



LOWER TRENT CONSERVATION

714 Murray Street, R.R. 1, Trenton, Ontario K8V 0N1

■ Tel: 613-394-4829 ■ Fax: 613-394-5226 ■ Website: www.ltc.on.ca ■ Email: information@ltc.on.ca

Registered Charitable Organization No. 107646598RR0001

NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE LOWER TRENT CONSERVATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Board of Directors refers to the General Membership as set out in the Lower Trent Conservation Administrative By-Law No. 2023-01

Administration Office, 714 Murray Street, Trenton
Virtually [Join Meeting HERE](#)

Thursday November 14, 2024

Time: 1:00 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Meeting called to order by the Chair

2. First Nations Acknowledgement

3. Disclosure of pecuniary interests

4. Approval of the Agenda

RECOMMENDED:

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

5. Delegations

There are no requests for delegations received for this meeting.

6. Public Input (3 minutes per speaker)

7. Adoption of the Minutes:

a. Hearing Board Minutes of October 10, 2024

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b. Board Meeting Minutes of October 10, 2024

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RECOMMENDED:

THAT the Regular Board Meeting and Hearing Board Minutes of October 10, 2024 be adopted.

8. Business arising from these minutes

CORRESPONDENCE

9. Correspondence – Rhonda Bateman, CAO/Secretary-Treasurer

None received

STAFF REPORTS

- 10. Monthly Payments Issued** – Chitra Gowda, Manager, Corporate Services Page # 13
 RECOMMENDED:
 THAT the list of payments issued in the amount of \$425,780.09 for the month of October 2024 be received as information.
- 11. Watershed Management, Planning and Regulations Reports** – Gage Comeau, Manager, Watershed Management, Planning and Regulations Page # 15
 a. Summary of Permits for September 26 – October 30 , 2024
 b. Planning and Regulations
 c. Flood Forecasting and Warning (FFW) and Ontario Low Water Response (OLWR)
 RECOMMENDED:
 THAT the Watershed Management, Planning and Regulations Reports be received as information.
- 12. 2025 Fee Policy and Schedules** Page # 21
 RECOMMENDED:
 THAT the 2025 Lower Trent Conservation Fee Policy and Schedules be adopted and effective January 1, 2025, except for Schedule 1 Planning and Regulation fees which will be effective on the date that the Minister rescinds the current freeze on fees.
- 13. Bay of Quinte Remedial Action Plan Program** – Anne Anderson Page # 32
 September 2024 Newsletter
 RECOMMENDED:
 THAT the Bay of Quinte Remedial Action Plan Newsletter for October 2024 be received as information.
- 14. Conservation Lands and Areas Strategy** – Anne Anderson/Chris McLeod Page # 35
 RECOMMENDED:
 THAT the Conservation Lands and Areas Strategy as required under O. Reg. 686/21 Mandatory Programs and Services be approved; and
 THAT the Conservation Lands and Areas Strategy be posted under the Governance tab of the Lower Trent Conservation website.
- 15. Budget Update** – Chitra Gowda/Rhonda Bateman Page # 140
 RECOMMENDED:
 THAT the Budget Update report be received as information; and
 THAT the adjustment for reserve funding be accepted.
- 16. CAO's Report** – Rhonda Bateman Page # 144
 RECOMMENDED:
 THAT the CAO's Report be received as information.

17. Members Inquiries/Other Business

18. Adjournment

PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND THIS MEETING

Chitra Gowda 613-394-3915 ext. #215

chitra.gowda@ltc.on.ca



LOWER TRENT
CONSERVATION

**LOWER TRENT REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
HEARING BOARD**

for
O. Reg. 41/24 PERMIT APPLICATION #RP-24-200

MINUTES - DRAFT

DATE: October 10, 2024

TIME: 1:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Administration Office, 714 Murray Street, Trenton / Virtually

PRESENT:

ON SITE		REMOTE SITE
Bob Mullin (Chair)	Jim Alyea	Sherry Hamilton
Eugene (Gene) Brahaney (Vice-Chair)	Jeff Wheeldon	
Eric Sandford	Rick English	

ABSENT/REGRETS: Lynda Reid, Bobbi Wright, Mike Ainsworth

STAFF: Rhonda Bateman, Gage Comeau, Chitra Gowda, Anne Anderson,

APPLICANTS: Property Owners - Kim and Jose Lima (remotely)
Agents - Scott Stewart of SES Drafting & Design, Caleb Henderson and Bryon Keene of Jewell Engineering

GUESTS:

1. Meeting called to order by the Chair

The meeting was called to order by Chair Mullin at 1:00 p.m.

2. Motion for the Board of Directors to sit as the Hearing Board

RES: HC1/24

Moved by: Jeff Wheeldon

Seconded by: Jim Alyea

THAT the Board of Directors sit as the Lower Trent Conservation Hearing Board.

Carried

3. Opening Remarks by Chair for RP-24-200

Chair Mullin made the following remarks:

We are now going to conduct a hearing under Section 28.1 of the Conservation Authorities Act in respect of an application by SES Drafting & Design on behalf of Kim and Jose Lima , for permission to undergo site preparation and the construction of a single-family dwelling, detached accessory building and septic system in the Municipality of Trent Hills, Northumberland County, Geographic Township of Seymour, Part of Lot 14, Concession 13, on the property known as 130 Lake Road.

The Authority has adopted regulations under section 28.1 of the Conservation Authorities Act which requires the permission of the Authority for development within an area regulated by the Authority in order to ensure no adverse effect on the control of flooding, erosion, dynamic beaches, unstable soils or bedrock, or to permit alteration to a shoreline or watercourse or interference with a wetland. This Hearing is about granting permission to develop under the Authority regulations; a separate matter from approvals under the Planning Act.

The Staff has reviewed this proposed work and a copy of the staff report has been given to the applicant.

The Conservation Authorities Act (Section 28.1 [5]) provides that:

“(5) An authority shall not refuse an application for a permit or attach conditions to a permit unless the applicant for the permit has been given an opportunity to be heard by the authority.”

While holding this hearing, the Hearing Board is to determine whether or not a permit is to be issued, with or without conditions. In doing so, we can only consider the application in the form that is before us, the staff report, such evidence as may be given and the submissions to be made on behalf of the applicant. Only information disclosed prior to the hearing is to be presented at the hearing. It is not our place to suggest alternative development methods.

It is to be noted that if the Hearing Board decision is “to refuse” or not support the proposed work within the permit submission, the Chair or Acting Chair shall notify the owner/applicant of his/her right to appeal the decision to the Ontario Land Tribunals.

The proceedings will be conducted according to the Statutory Powers Procedure Act. Under Section 5 of the Canada Evidence Act, a witness may refuse to answer any question. The procedure in general shall be informal without the evidence before it being given under oath or affirmation.

If the applicant has any questions to ask of the Hearing Board or of the Authority representative, they must be directed to the Chair of the Board.

At this time, if any member of this Board has intervened on behalf of the Applicant with regards to this matter, they should recuse themselves so there is no apprehension of bias and that a fair and impartial Hearing may be conducted.

4. Disclosure of pecuniary interests

There was no disclosure of pecuniary interests for this Hearing.

5. Staff Report and Presentation

Gage Comeau, Manager, Watershed Management, Planning and Regulations presented the staff report to the Hearing Board as provided in the agenda package. A correction was noted in the slide deck for the date of the Notice of Hearing which noted September 25, 2024. Gage noted that the permit application met the intent of the regulation but did not meet the requirements of current staff policies for issuing permits.

6. Applicant Presentation

Scott Stewart of SES Drafting & Design and Bryon Keene of Jewell Engineering presented for the property owners Kim and Jose Lima, the applicant's presentation to the Hearing Board as provided in the agenda package.

7. Additional Information Sharing

a. Questions from the Board

Director Wheeldon asked about the difference between the regulation and staff policies. He asked if the staff policies are overly strict compared to the regulation, if the proposal met the regulation. Gage Comeau explained that the staff policies provide additional considerations to review permit applications, in support of the regulation. He noted that the Trent River regulatory floodplain is a "one zone" area where, per the staff policies, development is not permitted. Gage added that scoped policies could be considered in the future for the Trent River one zone area.

Director Rick English asked if the septic system was proposed to be on a raised bed. Gage Comeau responded that the building apron including the septic bed (not the entire property) is proposed to be on a raised bed.

Director Wheeldon asked if there is room for new homes to be built in the area that might impact the flood hazard. Bryon Keene of Jewell Engineering replied that most of the area is already developed; and that the addition of the small footprint of the proposed building would not increase flooding impacts nor increase risk to occupants of the property.

Director Gene Brahaney asked if the newly developed area in the vicinity was also subject to the floodplain limit. Gage Comeau responded that there is an increase between the previous and current flood hazard elevation, which varies by location.

Directors English and Alyea asked if there is any known occurrence of water on the roads in that area or a history of flooding in that area, or if flooding could be possible in the future. Gage Comeau responded that he is not aware of historical flooding on Lake Road; and that there is one section where flooding occurred due to a failure of infrastructure (at a culvert crossing).

Director Sandford asked how global warming is considered in the updated floodplain mapping. Gage Comeau responded that climate change was considered for the hydrological event (200 years event for Trent River). For the purposes of regulating, LTC considers the 100 year event

for the Trent River. Rhonda Bateman added that the floodplain mapping was provided to municipalities to assist them with future climate change scenarios. The provincial government has not provided direction to use the climate change mapping information.

There were no further questions from the Board.

b. Comments or Questions from the Applicant

There were no further comments or questions from the Applicant.

c. Comments or Questions from Staff

There were no further comments or questions from Staff.

8. Deliberation (In-Camera)

RES: HC2/24

Moved by: Eric Sandford

Seconded by: Jeff Wheeldon

THAT the Hearing Board move to in-camera session.

Carried

Guests and Staff were asked to leave the meeting for Board deliberation.

Time 1:44 pm

RES: HC3/24

Moved by: Eric Sandford

Seconded by: Jeff Wheeldon

THAT the Lower Trent Conservation Hearing Board move out of in-camera session.

Carried

Time 1:56 pm

Guests and Staff returned to the Hearing Board meeting.

9. Motion on the Hearing Board Decision

The Board will approve the permit with the following conditions:

- *The finished floor elevation (FFE) of the dwelling structure is to be at a minimum elevation of 185.30 metres CGVD1928 and there are to be no openings below the minimum FFE elevation;*
- *Electrical and heating equipment in the dwelling structure is to be situated at an elevation no lower than 185.30 metres CGVD1928;*
- *Pipes of the septic system must be at or above the floodplain elevation of 185.00 metres CGVD1928;*
- *The crawlspace floor is to be situated no lower than 1 metre below the floodplain elevation of 185.00 metres CGVD1928 (i.e., no lower than 184.00 metres CGVD1928);*
- *The subject permit is to be amended to include the construction drawings and final site plan for*

the future detached accessory structure prior to the construction of the proposed accessory structure on the property. The future detached accessory structure is to be constructed with a minimum finished floor elevation (FFE) of 185.00 metres CGVD1928, engineered slab foundation and will not include any dwelling units;

- *Any fill placed in the floodplain on the property (i.e., below the 185.00 metre flood contour) is to be limited to that strictly required to accommodate the elevations noted in mitigation measures 1-2 of this letter, frost protection and proper drainage around the structure. No fill placement is supported beyond the building footprint, septic and future detached accessory structure;*
- *Side slopes of all fill material are to be graded to a 3:1 (horizontal: vertical) slope ratio;*
- *Appropriate erosion and sediment control measures are to be implemented prior to construction, maintained in good repair during the construction phase, and remain in place until all disturbed soil surfaces have become stabilized and/or revegetated to prevent the movement of sediment away from the construction site;*
- *All disturbed areas are to be revegetated (e.g., reseeded using a native seed mix) upon completion of the permitted works as soon as planting conditions permit;*
- *Local drainage is to be maintained; and,*
- *LTC staff are to be contacted and advised of when the work is being undertaken.*

RES: HC4/24

Moved by: Jim Alyea

Seconded by: Eric Sandford

THAT the permit application RP-24-200 be approved with conditions as provided by staff.

Carried

10. Motion to adjourn the Hearing Board

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

RES: HC5/24

Moved by: Jim Alyea

Seconded by: Rick English

THAT the Hearing Board meeting for permit application RP-24-200 be adjourned.

Carried

Time: 2:02 pm

Bob Mullin, Chair

Rhonda Bateman, CAO/ST



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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES - DRAFT MEETING # 2024-08

DATE: October 10, 2024

TIME: 2:27 PM

LOCATION: Administration Office, 714 Murray Street, Trenton / Virtually

PRESENT:

REMOTE SITE (R)	ON SITE	
Sherry Hamilton	Bob Mullin (Chair)	Jim Alyea
	Eugene (Gene) Brahaney (Vice Chair)	Jeff Wheeldon
	Eric Sandford	Rick English

ABSENT/REGRETS: Lynda Reid, Bobbi Wright, Mike Ainsworth

STAFF: Rhonda Bateman, Chitra Gowda, Gage Comeau, Anne Anderson, Keith Taylor (remotely), Chris McLeod (remotely)

GUESTS: None

1. Meeting called to order by the Chair

The meeting was called to order by Chair Mullin at 2:27 p.m.

