



Duchene '76



Emerald Ash Borer Adult



Larvae form tunnels as they feed on sapwood.



Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority

is a member of

Conservation Ontario

www.conservation-ontario.on.ca



Lower Thames Beacon

Conservation news of the lower Thames valley watershed and region.

Produced by the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority.

July-December
2003
Vol. 4 No. 2

LTVCA
42 Years
of Conservation
Established
Feb. 2, 1961

Emerald Ash Borer in Essex County and Taking a Foothold in Chatham-Kent

The Emerald Ash Borer has gained a foothold in the Municipality of Chatham-Kent and currently all of **Essex County** is under quarantine status! **The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA)** is now considering an ash-free or firebreak zone in the western portion of Chatham-Kent, stretching from Lake St. Clair to Lake Erie. This will entail "the removal and destruction of **all** ash trees in this zone", as it is known that ash trees as small as 1 inch in diameter can be infested with the Emerald Ash Borer. (see map page 2)

"The *Emerald Ash Borer Infested Places Order*, 2003 restricts the movement from Essex County of any regulated articles, including nursery stock, trees, logs, lumber and wood with bark attached, wood chips or bark chips from ash trees (*Fraxinus* species) as well as firewood of all tree species". No ash tree materials or firewood from any species within the infested area can be transported out of the quarantine zone. Residents of Essex and Chatham-Kent are urged to comply with this requirement to ensure that this destructive invasive species does not continue to spread into Ontario, further jeopardizing Canada's lumber industry. Human transportation of the insect in firewood and ash tree materials is seen as the biggest threat to the spread of this species.

In a recent press release by the CFIA, they "will be contracting professional tree removal companies and cutting is expected to begin in" January. The CFIA will be "assuming the responsibility for the cost of removal and destruction of ash trees from the" firebreak zone. The CFIA will be notifying all affected property owners of the cut in the designated ash-free zone. For more information regarding the Emerald Ash Borer, please contact the CFIA at Windsor - 1-519-250-6546 or Canada - 1-800-442-2342 Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, or visit their web site at www.inspection.gc.ca. Pictures from Canadian Food Inspection Agency.

Healthy Futures in Chatham-Kent Program Ends December 2003

The Healthy Futures in Chatham-Kent project will draw to a close this December after a very successful 18 months. Over 480 projects were approved by the Steering Committee. The program provided grants to landowners who wished to undertake projects in 12 different areas to benefit the Chatham-Kent area's agri-food sector, and progressively improve its ground and surface water quality. The program proved to be a good example of the what cooperation between many environmental groups and agencies can achieve. Many hope that the province will use a similar framework in the future to bring about further good environmental works in the water quality area.

The Healthy Futures in Chatham-Kent program coordinator, **Randy Nauta**, wishes to thank all parties involved that made the program such a success: all project applicants; the current and past Steering Committee members who made sure that each project was carried out according to the spirit of the program; and all the sponsoring agencies: the **Municipality of Chatham-Kent, OMAF, Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority, Stewardship Kent & Human Resources Development Canada.**

Orientation Will be Held For LTVCA Directors in New Year

As a result of the Municipal Elections on November 10, 2003, many new members will be welcomed to the LTVCA Board of Directors in 2004. An orientation will be held in the early part of the new year, to familiarize our membership with the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority's programs and services.

Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority Board of Directors 2003 and Municipal Partners

Chair: Ken Brooks - City of London

Vice-chair: John Beharrell - Twp. of Southwold

Brian King - Municipality of Chatham-Kent

Will Parney - Municipality of Chatham-Kent

Neil Seney - Municipality of Chatham-Kent

John Yokom - Municipality of Dutton/Dunwich

Jack Morris - Town of Lakeshore

Bill Derbyshire - Town of Leamington

Nicholas Isyumov - Township of Middlesex Centre

Allan Mayhew - Municipality of Southwest Middlesex

Joe Reily - Township of Strathroy-Caradoc

Duncan McPhail - Municipality of West Elgin

The LTVCA has 10 member municipalities and 12 Directors. One Director represents each municipality except for Chatham - Kent (3). Directors are appointed for a maximum 3 year term and can be reappointed. Meetings of the Board of Directors are generally held on the last Thursday of every other month commencing in February. As appointed representatives, Directors are charged with the responsibility of establishing policies and making policy decisions which will govern the operation of the Conservation Authority. LTVCA staff are responsible for implementing those policies.

Lower Thames Beacon

This newsletter is published several times a year. If you have comments and suggestions for upcoming issues, please send them along! See the back page for ways to contact us.

