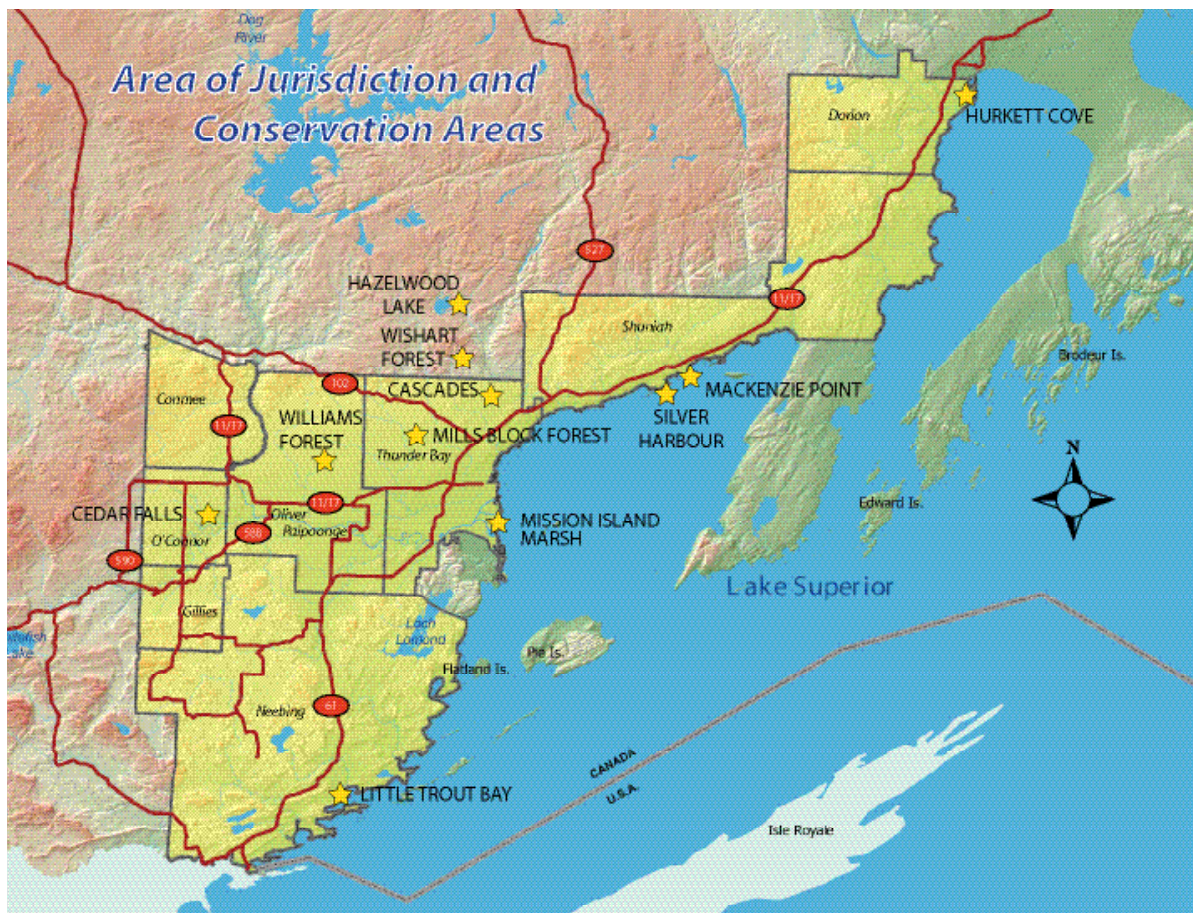


20 annual 10 report



Lakehead Region
Conservation Authority

Conserve today...for a better tomorrow



Member Municipalities

City of Thunder Bay
 Municipality of Neebing
 Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge
 Municipality of Shuniah
 Township of Conmee
 Township of Dorion
 Township of Gillies
 Township of O'Connor



**Conservation
ONTARIO**
Natural Champions

Lakehead Region Conservation Authority is a member of Conservation Ontario

Chairman’s Message



Lake Superior, the largest fresh water lake in the world, is situated practically in our own backyard. Because of its vast size and close proximity, it is difficult to comprehend that a lake of this magnitude could ever be short of water.

With recent climate change, studies are identifying low water levels becoming more common and increasing with the province’s growth in demands for water. Climate change affects the purpose and process of water infrastructure which impacts structural flood defences, drainage, irrigation systems, and hydropower along with water management practices.

2010 has introduced Low Water Level warnings at various stages within our Region. Below average precipitation over the fall and winter and very low spring water conditions prompted LRCA to call a Water Response Team Meeting.

On April 19, 2010, the Water Response Team concluded that the Area of Jurisdiction of the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority was considered to be in a Level I Low Water condition due to received precipitation being below 80% of the average. The Ministry of Natural Resources also declared the Thunder Bay District to be in a Level I Low Water condition on April 20, 2010. By May 10, 2010 the Low Water condition was upgraded to a Level II Low Water condition, requesting water users to voluntarily decrease their water usage by 20%. The Level II Low Water condition was downgraded back to a Level I on July, 9 2010, which was undeclared November 22, 2010.

Assistance from the Water Response Team ensures preparedness and information to the public illustrating that we, responsible water consumers, must remain cognizant of the subject at hand; water is a vital element in our existence and to every living being, and we must strive to conserve our valuable water resources every day.

Bill Bartley,
Chairman

Board of Directors

The Board is responsible for making policy, budget and regulatory decisions affecting the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority.

Chairman	Bill Bartley
Vice-Chairman	Lucy Kloosterhuis
Conmee	Grant Arnold
Dorion	Ed Chambers
Gillies	Rick Kieri
Neebing	Beverley Dale
O'Connor	Jim Vezina
Shuniah	Donna Blunt
Thunder Bay	Iain Angus
Thunder Bay	Gary Murchison
Thunder Bay	Linda Rydholm

Staff

Mervi Henttonen	General Manager/ Secretary-Treasurer
Tammy Cook	Watershed Manager
Ryne Gilliam	Field Operations Supervisor
Jamie Saunders	Source Protection Manager
Michelle Sixsmith	Water Resources Technologist
Roman Augustyn	GIS Data Specialist
Scott Drebit	GIS Technician/Planner
Alexandra Frankow	Community Relations Officer
Melanie O’Riley	Administrative Clerk/Receptionist
Norma Hunt	Financial Assistant
Neal Zago	SWP- Communications Officer
Tracey Neufeld	SWP - Administrative Assistant
Jennifer Grinstead	Species at Risk Stewardship/Special Project
Chris Crompton	Hazelwood Lake Nature Centre Marketing Coordinator - Youth Intern

In addition to the staff noted above, seasonal field and technical staff are hired for various lengths of employment. Through special purpose funding, contract positions for employment create the opportunity for the Species at Risk and Marketing Intern positions.