2. First Nations Acknowledgement

"This land is located on the traditional territories of the Anishnabek, Huron-Wendat, and Haudenosaunee (Iroquois) peoples. We acknowledge our shared responsibilities and obligations to preserve and protect the land, air and water. We are grateful to have the privilege to meet, explore, and connect here on these shared lands. In the spirit of friendship, peace and respect, we extend our thanks to all the generations that came before us and cared for these lands - for time immemorial."

3. Disclosure of pecuniary interests

There were no pecuniary interests declared.

4. Approval of the AgendaRES: G114/24

Moved by: Rick English

Seconded by: Eugene Brahaney

THAT the agenda be approved as amended for updated Item#20: 2025 Draft Budget.

Carried**5. Delegations**

There were no delegations received for this meeting.

6. Public Input (3 minutes per speaker)

There was no public input at this meeting.

7. Adoption of the Minutes:

a. Board Meeting Minutes of September 9, 2024

RES: G115/24

Moved by: Eric Sandford

Seconded by: Jeff Wheeldon

THAT the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of September 9, 2024 be adopted.

Carried**8. Business arising from these minutes**

None.

CORRESPONDENCE**9. Correspondence**

None received

STAFF REPORTS**10. Monthly Payments Issued**

Members asked for details on payments made to other conservation authorities. Rhonda Bateman explained that LTC receives invoices from the partner CAs (as source protection authorities in their role under the *Clean Water Act, 2006*), for their work on the Drinking Water Source Protection program. Provincial funds are received by LTC for this Category 1 program, and these funds are used to pay the partner CAs.

RES: G116/24

Moved by: Jeff Wheeldon

Seconded by: Gene Brahaney

THAT the list of payments issued in the amount of \$247,234.78 for the month of September 2024 be received as information.

Carried**11. Quarterly Financial Status – August 31, 2024**RES: G117/24

Moved by: Jim Alyea

Seconded by: Eric Sandford

THAT the Quarterly Financial Status staff report for period ending August 31, 2024 be received as information.

Carried

12. Watershed Management, Planning and Regulations ReportsRES: G118/24

Moved by: Jim Alyea

Seconded by: Jeff Wheeldon

THAT the Watershed Management, Planning and Regulations Reports be received as information.

Carried**13. Conservation Lands Report**

Chris McLeod provided a summary of the work carried out to date in 2024. Members asked about the signs that went missing from Seymour Conservation Area. Chris McLeod explained that replacement signs are now installed, secured to rock outcrop for additional security.

RES: G119/24

Moved by: Jeff Wheeldon

Seconded by: Rick English

THAT the Conservation Lands Report for the period July 1 – September 27, 2024, be received as information.

Carried**14. Community Outreach, Education and Stewardship Programs Report**RES: G120/24

Moved by: Jim Alyea

Seconded by: Gene Brahaney

THAT the Community Outreach, Education and Stewardship Programs Report for the period July 1 – September 30, 2024, be received as information.

Carried**15. Local Drinking Water Source Protection**RES: G121/24

Moved by: Eric Sandford

Seconded by: Jeff Wheeldon

THAT the Local Drinking Water Source Protection Update for the period July 1 – September 30, 2024, be received as information.

Carried**16. Risk Management Official Activity Report**RES: G122/24

Moved by: Jim Alyea

Seconded by: Rick English

THAT the Risk Management Official Activity Report pursuant to Part IV of the *Clean Water Act* for the period of July 1 - September 30, 2024, be received as information.

Carried**17. Part IV Procedures**RES: G123/24

Moved by: Jeff Wheeldon

Seconded by: Sherry Hamilton

THAT the Part IV Procedures for the Clean Water Act be approved and adopted for use by LTC staff working under the *Clean Water Act, 2006*.

Carried**18. Bay of Quinte Remedial Action Plan Program**RES: G124/24

Moved by: Jeff Wheeldon

Seconded by: Rick English

THAT the Bay of Quinte Remedial Action Plan Newsletter for September 2024 be received as information.

Carried

19. Watershed Based Resource Management Strategy

Anne Anderson noted that further edits were made to the Strategy to reflect legislative and regulatory changes and minor edits. Director Wheeldon complimented staff on the Strategy. He and the CAO appreciated the positive public comments received.

RES: G125/24 Moved by: Jeff Wheeldon Seconded by: Eric Sandford
 THAT the Watershed Based Resource Management Strategy as required under O. Reg. 686/21 Mandatory Programs and Services be approved; and
 THAT the Watershed Based Resource Management Strategy be posted under the Governance tab of the Lower Trent Conservation website.

Carried

20. 2025 Draft Budget Amended

Chitra Gowda presented the updated draft 2025 budget. The update included estimated 2024 surplus and interest earned, strategies to reduce operating expenses, and valuable feedback from the Budget Subcommittee that met in early October 2024. Rhonda Bateman presented levy amounts by municipality. Members directed staff to also provide the municipal levy per assessment in the draft budget consultation package.

RES: G126/24 Moved by: Eric Sandford Seconded by: Gene Brahaney
 THAT the Lower Trent Conservation 2025 amended Draft Budget report be accepted; and
 THAT the approved draft budget be sent to our municipal partners for the 30 day consultation period with the additional information discussed.

Carried

21. CAO's Report

Director Wheeldon asked if Conservation Ontario's Standard Operating Practices (SOPs) for conservation areas considered the Kitchener-Waterloo homelessness case determined by Ontario Superior Court. Rhonda Bateman indicated that she was not aware whether the case had been considered. She added that the Proctor Park CA pavilion demolition is completed.

RES: G127/24 Moved by: Jim Alyea Seconded by: Jeff Wheeldon
 THAT the CAO's Report be received as information.

Carried

OTHER BUSINESS**22. Members Inquiries/Other Business**

None.

23. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

RES: G128/24 Moved by: Rick English Seconded by: Jeff Wheeldon
 THAT the meeting be adjourned.

Carried

Time: 3:24 p.m.

Bob Mullin, Chair

Rhonda Bateman, CAO/ST

**Lower Trent Conservation
Payments LOG - OCOTBER 2024**

CHEQUE # / EFT #	PAYEE	DETAILS	AMOUNT
	Staff Payroll	Oct/24 Payroll Period #20, #21 and #22	204,129.35
EFT 73179950	OMERS	Sep/24 Pension Contributions	23,584.22
EFT 73179956	Workplace Safety Insurance Board (WSIB)	Sep/24 WSIB Premium	4,557.12
EFT 73179985	Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada	Oct/24 Group Benefits Premium	7,920.37
EFT 73180024	CIBC VISA	Sep/24 Statement	9,338.51
EFT 73557661	Jani-King of Eastern Ontario	Oct/24 Cleaning - Admin and Workshop	1,357.82
EFT 73557758	Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada	Nov/24 Group Benefits Premium	8,176.95
EFT 73557768	OMERS	Oct/24 Pension Contributions - Payroll #20	23,469.04
EFT 73557780	Workplace Safety Insurance Board (WSIB)	Oct/24 WSIB Premium - Payroll #20	4,445.40
EFT 73557892	Staff	Staff Expenses - Reimbursed	162.35
EFT 73684702	Workplace Safety Insurance Board (WSIB)	Oct/24 WSIB Premium - Payroll #22	2,229.80
EFT 73684736	OMERS	Oct/24 Pension Contributions - Payroll #22	11,739.86
EFT 73684807	CIBC VISA	Oct/24 Statement	4,393.52
16901	Voided	WSIB premium paid by EFT not cheque	0.00
16840	Township of Asphodel-Norwood	Community Centre hall rental for SPC meeting Oct.3/24	260.05
16841	Minister of Finance	Repayment of unspent funds from CEPG project	731.00
16842	Crowe Valley Conservation	DWSP 2024-27 Source Protection Authority Invoice #2	16,269.34
16843	Kawartha Region Conservation Authority	DWSP 2024-27 Source Protection Authority Invoice #2	17,775.84
16844	Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority	DWSP 2024-27 Source Protection Authority Invoice #2	24,063.46
16845	Otonabee Region Conservation Authority	DWSP 2024-27 Source Protection Authority Invoice #2	19,203.30
16846	Trenton Home Hardware Building Centre	Property/building maintenance, janitorial	347.02
16847	OT Group - DCB Business Systems Group Inc	Monthly Photocopier Usage Service fees	190.77
16848	Caduceon Enterprises Inc.	Water Analysis - Monitoring	294.42
16849	Alarm Systems	Installation of heat and smoke detectors, access control	4,257.61
16850	Staples Commercial	Office stationary and janitorial supplies	143.84
16851	Bill's Johns	Portable toilet rental - conservation areas	847.50
16852	Nesda Technologies Ltd.	Monthly IT services, project and tickets fees	2,416.79
16853	Waste Management of Canada Corporation	Waste Services - Workshop	115.58
16854	John Mahoney	Staff Expenses - travel - Reimbursed	21.42
16855	CDW Canada Corp.	IT supplies - cable	18.43
16856	City of Quinte West	Utilities - water/sewer - workshop	71.14
16857	B&T Sales	Janitorial supplies	370.16
16858	JKN Consulting	Engineering Review Services	1,725.00
16859	Hydro One Networks Inc.	Utilities - electricity - admin bldg, workshop	719.83
16860	Purolator Inc.	Courier	21.89
16861	William Newell	Invasive species management at Sager CA	904.00
16862	Matt Faulkner	Beaver management at Bleasdel Boulder CA	550.00
16863	Free Flow Petroleum	Monthly Vehicle and Equipment Fuel	1,541.87
16864	Staples Commercial	Office stationary supplies	122.94
16865	County of Northumberland	Tipping fees - Proctor Park, Trenton Greenbelt CA	61.10
16866	Templeman LLP	Legal fees - Maizing Acres Inc. file	5,751.70
16867	Brighton Springs	Drinking water for Admin bldg	102.50
16868	Telizon Inc	Monthly Telephone Lines	520.72
16869	Cogeco Connexion Inc.	Monthly Internet Services - workshop	135.54
16870	Scott Robertson	Staff Expenses - travel - Reimbursed	533.39
16871	CDW Canada Corp.	Stationary and office supplies	214.34
16872	A&L Canada Laboratories Inc.	BQRAP stewardship - soil testing	111.14
16873	BDI - Division of Bell Mobility	Cell phone - Corporate Services	438.21
16874	Bell Mobility Inc.	Monthly Cellular Phones - Service	208.19
16875	Alanna Boulton	Oct. 3/24 Source Protection Committee per diem and mileage	228.00
16876	Alexander Hukowich	Oct. 3/24 Source Protection Committee per diem and mileage	245.60
16877	Cecil Ryall	Oct. 3/24 Source Protection Committee per diem and mileage	288.00
16878	Cindy Broughton	Oct. 3/24 Source Protection Committee per diem and mileage	240.00
16879	Darla Blodgett	Oct. 3/24 Source Protection Committee per diem and mileage	218.00
16880	Dave Workman	Oct. 3/24 Source Protection Committee per diem and mileage	240.00
16881	George Offshack	Oct. 3/24 Source Protection Committee per diem and mileage	276.00
16882	Glenn Milne	Oct. 3/24 Source Protection Committee per diem and mileage	225.60

CHEQUE # / EFT #	PAYEE	DETAILS	AMOUNT
16883	Lori Burt	Oct. 3/24 Source Protection Committee per diem and mileage	206.00
16884	Mike Gibbs	Oct. 3/24 Source Protection Committee per diem and mileage	230.00
16885	Philip Niblett	Oct. 3/24 Source Protection Committee per diem and mileage	256.80
16886	Richard Straka	Oct. 3/24 Source Protection Committee per diem and mileage	235.60
16887	Terry Rees	Oct. 3/24 Source Protection Committee per diem and mileage	200.00
16888	Staples Commercial	Office stationary supplies	341.88
16889	Bill's Johns	Portable toilet rental - conservation areas	338.99
16890	Sharon Christopher	BQRAP - septic system stewardship program	327.70
16891	Nesda Technologies Ltd.	IT tickets fees	402.56
16892	Alarm Systems	Labour - alarm/security monitoring equipment adjustment	163.85
16893	Enbridge	Utilities - gas - admin bldg and workshop	63.17
16894	A&L Canada Laboratories Inc.	BQRAP stewardship - soil testing	177.82
16895	407 ETR	407 highway toll	193.08
16896	Brighton Springs	Drinking water for Admin bldg	46.25
16897	Hydro One Networks Inc.	Utilities - electricity - Goodrich Loomis Centre	279.82
16898	Dibbits Landscape Supply	Limestone screenings - Trenton Greenbelt CA	141.87
16899	Massimo Narini	Staff Expenses - small equipment - Reimbursed	279.01
16900	John Mahoney	Staff Expenses - PPE & property maintenance - Reimbursed	171.80
16902	Quinte Septic Tank	Pump out - Seymour, Goodrich Loomis, Sager CAs	915.30
16903	Obsentia	Vehicle maintenance	82.82
16904	Purolator Inc.	Courier - BQRAP	17.80
16905	Conservation Ontario	ESRI (GIS) products	3,692.43
16906	Elmstein Farms	BQRAP rural stewardship - cover crop	2,010.00
16907	Eggleton Farms Inc	BQRAP rural stewardship - cover crop	2,400.00
16908	Drew Byford	BQRAP rural stewardship - cover crop	2,500.00
16909	Larry Smith	BQRAP rural stewardship - cover crop	1,490.00
16910	Elmstein Farms	BQRAP rural stewardship - cover crop	90.00
Total of Payments October 2024			425,780.09

