

Chairperson's Message

Where has the time gone? It seems like only yesterday that I was sitting down to compose my Annual Chairperson's Message, and now here I am again looking back over 2005 and reflecting on all of the activities and accomplishments of the Authority. I have often commented that we may be a small Conservation Authority, but we think big and constantly strive to reach our goals and objectives, and I am proud to note our accomplishments in 2005 clearly were no exception.

The Ontario Geological Survey Groundwater Mapping Study is nearing completion for the Catfish and Kettle Creek watersheds. The 10 hectare Herb Kebbel Wetland located at the Yarmouth Natural Heritage Area was completed in partnership with Ducks Unlimited Canada, with the Official Opening planned for the spring of 2006. CCCA nominated several individuals and groups from our watershed for recognition in the field of conservation. Dr. Duncan Sinclair received the Conservation Pioneer Award at the A.D. Latonnell Conservation Symposium, and the East Elgin Secondary School Environmental Leadership Program won the inaugural Carolinian Canada Youth Conservation Award. The year 2005 saw the Authority celebrate the completion of the \$46,250.00 Springwater Forest Environmental Education and Ecotourism Project culminating in the Official Opening of our newly renovated Sugar Shanty.

CCCA continues to partner with the Kettle Creek, Long Point Region, and Grand River Conservation Authorities on source water protection initiatives. Every so often a unique parcel of land becomes available and the Authority was fortunate to be able to acquire 10 hectares of land adjacent to our Calton Swamp properties. This acquisition was made possible through a \$60,000.00 grant from Nature Conservancy Canada. Like all Authorities in the province, CCCA has adopted Generic Regulations and mapping for our entire watershed that will ensure development and activities adjacent or close to watercourses are appropriate.

Many of the special conservation and environmental projects undertaken by the CCCA would not have been possible if it were not for the over \$460,000.00 in funding that was sought out, and received over the course of the past year.

2005 marked our 55th year in the conservation business, but was marked by the loss of a good friend and a true conservationist. Phineas Pressey who served on the Board for more than 40 years passed away in April. His service to the CCCA will long be remembered.

As we look ahead into the final year of this Board's mandate, I am confident that the CCCA, through the efforts of the staff and the members, is well positioned to continue to provide quality conservation services to all within our watershed.

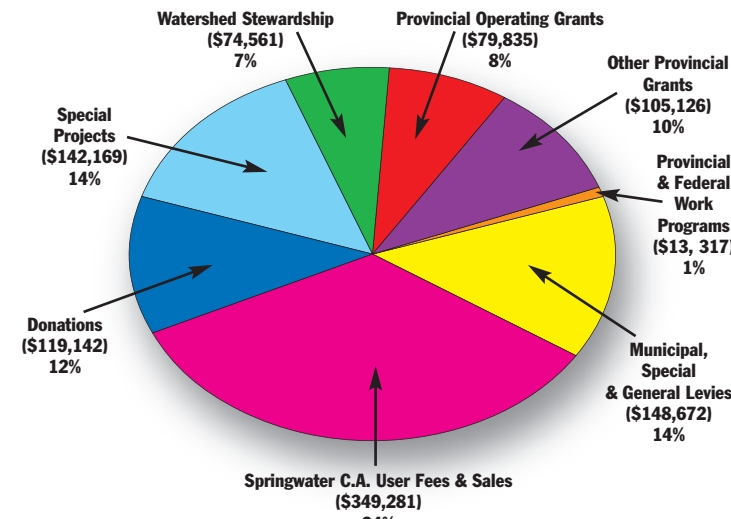
Danial R. Dale, CCCA Chairperson



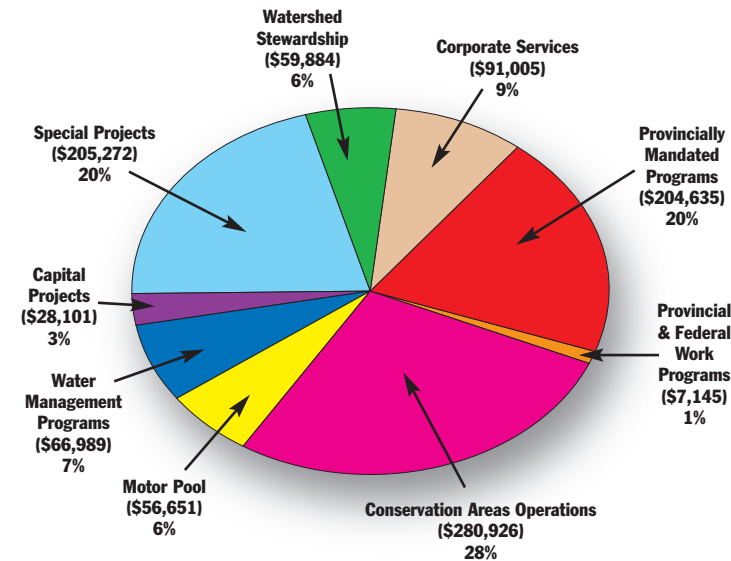
Land Securement Cheque Presentation - Chairperson Dan Dale, left, James Duncan, Nature Conservancy Canada

2005 Financial Report

Revenue \$1,032,103



Expenditures \$1,000,608



MISSION STATEMENT

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

The CCCA is a non-profit organization that needs your financial support and volunteerism to ensure locally driven environmental initiatives continue in the future.