The Lakehead Region Conservation Authority is a local resource management agency working on a watershed basis. Conservation Authorities protect people and their property from natural hazards of flooding and erosion; protect natural areas and open space, restore and protect aquatic and natural habitats; and provide recreational and educational opportunities to local residents.

Ontario Regulation 180/06:

Development Interference with Wetlands
& Alterations to Shorelines & Watercourses

The Lakehead Region Conservation Authority is responsible for protecting people and their property from loss of life and property damage due to flooding and erosion and to conserve and enhance natural resources.

Ontario Regulation 180/06 regulates development in areas where the control of flooding, erosion, pollution or the conservation of land may be affected by development.

The LRCA has a Level II Agreement with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO), Ontario Great Lakes Area (OGLA) since 1998. The Authority is responsible for the initial evaluation of the proposed work to determine its potential impact on fish habitat within the LRCA Area of Jurisdiction. If you are planning to do any work near lakes, rivers, streams or wetlands, you may require a permit from the Conservation Authority.

Permits, if required, are issued by the LRCA Board which meets once a month. Property owners are advised to submit applications as early as possible to allow for processing, which usually involves a site visit by staff.

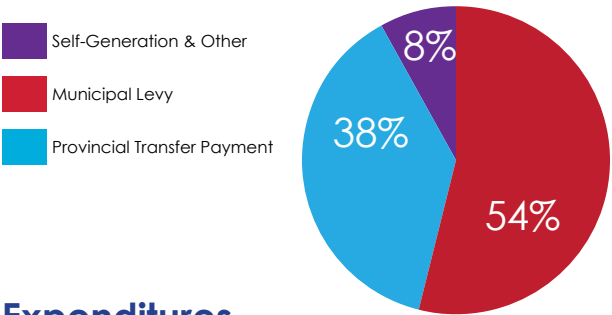
For more information, visit the Authority office in Thunder Bay or visit our website, lakeheadca.com. A brochure outlining the Regulations is available at the office or online.

Plan Input & Review Summary

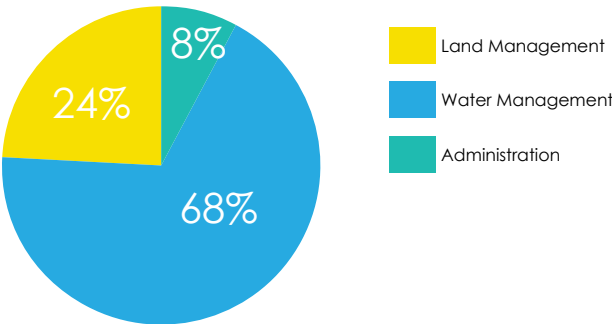
	2009	2010 (est.)
Clearances/Building Permits	32	25
Consents & Minor Variances	121	144
Official Plan/Zoning By-Law Amendments	45	43
Plans of Subdivision/Condo/Campgrounds	9	1
Letters of Opinion	100	113
O.Reg. 180/06 Permits	32	47
TOTAL	339	373

2010 Financial Report

Revenue



Expenditures



Lakehead Conservation's budgeted 2010 revenue and expenditures totalled approximately \$2.3 million.

This money allowed the Authority to administer its water, land management and corporate services. This included the management of 2,500 hectares of land consisting of eight Conservation Areas, Hazelwood Lake Nature Centre, Managed Forests and other properties including floodplain and erosion control lands. Funds are also used for the operation and maintenance of flood and erosion control structures, flood forecasting/warning, administration of Regulations, plan input and review, tree planting, watershed planning and education/outreach within our watershed jurisdiction.

Revenue is derived from three primary sources: Provincial/Federal Government Grants, Municipal Levies and self-generation, which is comprised of user fees, partnerships with other agencies, donations and sponsorships.

The provincial government funds 100% of our activities related to Source Water Protection. This funding is reflected in the Provincial Transfer Payment of the Revenue pie chart.

The Authority gratefully acknowledges the support of clubs, agencies, businesses, the Lakehead Conservation Foundation and individuals for making 2010 a successful year.

Around The Watershed

Tree Seedling Assistance Program

Following the overwhelming success of our pilot Private Landowners Tree Seedling Assistance Program last year, the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority (LRCA) once again offered coniferous tree seedlings to the public at a subsidized price.

This year 237 orders were received and 18,062 seedlings were sold. The goal of the program is to provide private landowners with tree seedlings without any complicated funding requirements and to support their stewardship efforts.

Distribution of the seedlings was done from Hill's Greenhouses on Oliver Road, a convenient location keeping the seedlings cold while creating minimal handling of the product.

Trees help to clean the air, store carbon, create wildlife habitat and reduce the risk of erosion, flooding and contamination of local rivers and lakes by stabilizing the soil, slowing down surface water runoff and filtering out contaminants. By planting trees in urban and rural areas, landowners are able to help fight climate change. The seedlings are locally grown by Hill's Greenhouses in Murillo.

Response from the Tree Seedling Assistance Program has been overwhelming. Over 36,763 trees have been planted since the implementation of the program.



As a result of the success of the 2009 and 2010 projects, the Private Landowners Tree Seedling Assistance Program will be offered again in 2011.

Neebing River Stewardship Program

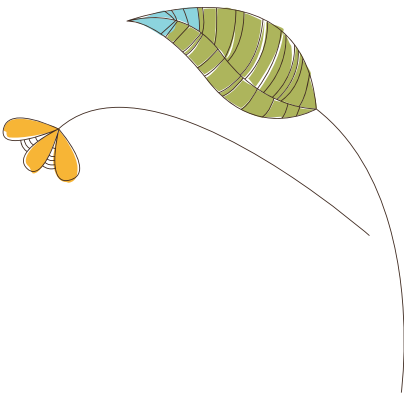
Phase I of the Neebing River Stewardship Program began in 2008, which focused on promoting good stewardship practices to the residents living along the Neebing River. Through a partnership with Lakehead University, Phase II of the Neebing River Stewardship Program was completed in 2010 with a focus on an assessment of the physical and chemical condition of the lower Neebing River.

