



MISSION STATEMENT

"To communicate and deliver resource management services and programs in order to achieve social and ecological harmony for the watershed"



WATERSHED

• NEWS AND INFORMATION •

2002 Annual Report Issue

CHAIRPERSON'S MESSAGE



The year 2002 has been one of unprecedented growth in the overall operation of the Catfish Creek Conservation Authority. It was a year where we, as a Board and staff, undertook a strategic planning exercise to ensure the Authority is fulfilling its mission in the most appropriate and cost effective way possible.

The CCCA provided many hours of environmental learning opportunities for numerous students through Co-Operative Education placements and the East Elgin Secondary School Environmental Leadership Program, as well as YMCA Summer Day Camps. The North Erie Forest Connections Project, funded by Ontario Power Generation, will see a total of 75,000 trees planted in our watershed over the life of the project. The Springwater Forest North Shore Trail Improvements were completed through a joint partnership between the Kinsmen Club of Aylmer, the CCCA, and the Ontario Trillium Foundation. The involvement of the Authority in projects such as the Middlesex-Elgin Groundwater Study and Low Water Response Program will continue to provide the necessary information and guidance needed as the watershed community deals with various water and health related issues. The Catfish/Big Otter Irrigation Options Project, a rural water conservation initiative through Healthy Futures is another example of cooperation between stewardship agencies. This two year, \$570,000 project is being implemented through a partnership between the Catfish Creek and Long Point Region Conservation Authorities, the Ministry of Agriculture and Food, and the Elgin and Oxford Federations of Agriculture.

Municipal partners, through their representatives on the Board, offer not only financial support, but they continue to

develop a greater awareness and appreciation of the leadership and valuable environmental role that the Conservation Authority plays within the local community and watershed planning processes.

There are many other new and exciting things happening within the Catfish Creek Conservation Authority, but unfortunately, there is not enough time to touch on all of them. Suffice it to say, as indicated in my earlier comments, the Conservation Authority staff and the Board are very excited about the future, and the possibilities which lie just around the corner.

Thank you to all our partners for your continued support of the Catfish Creek Conservation Authority, and please accept this as my personal invitation to each and everyone, to come and visit some of Ontario's most restful and beautiful areas. Please enjoy our hospitality, and take home a host of good memories. I promise your first visit won't be your last.

Danial R. Dale,
CCCA Chairperson



Springwater Forest

CATFISH CREEK CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

8079 Springwater Road, RR#5 Aylmer, Ontario N5H 2R4

Tel: (519) 773-9037 Fax: (519) 765-1489 Email: ccca@execulink.com Website: www.execulink.com/~ccca

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



Community Stewardship Recognition

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WATER MANAGEMENT

- continual monitoring of stream flow and watershed conditions
- maintenance and operation of four water level gauges and one weather station
- excavated approximately 3,500 cubic yards of material from Catfish Creek in Port Bruce for flood control purposes based on channel sounding and bathymetric mapping data
- creek and lake ice monitoring and assessment to determine the potential for flooding caused by ice jams
- regular inspections, operation, and maintenance of the Springwater Dam
- Chaired the Catfish Creek Low Water Response Team. Issued a Level II Situation because of the drought conditions in the watershed
- endorsed an agreement with the Ministry of the Environment to implement the Provincial Groundwater Monitoring Network Project
- active partner with 19 other organizations in the Healthy Futures "Clean Water Project"
- participated on the Steering Committee for the Middlesex-Elgin Municipal Groundwater Studies Project
- completed the tagging, segmenting, and preliminary mapping for the Municipal Drain Classification Project
- worked in partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture and Food, Elgin and Oxford Federations of Agriculture, and the Long Point Region Conservation Authority to deliver the \$570,000 Big Otter/Catfish Creek Irrigation Options Project

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

- provided technical support and policy development to local municipalities and proponents by reviewing and commenting on over 47 Planning Act applications and development proposals
- received and provided comments on 20 Municipal Drain Reports and Drain Maintenance requests
- issued 17 permits relative to fill placement, construction or alteration to watercourses in accordance with Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act
- provided responses to over 17 property inquiries (legal, real estate, and general information requests)
- signed a Level II Review Agreement with Fisheries and Oceans Canada to protect fish habitat and mitigate impacts to aquatic ecosystems
- continued to work on enhancing the Authority's GIS mapping capabilities and database

EXTENSION SERVICES

(Reforestation/Woodlot Management/Soil Conservation)

- 45,000 trees planted throughout the watershed in 2002
- provided certified staff to approve Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program Plans for private landowners
- delivered large stock hardwoods to local municipalities for roadside tree planting

