



TAKING ACTION IN HURON COUNTY, ONTARIO

Municipal Leadership to Improve Lake Huron Water Quality

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Mayor, Town of Goderich, Ontario Canada

Presentation Outline

Conservation Authority Leadership:

Maitland Valley Watershed Resiliency Fund

Huron County Leadership:

Huron County Water Protection Steering Committee

Provincial and Federal Leadership:

Healthy Lake Huron

Maitland Valley Watershed Resiliency Fund





Key Strategic Goal of the MVCA

Build resilience on the landscape to reduce flooding and soil erosion, and improve water quality.





MVCA Targets

- Raise Natural Cover from 18.9-26%
- Reduce absolute loss of natural areas by 50% by 2020
- Increase Woodlots in good condition from 45%-60%
- Increase natural connections on the landscape from 8,700 ha to 21,000 ha
- There is potential in the watershed for 23,609 ha of marginal land and 21,000 ha of buffer strips to be naturalized.



Economical cost if we do nothing?







Building Watershed Resiliency



Huron County Water Protection Steering Committee



County Council
Lower tier municipalities
Conservation Authorities
Farm groups
Provincial ministries
Health Unit
Planning Department
Lakeshore residents
Manufacturing Representatives
Tourism Representatives

MANDATE OF THE HURON WATER PROTECTION STEERING COMMITTEE

COMMUNICATION: To bring together representatives of agencies, groups and municipalities.

IMPLEMENTATION: To prioritize and recommend implementation measures to participating agencies.

CO-ORDINATION: To coordinate activities at a broad level, subject to the resources of the participating agencies.