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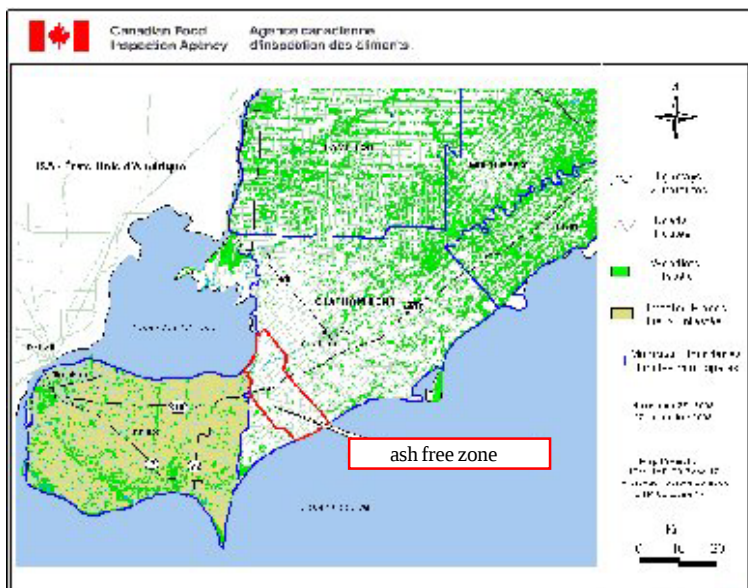
2004 Tree Planting Program

The species availability list and the order form sheets for the spring 2004 tree planting season are now available to be picked up or mailed out to residents within the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority's watershed. New species have been added to the list to enhance the Carolinian flavour of the area, such as White Birch, Shagbark Hickory, and Redbud. One significant species, the Ash, has been removed from the availability list.

It has been regretfully decided that the LTVCA will not be offering any Ash trees (*Fraxinus* species) for sale to the public this year, due to the infestation of the Emerald Ash Borer in the Conservation Authority's western jurisdiction in Essex County and the western edge of the Municipality of Chatham-Kent. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause to the rest of the watershed, but it is known that ash trees as small as 1 inch in diameter can be infested with the Emerald Ash Borer. *(Please refer to the Emerald Ash Borer article for more information on this invasive insect).*

Sinclair's Bush

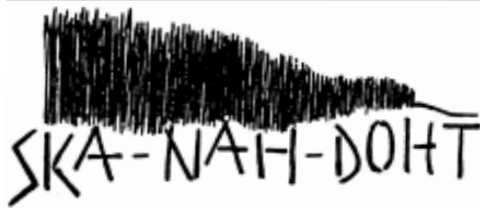
Emerald Ash Borer in Essex County and Foothold in Chatham-Kent
(continued from front page)



In the late summer the LTVCA completed water sampling for the Provincial Groundwater Monitoring Program. Nine of the eleven wells that are in the program were sampled. For the first round of water sampling, the **Ministry of Environment and Energy** (MOEE) chose to test for numerous items including pesticides, volatile organics, metals, phenols and other variables. The sampling next year will be limited to more general chemistry components. Results of the testing have not been received, as the lab work for pesticides is quite slow.



•The **London Community Foundation** donated \$3000 to cover the costs of the stand for the main plaque which was officially installed at the Forks in London, November 20, 2003. •The Fall Issue of the Thames River Happenings newsletter can be viewed at www.lowerthames-conservation.on.ca and click on The Thames River-A Canadian Heritage River. •**Dr.Doug Boeking** has stepped down as Chair of the *Thames Canadian Heritage River Committee*. **Gerry Killan** has agreed to stand as the new Chair. •Next meeting is scheduled for January 12 at 8:30 a.m. at King's College in London.



IROQUOIAN VILLAGE & MUSEUM

www.lowerthames-conservation.on.ca

Advisory Committee 2003

•Chair Don Fairbairn •Vice-Chair Ron Watts
LTVCA Appointed

•Ken Brooks •John Beharrell •Joe Reilly •Allan Mayhew
•John Yokom •Jerry Campbell
Community Members
•Glenn Stott •Andy Chisholm

Longwoods Road Conservation Area

Information (519)264-2420 (6.5 km west of Delaware on Middlesex County Rd. 2 at 8348 Longwoods Road)



Longwoods Volunteer Appreciation Barbecue July 9, 2003!

July

The summer season was as busy as our school season. The Volunteer Picnic was a great success. Archaeology Day gave visitors the opportunity to have their artifacts identified with the help of the **London Chapter members of the Ontario Archaeological Society**. As well, a week long Summer Day Camp was underway. Students from **Muncey Economic Development** and through **Young Canada Works in Heritage** were hired to work on a project to incorporate French and Oneida into our displays.