- managed a 15 acre White Pine plantation for Imperial Tobacco Leaf Inc.
- assisted with several erosion control and fisheries rehabilitation projects on private lands
- contracted by local municipalities to carry out vegetation and erosion control measures along municipal roadsides and drains
- completed Phase 1 of the three year, \$112,500 North Erie Forest Connections Project funded through Ontario Power Generation's Carbon Sequestration/Biodiversity Management Program

CCCA OWNED LANDS

- finalized the Life Science Inventory and Management Plan for the Yarmouth Natural Heritage Area
- officially opened the Springwater Forest North Shore Trail
- completed plantation management activities at the Bromley Tract in conjunction with the East Elgin Secondary School Environmental Leadership Program students
- constructed a new interpretive boardwalk at the Springwater Conservation Area to view the Mill Pond wetland
- initiated several fisheries rehabilitation and invasive species management projects through the Ministry of Natural Resources Community Fisheries and Wildlife Involvement Program (CFWIP)
- completed the Small Whorled Pogonia Status Report and initiated a Recovery Plan for this Nationally Endangered Plant
- provided recreational opportunities on CA owned lands for over 50,000 visitors
- planted a variety of native trees at the various Conservation Areas through the Community Forest Program



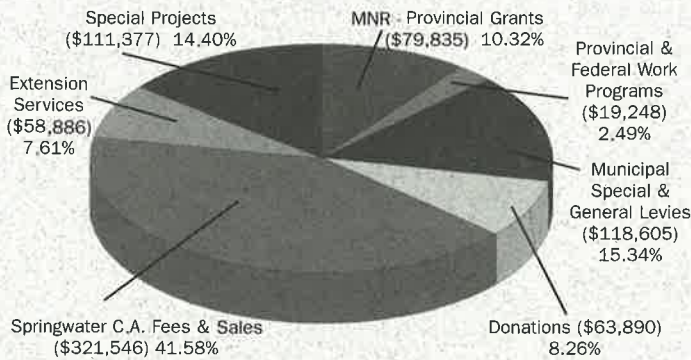
Environmental Education

COMMUNITY INFORMATION/EDUCATION

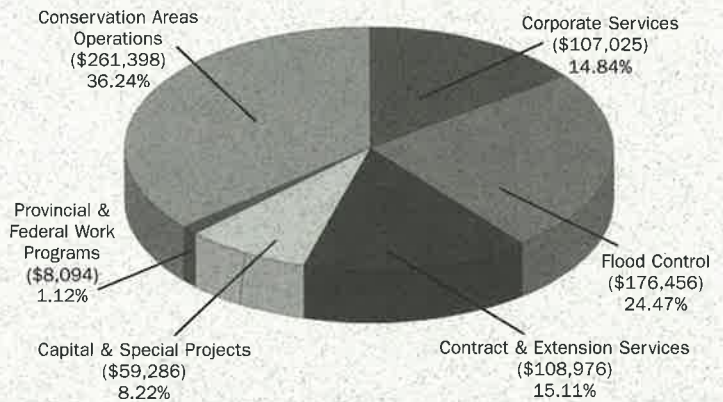
- arranged for the dedication of a special Carolinian Canada bronze heritage plaque in recognition of the 575 acre privately owned Catfish Creek Slope and Floodplain Forest Site
- revised the CCCA's long-term operating objectives and strategy statements
- participated in the World Youth Days activities in Elgin County
- partnered with the United Way to provide volunteers a work placement for the June 1st Day of Caring
- completed the CCCA Historical Archives Project
- co-hosted the annual provincial Women In The Outdoors initiative in partnership with the National Wild Turkey Federation - Elgin Chapter
- provided Environmental Education Programs to approximately 3,500 students
- endorsed the 16 principles of the Earth Charter
- participated in the 3rd Annual Waterfowl Weekend hosted by the East Elgin Secondary School Environmental Leadership Program
- selected by the Elgin District Scouts as one of the recipients of the Special Friends of Scouting Award
- prepared an Environmental Education and Activity Guidebook for students ranging from elementary school to the university level, as well as for scout, guide, and adult groups
- provided Cooperative Education Work Placements for secondary school students in the Thames Valley District

2002 FINANCIAL REPORT

Total Revenue = \$773,387



Total Expenditures = \$721,235



2002 BOARD OF DIRECTORS & STAFF

Board Member

Danial Dale
(Chairperson)
George Cleminshaw
(Vice-Chairperson)
Carl McQueen
Marie Turvey
Roger Vandierendonck