The assessment included: water quality analysis and an assessment of the potential effects to water quality from stormwater discharge, bank conditions, erosion sites and hazardous trees.

Watershed Assessments

On October 5, 2010 a presentation on the Wolf River Watershed Assessment was given by Jennifer Grinstead. The presentation to Dorion Township Council addressed the results of the watershed assessment – documenting conditions (surface water quality) and to develop and maintain programs that sustain a healthy ecosystem, consistent with the Natural Hazards and Natural Heritage Policies of the province.

During 2010, updates to completed studies on Pennock Creek (1996), Cedar Creek (1997) and Lake Superior Catchments (1999) were completed. The updates included comparing water quality results from the original studies and those collected in 2010 in order to analyze any major changes in watershed health. In general, the water appeared to be of similar quality and did not indicate any major decreases or increases in the studied watershed's health. In 2011, an assessment of the Pine River in the Municipality of Neebing is planned.



McIntyre River Erosion Project



Erosion on the McIntyre River

A portion of the McIntyre River along Riverside Drive, south of Central Avenue, had experienced ongoing erosion and was identified as an area requiring attention. In 2010, a pilot project was undertaken through a partnership between the LRCA and the North Shore Steelhead Association which addressed the erosion while enhancing fish habitat.

The project involved the removal of at-risk trees, re-grading of the bank to a stable slope and the placement of rip-rap covered with native soil and an erosion control blanket. The affected area was seeded and planted with native shrubbery by the MNR Stewardship Council.

Fish habitat was enhanced by embedding Tamarack tree trunks into the river bank leaving the root ball partially exposed along the river's edge. The root balls provided immediate fish habitat, while reducing future erosion along the bank by slowing the water's velocity.

Neebing-McIntyre Floodway

In 2010 Engineering Northwest Limited completed the "Confluence of the Neebing-McIntyre Floodway and Lake Superior Debris and Sedimentation Study". The study was initiated to quantify the level of sediment and debris build up in the Floodway channel and confluence with Lake Superior.



The Neebing-McIntyre Floodway in the Intercity Area

It was determined that over the last 25 years of service, the Floodway has accumulated a build up of sediment, which requires removal in order to maintain the original capacity of the channel to convey excess water during flood events.

Subject to funding over the next few years, maintenance dredging will be undertaken between the CPR bridge (just downstream of Home Depot) and Lake Superior. Other sections of the Floodway have been dredged in the past, including the diversion channel and the CPR and Balmoral Street sediment traps.

Fact: This year, due to dry and low water conditions, the Floodway was not operational. This is the first time in a number of years this has occurred.

Flood Forecasting and Water Level Monitoring

Flood forecasting and water level monitoring involves the monitoring of watershed conditions daily and providing advance warning of high water situations by issuing flood bulletins, advisories and warnings to municipal emergency staff and the local media. In times of drought, we also issue Low Water Advisories which may include recommended methods to reduce water consumption.

On April 19, 2010, the Water Response Team concluded that the Area of Jurisdiction of the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority was considered to be in a Level I Low Water condition due to received precipitation being below 80% of average. The Ministry of Natural Resources also declared the Thunder Bay District to be in a Level I Low Water condition on April 20, 2010. By May 10, 2010 the Low Water condition was upgraded to a Level II Low Water condition, requesting water users to voluntarily decrease their water usage by 20%.



Low water levels are depicted at Kakabeka Falls

The Level II Low Water condition was downgraded back to a Level I on July, 9 2010, which was undeclared November 22, 2010.

What do Low Water Level Indicators mean?

Level 1

Monthly precipitation is below 80% of the average. Water users will be asked to voluntarily reduce their water consumption by 10%.

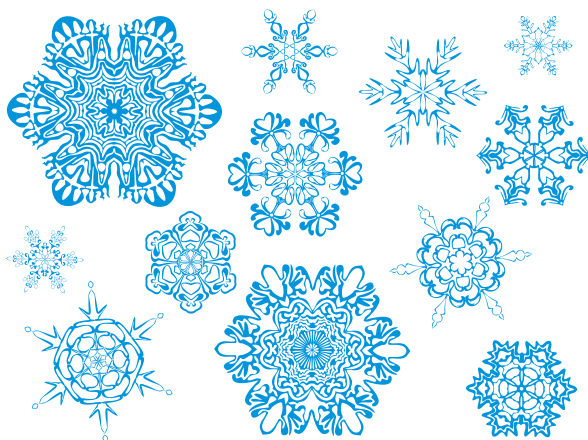
Level 2

Monthly precipitation is 40% - 60% of the average. Water users will be asked to voluntarily reduce their water use by 20% or greater.

Level 3

Monthly precipitation is less than 40% of the average. Supply no longer meets demand. Restrictions proposed by the Water Response Team and approved by the Government of Ontario will be put into action.

Ontario Low Water Response is intended to ensure provincial preparedness, to assist in coordination and to support local response in the event of a drought. Fresh water is a natural resource critical to the economic and environmental well-being of Northwestern Ontario. Water supports almost all aspects of our lives including health, recreation and industrial development.



Snow Surveys

Between November and May of each year, the Authority conducts snow surveys at three locations in the region. The snow depth and weight (water content) are collected and forwarded to the Ministry of Natural Resource's Surface Water Monitoring Centre as part of the Flood Forecasting Program.

Below average snow depths were recorded during the winter of 2009/2010 and the loss of snow pack occurred earlier in the spring (mid March) 2010 than in previous years.

Play in our Backyard!

Species at Risk...In your Backyard

The Species at Risk Education & Outreach Program is an initiative to help the community learn more about the local species at risk in our region and to protect and enhance suitable habitat by promoting an environmental stewardship ethic. The Program included a series of "Did you know?" fact sheets mailed to residences, a children's activity booklet, display booths at public venues and events, articles in the Chronicle-Journal and workshops open to the public, with an opportunity to discuss local sightings. Copies of print materials are available at the Authority office.

The Program was made possible through the Ministry of Natural Resources Species at Risk Stewardship Fund. MNR is responsible for the administration and implementation of this legislation.

Did you know?

The Monarch (pictured) is the only butterfly that has an annual migration both north and south, as birds do. They migrate thousands of kilometres in vast numbers – a feat not likely performed by any other insect on earth.



Monarch Butterflies

Play In Our Backyard!

