



CATFISH CREEK CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

WATERSHED

• NEWS AND INFORMATION •

2001 Annual Report Issue

CHAIRPERSON'S MESSAGE

As I complete my second and final term as Chairperson of the Board of Directors for the Catfish Creek Conservation Authority, I feel a surge of pride in the accomplishments of the staff and numerous volunteers who have worked hard to make the watershed a healthier and more beautiful place in which to live. Most particularly, it is gratifying that the CCCA has made strong efforts to connect with the communities who rely on the Authority for water and land management programs and services, the development of wildlife habitat and the environmental education of hundreds of young people who will inherit the natural wealth of the watershed and preserve it for future generations.

During my tenure, the Authority began development of the Yarmouth Natural Heritage Area, and continues to make it a total habitat where deep forest birds and animals can thrive and live protected.

The Authority has been working closely with our community partners to identify and protect threatened species of plants and animals found on the property, and improve the cold-water fishery potential in Catfish Creek.

Water issues have become a top priority since the

tragedy in Walkerton. The CCCA is currently involved in the delivery of three new provincially driven water initiatives announced in 2001. The Municipal Groundwater Studies, Provincial Groundwater Monitoring Network, and Ontario Low Water Response Programs will help produce the monitoring data which is essential for sound planning and management of our local groundwater and surface water resources.



Fisheries Enhancement - Yarmouth Natural Heritage Area

Public Meetings have been held more frequently than ever over the past few years, to provide a forum for the Authority to respond to interested and involved citizens as never before. Two of the most recent meetings concerned the Mill Creek Sub-watershed Study and the Yarmouth Natural Heritage Area Life Science Inventory Report and Management Strategy.

I leave my successor with new chal-

lenges to face, but supported by our strongest fundraising ever, and by a talented and dedicated workforce within the Authority itself. The future has never been brighter, because our vision remains clear and filled with purpose. Our second half-century of service has begun with strength and is offering great promise.

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2001



Flood Control Dredging – Port Bruce

Photo reprinted with permission of The Aylmer Express.

WATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

- continual monitoring of stream flow and watershed conditions
- maintenance and operation of four water level gauges and one weather station
- channel sounding and map production to determine potential dredging sites to reduce flooding
- removed approximately 6000 cubic yards of material from Catfish Creek in Port Bruce for flood control purposes
- Ice Monitoring and Assessment Program
- regular inspections, operation, and maintenance of the Springwater Dam
- participated in the Federal Great Lakes Water Level Emergency Response Program with local marina operators
- completed a Channel Streamlining Assessment Study for a section of Catfish Creek in Port Bruce
- implemented the Ontario Low Water Response Program locally and issued a Level 1 Situation because of the drought conditions in the watershed
- assisted with the implementation of the Provincial Groundwater Monitoring Network Project
- active partner in the Healthy Futures “Clean Water Project”
- participated in the provincially funded Municipal Groundwater Studies Project
- completed data collection for Phase IV of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans Municipal Drain Classification Project

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

- provided technical support and policy development to local municipalities and proponents by reviewing and commenting on over 91 Planning Act applications and development proposals
- received and provided comments on 36 Municipal Drain Reports and Drain Maintenance Requests
- reviewed 20 proposals including issuance of 18 permits relative to fill placement, construction or alteration to watercourses in accordance with Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act
- provided responses to over 25 property inquiries (legal, real estate, and general information requests)
- protected fish habitat and mitigated impacts to aquatic ecosystems in partnership with Fisheries and Oceans Canada
- completed the Mill Creek Subwatershed Study, including a Public Meeting in Sparta to discuss the Final Report
- arranged a Public Open House to review the Life Science Inventory completed for the Yarmouth Natural Heritage Area

EXTENSION SERVICES

(Tree Planting/Woodlot Management/Soil Conservation)

- 19,000 trees planted throughout the watershed
- supplied and planted native trees at various Conservation Areas through the Community Forest Program

- provided certified staff to approve Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program Plans for private landowners
- delivered large stock hardwoods to municipalities for roadside planting
- managed a 15 acre White Pine plantation for Imperial Tobacco Leaf Inc.
- assisted with several erosion control and fisheries rehabilitation projects on private and municipal owned lands
- received approval from Ontario Power Generation to plant 75,000 seedlings over the next three years
- contracted by local municipalities to carry out vegetation and erosion control measures along municipal roadsides and drains

CCCA OWNED LANDS

- assisted the National Wild Turkey Federation's Elgin Chapter with the release of 14 wild turkeys from Tennessee
- completed upgrades to the electrical services and began improvements to the entrance at the Springwater C.A.
- provided support to the Aylmer Kinsmen Club during the planning and installation of a new footbridge at the Ivan Steen Conservation Area
- erected signage and access gates at the Hawkins Property
- worked in partnership with the Aylmer Kinsmen Club and the Ontario Trillium Foundation to restore the North Shore Trail in the Springwater Forest
- constructed two major fisheries enhancement projects at Springwater and the Yarmouth Natural Heritage Area
- completed an inventory of the Small Whorled Pogonia
- finalized construction of the Waterlily Trail