Municipality

Municipality of Central Elgin
Township of Malahide
Township of South-West Oxford
City of St. Thomas
Town of Aylmer

Staff Member

Kim Smale
Susan Mann
Ed Pietrzak
Tony Difazio
Ryan Smith
Loretta Luksys-Vinnai
Barry Martin
Alison Munroe
Ric Wellwood
Tricia Sanders
Patricia Greer
Rick Nevill

Position

General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer
Financial Services Coordinator
Conservation Areas Supervisor
Resource Planning Coordinator
Water Management Technician
Administrative Assistant
Operations Assistant
Irrigation Options Project Coordinator
Fundraising/Communications
Historical Archives Technician (to April)
Data Entry Technician (to July)
Natural Areas Enhancement Technician (to July)
Environmental Education Assistant (to Aug)

Jill Mandigo

SPECIAL EVENTS



Historical Reenactment

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2003 EVENTS CALENDAR

March 8-30	Maple Syrup Festival
April 26-May 31	Tim Horton's Trout Derby
June 14	Van Fest
July 4-6	Family Fishing Weekend
July 6	Rod & Street Show
August 9-10	Family Fishing Derby
August 15-17	Fred Eaglesmith Music Festival
August 30	Friends of Springwater Carnival & Fireworks
December 6	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: Alison Munroe, 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.

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):

An official tax receipt will be issued for minimum donations of \$10.00.

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

Commemorative gifts and land donations graciously received.

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Address: _____

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

CONSERVATION AWARD WINNER



**The National Wild Turkey Federation -
Elgin Wild Turkey Chapter**

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2002 PARTNERS / DONORS / VOLUNTEERS

Anything Used
Aylmer & District Museum
Aylmer Area Community Foundation
Aylmer Tire
Barrow Jamboree
Broken Wheel Trail Riders
Button, Chris & Nancy
Calvar, Yves & Bev
Carolinian Canada
Central Elgin Collegiate Institute
City of St. Thomas
Conservation Ontario
County of Elgin
Ducks Unlimited Canada
East Elgin Secondary School
East Elgin Sportsman's Club
Elgin Federation of Agriculture
Elgin Hiking Trail Club
Elgin Stewardship Council
Elgin-St. Thomas United Way
Environment Canada
Environmental Leadership Program
Family Campers & RV'ers
Fisheries & Oceans Canada
Friends of Springwater
Friends of the Environment Foundation-
Elgin County Chapter
George Lunan Foundation
Greenlane Community Fund
H. Secord Home Hardware

Hamilton, Ward & Cathers Insurance
Hennessey, Bowsher, Gibson & Carrie
Hill, Thomas & Cheryl
Hodder, Chris
Huckleberry's Family Restaurant
Human Resources Development Canada
Imperial Tobacco Leaf Inc.
Jaffa Environmental Education Center
Kettle Creek C.A.
Kinsmen Club of Aylmer
Koolen Electric
Kyle, Susan
Laemers Trucking Ltd.
Long Point Region C.A.
McLean Foundation
McMaster, Evelyn & James
Ministry of Agriculture & Food
Ministry of the Environment
Ministry of Natural Resources
Municipality of Central Elgin
National Wild Turkey Federation-
Elgin Chapter
Ontario Power Generation
Ontario Trillium Foundation
Ontario Works, St. Thomas-Elgin
Order of Good Cheer
Oxford Federation of Agriculture
Oxford Stewardship Council
Parkside Collegiate Institute
Pressey, Lela & Phineas

Presstran Industries
Riggs Engineering Ltd.
Rush Creek Wines
Salamander Foundation
Scouts Canada, Elgin District
Shell Canada Limited
Sheppard, Robert
Silcox, Helen
Silverthorn Landscape
Sinclair, Dr. Duncan
Springwater Forest Supporters
St. Joseph's High School
St. Thomas Field Naturalists
Steelway Building Systems
Stewart, Eileene
Tenhoor, Henry
Thames Valley District School Board
The Aylmer Express
Tim Hortons (Aylmer)
Town of Aylmer
Township of Malahide
Township of South-West Oxford
Upper Thames River C.A.
V.O.N. Middlesex-Elgin
Van Pelt's Stationary
Vandenbrink Farm Equipment Inc.
Volunteer Elgin
Walter J. Blackburn Foundation
White, Jim

Thanks to the following businesses for their support toward the printing of the 2002 Annual Report

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DESIGN
FINE PRINTING
BINDERY

390 Talbot St. E.,
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