With new economic challenges individuals and families face, it can be a task to find affordable activities. In exploring and taking advantage of local Conservation Areas, opportunity and discovery is just around the corner.

Why not explore physical activities which let you enjoy the outdoors? For a small donation of \$2, one can experience the natural beauty of the Lakehead Region. A convenient idea for frequent visitors is purchasing an Explorer Card from the Authority. Visit Conservation Areas as many times as you would like and enjoy a full year of recreational activities for the low price of \$30.



Hiking:

Hiking is an aerobic exercise which strengthens the cardiovascular system. Climbing up and down hills gives the heart a great workout. Because hiking is a weight bearing exercise, it is an activity which can help prevent osteoporosis. Although hiking is a great physical activity, it can also serve as a great mental break, placing you in a meditative state – calming mind and body.



Swimming:

Swimming is one of the greatest whole body workouts, targeting major muscle groups. The resistance of the water assists development of muscle tone, strength and the burning of kilojoules. Cardiovascular endurance and relief of joint stress are added benefits to this excellent activity.





Snowshoeing:

Snowshoeing is an excellent winter aerobic activity which provides exercise in a scenic snowy landscape. As a cardiovascular workout, snowshoeing can tone your entire body while strengthening leg and heart muscles. Snowshoeing can burn 45% more calories than walking or running at the same speed.



Walking:

Walking, paired with a scenic landscape, can lower blood pressure, reduce cholesterol, control body weight and enhance mental well-being. Walking is a healthy accessible activity which benefits overall health and wellness.

With 28-kilometres of trails in the Region, why not pop in to play in our backyard?

Vandalism

In 2010 an abundance of vandalism throughout many Conservation Areas was experienced.

On May 10, 2010 the Authority hired LCR Estates to plant 36 ornamental trees along the Floodway on Ford Street to replace diseased trees. Over the May long weekend seven of the planted trees were destroyed by vandals and an additional two were destroyed the following weekend. Damaged trees had been pruned by staff, leaving only the root stock in place. The remaining trees have been monitored since the incident. In the spring of 2011, the damaged trees will be assessed and a determination will be made as to whether replacement is necessary or warranted.

During the August long weekend of 2010, vandals attempted to set fire to interpretive panels which had just been installed the week prior at the Cascades. The new panels replaced an identical set which were destroyed by arsonists the year previous.



Arsonists destroy signage at the Cascades.

Interpretive panels are intended to help enhance the experience for visitors to each Conservation Area; the destruction of the educational panels is disheartening and frustrating. Funds for the maintenance and development of Conservation Areas comes from various sources such as visitor fees, annual Explorer Card sales, donations and levies to member Municipalities.



Ornamental tree destroyed by vandals along the Floodway on Ford Street

Play in our Backyard!
Picture Perfect



Lynn Strey, presents LRCA Chairman, Bill Bartley, with photo clock

Lynn Strey, an avid Conservation Area enthusiast gave the LRCA a gift of appreciation – a photo clock depicting several different Lakehead Region Conservation Areas. The clock is proudly displayed in the reception area.

Lynn was honourably mentioned in the 2009 Ontario Conservation Area Photo Contest for her beautiful photography of Silver Harbour and MacKenzie Point.

An explorer card was presented to Lynn by Bill Bartley, LRCA Chairman, in gratitude of her continued support of Conservation Areas.

The Lakehead Region Conservation Authority temporarily closed the Cascades Conservation Area on February 16, 2010, to allow for a clean-up of damage caused by a windstorm last September.

Trees which were blown down, leaning on other trees or in danger of falling were removed. The clean-up took place around the parking lot, pavilion and along the Blue Trail east of the parking lot. The Authority usually leaves deadfall to decay naturally and return valuable nutrients to the soil; however, due to the high volume of people who visit the Cascades and for Health and Safety concerns a comprehensive clean-up was required.

Eco-Logging Limited, a local firm that specialize in low impact harvesting, carried out the work using a Qualified Logging Professional (QLP). Originally, it was expected the clean-up work would take three weeks to complete, however work was completed about a week ahead of schedule.

Re-planting in the summer promoted re-growth in the damaged areas, ensuring the area remains a healthy, green ecosystem for future generations to enjoy.

Temporary Closure at the Cascades



Notice of temporary closure at the Cascades



Field Operations Supervisor, Ryne Gilliam, plants trees at Cascades

Lakehead Conservation Foundation



The Lakehead Conservation Foundation raises funds to support improvements to Conservation Area facilities and education programs. Funds are raised through several activities including the Fundraising Dinner and Auction.

The LCF Fundraising Dinner is an annual event where guests experience an exquisite meal and view and purchase valuable items. The 2010 auction items included a travel voucher through Westjet and an original Robert Bateman artist's proof "The Scolding Chickadees and Screech Owl".



"The Scolding Chickadees and Screech Owl" by Robert Bateman featured at the 2010 LCF Dinner

The 2010 Lakehead Conservation Foundation Dinner and Auction raised \$21,000 in net proceeds which were donated by the Lakehead Conservation Foundation to the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority. Tickets for the 2011 Dinner and Auction, to be held Thursday, February 10 at the Slovak Legion, are now on sale. Call 345-2377 for your tickets!



Volunteer, Josephine Nigro, at the 2010 LCF Fundraising Dinner

The Memorial Grove is a cooperative program between the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority, Lakehead Conservation Foundation and Blake Funeral Chapel. Blake donates funds to plant a tree for each service they provide. The general public can also have a tree planted in memory of a loved one by donating \$55.00 to the Lakehead Conservation Foundation. A certificate is sent to the family and the donor receives a Charitable Receipt. The year 2010 marks 19 years since planting of the Memorial Grove started. 242 trees were planted in 2010, bringing the total to 5,364 trees since the program began.

The Foundation also raises funds through its annual Garden Party and Plant Sale, held the first Saturday in June, and through public donations to the Foundation for which Charitable Receipts are issued.