Summary of Permits Approved by Staff
Part VI of the Conservation Authorities Act and Ontario Regulation 41/24: Prohibited Activities, Exemptions and Permits
 Prepared by: Gage Comeau, Manager, Watershed Management, Planning and Regulations
 For Period: September 26 to October 30, 2024



Permit #	Municipality	Ward	Geographic Township	Concession	Lot	Street Address	Regulated Area	Permitted Activity
P-21-369 (minor; compliance)	Trent Hills	Seymour	Seymour	14	6	37 Daley Drive	Trent River Floodplain	to construct a new roof extension and undertake the removal of the existing boathouse and construct a deck structure
P-22-388 (compliance)	Trent Hills	Seymour	Seymour	10	2	9 Island Park Road	Trent River floodplain	to relocate and reconstruct a modular addition structure with roof extension and deck
P-22-389 (compliance)	Trent Hills	Seymour	Seymour	10	2	9 Island Park Road	Trent River floodplain	to relocate and reconstruct a modular addition structure with attached covered deck
P-22-390 (compliance)	Trent Hills	Seymour	Seymour	10	2	9 Island Park Road	Trent River floodplain	to relocate and reconstruct a modular addition structure with attached deck.
P-23-291	Cramahe	Cramahe Township	Cramahe	2	31	255 Industrial Park Rd	field verified wetland (allowance)	to conduct grading works and wetland buffer remediation planting along the southern side of the property
P-24-141	Quinte West	Sidney	Sidney	BF	20	1284 Old Highway 2	Bay of Quinte flood and erosion Hazard; unevaluated wetland (allowance)	to undergo maintenance dredging along the shoreline
P-24-142	Quinte West	Sidney	Sidney	BF	20	1270 Old Highway 2	Bay of Quinte Flood and Erosion Hazard; Unevaluated wetland (allowance)	to undergo maintenance dredging along the shoreline
P-24-190	Trent Hills	Seymour	Seymour	14	6	82 K Lucky Strike Road	Trent River floodplain	to demolish and reconstruct the eastern portion of the dwelling structure and deck
P-24-200	Trent Hills	Seymour	Seymour	13	14	130 Lake Road	Trent River floodplain	to construct a single-family dwelling, future detached accessory structure and septic system
P-24-203 (minor)	Alnwick/Haldimand	Haldimand	Haldimand	4	23-24	TNPI ROW - Grills Road to Clousten Road	Shelter Valley Creek tributary (allowance)	to conduct vegetation management along the Trans-Northern Pipelines Inc. right-of-way (ROW) in the Grills Road to Clousten Road area
P-24-204 (minor)	Alnwick/Haldimand	Haldimand	Haldimand	4	21-22	TNPI ROW - Clousten Road to Boomerang Road	Shelter Valley Creek (allowance)	to conduct vegetation management along the Trans-Northern Pipelines Inc. right-of-way (ROW) in the Clousten Road to Boomerang Road area
P-24-205 (minor)	Alnwick/Haldimand	Haldimand	Haldimand	3	19-20	TNPI ROW - Boomerange Road to County Road 23	Shelter Valley Complex PSW (allowance); Shelter Valley Creek	to conduct vegetation management along the Trans-Northern Pipelines Inc. right-of-way (ROW) in the Boomerang Road to County Road 23 area
P-24-206 (minor)	Brighton	Brighton Township	Cramahe	5	1-5	TNPI ROW - Richmond Street to County Rd 30	Breakaway Creek tributaries (allowance)	to conduct vegetation management along the Trans-Northern Pipelines Inc. right-of-way (ROW) in the Richmond Street to County Road 30 area
P-24-207 (minor)	Brighton	Brighton Township	Murray	3	36	TNPI ROW - County Rd 30 to Field	Breakaway Creek tributary; unevaluated wetland (allowance)	to conduct vegetation management along the Trans-Northern Pipelines Inc. right-of-way (ROW) in the field east of County Road 30 area
P-24-208 (minor)	Quinte West	Murray	Murray	3	14-18	TNPI ROW - Ross Road to Murray Street	Unevaluated wetland	to conduct vegetation management along the Trans-Northern Pipelines Inc. right-of-way (ROW) in the Ross Road to Murray Street area
P-24-209 (minor)	Quinte West	Murray	Murray	3	11-14	TNPI ROW - Murray Street to County Road 40	Unevaluated wetland; Mayhew Creek tributary (allowance)	to conduct vegetation management along the Trans-Northern Pipelines Inc. right-of-way (ROW) in the Murray Street to County Road 40 area
P-24-211	Trent Hills	Percy	Percy	11	9	20 Lakeshore Drive	Trent River floodplain (allowance)	to construct a 42' x 14' deck structure
P-24-212	Quinte West	Frankford	Sidney	5	2	Windover Street	Cold Creek floodplain	to install municipal services and regrade the existing outfall ditch to Cold Creek
P-24-215	Trent Hills	Percy	Percy	1	15	County Road 25	Tributary of Salt Creek	to install a liner within the existing 2200 mm CSP culvert on County Road 25



LOWER TRENT
CONSERVATION

STAFF REPORT

Date: October 30, 2024
To: LTC Board of Directors
Re: Watershed Management, Planning and Regulations UPDATE
Prepared by: Gage Comeau, Manager, Watershed Management, Planning and Regulations

PROPOSED RESOLUTION:

THAT the Watershed Management, Planning and Regulations update be accepted as information.

BY THE NUMBERS:

Here are the numbers for new files and deliverables in 2024 and compared to similar numbers for previous years. Highlighted boxes indicate that 2024 has MORE files to date than previous years.

Table 1. File review – New files and deliverables in 2024 versus previous years

	# Files for 2024 (as of Oct 30, 2024)	Dates for Similar Number for Previous Years (Total for Year)			
		2023	2022	2021	2020
Permits	240	Sep 15 (320)	Jul 28 (398)	Aug 18 (383)	Sep 20 (351)
Planning	178	Oct 26 (198)	Jul 21 (310)	Aug 25 (259)	n/a (169)
Complaints	88	n/a (74)	n/a (66)	n/a (65)	n/a (56)
Enforcement	37	Oct 27 (35)	Jul 25 (63)	Oct 8 (45)	n/a (32)
Online Inquiries	1313	n/a (1003)	n/a (738)	n/a (1132)	n/a (645)
Legal Requests	46	Sept 25 (58)	n/a (36)	Nov 24 (48)	n/a (28)
Clearance Letters	98	n/a (52)	n/a (25)	n/a	n/a
Site Visits	264	n/a (246)	Sep 13 (363)	Nov 17 (282)	n/a (166)

Legal Cases:

- **ENF-20-028** –Status: **ONGOING** – Correspondence has been sent to the owner on the status of the restoration activities.
- **ENF-21-005:** Status: **CLOSED** – Update – The vast majority of the restoration works have been completed and staff are working with the owner to manage the remaining details.

Watershed Management

- Wetland assessments are approximately 100% completed. 66 wetland assessments were conducted by staff this year. The assessment season has now ended, and we have closed the 2024 assessment list. Any further requests for wetland assessments will be placed on a waiting list for 2025 visits. Staff are working on updating the wetland mapping and providing the results of the assessments to proponents.
- LTC staff have completed the installation of the majority of the rain gauges that were purchased through Community Emergency Preparedness Grant. Staff have now received approval from Alnwick/Haldimand council and will be preparing to install the final gauge shortly.

Online Inquiries

REMINDER - Staff have been managing large volumes of inquiries that have now exceeded the highest recorded number in 2021 (1132). These files are taking staff long periods of time to manage as many of the properties are regulated and development may be restricted or require further review from staff. Additionally, properties with historical planning and permitting approvals are appearing that require staff time to review prior to providing formal responses. To ensure a timely response time, we are asking that people continue to use our online inquiry service and avoid directly contacting staff unless following up on a pre-existing file.

Permitting:

Ongoing Permit files:

- Following the April 2024 legislation changes, staff undertook a brief analysis of the impacts to the new legislation. Based on a review of the available information at our office, the new legislation has led to an approximate 15% decrease in permit applications.
- Staff have issued **35** permits since the previous reporting period with no permit amendments issued.
- Staff are currently reviewing and commenting on **21** open 2024 permit files and **26** files from previous years as well.
- Staff are still working on the creation of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for the use of the Planning and Regulations department. It is our hope to have the SOPs completed by the year end. Currently, we do not have formal SOPs in place and we hope that this will help create further efficiencies within the department. The first round of revisions are almost complete and we are looking at a December completion date for 8 SOPs.

Planning:

- LTC Staff reviewed and commented on **27** Subdivision and Condominium Files in 2024 (new and ongoing). Since the last reporting period, LTC Staff reviewed and commented on **9** Subdivision and Condominium files. Many of these files are ongoing and staff expect to work on these continuously throughout the year.
- Since the last reporting period, LTC Staff reviewed and commented on **19** Planning Act Applications (Severances, Zoning By-law amendments, Official Plan amendments, Site Plan Control applications and/or Minor Variances). Additionally, we are reviewing several technical reports for pre-consultation files including but not limited to; **3** site plans and **9** Environmental Impact Studies.

Lastly, kind reminder to let your Municipal staff know that LTC is here to assist our Municipal partners where possible. LTC Staff can walk landowners through our permitting process, the planning process and other procedures/processes that may be applicable to their proposal or inquiries. LTC Staff are incredibly knowledgeable and we are here to help the residents of our Watershed.

RECOMMENDATION:

- Staff recommends to the Board of Directors that the Planning and Regulations Update be accepted as information.



LOWER TRENT
CONSERVATION

STAFF REPORT

Date: October 30, 2024
To: LTC Board of Directors
Re: Flood Forecasting & Warning UPDATE
Prepared by: Gage Comeau, Manager, Watershed Management, Planning and Regulations

PROPOSED RESOLUTION:

THAT the Flood Forecasting and Warning Update be accepted as information.

BY THE NUMBERS:

Here are the number of flood communications issued and compared to the total of number of statements issued in previous.

Table 1. Number of flood communications issued by Staff.

Statements	Flood Communications Issued (as of October 30, 2024)	Total Number for Previous Years					
		2023	2022	2021	2020	2019*	2018
Water Safety	5	4	2	2	3	8	2
Flood Outlook	1	8	4	4	5	5	5
Flood Watch	2	2	0	0	3	6	7
Flood Warning	0	2	0	0	0	13	0
Total (System)	8	15	6	6	11	32	14

Summary of Current Conditions

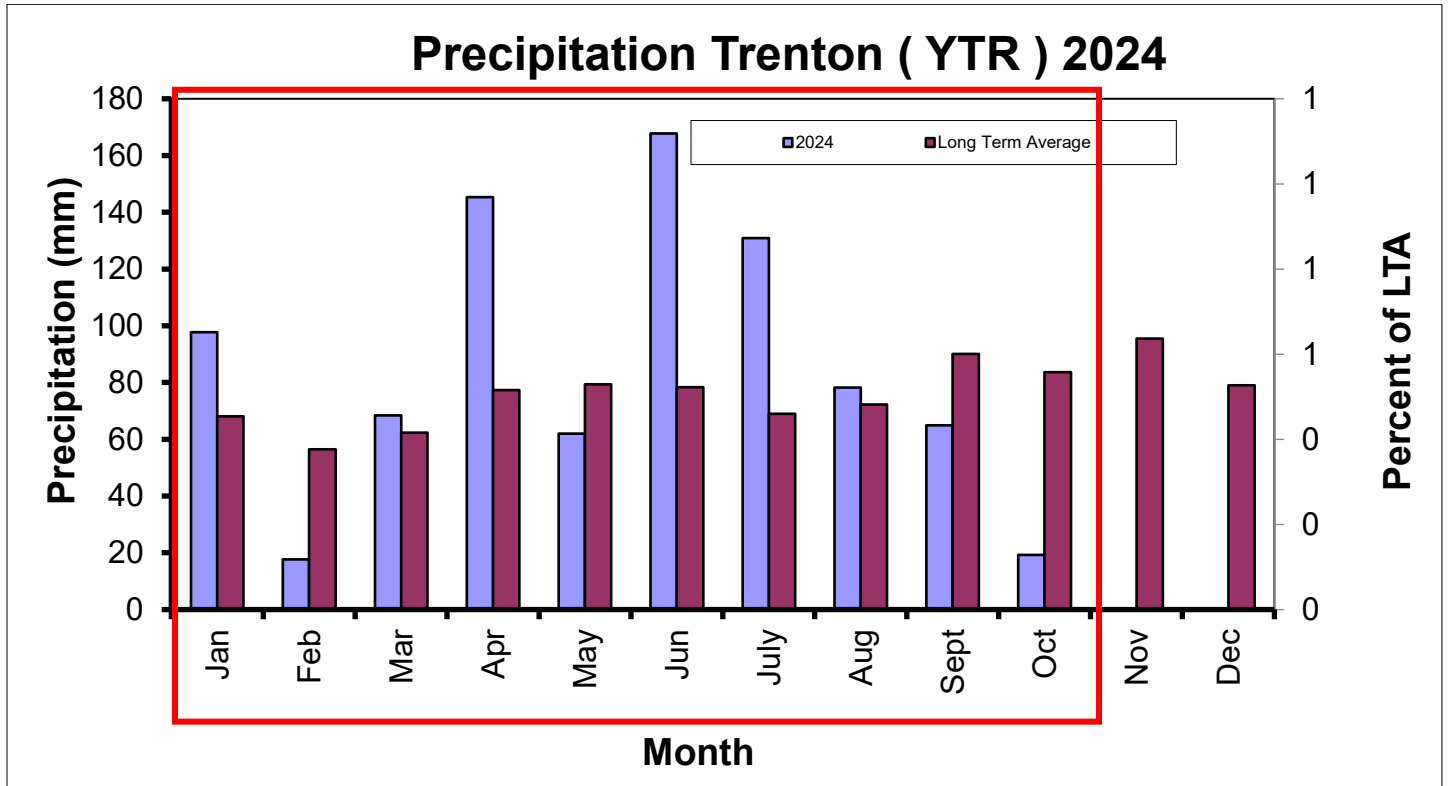
Observed precipitation volumes for the month of October was far lower than the established long-term average (see Table 2). Although, we have experienced lower than average rainfall, stream flows are roughly average for this time of year and within the observed long-term average flows. Currently, there is a potential concern for low water conditions as the indicators and thresholds may be triggered. Staff will be undergoing an assessment of the conditions shortly and will be determining if a level 1 Low Water condition should be established. Correspondence with neighbouring Conversation Authorities has been undertaken to ensure appropriate measures are taken, and if a Low Water condition is established, ensuring similar communications to our stakeholders. An update will be provided to the Low Water Response Team notifying them of the current conditions once a decision has been made.