August

A film segment was shot at the village for the **Aboriginal Peoples Television Network (APTN)**. The Nightwalk event was as popular as ever this summer. **Kernels Popcorn** in Masonville Mall donated the popcorn. The opening of the Ska-Nah-Doht Language Project took place to an enthusiastic gathering. As well, a special thanks to **Sarah McIntyre** who coordinated this project. Thanks to **Rebecca Ireland** and **Corey Poyser** for their help with the displays!



September

Schools were back! The Native Studies department had one of our best seasons in years. More traffic also meant the giftshop was busy too!

The **Forest City Checkers** helped "spruce-up" the village, just in time for another film shoot. This time it was **Canadian Geographic** working on a segment for the **Discovery Channel**. Our thanks to Archaeologist, **Ron Williamson** for his recommendation that we be the location. We will keep you posted as to when it will air.

The **Ontario Volunteer Service Awards** were held in London on September 30th. The youth that volunteered in the special event "Nightwalk with the Spirits" were honoured this year with their "youth pins".



October

It was nice to see the steady return of our American neighbours to the school programs. Their numbers were back up to pre 9-11 levels.

A Taste of Fall was one of our popular annual events, however, the number of visitors was down from previous years. Next year we will try harder to entice people out of the London malls into the fresh autumn air. Thanks to the **Berkmortal Family** for all the colourful pumpkins that brightened up our event. A dressed up pumpkin named "Punkin" was hidden in the park and visitors went on a mission to find it! The winners were **Jennifer and Marie Nelson** who took "Punkin" home with them! Children enjoyed pumpkin painting and displays in the Museum too!



November & December

...and the classes were still coming! This school season was fully booked and we mean FULL! With little room for "starving our colds or feeding our fevers", the village staff guided classes through 1,000 years of Ontario's past!

FOR SALE AT GIFT SHOP

A Longwoods' Original
"3 Sisters T-shirts"



\$15-\$22

sizes small to XXL

logos in colour and black & white

Just the Stats!

July 1- December 31, 2003

3,527 students visited Ska-Nah-Doht on school field trips (includes adult supervisors)
232 people took part in **12** Iroquoian workshops or tours

Check Out Upcoming Events at Ska-Nah-Doht & Longwoods at

<http://www.lowerthames-conservation.on.ca/SpecialEvents.htm>

Ska-Nah-Doht Iroquoian Village and Museum

National Winner - Attractions Canada Award 2002

CONSERVATION EDUCATION



www.lowerthames-conservation.on.ca

Longwoods Road Conservation Area

(6.5 km west of Delaware on Middlesex County Rd. 2 at 8348 Longwoods Road)

Tel: (519) 264-2420 Email: lowerthames@odyssey.on.ca

*A Provincial Winner!
Attractions Canada Award
2002*

2,834 Participate in Fall Conservation Programs

Special Funding Results in a 68% Increase in Conservation School Program Delivery over Last Fall

1,715 students and adult supervisors took part in the conservation field trip programs to our local conservation areas this fall. This includes trips to Longwoods Road, Sharon Creek and C.M. Wilson Conservation Areas. Of this number, 451 students

enjoyed a half day program called "Aquatic Species at Risk", which was generously sponsored by the **Habitat Stewardship Program**. These endangered species activity days were targeted at students in grades 3-6. They learned about aquatic species at risk found in the Thames River watershed through hands-on activities and a slide show presentation. Schools participated in this program free of charge and in addition, schools that required a bus to get the Conservation Area also received a \$50 bus rebate cheque. Eleven classes came from schools located in Chatham, Wheatley and Blenheim to take part in the program at C.M. Wilson Conservation Area, and seven classes visited Longwoods Road Conservation Area from schools located in Dutton Dunwich, Southwold and Glencoe.

Outreach programs taught in classrooms in the Lower Thames watershed reached 1,119 students. Of this figure, 1,003 grade 2 students in the Municipality of Chatham-Kent received a lesson on Creek and River Safety, funded by the **Chatham-Kent Community Foundation** and the **McGeachy Charitable Foundation**. Over a period of 14 days, this program was brought to 29 different schools in the LTVCA's jurisdiction in Chatham-Kent. Students are now equipped with the knowledge to make wise decisions about their personal safety around waterways and especially the Thames River. As well, 48 students were taught about "Aquatic Species at Risk" in their classroom at St. Mary's School in West Lorne. Finally, 68 students took part in LTVCA's regularly offered outreach programs.