2010 Foundation Board Members

<i>President</i>	<i>Phil Jarvis</i>	<i>Doug Guinn</i>	<i>Garry Maxwell</i>
<i>Vice-President</i>	<i>Lauri Pajamaki</i>	<i>Darlene Guinn</i>	<i>Gary Murchison</i>
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Melody Lundstrom</i>	<i>Marlene Jarvis</i>	<i>John Palko</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Mary Provenzano</i>	<i>Richard Lundstrom</i>	<i>Paul Straiton</i>

For more information call 345-2377 or write:
130 Conservation Road, P.O. Box 10147
Thunder Bay, ON, P7B 6T6

The Lakehead Conservation Foundation is a Registered Charitable Organization

Little Trout Bay

conservation area

Cedar Falls

Conservation Area

POST CARD

CORRESPONDENCE

ADDRESS ONLY

CASCADES

Conservation Area

McKen

Conserv

Hurkett Cove

Conservation Area

Silver

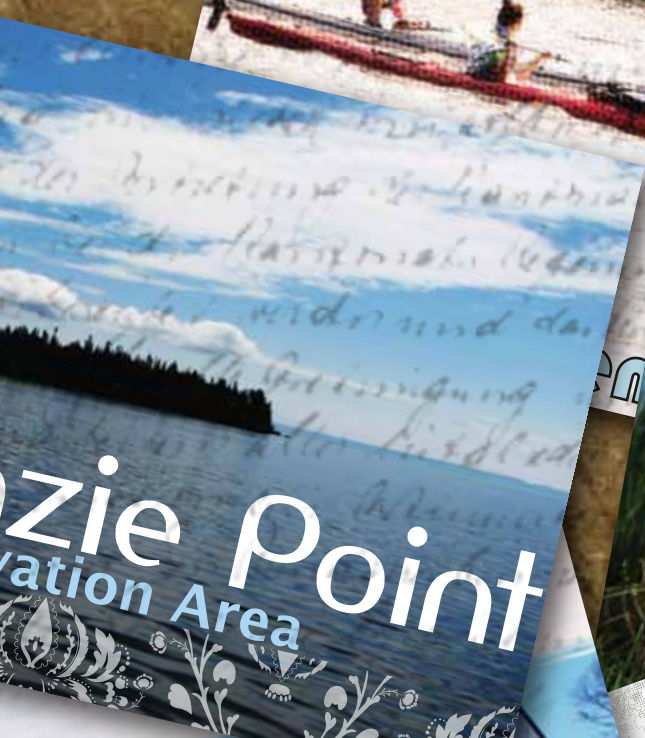
Conserv



Hazelwood lake



**Mission Island Marsh
conservation area**



**zies Point
Conservation Area**



**Harbour
Conservation Area**



**Play
In Our Backyard!**

Partners in Conservation...for a better tomorrow!

The Lakehead Region Conservation Authority appreciates the support of its many partners in helping to achieve its goals and objectives.

There are 8 Member Municipalities which belong to the Authority and provide financial support through levies. Representatives of each Member Municipality are appointed to sit on the LRCA Board of Directors. Other financial support is received in the form of donations directed toward specific projects.

In 2010, Ontario Power Generation sponsored the Lakehead Children's Water Festival and the Fall Waterfowl Viewing Day. OPG has also funded the planting of large trees at the Mission Island Marsh Conservation Area and has sponsored both viewing scopes for the upcoming year.



Ontario Power Generation representative, Krista Tarabocchia, receiving Plaque of Appreciation

A new initiative, "Lands for Learning", is in the infancy stage and will be launched at the Mission Island Marsh Conservation Area. Through this educational trail, learners can experience nature and acquire knowledge in identifying local species of plants and animals.

The re-printing of the Mission Marsh Colouring and Activity Book was also generously financed through Ontario Power Generation.

RBC Royal Bank sponsored the 2010 Children's Water Festival with a grant from the RBC Blue Water Project. Sponsors such as RBC Royal Bank Blue Water Project help to underwrite the cost of operating the Festival making Thunder Bay's festival one of the few that is completely free of charge for students to attend.

Support from sponsors such as these is essential in order to maintain and upgrade Conservation Areas and to provide education programs which benefit the entire community.



RBC Royal Bank Blue Water Project representative, Ted Marenchak receiving Plaque of Appreciation

The Lakehead Region Conservation Authority produced a 2011 Calendar in order to promote awareness of Conservation Areas and the LRCA Mandate. Without the assistance of several sponsors, the calendar would have not become a reality. The LRCA thanks the following supporters: DST Consulting Engineers, TbayTel, Lakehead Public Schools, Eco Superior Environmental Programs, City of Thunder Bay (Tourism), Ontario Power Generation, The Slovak Legion, Canadian Lakehead Exhibition and J & J Sports.



Education and Outreach



Throughout the year, the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority provides educational programming to hundreds of students in the region.

Field trips to Conservation Areas provide learners with outdoor education. They gain an understanding and appreciation of the native trees, species and environment. Special events such as the annual Lakehead Children's Water Festival provide a fun and interactive instructive atmosphere where students gain hands-on experience.

Staff visited Whitefish Valley Public School on May 18, 2010, to plant a tree with the students as part of Arbour Week. Each grade 4/5 class received a tree courtesy of Hill's Greenhouses to plant in their own school yard. Projects such as this educate students in the importance of planting trees, and their ability to remove carbon dioxide from the air – providing a cleaner future for themselves and the world.

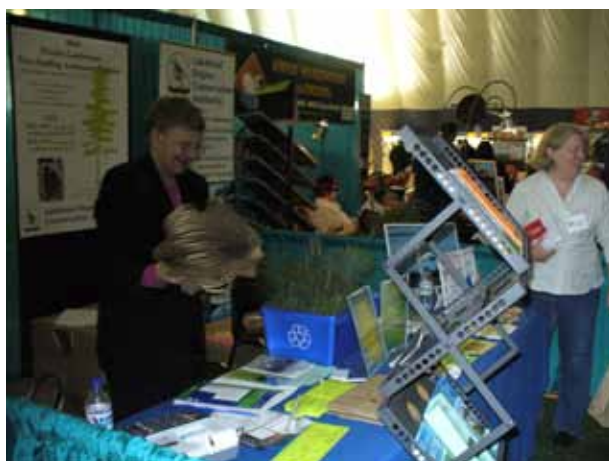
The LRCA provides several financial bursaries and awards from Elementary School to Post-Secondary. Primary and Secondary school learners who participate in the annual North-Western Ontario Regional Science Fair are eligible for one award for their involvement. Post-Secondary learners are eligible for the "Arthur Shewchuk Memorial Bursary", which is offered to a deserving student who permanently resides in one of the Authority's Member Municipalities and is enrolled in a Geography, Forestry, Biology or Engineering field of study at Lakehead University.

