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Links of Interest

Evergreen

Evergreen brings nature to our cities through naturalization projects and motivates people to create and sustain healthy, natural outdoor spaces and gives them the practical tools to be successful. Information on naturalization of schools, community projects, fund raising and other environmental issues such as roof top gardening.

NatureServe Canada

NatureServe Canada provides scientific information about Canada's species and ecosystems to help guide effective conservation action and natural resource management. A part of the international [NatureServe network](#), it is a leading source for reliable information and analysis on the distribution and conservation status of Canada's plants, animals, and ecological communities. NatureServe Canada works in close partnership with key federal and provincial agencies as well as international and multi-lateral initiatives concerned with environmental protection.

One Shot River RAP video now playing

The St. Clair Region Conservation Authority (SCRCA) Education Program staff can now add music videos to their repertoire. They spent the summer of 2009 working with a production team to produce a RAP music video highlighting what kids can do to protect the river. The video is part of a new educational program developed in conjunction with the Friends of the St. Clair River (FOSCR) that teaches youth about the St. Clair River Remedial Action Plan.

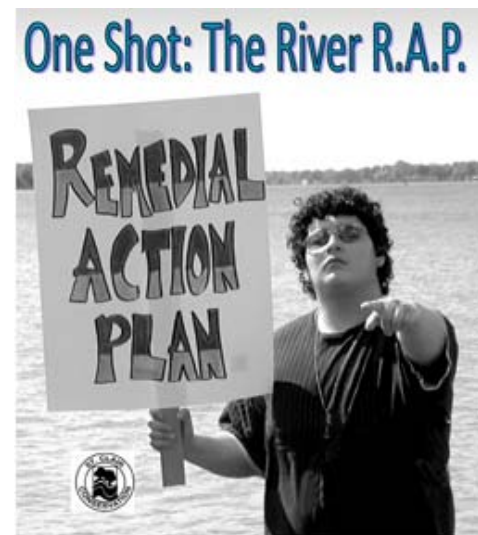
"The goal of Remedial Action Plan is to restore and protect beneficial uses in the in the St. Clair River Area of Concern and the new video shares that message in a unique way geared for youth," said Jan Dawes who directed the production.

The production included children from Sarnia to Florence. The main sites used along the river were Centennial Park, Guthrie Park, Willow Park, and Branton Cundick Park. Background shots highlighted some of the impairments to the water and some of the positive projects underway.

Wreckless Crew Productions of London produced the video under Jan's direction with support from Kim Gledhill, education officer with the SCRCA. The video is now available on DVD for use in schools and at public events. Even better, you can check it out on YouTube by clicking the link below.

[View Video](#)

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New St. Clair River RAP Coordinator to start February 1st

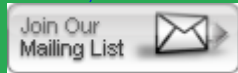
Wildlife Habitat Council

The Wildlife Habitat Council (WHC) is a nonprofit, non-lobbying 501(c)(3) group of corporations, conservation organizations, and individuals dedicated to protecting and enhancing wildlife habitat. Created in 1988, WHC helps large landowners, particularly corporations, manage their unused lands in an ecologically sensitive manner for the benefit of wildlife.

Contact Us

We love to receive your feedback and comments, drop us a line if there is a topic you would like to see covered in a future issue of this e-newsletter.

Claude Lafrance, St. Clair RAP Coordinator
Ken Hall, FOSCR Webmaster



Join the St. Clair River BPAC mailing list to stay up-to-date about St. Clair River RAP news and events.

To remove your name from our distribution list please respond to [FOSCR Webmaster](#).

Please Help FOSCR delist the river

Friends of the St. Clair River is a registered Canadian charitable organization. Your financial support for our programs will help FOSCR progress towards delisting the St. Clair River as an Area of Concern in the Great Lakes. Contributions can be sent to:

Mr. Terry Burrell
Friends of the St Clair River
514 Christina Street North
Sarnia, ON N7T 5W4

All donations will receive a tax receipt. Call Terry at 519-336-5545 for more information.

The St. Clair Region Conservation Authority is pleased to announce that Claude Lafrance will be assuming the full-time position of St. Clair River Remedial Action Plan Coordinator effective February 1, 2010.

Claude's experience and senior level involvement in program delivery, research, environmental monitoring, stakeholder involvement and communications strategies will provide a sound foundation to move forward and complete the delisting of the St. Clair River as an Area of Concern.

