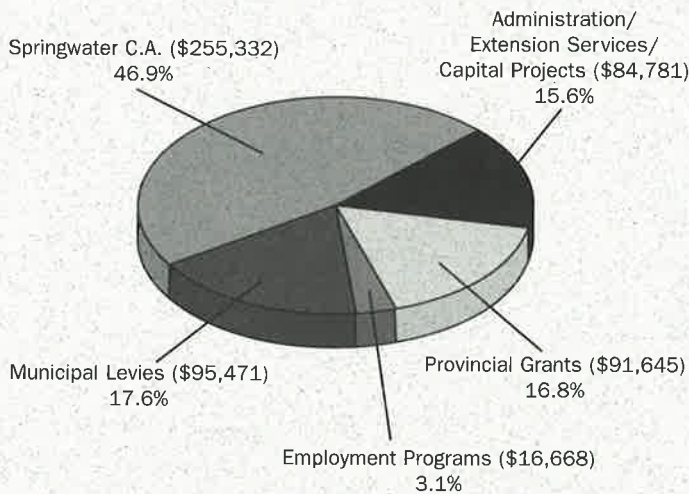
Soil Conservation

SOIL CONSERVATION

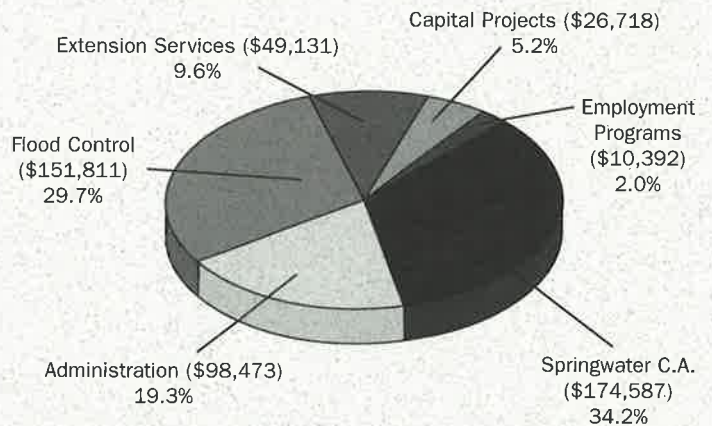
- designed and constructed two streambank stabilization projects incorporating bio-engineering techniques and native tall grass prairie plantings
- completed fisheries rehabilitation projects in the Town of Aylmer on Catfish Creek and Bradley Creek
- provided new demonstration sites for the public to view

1998 FINANCIAL REPORT

TOTAL REVENUE = \$543,897



TOTAL EXPENDITURES = \$511,112



1998 Staff

Kim Smale	General Manager
Pat Raynard	Secretary-Treasurer (until August 1998)
Susan Mann	Financial Services Coordinator (after August 1998)
Rob Lindsay	Conservation Services Coordinator
Ed Pietrzak	Conservation Areas Supervisor
Christine Depuydt	Resource Planning Coordinator

Staff Retirement

Pat Raynard officially retired as the Secretary-Treasurer of the CCCA on August 14/98 after 13 years of dedicated service. The Board of Directors, staff, friends and family wished Pat well at a potluck BBQ and roast in her honour. Pat's professionalism, off-the-wall sense of humour and optimism will be missed by everyone. Best wishes for a happy and enjoyable retirement, Pat!!

1999 UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

February 13	Aylmer Ducks Unlimited Green Wing Day
March 6-28	Springwater Maple Syrup Festival - co-sponsored by Aylmer BIA & Vandenbrinks Farm Equipment
April 24	Opening Day of Trout Season
April 26-May 24	Tim Horton's Trout Derby
June 12-13	Aylmer Beaver Lumber Family Fishing Derby
June 18-20	Van Fest
June 19-20	Hobby and Craft Show
July 18	Shriners Barbeque
July 3-4	Provincial 3-D Archery Championships
August '99	4th Annual Disc Golf Tournament
August 7	Springwater Mountain Bike Race
August 8	4th Annual Summer Knights Show & Shine
September 4	Friends of Springwater Carnival
September 4	Friends of Springwater Fireworks
December 11	Christmas Spirit Walk

For more information please contact our office at 773-9037 or 644-0438 or visit our website at www.execulink.com/~ccca



Conservation Award Winner
Friends of the Environment Foundation, Elgin County Chapter



Working Together Today For A Healthier Environment Tomorrow !

The CCCA is a non-profit organization that needs your financial support and volunteerism to ensure community driven environmental initiatives continue in the future. An official tax receipt will be issued for minimum donations of \$10.00.
Charitable Registration Number 10687 9240 RR0001

YES, I would like to show my support for the CCCA and the local community.