Summer Nature Day Camp

During the week of July 21-25, 16 campers enjoyed learning about the environment and the Ska-Nah-Doht Iroquoian Village at Longwoods Road Conservation Area. Day campers came from, as near as Delaware and as far away as Wardsville. It was an awesome week full of challenging activities, exploring the environment and making crafts. The weather was perfect for hiking through the forest and having fun in the outdoors. Congratulations to our new "Guardians of Longwoods". Hope to see you next year! Watch for the 2004 Registration Forms in March!



Professional Development

Denise Biega, LTVCA's Conservation Education Technician, attended 2 workshops this year. The **Council for Outdoor Educators of Ontario (COEO) Conference** was held on October 4 and 5 at the YMCA Outdoor Learning Centre in Waterloo. Sessions on water, plants, watershed health and group development were presented.

Rekindle the Spark Workshop was hosted by the **Grand River Conservation Authority**, at the Apps' Mills Outdoor Centre near Brantford. Approximately 25 educators were there from 9 different Conservation Authorities, 1 school board and 1 independent organization. The workshop is intended for outdoor educators to share new activities and ideas for programs.

Special Events

On Sunday July 13, 6 families (24 people) came out to enjoy one of three guided hikes through the forest of Longwoods Road Conservation Area.

Pre-Register for the Annual Longwoods Moonlight Winter Family Hike scheduled for February 7, 2004! Call (519)264-2420 for details or visit "Special Events" on our website at www.lowerthames-conservation.on.ca

Flying Squirrel Boxes

Two of the Southern Flying Squirrel Nesting Boxes were found to be inhabited by this species at Longwoods Road Conservation Area late this fall! These boxes were made possible through funding from a **Community Fish and Wildlife Improvement Program available through the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources** and through the volunteer work of local **Scout Troops**. The boxes were installed in the early spring of this year. Pictured left is one of the Flying Squirrels clinging to the tree trunk beside its nesting box.

According to the **Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC)**, these squirrels are listed as a 'Species of Special Concern', because of characteristics that make it particularly sensitive to human activities or natural events. Loss and degradation of habitat are the main factors limiting Southern Flying Squirrel populations. The hardwood forests have been drastically fragmented and reduced in area, and these squirrels will not live in isolated woodlots. Dead hollow trees are used as den sites. Competition for food with Grey Squirrels also limits the size of the Southern Flying Squirrel population. The use of pesticides could be affecting Southern Flying Squirrel populations as well, since these squirrels feed mainly on insects. Although the Southern Flying Squirrel is not a game species or a fur-bearing species, a provincial licence is required to trap and hunt these animals.

Stats! July 1 - December 31
2,834 students and adult supervisors took part in conservation education school field trips at Longwoods Road, C.M. Wilson, and Sharon Creek Conservation Areas as well as in Classroom Conservation Programs
85 youth took part in 6 weekend conservation workshops for badge work at Longwoods Road



451 students enjoyed a half day program called "Aquatic Species at Risk", which was generously sponsored by the **Habitat Stewardship Program**.



1,003 grade 2 students in the Municipality of Chatham-Kent received a lesson in their classrooms on Creek and River Safety, funded by the **Chatham-Kent Community Foundation** and the **McGeachy Charitable Foundation**.

For further information please check out these websites at www.speciesatrisk.gc.ca or www.cosewic.gc.ca





Lower Thames Valley Conservation Foundation Board of Directors 2003

•Peter Snow- President

•Al McGregor - Vice President

•Dawn Sullivan - Secretary/Treasurer

•Ken Brooks •John Beharrell •Joe Reily

•Ralph Brodie •Glenn Stott •Gail Giles

•Keri Wilson •Chris Matthews

Bonnie Carey - Administrative Assistant

We invite new members to the Foundation.
If you are interested in joining us, our next
meeting will be February 10, 2004 at Longwoods
Road Conservation Area.

Check us out at
www.lowerthames-conservation.on.ca
Click on Foundation then 'Publications' to
view our 2002 Annual Report.

About the Conservation Foundation

The Conservation Foundation works in partnership with the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority, helping to raise funds to encourage wise management of our renewable natural resources. The Conservation Foundation was created in 1995 to cultivate and enhance all aspects of conservation, helping to provide present and future generations with a safe and healthy environment which includes our natural and cultural heritage resources. Over \$250,000 has been raised the Foundation was established in support of conservation programs.

One of our primary concerns is ensuring that the Longwoods Education Programs, including the Ska-Nah-Doht Native Studies and Community Conservation Education Programs, continue to provide unique outdoor learning opportunities for the children and residents of the lower Thames river watershed and surrounding region.