Huron County

CLEAN WATER PROJECT

Huron County's flagship stewardship program
Funded by Huron County since 2005

\$1.75 million allocated in grants 2005-2012





Huron County

CLEAN WATER PROJECT

Total reported costs

\$4.9 million

3.5:1 spent for every grant dollar invested

Economic development and environmental protection



Healthy Lake Huron



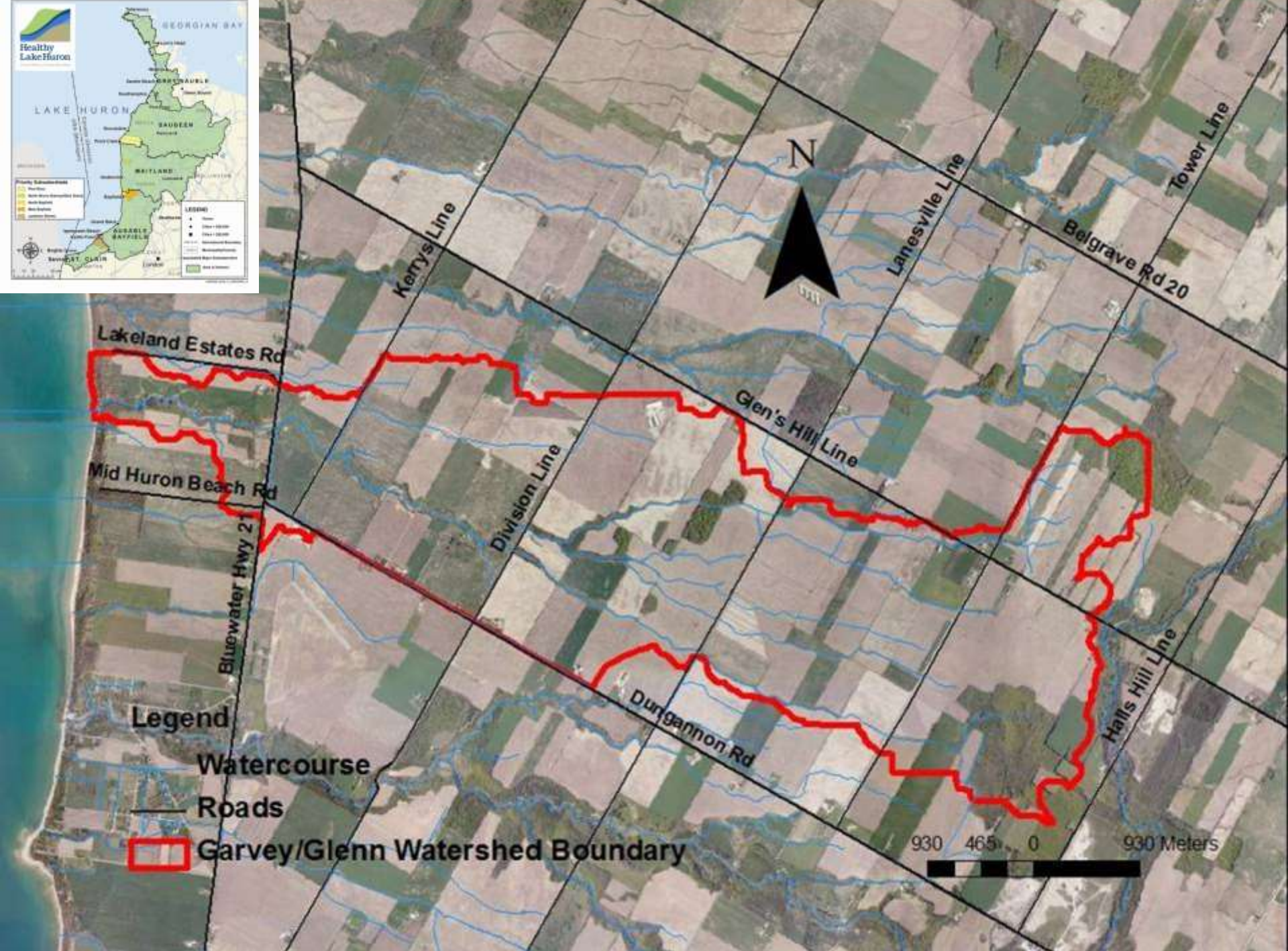
The Partners

- Environment Canada
- Department of Fisheries and Oceans
- Parks Canada
- Ministry of the Environment
- Ministry of Natural Resources
- Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- Five Conservation Authorities
- Counties of Lambton, Huron and Bruce
- Lambton, Huron and Bruce Health Units

HEALTHY LAKE HURON

Lake Huron has persistent near-shore water quality issues.

Lake Huron communities have developed watershed action plans for **five priority watersheds** along Lake Huron shoreline with targets and actions to improve water quality





A Request for Support

Five watershed action plans identify practices and projects needed to ensure a healthy Lake Huron for today and tomorrow.

Communities along the southeast shore of Lake Huron are requesting \$18.8 million over five years from provincial and federal partners to achieve the watershed goals.

Projected Costs for Implementing Watershed Action Plans

Priority Watersheds	Annual Expenses				Total Expenses Based on Five-year Implementation
	Project Management	Monitoring	Landowner Projects	Total	
Lambton Shores	\$70,000	\$25,000	\$400,000	\$495,000	\$2,475,000
Main Bayfield	\$37,500	\$25,000	\$1,350,000	\$1,412,500	\$7,062,500
Bayfield North	\$37,500	\$25,000	\$560,000	\$622,500	\$3,112,500
Glenn/Garvey	\$70,000	\$25,000	\$660,000	\$755,000	\$3,775,000
Pine River	\$65,000	\$25,000	\$385,000	\$475,000	\$2,375,000
Total	\$280,000	\$125,000	\$3,355,000	\$3,760,000	\$18,800,000

Implementing the Healthy Lake Huron project is critical to the agricultural and tourism economy of our region, and to the environmental protection of the south east shore of Lake Huron.

We endorse the implementation of the work identified in the five priority watersheds (Lambton Shores, Main Bayfield, Bayfield North, Glenn Garvey, Pine River).

We would like to invite the Province of Ontario and Environment Canada to support this collaborative rural economic development effort and contribute to a sustainable future for our communities.

We respectfully request the Province of Ontario and Environment Canada to contribute \$3.76 million a year for five years, for a total of \$18.8 million dollars, to implement best management practices in the five priority subwatersheds along the south east shore of Lake Huron.

As of June 14 2013 this has been endorsed by:

- *Township of Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh*
- *Municipality of Central Huron*
- *Municipality of Morris-Turnberry*
- *Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority*
- *Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation*
- *Dr. Wayne Caldwell, Director, School of Rural Planning and Development*
University of Guelph
- *County of Huron, Committee of the Whole*

An aerial photograph of a rural landscape. The foreground shows a dense forest of green trees. To the right, there's a small body of water, possibly a pond or a small lake, surrounded by green fields. In the background, there are more fields, some with small clusters of buildings or houses, and a line of trees. The sky is clear and blue.

Leadership for Lake Huron requires:

Reliable extension services

Climate change preparedness

A strong economy