A student enrolled in the Recreation and Leisure program or Civil Engineering program at Confederation College, and is a resident of one of the participating Municipalities of the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority is selected and awarded the "Lakehead Region Conservation Authority Award" annually on the basis of academic achievement. Robert Shonosky was the successful recipient of the 2010 "Lakehead Region Conservation Authority Award".



2010 Children's Water Festival - students participate in water education activities

The LRCA has participated in several community events such as the Spring Yard & Garden Show and Lake Superior Day. Through these and other public occasions, the LCRA had the opportunity to engage individuals regarding conservation, restoration and responsible management of Ontario's water, land and natural habitats.



LCRA's Norma Hunt, at the 2010 Home and Garden Show.

Source Protection Planning

The Lakehead Source Protection Committee and the Lakehead Source Protection Authority have made great progress in 2010 towards the development of a local Source Protection Plan for the Lakehead Source Protection Area to meet the requirements under the "Clean Water Act".

Submission of Assessment Report

The Assessment Report was submitted to the Director of the Source Protection Branch of the Ministry of Environment on July 2, 2010. The Assessment Report is the technical, science-based report generated by the Lakehead Source Protection Committee to identify vulnerability and threats to the sources of Municipal residential drinking water systems in the Lakehead Source Protection Area.



Rosslyn Village Wellhead Protection Area

A wellhead protection area is the area around a wellhead for a Municipal drinking water system where land use activities have the potential to affect the quality and quantity of water that flows into the well.

Phase III: Source Protection Plan

The second half of 2010 was focused on taking initial steps towards preparing the Source Protection Plan. The Source Protection Plan is a strategic document for a Source Protection Area that outlines policies and procedures to ensure that all significant and potentially significant threats to the sources of Municipal residential drinking water systems are managed so that they will never become significant drinking water risks.

Municipal Staff have been contacted by the Source Protection Committee to create a planning working group.



A display at an open house showing many informative posters and diagrams dealing with Source Protection Planning.

Municipalities will play a central role in the implementation and enforcement of the Source Protection Plan. An in-depth training session on the Source Protection Plan Regulation and Source Protection Plan Policy writing was provided on November 9, 2010, to Source Protection Authority Members, Source Protection Committee Members and Source Protection Staff by the Ministry of the Environment. The Lakehead Source Protection Committee has continued to hold meetings on a monthly basis as they work to meet the tight deadlines required to complete the Source Protection Plan by June 6, 2012.



Bare Point Intake Protection Zone

The "Intake Protection Zone" is the area around a surface water intake that is defined to protect the source water for a municipal residential drinking water system. Within IPZ-1 and IPZ-2 contaminants could pose a potential risk to the drinking water source.



Residents turn out for an Open House to learn more about the Draft Proposed Assessment Report.

Source Protection Planning Drinking Water Stewardship

The Lakehead Region Conservation Authority successfully completed the project "Protecting Source Water – Take Pride in Your Property". The project was aimed at providing information to property owners regarding the best management practices in their homes and yards in order to protect source water. Residents in the watershed received flyers in the mail through two phases in 2009 and the final two phases in 2010. Flyers are still available at the LRCA office.

List of Flyers

Keeping the Public Informed

The public was given the opportunity to review and comment to the Lakehead Source Protection Committee on the "Draft Proposed Assessment Report". There were three separate Open Houses spanning from February to March, 2010. Information, including posters and diagrams were set up to illustrate the Report. Several PowerPoint presentations were delivered to detail what was written in the "Draft Proposed Assessment Report".

The public consultation process was a very important part of creating the Assessment Report. The comments that were received from the public were valued and were considered in the creation and revision of the Draft reports.



"Scrap is Where It's At"
Delivered June to September, 2009



"Retire Your Tires"
Delivered September to December, 2009



"Harness Household Hazardous Waste"
Delivered February to March, 2010



"Don't Dump Drugs Down the Drain"
Delivered July to August, 2010

Remember, what we do in our homes and our yards can make a difference to protect source water!

Dates and Locations of Open Houses

February 25, 2010

Rosslyn Village Community Centre

February 26, 2010

Current River Recreation Centre

March 10, 2010

Lakehead Region Conservation Authority Boardroom

Source Protection Planning Ontario Drinking Water Stewardship Program

In 2010 the LRCA submitted an application under the ODSWP Early Response funding program to the MOE. The priority for Stewardship initiatives are significant threats posed by septic systems within the Wellhead Protection Area-A of the Rosslyn Village Municipal drinking water wells. If approved, the Early Response funding will fund up to 80% of a new septic system within this area. This funding will have an upper limit of \$7,000 for a conventional septic system and \$15,000 for an advanced (tertiary) level septic system.

Education & Outreach World Water Day

The Lakehead Source Protection Authority hosted a presentation on Tuesday, March 23, 2010, at the Port Arthur Ukrainian Prosvita Society entitled “Walkerton – The Cost of Getting it Wrong” by Mr. Bruce Davidson. The presentation provided an understanding of the consequences of failing to protect drinking water from source to tap and an overview of the events leading to the creation of the *Clean Water Act*. Bruce Davidson, a co-founder and spokesperson for “The Concerned Walkerton Citizens”, was personally impacted by the Walkerton drinking water tragedy 10 years ago. He told a story that details and enforces why we need to protect our drinking water sources, whether we get our drinking water from a Municipal drinking water system or a private well.

DRINKING WATER
SOURCE PROTECTION
ACT FOR CLEAN WATER



Lakehead Region
Conservation Authority
Protecting People, Places & Wildlife

LAKEHEAD Source Protection Area

You are invited to attend...

W
O
R
L
D

W
A
T
E
R



Walkerton

The Cost of Getting it Wrong

Guest Speaker

Bruce Davidson

The Concerned Walkerton Citizens

Lake Superior Day - July

Lake Superior Day is a special day for Source Protection Staff. It is a perfect time to show how important Lake Superior is to the Thunder Bay area. The event is held as part of Lake Superior Day festivities in Canada and the U.S. which are staged the third Sunday every July.



Kids enjoying one of many activities at the 2010 Children's Water Festival.

Children's Water Festival - September

The Children's Water Festival was a 3 day event that provided information about drinking water. Grade three and four classes from 30 schools (amounting to over 658 students) attended this successful event.