July - December 2003 Vol. 4 No. 2

Contacting the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Foundation

100 Thames St., Chatham, ON N7L 2Y8

Tel: (519) 354-7310 Fax: (519) 352-3435

E-Mail: lowerthames@odyssey.on.ca

Website: www.lowerthames-conservation.on.ca

The Lower Thames Valley Conservation Foundation is an independent non-profit, registered charity.
Tax receipts are available for donations over \$10.00. Registered Charitable Number 89819 8171 RR0001

Next Golf Tournament May 15! First Annual Lower Thames Heritage Charity Golf Tournament a Huge Success!



Glenn Stott (right) spearheaded the event and did a wonderful job! He and Al McGregor (left) posted the Golf Tournament banner at the Wardsville Golf Course. Special thanks go to all the Tournament committee members including: Gail Giles, Joe Reily, Keri Wilson, Chris Matthews, Ron Watts and Don Fairbairn.

Over \$3,200 was raised from the golf tournament in support of a wide variety of environmental and cultural heritage projects of the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority. The Directors of the Foundation and the Committee Members of the Ska-Nah-Doht Iroquoian Village and Museum are all congratulated on the success of their first annual heritage charity golf tournament, held on September 27 at the Wardsville Golf Club!

Thirteen foursomes (fifty-three golfers) enjoyed the course and there were 10 one-hole sponsors! The silent auction raised over \$500 and had 22 items and the live auction's 5 items raised over \$600 with the kayak donated by **Nova Craft** generating the highest bid. **Thornewood Printing** is also recognized for kindly printing our poster!



Thanks To Our 'One Hole' Sponsors!

Benoit, Van Raay, Spisani, Fuerth & Quaglia
Cove Marina
G. Adlington's Hubby for Hire
Mark Dickerson Dentistry
McKenzie Lake Lawyers LLP
Mt. Brydges Animal Clinic
Siskind, Cromarty, Ivey & Dowler LLP
St. Willibrord Credit Union
Sydenham Community Credit Union
Uniglobe Instant Travel



Directors' Corner

Current Directors **Ken Brooks, Ralph Brodie, and Joe Reily** are to be nominated for the 2004 Provincial Volunteer Service Awards to receive their 10 year pins. Past Directors **Ellen Craeymeersch and Perry Pearce** will also be nominated for 5 year volunteer pins for their past performance as Directors on the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Foundation.

Congratulations also to **Dawn Sullivan** on the birth of her second son Jacob, who arrived on September 9,

2003!

John Beharrell will be taking a year's leave of absence from the Foundation, but we look forward to his return in 2005.

These are the Some of the Projects and Services of the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority and Community Conservation Partners that were 'Helped' Through Our Foundation and Its Generous Donors in 2003

- Internet Access and E-mail at Longwoods Road Conservation Area for Education and Community Relations Programs
- Supporting the William Kingsley Erickson Bursary
- Fund-raising Resource Data Base Subscription
- Over 400 Trees Planted in 7 Memorial Forest Sites in the Lower Thames River Watershed
- Bird Feeder Station Supplies and Equipment for Longwoods Road Conservation Area
- Ska-Nah-Doht Iroquoian Village and Museum Education Program Resources
- Sponsorship of Special Public Events - Golf Tournament and Moonlight Family Hike
- Maintenance of Longwoods Road Conservation Area Nature Trails Through Interpretive Trail Signage Sponsorship Program
- Summer Student Employment at Longwoods Road and C.M. Wilson Conservation Areas
- Support Towards the Friends of Sharon Creek Trust Fund
- Sponsorship of Conservation Authority's Website
- Funding for New Audio Visual Equipment for Ska-Nah-Doht Iroquoian Village and Museum
- Funding Towards Conservation Education Equipment and Materials
- Promotion of Environmental Stewardship and Awareness Across the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority

Ways You Can Help Conservation!

✓ MEMORIAL FOREST PROGRAM

memories live on

There are 7 Foundation memorial forests located in the Lower Thames watershed. By planting a tree, we preserve precious memories and encourage the preservation of nature for future generations. We are very grateful to **Elliott-Madill Funeral Homes Ltd.** of Mt. Brydges, and the **McKinlay Funeral Homes** of Chatham for their continued support of our memorial forest program. The **John C. Badder Funeral Home** in Thamesville and the **Badder & Robinson Funeral** in Bothwell have partnered with our Foundation to create the Badder & Robinson Memorial Forest. New is the Tilbury Northside Memorial Forest located just outside of Tilbury, with the help of the **Tilbury & District Horticultural Society**.

Friends and family may dedicate trees by contacting the Conservation Foundation, requesting a memorial forest donation card and making a \$30.00 donation for each tree. Next of kin receive a memorial certificate, and an invitation to an annual memorial forest service. Individual trees are not identified, however records are kept of all donations.