YES, I would like to demonstrate my leadership and vision for the environment by donating \$ _____ in support of the following initiative(s):

- ☐ Protection of Conservation Lands ☐ Youth Environmental Programs ☐ Reforestation
☐ Springwater Forest Preservation/Management ☐ Commemorative Forest Program ☐ Wetlands Restoration

Commemorative gifts and land donations graciously received
(An official tax receipt will be issued for minimum donations of \$10.00)

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Address: _____

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

2005 PARTNERS/DONORS/VOLUNTEERS

(please notify our office of any errors or omissions)

Angling Outfitters
Anything Used
Aylmer & Area Chamber of Commerce
Aylmer & District Museum
Aylmer Area Community Foundation
Aylmer BIA
Baden-Powell Scout Association
Beard, Deb & Greg
Bouris, Irene
Bowman, John & Helen
Bowsher + Bowsher Law Firm
Canadian Tire Corporation
Carolinian Canada
Caverly, William & Laura
Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce
Christmas Spirit Walk Volunteers
City of St. Thomas
Community Fund of Elgin-St. Thomas
Conservation Ontario
Costea, Daniel & Margaret
County of Elgin
County of Oxford
DeBlieck, Ardean
Dickhout, Ward
Durkee, Don & Judy
Ducks Unlimited Canada
East Elgin Secondary School
EESS Environmental Leadership Program

EJLB Foundation
Elgin Federation of Agriculture
Elgin Hiking Trail Club
Elgin RV Sales & Service
Elgin Stewardship Council
Enright, William & Audrey
Evergreen Canada
Family Campers & RV'ers
Fick, Don
Fisheries & Oceans Canada
Formet Industries
Foster, Raymond
Friends of Springwater
Grand River C. A.
Green Lane Community Trust Fund
Hamilton Ward & Cathers Insurance
Hennessey Gibson Hogan
Hill, Thomas & Cheryl
Imperial Tobacco Leaf Inc.
Jaffa Environmental Education Center
Jakob, Joseph
Jensen, Bill & Ruth
K&K Locksmiths
Karda, Mike & Margo
Kettle Creek C.A.
Kielstra, Henry & Ena
Kinsmen Club of Aylmer
Koolen Electric
Kowal, Helen & Walter
Lafontaine, Dennis
London Community Foundation
Long Point Region C.A.

Marsland, Bernice
McKenna, Barbara
McQueen, Carl & Margaret
McQueen, Janet & Doug
McQueen, Jennifer
Ministry of Agriculture & Food
Ministry of the Environment
Ministry of Natural Resources
Municipality of Central Elgin
Natural Resource Gas
Nature Conservancy Canada
Nesbitt, Sandra
Ontario Police College
Ontario Trillium Foundation
Ontario Works, St. Thomas-Elgin
Order of Good Cheer
Parker Fuels
Pioneer Hi-Bred Limited
Port Bruce Ratepayers Association
Pratt, Linda
Pressey, John Paul & Tracy
Richer, Gerry
Riggs Engineering Ltd.
Ronald, Janet
Rotary Club of Aylmer
Rush Creek Wines
Sawdust Entertainment
Scott, Don
Scouts Canada - Elgin Area
Secord Home Hardware, Aylmer
Seeds, J.
Service Canada

Shakir, Scott
Shell Canada Limited
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Silcox, Helen
Sinclair, Dr. Duncan
Springwater Forest Supporters
St. Thomas Field Naturalists
St. Joseph's High School
Steelway Building Systems
Sykes, Don & Dora
TD Friends of the Environment
Tenhoor, Henry
Thames Valley District School Board
The Aylmer Express
The Salvation Army, St. Thomas
Tim Hortons, Aylmer
Toth, Michael
Town of Aylmer
Township of Malahide
Township of South-West Oxford
Thompson, Darren
Tupper, Clara
Tupper, James & Irene
Uher, David
Vandenbrink Farm Equipment
VanFest - Kevin Lundy
Volunteer Elgin
VON Middlesex-Elgin
Wetland Habitat Fund
Wilson Well Drilling
Wilson, Layne & Diana
Wilson, Mary

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WATERSHED

2005 Annual Report



YARMOUTH NATURAL HERITAGE AREA

Program Highlights



Ontario Guiding 95th Anniversary Picnic,
Springwater Conservation Area.