LTC staff will be continuing to review the weather and stream conditions and will report further if there appears to be any potential flood or drought issues.

Local Creeks

Even with the low volume of precipitation observe throughout the watershed, all of the creeks are experiencing average streamflow through the month of October; therefore, the water levels and flows are within the acceptable ranges. If lower rainfall volumes in the watershed continue, stream flows may start to decline, especially for creek systems that do receive any groundwater recharge. Staff will be continuing to review the conditions and forecast for updates.

Table 2. Observed Monthly Precipitation (mm) in 2024 compared to the monthly long-term average.



Trent River

There are no changes to report for the Trent River as the system is experiencing average water levels and flow. If there are any concerns or issues with the water levels on the Trent River system, owners are advised to contact Parks Canada-Trent Severn Waterway.

Lake Ontario

There are no updates for Lake Ontario. Currently, water levels are around average for this time of year. Staff are continuing to review weather conditions for any high wind events that may result in storm surges with waves exceeding 1 metre.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends to the Board of Directors that the Flood Forecasting and Warning Update be received as information.

Agenda Item # 12.



LOWER TRENT
CONSERVATION

STAFF REPORT

Date: November 4, 2024
To: Board of Directors
RE: 2025 Fee Policy and Schedules
Prepared by: Rhonda Bateman, CAO

PROPOSED RESOLUTION:

THAT the 2025 Lower Trent Conservation Fee Policy and Schedules be adopted and effective January 1, 2025, except for Schedule 1 Planning and Regulation fees which will be effective on the date that the Minister rescinds the current fee freeze.

BACKGROUND:

The 2025 Fee Policy and Schedule was accepted by the Board of Directors for distribution to our partner municipalities for consultation purposes.

The Schedule 1 Planning and Regulations Fees are frozen under Minister's order since 2023. However, Schedule 2 - General Service Fees and Schedule 3 – Stewardship Services Fees do not fall under the Minister's fee freeze.

Staff have requested the addition of a real estate fee for inquiries. The rationale is for real estate agents that request information, usually related to time sensitive sales, that require expedited service. Currently that falls under the free inquiry service. However, it best corresponds to our screening letter with written response. The rushed nature of the requests results in existing inquiries to fall in the queue.

DISCUSSION:

There were no comments received from our municipal partners nor the public on the proposed 2024 Fee Policy and Schedules during the 30-day consultation period.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the 2025 Lower Trent Conservation Fee Policy and Schedules be adopted and effective January 1, 2025, except for Schedule 1 Planning and Regulation fees which will be effective on the date that the Minister rescinds the current fee freeze.



Lower Trent Conservation Fee Policy and Schedules

*This manual outlines Lower Trent Conservation's policies
for setting and charging fees*

Approved by Lower Trent Conservation Board of Directors – XXXX, 2024
RES: GXXX/24

Effective Date: January 1, 2025

Lower Trent Conservation
Administration Office
714 Murray Street
Trenton, ON
K8V 0N1
Tel.: 613-394-4829
Fax: 613-394-5226
Web: www.LTC.on.ca

POLICY

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FEE SCHEDULES

Schedule 1: LTC Planning and Regulations Fees

Schedule 2: LTC General Fees

Schedule 3: LTC Stewardship Services Fees

POLICY

Purpose

The purpose of the Fee Policy and Schedules is to inform the public and our municipal partners of the fees charged for programs and services delivered by Lower Trent Conservation.

Legislative Framework

The *Conservation Authorities Act (CAA)* Section 21.2 allows for conservation authorities to charge fees for services.

The CAA Section 21.1 Mandatory programs and services and Ontario Regulation (O. Reg.) 686/21 Mandatory Programs and Services outline mandatory (Category 1) programs that may be funded by municipal apportionment, provincial grants, or self-generated revenue with the user pay principal as appropriate.

Section 21.1.1 of the CAA outlines Category 2 Municipal programs and services, “An authority may provide, within its area of jurisdiction, municipal programs and services that it agrees to provide on behalf of a municipality situated in whole or in part within its area of jurisdiction under a memorandum of understanding, or such other agreement as may be entered into with the municipality, in respect of the programs and services”

Section 21.1.2 of the CAA defines Category 3 Other programs and services, “In addition to programs and services described in sections 21.1 and 21.1.1, an authority may provide, within its area of jurisdiction, any other programs and services that it determines are advisable to further the purposes of this Act.”

Category 1 Mandatory Programs and Services include:

- Administration of *Conservation Authorities Act (CAA)* Section 28 and 28.1 including technical advice and studies;
- Response to legal, real estate and public inquiries regarding a CAA Section 28 and 28.1 and natural hazard inquiries under the *Planning Act*;
- Activities requiring a permit made pursuant to section 29 of the CAA;
- Review and commenting on applications under other legislation noted under the Mandatory Programs and Services Regulation (O. Reg. 686/21) and associated inquiries.
- Commenting on Planning Act applications for consistency with natural hazard policies.
- Access to authority owned or controlled land for recreational activities not requiring direct authority or other staff involvement.

Category 2 Municipal programs and services include but are not limited to:

- Risk Management Official/Inspector Services under the Clean Water Act.
- Source Water Education and Outreach as per the Trent Source Protection Plan policies.
- Flood and Erosion Control Infrastructure inspections.

Category 3 Other programs and services include but are not limited to:

- Extension Services (e.g. technical advice/implementation of erosion control measures, forest management/tree planting, wildlife/fisheries habitat management, management of forests/recreational land owned by others, technical studies)
- Recreational activities that are provided on land that is owned or controlled by the authority with the direct support or supervision of staff employed by the authority or by another person or body, or with facilities or other amenities maintained by the authority, including equipment rentals and renting facilities for special events.
- Public education services to improve awareness of issues relating to the conservation, restoration, development, and management of natural resources in watersheds in Ontario.
- Youth education.
- The sale of products by the authority.

Policy Principles

This Fee Policy and associated Schedules have been prepared in conformity with the *Conservation Authorities Act*. The Fee Schedules are based on the user-pay principle. The fees and revenues for planning and permitting services are designed to assist with recovering the costs associated with administering and delivering the services on a program basis. These fees do not exceed the cost of the service.

Process and Public Notification

The Fee Policy and Schedules has been established by the Lower Trent Conservation (LTC) Board of Directors following consultation with local stakeholders and the public.

Consultation includes direct e-mail to key stakeholders (e.g., municipalities) and posting the notice for comment for review and/or revisions to the Fee Policy and Schedules on the LTC website for a minimum of 30 days. Comments received will be presented to the Board of Directors prior to any approval.

Implementation

It is the objective of LTC to provide an effective and efficient delivery of services. To achieve this objective:

- Land use proposals will be reviewed in a timely fashion.
- Comments on applications under the *Planning Act* will be provided in time for the legislated public meeting or hearing.
- Permit applications under the *CAA* generally will be processed within timelines outlined in the *Conservation Authorities Act* and O. Reg. 41/24 Prohibited Activities, Exemptions and Permits.

Exemptions to the application of these fees include:

- Non-profit conservation groups contributing to the protection and restoration of the natural environment, such as Ducks Unlimited (DU), Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC), Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters (OFAH) for permit applications, *Planning Act* applications, inquiries, and site assessments;
- LTC municipalities forming part of the permit applications, inquiries, and site assessments (excluding exceptional circumstances where considerable staff time is required to conduct major technical reviews and enforcement matters).

Refunds

Lower Trent Conservation does not issue refunds for services or products once the application or order is submitted and the payment has been processed. Under exceptional circumstances, refund requests will be considered and may be approved by the Chief Administrative Officer. If a refund is approved, a 10% refund fee will apply.

Appeal

The fee appeal process will be based on the principles of fairness, opportunity, and notification. The only fees that would be considered for an appeal are those found under planning and permitting.

Consideration of appeals will be directed to the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO). The appellant must submit in writing to the CAO the reasons for the appeal request. The CAO will review the request, consult with staff and the proponent. The appeal will be dismissed, upheld or the fee altered. If the appeal is dismissed, the proponent is required to pay the fee amount. If the appeal is upheld, the fee could be waived or varied from the original amount. The applicant will be notified of the CAO's decision.

If the applicant is dissatisfied with the decision from the CAO an appeal to the LTC Board of Directors can be requested.

The appellant must submit in writing to the CAO the reasons for the appeal request to the Board of Directors. The written request must identify a request to present the appeal before the Board of Directors. Once heard, the appeal will be

dismissed, upheld or the fee altered. If the appeal is dismissed, the proponent is required to pay the fee amount. If the appeal is upheld, the fee could be waived or varied from the original amount. Any appeal decision requires a resolution passed by the Board of Directors. The appellant will be notified of the Board's decision.

Date of Effect

The Fee Policy and Schedules becomes effective as of the date set by the LTC Board of Directors.

Transition

The establishment of this Fee Policy and Schedules supersedes and replaces all previous fee policies and/or schedules. The Policy also applies to proposals not previously invoiced, such as draft approved plans of subdivision which predated any fee schedule.

Review Process

This Fee Policy and Schedules will be reviewed annually by LTC staff to monitor effectiveness and any changes will be brought forward to the Board of Directors for consideration. Consultation is required if changes are applied to the Policy or Schedules (as noted under Process and Public Notification) prior to Board approval. Approval of the updated Fee Policy and Schedule will require passage of a resolution by the Board of Directors.