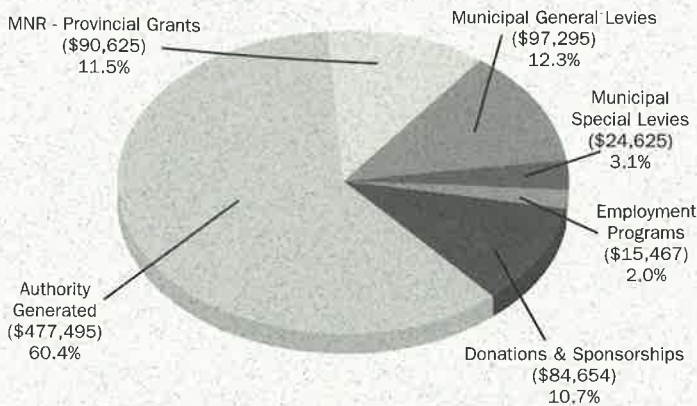
North Shore Trail – Springwater Forest

COMMUNITY INFORMATION/EDUCATION

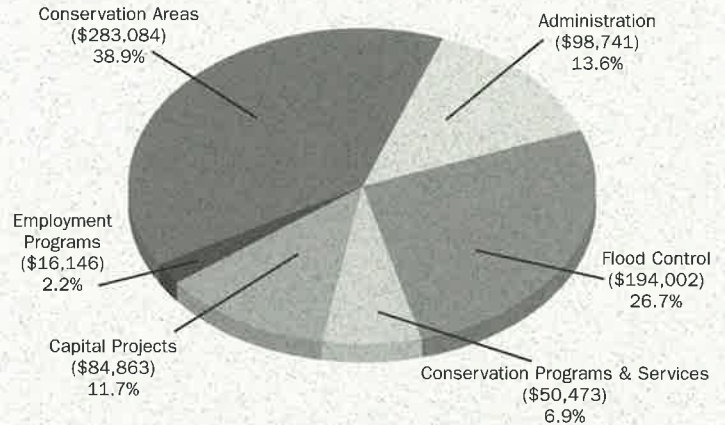
- member of the Southwestern Ontario Leave A Legacy Program and Volunteer Elgin
- hosted the annual tree-tapping ceremony of the Southwestern Ontario Maple Syrup Producers Association
- accepted 200 limited edition prints of White's Pond from Steelway Building Systems for fundraising purposes
- provided Environmental Education Programs to approx. 3,500 students
- worked extensively with the Environmental Leadership Program at East Elgin Secondary School
- sponsored eight students through the Cooperative Education Work Placements from the Thames Valley District and London District Catholic School Boards
- provided summer employment opportunities for ten students
- employed and trained six individuals through the Job Creation Partnership Program
- supported the Ontario Works Community Participation Program

2001 FINANCIAL REPORT

2001 Revenue = \$790,161



2001 Expenditures = \$727,309



2001 FULL AUTHORITY MEMBERSHIP

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

2001 Staff

Kim Smale	General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer
Susan Mann	Financial Services Coordinator
Ed Pietrzak	Conservation Areas Supervisor
Tony Difazio	Resource Planning Coordinator
Ryan Smith	Water Management Technician
Loretta Luksys-Vinnai	Administrative Assistant
Tricia Sanders	Historical Archives Technician
Heather MacKenzie	Land Use Inventory Technician
Barry Martin	Operations Assistant
Ric Wellwood	Fundraising/Communications
Patricia Greer	Data Entry Technician
Rick Nevill	Natural Areas Enhancement Technician
Jill Mandigo	Environmental Education Assistant

CONSERVATION AWARD WINNER



Conservation Award Winner – Joan and Gary Austin

Photo reprinted with permission of The Aylmer Express.



CONSERVATION ONTARIO

The Catfish Creek Conservation Authority is one of 38 Conservation Authorities under the umbrella of Conservation Ontario.

Conservation Authorities, created in 1946 by an Act of the Provincial Legislature, are mandated to ensure the conservation, restoration and responsible management of Ontario's water, land and natural habitats through programs that balance human, environmental and economic needs.

2002 UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

March 2-24	Springwater Maple Syrup Festival
May 1-31	Tim Horton's Trout Derby
June 14-16	Van Fest
June 21-23	Women in the Outdoors
July 5-7	Ontario Family Fishing Weekend
July 7	3rd Annual Springwater Rod & Street Show
August 10-11	Home Building Centre Family Fishing Derby
August 12	7th Annual Disc Golf Tournament
August 16-18	Eaglesmith Folk Festival
August 31	Friends of Springwater Carnival / Fireworks
December 7	Christmas Spirit Walk

For more information contact our office at (519) 773-9037 or visit our website at www.execulink.com/~ccca



Seated (left to right): Carl McQueen, Danial Dale, Roger Vandierendonck, Marie Turvey, George Cleminshaw
Standing (left to right): Tony Difazio, Patricia Greer, Ed Pietrzak, Rick Nevill, Ryan Smith, Kim Smale, Barry Martin, Tricia Sanders, Susan Mann, Loretta Luksys-Vinnai
Absent: Heather MacKenzie, Jill Mandigo, Ric Wellwood

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. (Tax receipts will be issued for minimum donations of \$10.00.)

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

Please accept my donation of \$_____ in support of the following initiative(s):

- Protection of Environmentally Significant Lands Conservation Education
 Springwater Forest Preservation and Management Community Forest Program

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Address: _____

Please mail to: Catfish Creek Conservation Authority,
 8079 Springwater Road, RR#5, Aylmer, Ontario N5H 2R4



White's Pond Limited Edition Print Presentation
 (left to right) Glen White, Chairperson
 Vandierendonck, Artist Peter Robson

**White's Pond Limited Edition Prints and
 Fifty Year History Books available for purchase
 at the Conservation Authority.**

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