Please accept my donation of \$ _____
to support the following initiatives:

- Protection & Acquisition of Significant Conservation Lands
 Springwater Forest Preservation
 Conservation Education

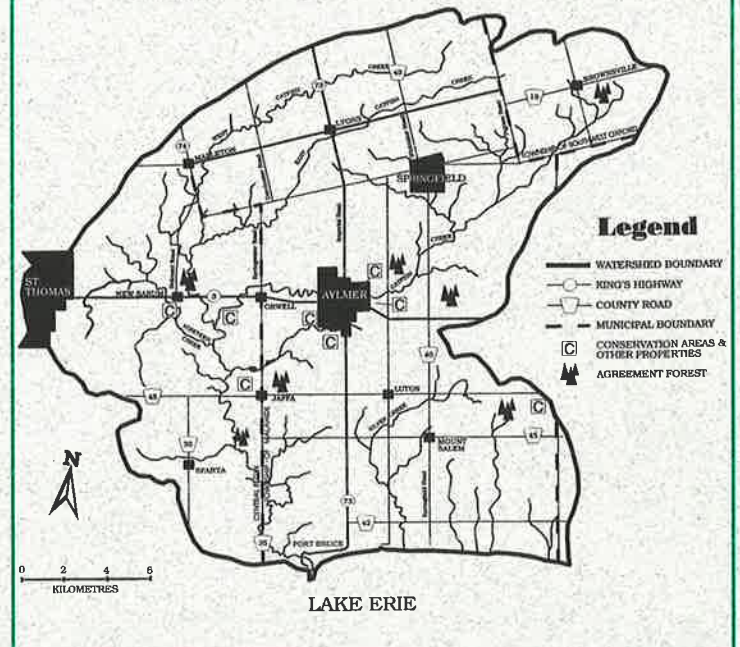
Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Please mail to: Catfish Creek Conservation Authority,
R.R. # 5, Aylmer, Ontario N5H 2R4

Catfish Creek Watershed



1998 COMMUNITY SUPPORTERS

7-2-11 Rosethorn
Alisar Aggregates Inc.
Amtelecom Inc.
Assumption Holy Rosary School
Aylmer & District Museum
Aylmer B.I.A.
Aylmer C.I.B.C.
The Aylmer Express
Aylmer Home Decor
Aylmer Manufacturing Ltd.
Aylmer McDonald's
Aylmer Tire
Aylmer ValuMart
B & M Auto
Baertsoen Manufacturing Ltd.
Beaver Lumber Aylmer
Bruce Best C.A.
Canada Trust's Friends of the Environment
Foundation — Elgin County Chapter
Davenport Public School
Donut Den
Doug Tarry Limited
Ducks Unlimited Aylmer — Green Wings
East Elgin Sportsmen's Club
East Elgin Secondary School
Elgin County Chuckers
Elgin County Outdoor Education Centre
Elgin Hiking Club

Elgin Pure Water Supply
Elgin R.V.
Elgin Stewardship Council
Ellis Farm Equipment
Family Campers & RV'ers
— Stompers & Thames Trolls
Ferguson R.V. World
Friends of Springwater
Gary's Automotive Performance Centre
George Wilson & Son Excavating
Goble's Gun & Tackle
Green Lane Environmental Group
Hamilton, Ward and Cathers
Insurance Service Ltd.
Harris Catering
Hennessey, Bowsher, Gibson & Carrie
J & F Auto
J & M Sports
Jem Services
Joe's No Frills
Johnson's Sanitation Service
K & K Locksmiths
Koolen Electric
L.S. Putnam & Son Plumbing & Electrical
Laemers Trucking Ltd.
Little Otter Tree Farm
McBain Graphics
Mister Natural Health Foods

Ontario Forestry Association
Order of Good Cheer
Parkside Secondary School
React
Ritchie Photo
Running Room (London)
St. Joseph's High School
St. Thomas Canadian Tire
St. Thomas Canadian Disc Sports Club
St. Thomas Field Naturalists
St. Thomas Times-Journal
Scouts Canada — Elgin District
Scouts Canada — London District
Smith Auto Electric
Sport-n-Truck Customizing
Springwater Mills Ltd.
Steelway Building Products
Summer Knights Car Club (Tilsonburg)
The Tree Hut (Aylmer)
Tim Horton's (Aylmer)
Tommy White's Source For Sports
Vandenbrink Farm Equipment Inc.
Williams Funeral Home Ltd.
Woolley Maintenance Service
Yarmouth Sand & Gravel Ltd.
Zehrs (St. Thomas)

The Catfish Creek Conservation Authority would like to thank the following businesses
for their support toward the printing of the 1998 Annual Report



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Leanne Arthur
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Ontario N5H 1H5
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Fax: 519-765-1524

Hennessey, Bowsher, Gibson & Carrie

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STEPHEN H. GIBSON, B.A., LL.B. - JAMES R. CARRIE, B.A., LL.B.



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