(supplied by The Aylmer Express)



Springwater Dam Stability Assessment

- received funding for a new precipitation monitoring station to be installed in the north part of the watershed
- continual monitoring of streamflow and watershed conditions for flood forecasting and warning purposes
- removed approximately 1,911 cubic metres of sediment from Catfish Creek in Port Bruce for flood control purposes based on channel sounding and bathymetric mapping data
- collected groundwater quantity and quality data through the Provincial Groundwater Monitoring Network
- implemented over \$40,000.00 worth of stability improvements on the Springwater Dam
- participated in the Provincial Surface Water Quality Monitoring Program
- partnered with the Ontario Geological Survey (OGS) to complete a Groundwater Study for the Kettle Creek and Catfish Creek watersheds
- provided technical support to the Catfish Creek Low Water Response Team

WATERSHED STEWARDSHIP

- planted over 25,000 trees in the watershed
- provided certified staff to approve Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program Plans for private landowners
- signed two Woodlot Management Agreements to manage a total of 28 hectares of forested land owned by the Town of Aylmer and the Township of Malahide
- assisted the Elgin Stewardship Council with the development of the Elgin Landscape Strategy document
- provided technical expertise on several erosion control and fisheries rehabilitation projects on private lands
- designated as the local resource agency to provide technical input to landowners interested in undertaking environmental projects through the Greencover Canada Program. This new cost-share opportunity for Ontario farmers is being delivered by the Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association



Generic Regulation - Hazard Prevention
Main Branch Catfish Creek

CCCA OWNED LANDS

- worked in partnership with Ducks Unlimited Canada to complete construction of the Herb Kebbel Wetland Project at the Yarmouth Natural Heritage Area
- provided recreational opportunities and facilities on CA owned lands for over 65,000 visitors
- celebrated the completion of the Springwater Forest Environmental Education and Ecotourism Project in partnership with the Ontario Trillium Foundation and the Rotary Club of Aylmer
- received financial support from the Wetland Habitat Fund to undertake wetland restoration projects at the Springwater Conservation Area and the Yarmouth Natural Heritage Area



Erosion Control - Kebbel Wetland Project
Environmental Leadership Program Students

- undertook woodlot management activities at the Aylmer and Johnson Tracts in conjunction with the East Elgin Secondary School Environmental Leadership Program students
- hosted several large corporate and special events at the Springwater Conservation Area
- purchased a 10 hectare parcel of land in the Calton Swamp thanks to the generous support of Nature Conservancy Canada
- co-operated with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency to detect and deter the spread of the Emerald Ash Borer into forested areas owned and managed by the CCCA

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

- hosted Public Information meetings to present and review the new Generic Regulation (Section 28) and associated mapping for the watershed. The intent of this new legislation is to allow Conservation Authorities to provide a stronger role in regulating development along the Great Lakes shoreline, wetlands, and watercourses
- provided technical support and policy development to local municipalities and proponents by reviewing and commenting on over 65 Planning Act applications and development proposals
- received and provided comments on 12 Municipal Drain Reports and Drain Maintenance requests
- reviewed over 25 proposals including issuance of 19 permits relative to fill placement, construction or alteration to watercourses in accordance with Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act
- provided responses to over 125 property inquiries (legal, real estate, and general information requests)
- worked with the Kettle Creek, Long Point Region, and Grand River Conservation Authorities to initiate source water protection initiatives within the Lake Erie Source Protection Region



Springwater Wetland Restoration - Cattail Plantings



CONSERVATION AWARD WINNER - Dr. Duncan Sinclair

(supplied by The Aylmer Express)



STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP AWARD - Recipient - Katie Bond

(supplied by The Aylmer Express)



Sugar Shanty Official Opening

(supplied by The Aylmer Express)



2006 EVENTS CALENDAR

March 11-26	Maple Syrup Festival
April 29-May 31	Tim Hortons Trout Derby
June 17	Van Fest
July 7-9	Family Fishing Weekend
July 29	Kids, Cops & Canadian Tire Fishing Days
August 12-13	Family Fishing Derby
August 18-20	Eaglesmith Charity Music Festival
September 2	Friends of Springwater Carnival and Fireworks
December 2	Christmas Spirit Walk

For more information contact our office at (519) 773-9037 or
visit our website at www.catfishcreek.ca

2005 BOARD OF DIRECTORS & STAFF

Board Member	Municipality
Danial Dale (Chairperson)	Municipality of Central Elgin
George Cleminshaw (Vice-Chairperson)	Township of Malahide
Anne Vanhoucke	Township of South-West Oxford
Marie Turvey	City of St. Thomas
Gerry Richer	Town of Aylmer
Staff Member	Position
Mr. Kim Smale	General Manager/ Secretary-Treasurer
Susan Mann	Financial Services Coordinator
Ed Pietrzak	Conservation Areas Supervisor
Tony Difazio	Resource Planning Coordinator
Alison Munro	Water Management Technician
Barry Martin	Operations Assistant
Loretta Luksys-Vinnai	Program Support Assistant
Ric Wellwood	Fundraising/Communications
Peter Dragunas	Hydrological Technician



Front Row (seated-left to right): George Cleminshaw, Marie Turvey, Danial Dale, Gerry Richer, Anne Vanhoucke
Back Row (standing-left to right): Barry Martin, Peter Dragunas, Ed Pietrzak, Susan Mann, Tony Difazio, Loretta Luksys-Vinnai, Ric Wellwood, Alison Munro, Kim Smale