Sept. 7, McKinlay Woodlands Dedication Service at C.M. Wilson Conservation Area



Sept. 14, Elliott-Madill Memorial Forest Service at Sharon Creek Conservation Area



Sept. 21, Badder & Robinson Memorial Tree Service at Bothwell Forest

✓ Become a 'Partner in Conservation'

Education programs offered by the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority out of Longwoods Road Conservation Area, require ongoing financial support from private funding sources. The Foundation invites service clubs, local businesses, other charitable foundations and private citizens to become **'Partners in Conservation'** by donating towards the education programs. This is an opportunity for sponsors to: have their name on publications and signs; receive media attention; enjoy special considerations for their employees and families; and to receive a tax receipt, all in recognition of their support. Donations received help to maintain trails, supply educational equipment and materials, and support the hiring of staff for the Conservation Authority.

✓ Trail Sponsorship Program

Our Foundation invites groups such as churches, youth organizations, schools, local businesses and corporations to support the nature trails at Longwoods Road Conservation Area. There are 6.5 km of trails, two of which are wheelchair accessible. The park is visited by 30,000 visitors annually and is also home to Ska-Nah-Doht, a recreated Iroquoian village of one thousand years ago.

Donations help provide stone chips for wheelchair accessible trails, repairs and maintenance of boardwalks and stairs, trail clearing and pruning, trail signs and information and conservation education programs. Tax receipts are issued for every year of sponsorship.

'William Kingsley Erickson'

Student Bursary

Following the passing of the Mayor of Chatham-Kent - **William Erickson**, our Foundation established the **'William Kingsley Erickson Endowment Fund'**. The Lower Thames Valley Conservation Foundation sponsors this \$500 student bursary through the generous donations of various community groups.

The recipient was **Robin Mckee**, however, as Robin was working in Thunderbay for the summer, her mother received the award on her behalf. Mrs. Susan Mckee accepted the \$500 bursary for her daughter, as Mrs. Dawn Erickson and Peter Snow presented it.

The Bursary will be temporarily suspended until further financial support is confirmed.



Left to right: Peter Snow (Foundation President), Susan Mckee (Robin Mckee's mother accepting Bursary on her behalf), Dawn Erickson.

Thank You!

July -December 2003 Supporters!

- McKinlay Funeral Home** (Chatham-Kent)
- Elliott-Madill Funeral Home** (Mt. Brydges)
- John C. Badder Funeral Home** (Thamesville)
- Badder & Robinson Funeral Home** (Bothwell)
- W. & N. Schofield** (London)
- C. Flegel** (Mt. Brydges)
- S. Jobson** (Glencoe)
- Wittland Investments** (Mt. Brydges)
- Longwood Kennel** (Mt. Brydges)
- Syndicon Group Inc.** (London)
- Jack's Live Bait** (Delaware)
- Private Donations for Memorial Trees**
- Golf Tournament Donors** (see over for details)

Memorial Forests of the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Foundation

McKinlay Woodlands... A Living Memorial

C. M. Wilson Conservation Area,
Chatham-Kent, On
(supported by McKinlay Funeral Home)

Elliott-Madill Memorial Forest

Sharon Creek Conservation Area,
Delaware, On
(supported by Elliott-Madill Funeral Home)

Tilbury Northside Memorial Forest (new!)

Tilbury & District
Horticultural Society
Tilbury, On

Badder & Robinson Memorial Forest

Bothwell, On
(supported by John C. Badder and
Badder & Robinson Funeral Homes)

Two Creeks Memorial Groves

Two Creeks Conservation Area,
Wheatley, On

Comber District Historical Museum Memorial Forest

Comber, On

Rowson's Tilbury West Conservation Area

Tilbury, On



DONATIONS TO OUR FOUNDATION

If you would like to make a donation to the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Foundation in support of the conservation programs, please contact us! Ways to reach us are listed on the reverse of this page. Your donation will be greatly appreciated, generously recognized and wisely used for environmental projects in the local area. Tax receipts are available.

Thank You!

Looking to Volunteer?

Volunteer as a Foundation Director & Help Conservation!

**Tel: (519) 354-7310 or
Email: lowerthames@odyssey.on.ca**

Conservation Areas Across Our Watershed (see more at www.lowerthames-conservation.on.ca/ConservationAreas)

LTVCA Field Staff were busy this summer and fall with general maintenance and safety site inspections of the 20 conservation areas across the watershed. Our 2 maintenance workshops are manned by 3 full time staff and are located at the C.M. Wilson Conservation Area in Chatham-Kent and Longwoods Road Conservation Area in Strathroy-Caradoc.