FEE SCHEDULES

Schedule 1: LTC Planning and Regulations Fees

Schedule 2: LTC General Fees

Schedule 3: LTC Stewardship Services Fees

SCHEDULE 1 Planning and Regulations Fees				
FEE TYPE	Proposed 2024 Fee	Proposed 2025 Fee	NOTES	Change
Pre-Application Services Fees			No reimbursement or crediting of fees	
General Inquiry	Free	free	Verbal or email response	No change
Clearance Letter/Screening Letter	\$125	\$100		\$25 decrease
Realty Inquiry – written response		\$100		NEW 2025
Pre-Consultation with Written Comments	\$200	\$200		No change
Site Visit - Project Specific (< 0.5 ha)	\$250	\$260	detailed discussion on specific site locations	\$10 increase
Site Visit - Standard (<2 ha)	\$400	\$410		\$10 increase
Site Visit - Large (>2 ha)	Min \$500	Min \$500	Cost estimate to be provided based on scope and complexity	No change
PSW Boundary Update	\$1,000	\$1,000	Includes submission to MNRF	REMOVE
Legal Inquiry	\$220	\$225	(3-10 business days)	\$5 increase
Legal Inquiry – RUSH	\$350	\$360	(up to 2 business days)	\$10 increase
Technical Report Review	\$275	\$285	Per Report (EIS, HE, Floodline, etc.)	\$10 increase
Map of property with environmental constraints	\$30	\$30		No change
Permit Fees				
Routine Permit Drainage Act (DART Protocol)	\$100	\$100		No change
Hydro One - Utility Corridor (up to five sites)	\$500	\$515		\$15 increase
Minor Permit	\$230	\$235		\$5 increase
Standard Permit	\$575	\$590		\$15 increase
Complex Permit – One Technical Study	\$825 +	\$850 +	\$850 plus technical review fee(s)	\$25 increase
Complex Permit – Two Technical Studies	\$1,100	\$1,100	Deposits may be required	REMOVED
Compliance Permit			Double the Application Fee	No change
Large Fill Permit	\$575 +	\$590 +	\$590 + \$0.50 per m3 up to 500m3	NEW 2024/\$15 increase
Large Fill Permit	\$3,000 +	\$3,100 +	\$3,100 + \$0.75 per m3 greater than 500m3	NEW 2024/\$100 increase
Restoration Agreement			Double the Application Fee	No change
Permit Amendment - Administrative	\$100	\$100		No change
Permit Amendment			50% of original fee	No change
Hearing Administration Fee - Standard	\$400	\$400	Single residential lot development	No change
Hearing Administration Fee - Complex	\$1,000	\$1,030	Multiple lots; Commercial or Industrial Development; Large Residential Development	\$30 increase

FEE TYPE	Proposed 2024 Fee	Proposed 2025 Fee	NOTES	Change
Standard Plan Review Fees				
Consent	\$440	\$450		\$10 increase
Consent - Multiple (up to 3)	\$660	\$680		\$20 increase
Zoning Bylaw Amendment (ZBA)	\$440	\$450		\$10 increase
ZBA (condition of previously reviewed consent OR concurrent)	\$220	\$220		REMOVED
Minor Variance (MVA)	\$440	\$445		\$5 increase
Official Plan Amendment (OPA)	\$560	\$575		\$15 increase
Combined OPA/ZBA	\$990	\$1020		\$30 increase
Recirculation (any Standard Plan Review)			50% of original fee	No change
Site Plan Control Fees				No change
Single Lot Residential Site Plan	\$550	\$565		\$15 increase
Minor Site Plan	\$1,050	\$1,080		\$30 increase
Major Site Plan	\$2,600	\$2,700		\$100 increase
Subdivision / Condominium Fees				
DRAFT PLAN Subdivision - Basic	\$3,500	\$3,750		\$250 increase
DRAFT PLAN Subdivision - Complex	\$7,000	\$7,500	Phasing may incur additional fees	\$500 increase
Redline Revision or Resubmission	\$1,300	\$1,340	No Technical Reports to review	\$40 increase
Redline Revision or Resubmission	\$2,600	\$2,675	Technical Reports to review	\$75 increase
Detailed Design Review & Clearance of Draft Conditions	\$1,900	\$2,000	per Phase	\$100 increase
Detailed Design Review & Clearance of Draft Conditions	\$3,500	\$3,600	Draft Plan Approval > 5yrs ago	\$100 increase
Ministerial Zoning Order (MZO)	\$15,000 deposit	\$20,000 deposit	Additional fees for Cost recovery of: Review of technical reports, consultant costs, compensation, development and implementation, administration and legal fees	\$5,000 increase

Note: No fees apply to applications for submissions from levying municipalities on municipal initiatives
(excluding major technical reviews and enforcement matters)

Payments can be made by cash, cheque, or credit card (Visa or MasterCard)

SCHEDULE 2 General Service Fees				
FEE TYPE	Actual 2024 Fee	Proposed 2025 Fee	NOTES	Change
Staff Charge Out Rates				
<i>Management/Project Management</i>	\$90	\$100	Staff charge out rates have not changed for 3 years	\$10 increase
<i>Engineering/Planning</i>	\$75	\$85		\$10 increase
<i>Specialists – IT, GIS, Ecologist</i>	\$60	\$70		\$10 increase
<i>Administration/ Technicians</i>	\$55	\$65		\$10 increase
<i>Outside Engineering Consultant Fees</i>			Cost recovery	
Conservation Lands				
Group picnics/Special events				No change
Up to 50 people	\$150	\$150		No change
Up to 100 people	\$300	\$300		No change
Up to 200 people	\$600	\$600		No change
>200 people (per 100)	+ \$150	+ \$150		No change
Delivery Charges (picnic tables/garbage cans)	\$110	\$110		No change
Goodrich-Loomis Conservation Centre Rental				
Half day – one floor	\$100	\$100		No change
Half day – two floors	\$150	\$150		No change
Full day – one floor	\$175	\$175		No change
Full day – two floors	\$300	\$300		No change
Murray Marsh Hunting permission	\$75	\$75		No change
Other events (filming, athletic, sponsored events)			Cost recovery	No change
Discover Your Watershed Events			Cost recovery	No change
Administrative Services				
Shipping and Handling – minimum fee		\$10		No change
NFS Cheque		\$50		No change
Printing – all printing and sizes			Cost recovery	No change

Payments can be made by cash, cheque, or credit card (Visa or MasterCard)

SCHEDULE 3 Stewardship Services Fees			
	Actual 2024 Fee	Proposed 2025 Fee	NOTES
Tree Seedlings and Shrubs			
Conifer Stock	\$1.52-\$1.75	\$1.60-\$1.80	Pricing information from nurseries unavailable
Deciduous Stock	\$1.96-\$2.30	\$2.00-\$2.35	Pricing information from nurseries unavailable
Administrative Fee – per order	\$14	\$15	No change
Potted Trees	\$17-\$19	\$18-\$21	Pricing information from nurseries unavailable
Wildflower Kits			
Sun-loving	\$50	\$55	No change
Shade-tolerant	\$70	\$75	No change
Little Forest Kits	\$400-\$450	\$425-\$475	Pricing information from nurseries unavailable

Payments can be made by cash, cheque, or credit card (Visa or MasterCard)

Waterlogs - October 2024

Today, the Bay of Quinte is a healthy and vibrant ecosystem. Now, we must focus on keeping it this way

CONNECTING CHALLENGES

Bay of Quinte Remedial Action Plan
www.bqrap.ca

Restored Environmental Challenges

- # 3 - Degradation of fish and wildlife populations - 2018
- # 4 - Fish tumours and other deformities - 2017
- # 6 - Degradation of benthos (underwater bugs) - 2018
- # 7 - Restrictions on dredging activities - 2017
- # 9 - Restrictions on drinking water consumption or taste and odour problems - 2020
- # 10 - Beach closings - 2019
- # 11 - Degradation of aesthetics - 2022
- # 14 - Loss of fish and wildlife habitat - 2018

REMAINING ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES

- # 1 - Restriction on fish and wildlife consumption
Final analysis of scientific data underway
- # 8 - Eutrophication or undesirable algae
Final report in editing phase
- # 13 - Degradation of phytoplankton and zooplankton populations
Final report in editing phase

A Phosphorus Management Plan is under development to ensure the Bay of Quinte remains in a sustainable condition for the long-term.

Currently, 8 of the environmental challenges identified for the bay have been restored. Meaning they have met the scientific criteria established in the Remedial Action Plan. The criteria are measurable environmental conditions that need to be achieved before the environmental challenge can be considered restored. That's it! It does not mean the Bay has returned to a pristine historic condition. The Bay's ecosystem is not going back to pre-colonization days. Human influences have permanently altered the natural environment.

There are 3 remaining challenges, restriction on fish and wildlife consumption, eutrophication or undesirable algae, degradation of phytoplankton and zooplankton populations.

Restoring eutrophication or undesirable algae, and degradation of phytoplankton and zooplankton populations is linked to the Phosphorus Management Plan being developed for the Bay of Quinte. The management actions outlined in the Plan are designed to further reduce external phosphorus loads to the bay.

Resulting in the following, an increased flushing of the legacy phosphorus stored in the sediments of the bay. Reduction of phosphorus levels in the sediment and the resulting decrease in the sediment phosphorus reflux to the bay in late summer/early fall will: reduce the risk of algal blooms in the bay.

It will also shift the phytoplankton from non-edible (filamentous/ colonial morphology) to smaller edible types. Reduction of the non-edible phytoplankton combined with the reduction of potentially

harmful varieties of phytoplankton, is expected to bring the planktons (phytoplankton and zooplankton) into the mainstream of food-web processes that would sustain the sports fish in the Bay of Quinte. Currently, there is evidence in Bay of Quinte, that invasive species such as zebra/quagga mussels and round gobies sustain the sports fish in a significant way by providing an alternate pathway for food/energy transfer to the fish.

The management actions outlined in the Phosphorus Management Plan are vital to the long-term sustainability of the Bay of Quinte.

Restrictions on fish and wildlife consumption is undergoing a final data analysis.

Only through community involvement will be plan be successful. Talk to your local, provincial and federal politicians about the importance of sustaining the bay's water quality. Be aware of your own impact on water quality. We all have a role to play in keeping the bay a healthy and vibrant ecosystem.

The criteria and videos about the BUIs and a draft of the Phosphorus Management Plan on our website - www.bqrap.ca

BUFFER STRIPS



A BUFFER STRIP is a strip of vegetation – usually a mix of trees, shrubs and grasses – planted alongside natural areas (e.g., watercourses), to protect them from surrounding land uses (OMAFRA).

Understanding the importance of protecting water quality, farmers throughout the Bay of Quinte Region have established buffer strips to protect water from runoff.

Properly functioning buffer strips have numerous benefits.

- act as living filters, trapping and treating sediments and other materials from upland activities
- stabilize streambanks, helping to prevent erosion increase soil's water-holding capacity, reducing the impacts of flooding and drought
- provide fish and wildlife habitat through added

shade, cleaner and cooler water, and greater plant diversity

- decrease costs associated with drain cleanouts
- decrease the occurrence of water-related health issues (such as foot rot) in livestock.

All the benefits emphasize buffer strips' role in creating healthier ecosystems, offering habitats for various species, and enhancing soil and water conservation.

This Best Management Practices publication on [agricultural buffer strips](#) is an important information resource for farmers and landowners.

As well, the Bay of Quinte Remedial Action Plan offer a cost sharing incentive to support the establishment of buffer strips along water courses through its [Rural Stewardship Program](#). Enter your address in our [new web map](#) to find out if you are in the funding zone.

Also, Ontario Soil and Crop has a funding stream to support establishing or restoring buffers through its [Resilient Agricultural Landscape Program](#).



Fish Consumption Survey



The Bay of Quinte Remedial Action Plan is conducting a Fish Consumption Survey to collect data on what people catch and eat from the Bay of Quinte.

The environmental challenge that addresses fish consumption in the bay is in the final phases of data assessment. Part of the assessment is to gather public consumption preferences.

You will be entered in to a random draw for a \$100.00 Canadian Tire gift card by completing the survey.

The [Bay of Quinte Fish Consumption Survey](#) will only take a couple of minutes to complete.



Does your yard look like this in the spring or after a significant rainfall?



This is known as stormwater, it's the rain and melted snow that is not able to soak into the ground.

By creating rain gardens, in urban areas, more stormwater will be able to naturally infiltrate into the ground. Rain Gardens are easy to build. Watch our [Greening Your Grounds](#) video to learn how.

You can be part of the long-term solution to improving water quality in the Bay of Quinte by decreasing the volume of stormwater leaving your property.

To learn if you are eligible for the \$750. grant and to book your site visit, contact:

Jason Jobin
BQRAP Environmental Technician
Lower Trent Conservation
P: 613-394-3915 ext. 225
E: jason.jobin@ltc.on.ca

Kaitlin Maurer
BQRAP Environmental Technician
Quinte Conservation
P: 613-968-3434 ext. 107
E: KMaurer@quinteconservaton.ca

A rain garden could be your solution





LOWER TRENT
CONSERVATION

STAFF REPORT

Date: October 30, 2024
To: Board of Directors
Re: Conservation Lands and Areas Strategy
Prepared by: Anne Anderson, Manager, Community Outreach and Special Project; Corinne Ross, Communications Specialist and Chris McLeod, Conservation Lands Supervisor

PROPOSED RESOLUTION:

THAT the Conservation Lands and Areas Strategy as required under O. Reg. 686/21 Mandatory Programs and Services be approved; and
 THAT the Conservation Lands and Areas Strategy be posted under the Governance tab of the Lower Trent Conservation website.

BACKGROUND:

Section 21.1 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* and Ontario Regulation 686/21 under this Act requires that each Conservation Authority develop a Conservation Lands and Areas Strategy by December 31, 2024.

The strategy provides a clear statement of LTC's policies and priorities for its Conservation Lands Program and guides decision-making for lands management. It establishes objectives to inform the Conservation Authority's decision-making related to the lands it owns and controls, including decisions related to policies governing the acquisition and disposition of its lands. The Strategy establishes land use categories for classifying lands based on the types of activities that occur on each property. Mandatory and non-mandatory programs and services delivered on LTC owned and controlled lands area also identified, along with sources of funding. An assessment of how the lands augment the natural heritage of the watershed region and integrate with other publicly accessible lands and trails is also provided.

In 2023, Glenda Rodgers was contracted to develop a draft Conservation Lands and Areas Strategy in consultation with LTC staff. The preliminary draft was completed in November 2023.

