



The Municipality of Lambton Shores

# Grand Bend Beach Enhancement



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# 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





# 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



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# Sustainable Products and Practices

- Play area is created with recycled material
- Drainage from parking areas feeds gardens
- Wood used from sustainable forests



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# 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





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# 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





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# Remember When?



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# Completed May 2009



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## 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





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## 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