The **C.M. Wilson Workshop** is responsible for Two Creeks, Big 'O', Rowsom's Tilbury West, Lighthouse, Miller Sanctuary, McGeachy Pond, Rondeau Bay Marshes, Sinclair's Bush, Walter Devereux and C.M. Wilson Conservation Areas. Over the past 6 months, work was completed on the Lighthouse and Lighthouse residence. At C.M. Wilson Conservation Area, the gasline was hooked up in conjunction with the Children's Safety Village project. Regulations signage was also erected in many of the conservation areas. The **Wheatley Two Creeks Association** has been busy with developments at the Two Creeks Conservation Area, including the building of a toboggan hill and a large pavilion.

The **Longwoods Road Workshop** oversees the maintenance at Mosa Forest, Big Bend, E.M. Warwick, Ekfrid Forest, Dutton/Dunwich, Crane, Mill Stream, Delaware, Sharon Creek, Longwoods Road and the Feasby Conservation Areas. From July - December, some of the projects involved the help of 'conservation partners'. At the Delaware Conservation Area, the **Eco-partnership Crew** assisted with some dead tree removal. A year-round water tap was installed at Sharon Creek Conservation Area. With the extra hands of the **Stewardship Rangers**, staff began installing various gate barriers at Big Bend Conservation Area. Upgrades to a walkway and signage at Crane Conservation Area were completed as well as park signage at Longwoods Road Conservation Area. Some materials to begin repairs to the exterior of the Mill Stream Conservation Area house were also acquired. The **Blenheim Scouts** and a student hired through the **Summer Career Placement Program** painted a cabin at E.M. Warwick Conservation Area, while a new door and steps and park signage were constructed. At the newest property, the Feasby Conservation Area, a park sign was installed and minimal work began on the property access.

Volunteers

The LTVCA recognizes and thanks all the volunteers that have helped out at the conservation areas over the past several months. Volunteers help out with activities ranging from working on various Boards and Committees, to doing field work in the parks, to assisting with public events. A special recognition barbecue for the Longwoods volunteers was held in July.



Irmgard Post is the volunteer photographer at Longwoods Road Conservation Area. Her time and expertise offered at special events has been very much appreciated!

Lighthouse - Lakeshore



The restorations to the residence and Lighthouse structure located at Lighthouse Conservation Area were completed this fall.

Watershed Bus Tour



On October 24th, the LTVCA held a bus tour of the western half of the watershed and invited its Directors, Municipalities and guests to attend.



The bus tour included a visit to the **BMX Track** in Chatham developed on the Indian/McGregor Creek Diversion Channel Disposal Site. Other highlights of the tour included visiting Healthy Futures Projects, western conservation areas, the **Ridgetown Weather Station**, **Provincial Groundwater Monitoring Sites**, and flood control structures.

Sharon Creek - Middlesex Centre



On July 6th, the **Friends of Sharon Creek** hosted the annual Family Fishing Day event. As you can see, there were happy faces after the catch!

Two Creeks - Chatham-Kent



A large pavilion is being constructed by the **Wheatley Two Creeks Association** at the Two Creeks Conservation Area. It is located in the south end of the park.



A toboggan hill is being created in the south end of the Two Creeks Conservation Area, another project of the **Wheatley Two Creeks Association**.

Special Employment Programs



Catherine Chang assisted the Healthy Futures program since August through a **HRDC** program until the end of March 2004.

With the special funding made available through employment programs, the LTVCA enhances its work in conservation lands and on technical projects.



Ashley Little was one of three students hired through the **Federal - Summer Career Placement for Students**.



Sarah McIntyre was hired under a **Young Canada Works in Heritage Organizations Project** for the summer.



What is Conservation?

By definition, conservation is "the wise management and use of natural resources", primarily renewable natural resources including water, soil, vegetation and wildlife.



What is a Conservation Authority?

A Conservation Authority (CA) is an autonomous corporate body established under the CA Act of Ontario. CA's manage renewable natural resources on watershed basis. Projects are initiated locally by the CA's member municipalities to meet regional (jurisdictional) conservation needs.

CA's work in partnership with their local member municipalities, the Provincial and Federal Government Ministries and Departments, special

interest groups, businesses, corporations and individuals.

The objectives of a CA are to establish and undertake, in the area over which it has jurisdiction, a program designed to further the conservation, restoration, development and management of natural resources.

There are 36 Conservation Authorities established throughout Ontario.



What are the Powers of a Conservation Authority?

Conservation Authorities study and investigate the watershed and determine a program whereby the natural resources of the watershed may be conserved, restored, developed and managed. A watershed refers to an area drained by a particular watercourse and its tributaries.



What is the Area of Jurisdiction of the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority?

The Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority has jurisdiction over the watersheds of all streams which drain into the Thames River from the village of Delaware to Lake St. Clair. Its southern boundary has jurisdiction over the watersheds of all streams which drain into Lake Erie, from the Talbot Creek watershed in the east to the Two Creeks watershed in the west. The total area of jurisdiction covers over 3,275 square kilometres (1,264 square miles) and includes 10 member municipalities.

Conservation Authority Staff Directory

LTVCA Administration Building

Tel: (519) 354-7310 Fax: (519) 352-3435 E-mail: ltvca@MNSi.net

General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer - Jerry Campbell

Water Management Supervisor - Jack Robertson

Resource Technician - Valerie Towsley

Accounting Clerks - Sharlet Piggott, Sandy Maynard

C. M. Wilson Conservation Area

Workshop

Tel: (519) 354-8184

Western District Supervisor - Russ Dysarz

Longwoods Road Conservation Area

Workshop

Tel: (519) 264-1500

Eastern District Supervisor - David Little

Construction and Maintenance Technician - Bruce Clark

Resource Centre / Ska-Nah-Doht Iroquoian Village and Museum

Tel: (519) 264-2420 Fax: (519) 264-1562 E-Mail: lowerthames@odyssey.on.ca

Community Relations Coordinator - Bonnie Carey

Clerk/Secretary - Agnes Vriend

Iroquoian Village Curator - Karen Mattila

Iroquoian Village Education Technician - Rose Nicholas

Conservation Education Technician - Denise Biega

Contacting Us

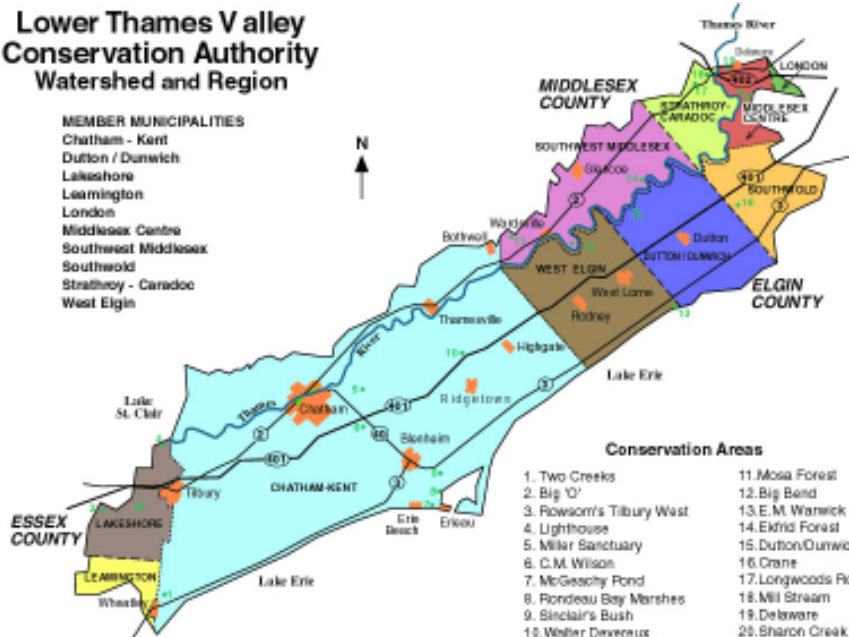


Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority
100 Thames Street,
Chatham, On
N7L 2Y8

Tel: (519) 354-7310
Fax: (519) 352-3435
E-Mail: ltvca@MNSi.net

Visit our website at:
www.lowerthames-conservation.on.ca

Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority Watershed and Region



See **CONSERVATION ONTARIO**
at www.conservation-ontario.on.ca

Corporate Profile: Information about Conservation Ontario and the province's 36 Conservation Authorities. Includes a map and links.

Guide: Get your guide to 246 Conservation Areas among the 36 Conservation Authorities in Ontario.

Partnerships: An overview of the Partnerships that have been established with provincial and regional governments, municipalities and landowners.

Frequently Asked Questions: About who we are and what we do. **Facts at a glance** about watershed management and flood warning information systems.

Projects: A comprehensive guide to the many projects being undertaken by Ontario's Conservation Authorities, initiatives in progress and your opportunity to look over the **Class EA Review**.

Programs: Access information about on-going programs and events. Link up to **activities** by the Conservation Authority in your watershed.

Recreation: Information on the **recreational services** available in our Conservation Areas with direct links to the **Conservation Authorities** and their outdoor activities.

Education: Conservation Authority Education Programs bring classroom studies to life in the outdoors at select Conservation Areas.

In the News: Find out what your Conservation Authorities are doing to manage, conserve, restore, and develop in your watershed.

(revised 01/2007)