DISCUSSION:

As outlined in the regulation, conservation authorities are required to ensure stakeholders, and the public are consulted during the preparation of the Conservation Areas and Lands Strategy in "a manner that the authority considers advisable". To meet this requirement staff held two engagement periods, a stakeholder engagement period from May 29 to June 21 and a public engagement period from July 12 to September 6, 2024. During these periods staff completed the following:

- Posted the draft strategy and supporting information on the website.
- Contacted stakeholders and partners via direct e-mail to informing them of the strategy and opportunity to review and provide input.
- Utilized LTC E-news and social media platforms to direct the public to the draft document.
- Developed a survey to guide input to the strategy.
- The survey was available and accessible through the LTC website.
- Distributed the survey via direct email and on social media.

Agenda Item 14.

Eighteen responses were received through public engagement. Overall, survey participants were very supportive of the approach taken by the strategy. A regular user of the conservation lands expressed appreciation for all the work LTC does.

The results of the public engagement are summarized in Section 10 of the Conservation Lands and Areas Strategy.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends to the Board of Directors the Conservation Lands and Areas Strategy be approved and posted under the Governance tab of the Lower Trent Conservation website as per the regulation.



Lower Trent Conservation
Conservation Lands and Areas Strategy



Approved: November 14, 2024

Resolution: G***/24

“I would argue that we do not need just the great public wildernesses, but millions of small private or semi-private ones. Every farm should have one; wildernesses can occupy corners of factory grounds and city lots – places where nature is given a free hand, where no human work is done, where people go only as guests. These places function, I think, whether we intend them to or not, as sacred groves – places we respect and leave alone, not because we understand what goes on there, but because we do not.”

Wendell Berry

PREFACE

This Conservation Lands and Areas Strategy has been prepared by Lower Trent Conservation (LTC) to meet the provisions for a “Conservation Area Strategy” as set out [under Section 21.1 of the Conservation Authorities Act](#) and [Ontario Regulation 686/21](#) under this Act. The Strategy applies to all of Lower Trent’s Conservation Lands.

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DRAFT

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose

Lower Trent Conservation (LTC) has prepared this Conservation Lands and Areas Strategy to meet the provisions set out under Section 21.1 of the [Conservation Authorities Act](#) (CA Act) and [Ontario Regulation 686/21](#). It applies to all lands owned or controlled by LTC, including any interests in land registered on title, that meet the requirements set out in section 10 of [Ontario Regulation 686/21](#).

This document provides a clear statement of LTC's policies and priorities for its Conservation Lands Program and guides decision-making for lands management. It establishes objectives to inform the Conservation Authority's decision-making related to the lands it owns and controls, including decisions related to policies governing the acquisition and disposition of its lands. The Strategy establishes land use categories for classifying lands based on the types of activities that occur on each property. Mandatory and non-mandatory programs and services delivered on LTC owned and controlled lands area also identified, along with sources of funding. An assessment of how the lands augment the natural heritage of the watershed region and integrate with other publicly accessible lands and trails is also provided.

1.2 Regulatory Framework

Section 21.1 of the [Conservation Authorities Act](#) sets out the mandatory programs and services which must be delivered by all conservation authorities. One of the programs and services required is the conservation and management of lands owned or controlled by the Conservation Authority, including any interests in land registered on title. One of the requirements under this program/service is

Ontario Regulation 686/21

10. (1) A conservation area strategy referred to in paragraph 1 of subsection 9 (1) shall include the following components:

1. Objectives established by the authority that will inform the authority's decision-making related to the lands it owns and controls, including decisions related to policies governing the acquisition and disposition of such lands.
2. Identification of the mandatory and non-mandatory programs and services that are provided on land owned and controlled by the authority, including the sources of financing for these programs and services.
3. Where the authority considers it advisable to achieve the objectives referred to in paragraph 1, an assessment of how the lands owned and controlled by the authority may,
 - i. augment any natural heritage located within the authority's area of jurisdiction, and
 - ii. integrate with other provincially or municipally owned lands or other publicly accessible lands and trails within the authority's area of jurisdiction.
4. The establishment of land use categories for the purpose of classifying lands in the land inventory described in section 11 based on the types of activities that are engaged in on each parcel of land or other matters of significance related to the parcel.
5. A process for the periodic review and updating of the conservation area strategy by the authority, including procedures to ensure stakeholders and the public are consulted during the review and update process.

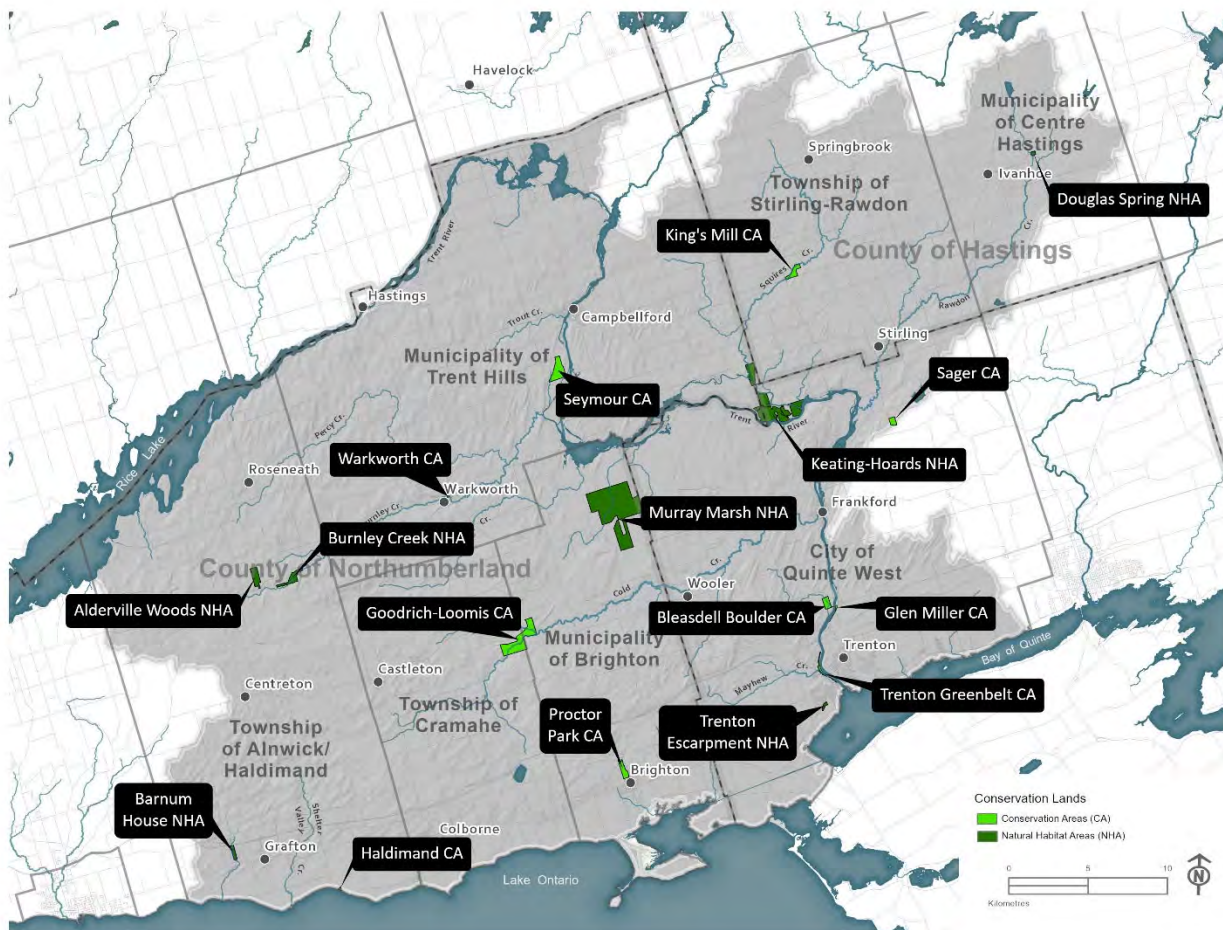
(2) The authority shall ensure stakeholders and the public are consulted during the preparation of the conservation area strategy in a manner that the authority considers advisable.

(3) The authority shall ensure that the conservation area strategy is made public on the authority's website, or by such other means as the authority considers advisable.

preparation of a "Conservation Area Strategy." Section 10 of Ontario Regulation 686/21 sets out the required components of the Strategy.

1.3 About LTC's Conservation Lands

Within the Lower Trent watershed region, LTC owns approximately 3666 acres of land (Map 1). A very small portion of the land is used for administration buildings (3.8 acres) and public protection (13 acres). The remainder of the Conservation Lands are held in trust for public use and enjoyment and for conservation purposes. They are special places that are protected, where the natural world comes first. Conservation Lands provide outdoor recreational opportunities - hiking, cross-country skiing, biking, and picnicking - for local residents and visitors to the area. They are living examples of the natural ecosystems that LTC strives to protect.



Map 1: Conservation Lands General Location

LTC's Conservation Lands are an enormous asset. They form part of a regional system of protected landscapes that depict the natural diversity of the area: plants, animals and their unique habitats.

Protection of natural habitats and linkages has long been recognized as important to allow species to survive and migrate. Given the potential impacts of climate change, this is even more critical to support adaptation to evolving ecological settings.

Visiting Conservation Lands may, for many people, be their sole direct exposure to the work of LTC. It is important that residents get a firm understanding of what LTC does and the value of its lands and programs. Conservation Lands should be viewed as the gateway to natural systems education and should be enhanced to foster this process.

As part of a regional network of passive trails and outdoor recreational opportunities, Conservation Lands promote conservation and environmental awareness and brings economic opportunities to the region.

Conservation Lands are an important part of the LTC program, for many reasons:

- They protect hazard lands (e.g. floodplains, erosion sensitive areas, valleylands) and reduce flooding/soil erosion.
- They provide protection of environmentally significant/sensitive lands (including wetlands, woodlands, wildlife habitat, significant vegetation communities, fish habitat).
- They contribute to biodiversity and the establishment of natural heritage systems, including linkages and corridors for wildlife migration.
- They protect Provincially/Regionally Significant Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI - Earth and Life Science) and other significant features.
- They protect significant water resources (e.g. headwaters, riparian lands, recharge/discharge areas) and contribute to improved water quality.

Additionally:

- They provide outdoor recreation areas.
- They provide opportunities for outdoor education, interpretation, and research.
- They provide locations for conservation demonstration projects such as habitat rehabilitation, land and water stewardship.
- They provide opportunities for small and large-scale ecosystem rehabilitation projects.

1.4 History of LTC's Conservation Lands

The conservation movement in Ontario began in the 1940's in response to droughts, floods and erosion and resulted in the adoption of the CA Act in 1946. In 1954, Hurricane Hazel struck. That same year, a Federal Commission reviewing the aftermath of the flood confirmed the merit of protecting floodplain lands from future development, while still permitting their use for recreation purposes. The revised CA Act of 1954 permitted any lands (floodplains, wetlands, headwaters, forests) to be purchased for conservation purposes. Public use of these lands for outdoor recreation was an integral part of the development and management directives in the legislation.

LTC was formed as the Lower Trent Region Conservation Authority in 1968. The founders of this Conservation Authority moved quickly to purchase a land base. Land acquisition was a reason to

exist; it demonstrated to the people of the watershed that the newly established Conservation Authority was serious about the business of conservation.

Property acquisitions by LTC were based on a range of program interests and were intended to provide a diversity of functions. Acquisitions were based, to some extent, on recommendations contained in the 1970 Conservation Report to meet certain resource management requirements, and in response to offers of land having some conservation-related significance by individuals and municipalities. Funding for land acquisition was not unduly restricted provided the land was to serve some type of resource management function - flood and erosion control, natural resource protection, or cultural heritage preservation. Some of the originally purchased lands have since been divested, as they no longer met the Conservation Authority's program objectives.

The Conservation Lands currently owned and/or managed by the Conservation Authority assist in the attainment of LTC's conservation objectives and some are managed to provide outdoor recreation and education opportunities.

2 FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Today, providing natural recreation areas for public use continues to be a very positive service offered by LTC. The challenge is to manage and develop the Conservation Lands in light of current social, economic and recreational trends, as well as environmental concerns. LTC must position itself to take advantage of opportunities whilst addressing changes in legislative direction.

2.1 Contributing to LTC's Strategic Outlook

This Strategy document for the Conservation Lands Program provides direction in achieving the Vision and Mission as set out in LTC's Strategic Plan.

[LTC's Strategic Plan \(2018 -2028\)](#) outlines its priorities, organizational commitments and environmental goals, which together, will help the organization thrive in this changing world.

LTC's vision for the future is: ***Healthy watersheds for healthy communities***

LTC's mission, its reason for being, is: ***To protect land, water and living things by working with and inspiring others.***

The future planning, development, and management of LTC's Conservation Lands must occur within this framework and must involve local residents. By involving the community and sparking interest in Conservation Lands, LTC taps into fresh ideas and strikes new partnerships, while promoting environmental awareness and increasing public support for the Conservation Authority.

2.2 Situation Analysis

Ongoing change will impact the management needs of LTC's Conservation Lands.

