Grand Bend Beach Enhancement
The Evolution of Grand Bend Beach
How Can We Improve?

4 Elements

• Enhance the Beach
• SWIM Monitor
• Beach Safety Audit
• Blue Flag Award
Element #1:
Beach Enhancement Project Goals

• Uniting the Community
• Energize the Community • Raise the profile of Grand Bend
• Catalyst for Community renewal
• Goal of Blue Flag
• Increase safety of the tourist
Community Participation

- 3 public open houses
- Posted information on website and Municipal Offices
- Appointment of Steering Committee
Issues and Concerns

• Lack of access for persons with disability
• Health & safety - access by emergency responders
• Maintenance & upkeep-ability to respond to needs
• Overcrowding at south beach
• Sand movement
The Design

Grand Bend Beach Enhancement

- Master Plan Concept
- 2008 MAY
Features of the Design

- Increased Accessibility
- Use of sustainable products
- Play area including splash pad
- LED lighting
Accessibility

- Elevator to the viewing platform
- Walkway system
- Viewing platforms
Sustainable Products and Practices

• Play area is created with recycled material
• Drainage from parking areas feeds gardens
• Wood used from sustainable forests
Native Species Planting

- Creation of dunes
- Re-introduction of trees and perennial gardens
Splash Pad

• Used largely by the younger set
• High wave/red flag days
• Water is capable of being stored, filtered, and used within the gardens
Creating Buzz

• Start small and unassuming
• Kick off party
• Signage
• Website
• Newspaper
Fundraising Partnerships

- Committee consisted of 2 co-chairs
- Assistance of a fund raising consultant
Funding

- Received 1.2 Million in Grants
- Received a significant donation from Community groups and local businesses
Remember When?
Completed May 2009
Element # 2 S.W.I.M. Monitor

Swimming Water Information Monitor

- Project was initiated through a partnership with the Grand Bend Rotarians

- Collects information in real time
What Does It Do?

- **S.W.I.M. Monitors:**
  - Turbidity
  - Water temperature
  - Wave height
  - PH
  - Salinity
  - Solar Radiation
  - Oxidation reduction potential

- **Grand Bend Weather Station:**
  - Air temperature
  - Rain accumulation
  - Average Wind Speed
  - Wind Direction
2008 CEO Award

- Received the 2008 Award of Excellence from the Consulting Engineers of Ontario
Next Steps for S.W.I.M

- 2 Years of data
  - Currently modeling the data
  - Will have preliminary results in the fall
  - Real time data capture and communication options