With more than 30 years experience with the provincial government, Claude has earned a reputation as an effective leader and a well respected team player. For the past eight years, he has been managing the Southwest Ontario Regional Technical Support Section of the Ministry of the Environment, which includes the St. Clair River Area of Concern.

Claude has been involved with numerous local environmental initiatives involving extensive stakeholder interaction including consultation for the Lake Simcoe Environmental Management Strategy and management of the Wheatly Harbour AOC.

Claude will be working out of the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority office and be under the direction of a team made up of Environment Canada, the MOE and the SCRCA. You can reach Claude at clafrance@scrca.on.ca.

Please join Friends of the St. Clair River in welcoming Claude to the St. Clair River AOC RAP Team.

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FOSCR seeks funding for Sarnia Point lands project

Friends of the St. Clair River has applied for a \$10,000 grant from the Sarnia-Lambton Business Development Corporation (SLBDC) to undertake an environmental restoration/public education project on the Sarnia Point lands, the last undeveloped piece of property on the Sarnia waterfront.

The funds will be used to enhance public awareness regarding the significance of the site as a sanctuary for wildlife and flora in the urban City landscape.

FOSCR plans to erect a series of educational signs along the existing public trail that explain the value of the ecosystem at the site and conduct organized public walks to promote awareness of the RAP program objectives.

Project partners include the Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Lambton Wildlife Inc., the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority, Sarnia Urban Wildlife, Sarnia Young Naturalists, Sarnia Bay Marina and the City of Sarnia.

“Enhancement of the Point land property will encourage increased use of the area by



residents of and visitors to the Sarnia community and surrounding area,” said FOSCR Director Ken Hall. “The Centennial Park waterfront is already a popular destination for many and this new attraction will draw more people to the downtown waterfront with positive economic spin-off for downtown businesses.”

Project partners have committed to delivery of educational programs at the site such as Young Naturalist’s learning excursions, geo-caching tours by SCRCA and organized “evening nature walks” managed by Sarnia Urban Wildlife. Scheduling of some events would compliment riverfront activities on Canada Day and during Bayfest weekend when several thousand people converge on the waterfront.

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Wetland restoration work underway at Mallard Club property

This project is a renewal of the former Mallard Club Ducks Unlimited project which has been drained and farmed for a number of years. The new owners have contacted Stewardship Kent and funding (\$15,000) was obtained with \$5,000 provided by Friends of the St. Clair River.

This 13 acre project site, located at the southernmost tip of the St. Clair River AOC, aligns with existing coastal marshes along the east shore of Lake St Clair and will add to the staging habitat available for mallards, wood ducks, and other dabblers.

The property already has a pumping scheme in place so the project requires only having the dyke replaced in one section and repaired in another section. Some excavation will take place to sculpt more diversity into the bottom of the cell.



Project Partners include Stewardship Kent, Gerald Lozon and family, Species at Risk program, Great Lakes Sustainability Fund (Environment Canada) and Friends of the St Clair River.

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St. Clair River Sediment Study

- public presentation now online for viewing

If you missed the Open House held in November where representatives from Environment Canada were on hand to discuss the findings of the sediment study conducted by ENVIRON Consulting Inc., then you can view the presentation from the comfort of your desk by clicking on the link below.

[Click here to view](#)

FOSCR Board of Directors for 2010



Friends of the St. Clair River held their annual general meeting on November 26th, 2009 where the members selected their executive for 2010. The Board membership consists of:

Darrell Randell, President
Terry Burrell, Treasurer

Bela Trebics, Vice President
Ken Hall, Secretary

2010 Directors are: Brenda Lorenz, Kim Gledhill, Deb Trebics, Archie Kerr, Clint Jacobs, Modris Zandsberg. New Directors for 2010 are Kris Lee and Sheldon Parsons. FOSCR welcomes them to our group and we look forward to their input and participation.

Retiring Directors Stewart Thornley and Theresa Warren will be missed. The Board would like to extend our thanks to both for their enthusiasm and support for FOSCR programs and activities over the years.

<http://www.friendsofstclair.ca/>

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BPAC is a community-based partnership including governments, industry, first nations, academia, as well as environmental organizations and private citizens that work collectively in helping to improve the health of the St. Clair River. Our key goal is to implement the Canadian Remedial Action Plan (RAP) in order to restore the beneficial uses and remove the River from the list of Great Lakes Areas of Concern.

This E-Newsletter is produced thanks to funding from the Ontario Ministry of the Environment