Increased public usage of parks and natural areas is occurring and anticipated to continue in the future. The 2020 pandemic awakened an interest in outdoor activities in many people who were not using parks and conservation areas in the past. More people are becoming more aware of the physical, mental, and emotional health benefits of being active and spending time outdoors. An aging population also means that more seniors and retirees, people with more leisure time, are looking for places to walk, hike and spend time in outdoor settings and natural areas. Local municipalities recognize the importance of natural areas and promote Conservation Areas in their promotional materials and websites. All of this has resulted in more local people using LTC's Conservation Lands. Located less than a two-hour drive from Toronto, many tourists and visitors are coming to the watershed region to enjoy outdoor activities and natural areas. More usage means more maintenance, more potential user conflicts, and an increased demand for services.

The *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA)* is legislation intended to ensure that the province is accessible for people with disabilities by 2025. The legislation provides for the implementation and enforcement of standards to make goods, services and facilities in the province accessible to everyone. Implementation of this legislation is resulting in the need to assess accessibility on LTC lands and to upgrade signage and facilities.

Climate change is resulting in an increased need for abundant and resilient natural areas. Conservation Lands provide natural habitats and natural linkages which allow species to survive and migrate. These types of areas are critical to support species' adaptation to changing ecological settings in the face of climate change. Many of LTC's Conservation Lands contain wetlands and floodplains that help store water in flooding events. Undertaking restoration projects and maintaining these areas in a natural state is important to provide wildlife habitat and aid in mitigation of extreme weather events (droughts and floods) that are increasing with climate change.

2.3 Opportunities and Challenges for LTC Conservation Lands

LTC should respond to these opportunities and challenges by:

- Recognizing the community's interest in outdoor recreation;
- Providing low-cost, quality recreational opportunities for local residents and visitors to the area;
- Linking with the community to promote conservation lands as part of tourism initiatives and packages;
- Planting native species;
- Taking into consideration measures to adapt to climate change when planning and undertaking work (e.g. facility design, species selection for planting projects, establishing wildlife corridors);
- Aiming to restore ecosystems to increase watershed resilience;
- Promoting the linkage between outdoor recreation and improved health and wellness;
- Providing and promoting accessible opportunities to enjoy the outdoors;
- Promoting environmental awareness on its conservation lands;

- Setting aside natural areas, with limited public access, where nature comes first; and
- Seeking funding from new sources: partnerships, donations, fundraising.

2.4 Guiding Principles

Guiding principles have been established to provide the framework for decision-making related to LTC's Conservation Lands program:

- LTC lands should be managed in a manner that values, respects, and enhances the natural heritage of the region;
- Management practices and promoted activities on LTC land holdings should be compatible with healthy watersheds, respectful of the unique character of the lands, and sustainable in environmental, physical and economic terms;
- All current LTC land holdings and any future securements should contribute to LTC's vision of "Healthy Watersheds for Healthy Communities";
- Outdoor recreation opportunities should be affordable, educational, and accessible, where appropriate;
- Partnerships are a valued means of protecting natural areas and establishing trail networks throughout the watershed; and
- Public input regarding the Conservation Lands program is valued.

2.5 Objectives

LTC has established the following objectives for its Conservation Lands program:

- To ensure that all present and future LTC land holdings contribute to the goals and objectives of the Conservation Authority, and support an integrated watershed management approach;
- To protect and enhance the ecological integrity of the lands within the LTC watersheds and contribute to a connected natural heritage system;
- To protect cultural heritage within conservation areas;
- To undertake research, monitoring and evaluation of the natural heritage system, and organize current information to identify information gaps and strengthen knowledge of the natural heritage system;
- To undertake stewardship actions on LTC's conservation lands and use these restoration projects as a learning tool for the public;
- To use Conservation Lands, where feasible, to monitor watershed health;
- To encourage passive recreational use of LTC's conservation lands that are classed for public use;
- To support opportunities to connect LTC's trails with broader recreational trail networks;
- To offer educational experiences on LTC's Lands, to enhance awareness of environmental issues and promote stewardship;

- To explore and develop partnerships to increase education, research and stewardship opportunities on LTC lands;
- To acquire new properties, as funding permits, that meet LTC's land acquisition and disposal policies; and
- To ensure that future management of the LTC's Lands will be informed by public input.

2.6 Restoration and Management Priorities

To meet the goals in the Strategic Plan and to ensure that the Conservation Lands contribute to a healthy watershed and healthy communities LTC must direct effort to stewardship and restoration. The following is a summary of restoration priorities.

- Complete Ecological Land Classification for all LTC lands.
- Inventory Species at Risk and their habitats
- Monitor for invasive species and undertake management as feasible
- Survey and monitor potential threats to property ecosystems
- Prairie – Savanna habitat restoration at Goodrich-Loomis, Sager, Seymour, Glen Miller and Trenton Greenbelt Conservation Areas
- Thinning of pine plantations at Goodrich-Loomis and Sager Conservation Areas to allow for more diverse regeneration
- Maintenance and expansion of wetland buffers, creation of grassland bird habitat in the old field on Ames Island in Murray Marsh Natural Habitat Area
- Encourage regenerative agriculture on leased agricultural lands at Murray Marsh and Keating-Hoards Natural Habitat Areas to ensure that LTC lands provide examples of sustainable farming practices
- Research potential carbon offsetting programs that would pay to manage LTC forested lands
- Participation in the seed strategy/cooperative with Rice Lake Plains Partnership including the establishment of a seed orchard
- Enhance volunteer opportunities starting with trail steward program
- Establish demonstration sites to engage and educate the local community in restoration efforts
- Register LTC lands in the Canadian Protected and Conservation Areas Database to be included as part of Canada's international commitment to protect 30% of lands and waters by 2030 as part of the [Global Biodiversity Framework at the United Nations Biodiversity Conference \(COP 15\)](#)

3 CONSERVATION LANDS CATEGORIES

An inventory of LTC's Conservation Lands has been completed, as required by Section 11 of [Ontario Regulation 686/21](#). A database was developed for the Lands Inventory for internal documentation and use as per the regulation.

The Regulation requires the establishment of land use categories to classify lands in the land inventory based on the types of activities engaged in on each parcel of land or other matters of significance related to the parcel. The categories, as recommended by Conservation Ontario, are provided below:

- Conservation Areas (Active Recreation, Accessible to the Public)
- Conservation Areas (Passive Recreation, Accessible to the Public)
- Management Areas (Public Accessibility Varies) (e.g., Natural Heritage Lands, Natural Hazard Lands, Water Management Areas, Forest Management Lands, Environmentally Sensitive Lands, etc.)
- Conservation Authority Administration Areas.

Below, LTC's conservation lands have been classified into these categories. Please note that LTC does not have any conservation areas that are classified under "Active Recreation."

3.1 Conservation Areas

LTC owns 10 conservation areas (Map 1) designated for passive recreation and accessible to the public.

1. Bleasdel Boulder Conservation Area
2. Glen Miller Conservation Area
3. Goodrich-Loomis Conservation Area
4. Haldimand Conservation Area
5. King's Mill Conservation Area
6. Proctor Park Conservation Area
7. Sager Conservation Area
8. Seymour Conservation Area
9. Trenton Greenbelt Conservation Area
10. Warkworth Conservation Area

3.2 Management Areas

Twelve of LTC's properties are considered Management Areas (Map 1). These properties are all open to the public, but there are no facilities. They are managed as natural assets. LTC classifies seven of the properties as Natural Habitat Areas, while five are classified as Public Safety Lands.

NATURAL HABITAT AREAS

11. Alderville Woods

12. Barnum House Creek
13. Burnley Creek
14. Douglas Springs
15. Keating-Hoards
16. Murray Marsh
17. Trenton Escarpment

PUBLIC SAFETY LANDS

1. Barry Heights/Mayhew Creek (Murray Ward, Quinte West)
2. Frankford Pipe (flume) along Cold Creek (Frankford Ward, Quinte West)
3. Mill Creek Floodplain (Percy Ward, Trent Hills)
4. Trout Creek Property (Campbellford Ward, Trent Hills)
5. Warkworth Flood Wall (Percy Ward, Trent Hills)

3.3 Administration Areas

LTC owns two properties that house staff (Map 1). Corporate operations and field operations are run from these administrative buildings.

1. Administration Office
2. Workshop

4 DESCRIPTION AND ASSESSMENT OF LTC CONSERVATION AREAS

4.1 Bleasdell Boulder Conservation Area

Bleasdell Boulder Conservation Area is located in the Sidney Ward of City of Quinte West – the entrance is at 760 Trenton-Frankford Road. The property is 69 acres in size (Map 2).

The property is a mixture of woodland and wetland. A small tributary of the Trent River runs through the property. The main feature is the Bleasdell Boulder. The boulder is considered one of the largest known glacial erratics in North America, estimated to be 2.3 billion years old. The Bleasdell Boulder, also known as the Glen Miller Rock, was studied by Reverend William Bleasdell in the 1800s who wrote of the rock in scientific journals and brought it to the attention of geologists across Canada. The boulder measures 13.4 metres long, 7.3 metres wide and 6.7 metres high (44' x 24' x 22').

4.1.1 Acquisition Details

- Donated to LTC by Paul and Maria Heissler in 2005.
Note: The Heislars purchased the property in 1997 with the intent of making the 'Boulder' accessible to the public. They founded the Bleasdeil Boulder Preservation Corporation to ensure the preservation of the site for future generations. The group worked hard to establish trails, parking areas, and interpretive signage, prior to donating the property to the Conservation Authority for protection and management.

4.1.2 Facilities and Visitor Opportunities

- 1 km trail loop from parking lot to the boulder
- 400 metre trail connection runs from the boulder to the Lower Trent Trail.
- Hiking, picnicking, birding, fishing, geocaching, nature appreciation, education and research
- Parking
- Information kiosk/signage
- Picnic table, benches

4.1.3 Restoration Works

- Majority of property maintained in natural state
- Invasive species control

4.1.4 Restoration Priorities

- Complete full flora and fauna inventory
- Invasive species monitoring and management as required



Map 2: Bleasdell Boulder and Glen Miller Conservation Areas

4.1.5 Development Potential

No potential for development on this property (See Appendix A):

- Property was donated to LTC/provides conservation benefits
- No road frontage on maintained road
- No municipal water or wastewater services

Additionally:

- Zoned “Rural”
- Some floodplain land
- Mostly unevaluated wetland
- Mostly within Intake Protection Zone (IPZ-2) for Trenton
- 66 acres is managed under the Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program (MFTIP)
- Offers passive recreation opportunities

4.1.6 Mandatory/Non-Mandatory Programs and Services

Mandatory programs:

- *Natural Hazard Management Program:* floodplain, wetland
- *Conservation Authority Lands and Conservation Areas:* Management and maintenance of LTC owned and controlled lands in support of passive recreation (e.g., fencing, signage, patrolling, trail maintenance); natural heritage rehabilitation/restoration

Program Funding Sources: Category 1 Municipal Levy

Non-mandatory programs:

- *Youth Education:* Hikes are sometimes conducted by LTC or other organizations
- *Community Outreach and Stewardship:* Educational opportunities for visitors

Program Funding Sources: Municipal, through agreements

4.1.7 Proximity to Other Public Lands/Trails

- Trail on the property is linked with the Lower Trent Trail, a 17-kilometre rail trail running from Trenton to Glen Ross
- Near the Trent River

4.1.8 Linkage to Natural Heritage System

- Near Batawa Area of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI)
- Near the Trent River

4.1.9 Additional Information Sources

- LTC Lands Inventory (2024)
- Bleasdeil Boulder Conservation Area: Backgrounder and Management Plan (2017)

4.2 Glen Miller Conservation Area

Glen Miller Conservation Area is about 9.3 acres and is in Sidney Ward of the City of Quinte West, at 443 Glen Miller Road (Map 2).

This Conservation Area is a long, narrow strip of shoreline along the Trent River. It is grassed with a few trees. There is some remnant savanna habitat on the property. The small pockets of limestone savanna found along the Trent River represent a remnant of a once common habitat in the Trent Valley. While savanna is most often found on deep sandy soils, at Glen Miller, the savanna is situated on very shallow limestone soils. The primary tree species within this unique habitat are burr oak and shagbark hickory. The Trans Canada Pipeline traverses the property.

4.2.1 Acquisition Details

- Approximately 6 acres leased from Parks Canada since 1969 - 5-year renewable term and requires payment of a nominal fee.
- An additional 3.3 acres of adjacent land was purchased from Ontario Hydro in 1984.

4.2.2 Facilities and Visitor Opportunities

- Access to the Trent River
- Picnicking, boat-launching, and fishing,
- Short walking paths
- Two accessible picnic shelters, a dock, a boat launch, seasonal washroom
- Parking

4.2.3 Restoration Works

- Invasive species control
- Savanna restoration (planting of Burr Oaks)

4.2.4 Restoration Priorities

- Complete full flora and fauna inventory
- Control aggressive or invasive plants
 - Cut and/or treat red cedar, common buckthorn, wild parsnip and other aggressive plants encroaching the bur oak savanna community
- Increase plant diversity to restore river side savanna community
 - Plant additional woody savanna vegetation including bur oak, fragrant sumac, American hazel, New jersey tea, etc.