Website - www.sourceprotection.net

The website - www.sourceprotection.net is updated regularly to provide an online resource on Source Protection Planning for the Lakehead Source Protection Area. It allows the public easy access to information on technical reports and studies, along with brochures, factsheets and other information which explains the local Source Protection Plan process. The website is a requirement for public consultation as directed by the *Clean Water Act* Regulation. It provides an opportunity for the public to review and comment on documents produced as part of the planning process.

DRINKING WATER
SOURCE PROTECTION
ACT FOR CLEAN WATER



Lakehead Region
Conservation Authority
Protecting People, Places & Wildlife

LAKEHEAD Source Protection Area

Municipal Drinking Water Source Protection

Access to this web site provides drinking water source protection in the Lakehead Source Protection Area.

It is a key website available information on source water protection and the "Clean Water Act", as well as the most reliable and up-to-date information on local source protection activities to protect the drinking water, reputation of drinking water.

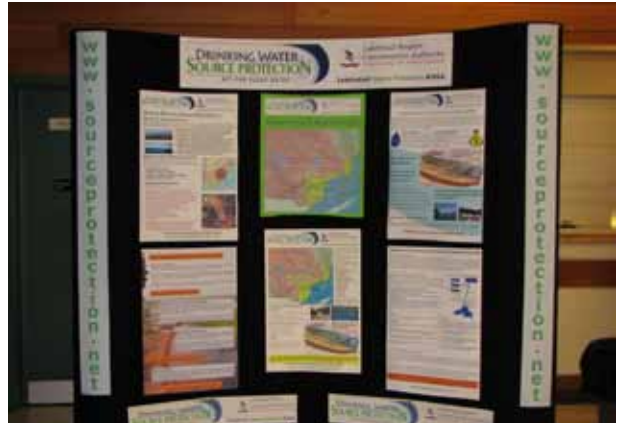


18 2010 Annual Report

Lakehead Region Conservation Authority



Aerial shot of the Bare Point Water Treatment Plant with the former mill on Lakeshore Drive in the foreground and homes off Northstar Road in the distance.



Source Protection backdrop displaying information on the Source Protection Plan.

Looking Ahead to 2011

The Lakehead Source Protection Committee (SPC) is responsible for overseeing a science-based planning process to develop a Source Protection Plan. The purpose of this Plan is to protect sources of Municipal drinking water in the Lakehead Source Protection Area. 2010 was a very productive year for the Source Protection Committee. The Assessment Report was completed well before the Province's deadline and is in the process of being approved by the MOE.

2011 will be a busy year for the Source Protection Staff, Source Protection Committee and Source Protection Authority. The main SPC focus will be on creating a Source Protection Plan. The creation and review of SPP policies for the Rosslyn Village WHPA and Bare Point IPZ will begin in January 2011.

These policies will be written by SP Staff under the direction of the SPC. Staff and the SPC will work closely with affected Municipalities and stakeholders to ensure that the Source Protection Plan considers all possible local impacts.

Bob Hartley, Chair Ken McWhirter, Vice Chair
Hartley Multamaki
Ross Chuchman

Liaison Members: Mervi Henttonen - Source Protection Authority
Kate Turner - Ministry of the Environment
Chris Beveridge - Thunder Bay District Health Unit

The Source Protection Plan Will Include:

- Policies and programs to manage existing significant threats
- Policies and programs to ensure no future drinking water threats become significant threats
- Land use policies in wellhead and intake protection zones
- Public education programs
- Voluntary programs promoting best management practices in vulnerable areas

Source Protection Committee

The Source Protection Committee meets on the first Wednesday of every month at the LRCA office. The Lakehead Source Protection Committee is made up of nine Members and three Liaison Members. The Source Protection Committee follows the structure mandated by Regulation of the "Clean Water Act, 2006". The Chair is appointed by the Minister of the Environment with the balance of the committee appointed by the Source Protection Authority.

James Vukmanich Veikko Long
Bernie Kamphof Robert Stewart
Paul McAlister Guy Jarvis

Field Operations

The Lakehead Region Conservation Authority hires seasonal field staff to assist with the maintenance of its properties, including the Neebing-McIntyre Floodway and Conservation Areas. Seasonal field staff cut grass, clean river banks and carry out other maintenance or upgrades.

In 2010, a total of 4,730 kilograms of items and debris were removed from the McIntyre River, Neebing River and McVicar Creek areas. Objects which were removed included: 44 Shopping carts, tires, bicycles, strollers and discarded timber. A large blockage situated along the pathway near Grandview Arena was removed – totaling a weight of 510 kilograms.

During the course of two days the River and Floodway crews removed alder brush along the Floodway at William Street totaling 2,400 kilograms of brush removed.



LRCA truck filled with debris from river clean-up

Wind Damages

After the severe wind storm in late October, many trees on the eastern side of Silver Harbour Conservation Area had fallen or were leaning, creating a hazard to patrons. LRCA crews cut the majority of the dangerous trees, in order to address Health and Safety concerns while mitigating any possible damages to LRCA and neighbouring properties.



New Birding Display at Hurkett Cove Conservation Area

Birding Display at Hurkett Cove

Hurkett Cove Conservation Area, located on Black Bay in the Township of Dorion, is a naturalist's paradise. The area is excellent for birding, picnicking or canoeing along the shore.

In 2010, a new "Birding" interpretive panel was installed at Hurkett Cove. The new display features commonly found birds such as the Bald Eagle, American White Pelican, Magnolia Warbler and the Great Blue Heron.

In 2005, Andy Bezener of "Birds Ontario" selected Hurkett Cove as one of the top birding sites in Ontario. Visitors can expect to see songbirds along the trail, raptors overhead, and waterfowl and shorebirds in the Cove or along the Black Bay shore.

Forest Management

The Lakehead Region Conservation Authority manages three forest management properties: Williams Forest, Mills Block Forest and Wishart Forest. In 2010, harvesting was undertaken at the Williams Forest as per the area's Forest Management Plan. Harvesting is conducted to maintain a healthy and sustainable forest. Revenues generated are used to fund the maintenance of the Forest Management Plans and to subsidize the Private Land Owners Tree Seedling Assistance Program, which promotes tree planting in the watershed. A local firm was also hired to GPS corner posts and mark the property boundaries at the Williams Forest in order to assist in future harvesting activities.



The Lakehead Region Conservation Authority has undertaken various initiatives throughout 2010 in order to increase awareness and bookings for the Hazelwood Lake Nature Centre. These included developing a 2011 calendar highlighting the Hazelwood Lake Nature Centre and Area, introducing an adjusted rental rate structure, modifying the Hazelwood Lake Nature Centre web page and participating in Trade shows and After Business events.

Business Networking Social

To increase awareness of the Hazelwood Lake Nature Centre, a networking social was held on Thursday, May 27, 2010. Feedback regarding the event was positive from the caterer and individuals who participated. Among those in attendance were members of the Chamber of Commerce who had expressed an interest in holding an After Business event at the Centre sometime during 2011.

Open House Thursdays

The Hazelwood Lake Nature Centre welcomed the public during the summer of 2010 by hosting an Open House every Thursday from June to the end of August. Brochures and other informational resources pertaining to the Authority and Conservation Areas were readily available to the public along with displays for viewing. LRCA Staff were on site to answer questions and provide tours of the Centre.

Hazelwood Lake Nature Centre Hazelwood Events

Throughout the summer, a series of workshops and classes were available to the public at the Hazelwood Lake Nature Centre. Such events included an MNR Fishing Regulations workshop, Waterwise Gardening workshop, Blue Bird Recovery and Nature Hike, Mushroom Walk and a Laughter Yoga class. Other events held at the Hazelwood Lake Conservation Area included Family Fishing Day on Sunday, July 11 and the Hazelwood Harvest Festival and Craft Fair on Sunday, September 12.

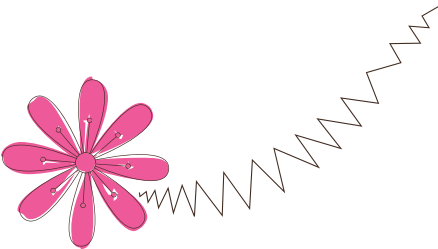


LRCA Staff Tracey Neufeld & Melanie O'Riley work at the 2010 Hazelwood Harvest Festival & Craft Fair Penny Auction Table.

Hazelwood Harvest Festival & Craft Fair

The Lakehead Region Conservation Authority hosted its 13th Annual Fall Craft Fair on Sunday, September 12, 2010, at the Hazelwood Lake Nature Centre. Artisans and crafters displayed their individual creativity and craftsmanship with over 18 tables on display to the 300 people in attendance. The day also included Flea Marketers, concession stand, prizes, children's activities, palm readings, Dotti the Clown and musical entertainment by Rodney Brown.

The 2011 Craft Fair will take place Sunday, September 11.



Hazelwood Lake Nature Centre



Families enjoying Family Fishing Day at Hazelwood

Family Fishing Day at Hazelwood

The Lakehead Region Conservation Authority hosted its 2010 Family Fishing Day at Hazelwood Lake Nature Centre on Sunday, July 11, 2010. This family friendly event is held each year in conjunction with Family Fishing Weekend in Ontario. During this period, Canadian residents do not require a fishing license. Three workshops were offered as part of the event: Angling Made Easy by Gord Ellis, Invasive Species by the MNR and Preparing a Family Survival Kit by Lakehead Search and Rescue. This year the Authority was able to obtain 100 fishing rod kits from Canadian National Sportsmen's Shows and they were offered free of charge to the first 100 children. The event was successful and plans for 2011 are underway.

Mushroom Hike

A Mushroom Nature Hike was hosted on Saturday, September 25 led by Dr. Leonard Hutchison, Biology of Fungi Specialist, at the Hazelwood Lake Nature Centre and Conservation Area.

The event started with a discussion on mushrooms and different fungi. Participants were lead through the Forest Community Trail by Dr. Hutchison and his Grad Student. Various mushrooms were collected and discussed during the course of the two hour nature hike.

Added Mushroom Nature Hikes are planned for the upcoming year due to the overwhelming interest.



Ice Boats at Silver Harbour for Championship racing

North American Ice Racing Championships at Silver Harbour

The International DN Ice Yacht Racing Association hosted the North American Championship Ice Boat Races at Silver Harbour Conservation Area in March, 2010. Ice Boats are comparable to windsurfers but have skis attached to them for sliding on the ice. All boats are wind powered using only sails. There were between 30-40 participants from Germany, Poland, Australia, Canada and the United States. Due to the great conditions at Silver Harbour Conservation Area, such ice racing events may be hosted in the future.

The LRCA wishes to thank all those who volunteered their expertise and time to make these events possible.



Lakehead Children's Water Festival

The Children's Water Festival was held September 21-23, 2010 at the CLE Heritage Building with 658 students in attendance and over 30 schools involved. Volunteers for the festival were from Thunder Bay Christian School, Sir Winston Churchill C.&V.I., and Lakehead University Geography and Education students. The three day Water Festival provided students with a hands-on interactive learning environment where activities, demonstrations and displays challenged both children and adults to consider the source and importance of water to themselves, their society and the natural environment.

Lake Superior Day at Mission Island Marsh

The 2010 Lake Superior Day Picnic was held on Sunday, July 18, at Mission Island Marsh Conservation Area. The event is held as part of Lake Superior Day festivities in Canada and the U.S. which are staged the third Sunday every July. This is the fifth year the Authority has held a Community Picnic and the first time it was held at Mission Island Marsh Conservation Area. Activities held as part of the occasion were a windsurfing demonstration and dry land simulator, canoe/kayak rides, a tai chi demonstration, Dripial Pursuit, displays and a concession stand. With perfect weather and smiling faces, the day was enjoyable for all who were in attendance.



2011 Calendar of Events!

Thursday, February 10

Lakehead Conservation Foundation
Dinner Auction

Sunday, May 8

Mother's Day Brunch at Hazelwood Lake
Nature Centre. Call 577-3699 for info or
reservations

April 1 to 3, 2011

Home & Garden Show
CLE Grounds - Sports Dome

Saturday, June 4

Garden Party & Plant Sale - LRCA Office
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

Sunday, July 10

Family Fishing Day at Hazelwood Lake
Nature Centre and Conservation Area

Saturday, July 17

Lake Superior Day Family Picnic - Mission
Island Marsh Conservation Area
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, September 11

Hazelwood Harvest Festival & Craft Fair at
Hazelwood Lake Nature Centre
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Sunday & Monday, September 4 & 5

Hymers Fall Fair - Village of Hymers
10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 15

Fall Waterfowl Viewing Day at Mission
Island Marsh Conservation Area
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Schedule subject to change.
Call 344-5857 for more information
or visit
www.lakeheadca.com



Lakehead Region Conservation Authority
130 Conservation Road
P.O. Box 10427
Thunder Bay, ON
P7B 6T8