4.2.5 Development Potential

No potential for development on this property (See Appendix A):

- Building envelope restrictions – long, narrow property between Trent River and road

- No municipal water or wastewater services

Additionally:

- Zoned “Environmental Protection”
- Approximately 50% is in the floodplain of the Trent River
- Within LTC regulated area of the Trent River
- Entirely within Intake Protection Zone (IPZ-2) for Trenton
- Part of the property is leased from Parks Canada
- Savanna restoration projects have been undertaken
- Offers passive recreation opportunities

4.2.6 Mandatory/Non-Mandatory Programs and Services

Mandatory programs:

- *Natural Hazard Management Program*: floodplain
- *Conservation Authority Lands and Conservation Areas*: Management and maintenance of LTC owned and controlled lands in support of passive recreation (e.g., fencing, signage, patrolling, trail maintenance); natural heritage rehabilitation/restoration

Program Funding Sources: Category 1 Municipal Levy

Non-mandatory programs:

- *Youth Education*: Educational opportunities for students
- *Community Outreach and Stewardship*: Educational opportunities for visitors

Program Funding Sources: Municipal, through agreements

4.2.7 Proximity to Other Public Lands/Trails

- Adjacent to the Trent-Severn Waterway. While not a trail in the traditional sense, it is a recreational boating corridor extending from Georgian Bay to the Bay of Quinte and beyond. Parks Canada owns several public properties adjacent to the river system
- Near Lower Trent Trail

4.2.8 Linkage to Natural Heritage System

- Adjacent to the Trent River
- Near Batawa Area of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI)

4.2.9 Additional Information Sources

- LTC Lands Inventory (2024)
- Glen Miller Conservation Area: Backgrounder and Management Plan (2017)

4.3 Goodrich-Loomis Conservation Area

Goodrich-Loomis Conservation Area is located in the Municipality of Brighton and Cramahe Township. The entrance is at 1331 Pinewood School Road. It is LTC's largest Conservation Area at 441 acres in size (Map 3).

The Conservation Area has a diversified habitat, including globally significant remnant prairie and oak savanna; a portion of a provincially significant wetland; and mature mixed forest. There is also an established bluebird population. Approximately two kilometres of Cold Creek meanders through the property, along with a smaller tributary called Little Cold Creek. Both are productive trout streams (brown trout and speckled trout) and a popular destination for people who enjoy fishing.

The dominant landform is the Codrington Esker, which forms the northern boundary of the property. The vegetation cover includes mature maple-beech forest through to cedar, hemlock and old pastures.

4.3.1 Acquisition Details

- Formed from the acquisition and subsequent amalgamation of two separate parcels of land
- LTC purchased lands from the Frank E. Goodrich family in 1971
- Adjoining land was purchased from the Loomis family in 1973
- An additional adjacent parcel of land (11.7 acres) was purchased in 1996



Map 3: Goodrich-Loomis Conservation Area

4.3.2 Facilities and Visitor Opportunities

- 12.5 kilometres of trails

- Hiking, cross-country skiing, mountain biking
- Wildlife viewing, nature appreciation, photography, fishing, education and research
- Excellent vantage points are located at the top of the Esker and Northview Trails
- Education Centre
- Picnic shelters, ski shelters, picnic tables, a permanent vault privy, bridges, low boardwalks and numerous benches on the trail system

4.3.3 Restoration Works

- Majority of property maintained in natural state
- Prairie restoration including prescribed burns, planting of Indian Grass, Big Blue Stem, Little Blue Stem, Wild lupine
- Tree planting
- Invasive species removal

4.3.4 Restoration Priorities

- Revitalize planted prairie site with a controlled burn
 - Since the last burn occurred in 2010, there is a need for a controlled burn over two years, to burn half the site each year to reduce accumulated dry vegetation material and to remove encroaching undesirable woody vegetation
 - If funding for burns cannot be secured, mow the area and remove cut material
- Gradually enlarge established tall grass polygons by controlling encroachment of woody vegetation
 - Cut and treat aggressive woody vegetation, both native (i.e. staghorn sumac, red cedar, large toothed aspen) and non-native (i.e. Tartarian honeysuckle, black locust) species
- Control invasive plants before they become a problem
 - Dig up, cut and treat dog strangling vine, common buckthorn, black locust and other serious invasive plants growing in the surrounding area
- Expand on established planted polygons of tall grasses and wildflowers by planting more area
 - Each year, collect seed in the fall and store for later use and/or propagate
 - Direct sow seed in bare ground spots made by scuffing with boots, spot solarizing, or by scraping large swaths of turf
 - Plant seedlings throughout entire site
 - Plant New Jersey tea from seeds collected locally, as well as other propagated suitable tall grass prairie and savanna species
- Build connections either physical or genetic with remnant self-sustaining tall grass populations in the Lower Trent watershed region
 - With permission, occasionally collect seed from existing tall grass population growing on private lands along Pinewood School Road and sow at GLCA

- Approach neighbouring landowners about allowing for tall grass prairie habitat on their lands to create a physical link with GLCA
- Sow seed collected from remnant populations at Sager CA to increase genetic diversity
- Enlarge site to 5.0 hectares by removing red and white pine in adjacent plantations
- Conduct grassland bird surveys focusing on Species At Risk such as eastern meadowlark, bobolink, common nighthawk, grasshopper sparrow, etc.
- Complete full flora and fauna inventory

4.3.5 Development Potential

No potential for development on this property (See Appendix A):

- No municipal water or wastewater services

Additionally:

- Zoned “Environmental Protection/Open Space” in the Municipality of Brighton portion and “Environmental Conservation/Open Space” in the Cramahe Township portion
- Significant amount of floodplain occurs along Cold Creek and its tributary
- Approximately 1/3 of property is provincially significant wetland
- 285 acres is managed under the Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program (MFTIP)
- 140 acres is managed under the Conservation Lands Tax Incentive Program (CLTIP)
- Several restoration projects
- Offers passive recreation opportunities

4.3.6 Mandatory/Non-Mandatory Programs and Services

Mandatory programs:

- *Natural Hazard Management Program*: floodplain, wetland, snow course survey location
- *Provincial Groundwater Monitoring Program*: One of the program wells is located on the property.
- *Conservation Authority Lands and Conservation Areas*: Management and maintenance of LTC owned and controlled lands in support of passive recreation (e.g., fencing, signage, patrolling, trail maintenance); natural heritage rehabilitation/restoration

Program Funding Sources: Category 1 Municipal Levy

Non-mandatory programs:

- *Youth Education*: Education Center located on property
- *Community Outreach and Stewardship*: Special Events and Hikes are conducted here by LTC or other organizations educational opportunities for visitors

- *Local Water Monitoring:* Benthic Invertebrate sampling site; Baseflow sampling site; Temperature Logger site

Program Funding Sources: Capital Reserve, municipal agreements and self-generated revenue

4.3.7 Proximity to Other Public Lands/Trails

- No nearby trails or public lands

4.3.8 Linkage to Natural Heritage System

- Cold Creek runs through property
- Partially within Cold Creek Significant Natural Area (Brownell & Blaney, 1995), which extends beyond property
- Partially within Cold Creek Provincial Significant Wetland (PSW), which extends beyond property
- Within Rice Lake Plains region

4.3.9 Additional Information Sources

- LTC Lands Inventory (2024)
- Goodrich-Loomis Conservation Area Master Plan (1995)

4.4 Haldimand Conservation Area

Haldimand Conservation Area is located in the Township of Alnwick/Haldimand along Wicklow Beach Road (Map 4). This 4.6 acre site provides a view of Lake Ontario and access to a municipally owned cobble beach.

The area is mainly wooded with a small amount of open field adjacent to the road and parking area. The wooded area contains wetland (treed swamp) with a mixture of white cedar and ash interspersed with willow and dogwood thickets. Some poplar, aspen, and maple make up the other trees on the property.

It is a scenic area and is used as a stop-over point for tourists along the Lake Ontario shoreline.



Map 4: Haldimand Conservation Area

4.4.1 Acquisition Details

- Donated to LTC by the municipality in 1974 for the cost of the survey

4.4.2 Facilities and Visitor Opportunities

- View and access to Lake Ontario
- No facilities aside from a small parking area

4.4.3 Restoration Works

- Large portion of property maintained in natural state

4.4.4 Restoration Priorities

- Complete full flora and fauna inventory
- Control aggressive or invasive plants

4.4.5 Development Potential

No potential for development on this property (See Appendix A):

- Property was donated to LTC/provides conservation benefits
- No municipal water or wastewater services

Additionally:

- Zoned “Rural/Provincially Significant Wetland”
- Within regulated area for Lake Ontario dynamic beach hazard
- Almost entirely wetland/approximately 50% is Provincially Significant Wetland (PSW)
- 2.0 acres of the property is managed under the Conservation Land Tax Incentive Program (CLTIP)
- Offers passive recreation opportunities

4.4.6 Mandatory/Non-Mandatory Programs and Services

Mandatory programs:

- *Natural Hazard Management Program*: Regulated area for Lake Ontario dynamic beach hazard
- *Conservation Authority Lands and Conservation Areas*: Management and maintenance of LTC owned and controlled lands in support of passive recreation (e.g., fencing, signage, patrolling); natural heritage rehabilitation/restoration

Program Funding Sources: Category 1 Municipal Levy

4.4.7 Proximity to Other Public Lands/Trails

- Near Wicklow Beach Boat Launch (Municipal)
- Adjacent to Great Lakes Waterfront Trail

4.4.8 Linkage to Natural Heritage System

- Near Lake Ontario
- Partially within Wicklow Gravel Pit PSW, which extends beyond property
- Near Wicklow Beach Wetland Significant Natural Area (Brownell, 1993)

4.4.9 Additional Information Sources

- LTC Lands Inventory (2024)
- Haldimand Conservation Area Backgrounder and Management Plan (2017)

4.5 Kings Mill Conservation Area

Kings Mill Conservation Area is located in the Township of Stirling-Rawdon at 1119 Wellmans Road. It is 81 acres in size (Map 5).

The Conservation Area is situated on Squires Creek at the site of a former grist mill and dam. The property is comprised of wetlands, bush, and farmland. The Mill is still standing but is closed to the public. The dam was reconstructed in cooperation with Ducks Unlimited in 1990 to re-establish the wetland upstream.

4.5.1 Acquisition Details

- Acquired in 1970 to preserve a structure of historical significance and to manage the natural habitat
- A donation of an additional 17.52 acres was received in 2001

4.5.2 Facilities and Visitor Opportunities

- Nature appreciation, picnicking
- Attractive historic site
- Opportunities for painting and photography
- Water access for limited canoeing and fishing
- Two picnic tables are available for public use but there are no other facilities
- Parking



Map 5: Kings Mill Conservation Area

4.5.3 Restoration Works

- Majority of property maintained in natural state
- Ducks Unlimited Dam constructed on property

- Tree planting

4.5.4 Restoration Priorities

- Complete full flora and fauna inventory
- Control aggressive or invasive plants

4.5.5 Development Potential

No potential for development on this property (See Appendix A):

- Building envelope restrictions due to floodplain/wetland and adjacent slope
- No municipal water or wastewater services

Additionally:

- Zoned “Community Facility/Environmental Protection”
- Mostly floodplain, open water and wetland
- 13 acres managed under the Conservation Land Tax Incentive Program (CLTIP)
- 64 acres managed under the Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program (MFTIP)
- Area susceptible to karst
- Some restoration projects
- Offers passive recreation opportunities

4.5.6 Mandatory/Non-Mandatory Programs and Services

Mandatory programs:

- *Natural Hazard Management Program*: floodplain, wetland, Water Survey of Canada gauge station location; rain gauge location
- *Provincial Groundwater Monitoring Network*: 1 program well
- *Conservation Authority Lands and Conservation Areas*: Management and maintenance of LTC owned and controlled lands in support of passive recreation (e.g., fencing, signage, patrolling); natural heritage rehabilitation/restoration

Program Funding Sources: Category 1 Municipal Levy

Non-mandatory programs:

- *Local Water Monitoring*: Benthic Invertebrate sampling site; LTC water quality sampling site

Program Funding Sources: Municipal, through agreements

4.5.7 Proximity to Other Public Lands/Trails

- Near Eastern Ontario Trail Alliance Trail

4.5.8 Linkage to Natural Heritage System

- Adjacent to Hoards Creek Flats Provincially Significant Wetland (PSW)

4.5.9 Additional Information Sources

- LTC Lands Inventory (2024)
- Kings Mill Conservation Area Backgrounder and Management Plan (2017)

4.6 Proctor Park Conservation Area

Proctor Park Conservation Area is an 85 acre property located in the Municipality of Brighton at 80 Young Street (Map 6).

The Conservation Area consists of an open area in the south and is wooded on the remainder of the property. This includes a mature maple beech hardwood forest and a mature cedar swamp. The topography is flat to rolling, with two small ravines. Glacial features include the Iroquois shoreline and beach. Butler (Proctor) Creek traverses the property. Ongoing efforts to naturalize the open area have occurred in recent years.

The Save Our Heritage Organization (SOHO) operates both the Proctor House Museum and the Simpson Barn Theatre on the property. SOHO leases land from the Conservation Authority for its purposes.

4.6.1 Acquisition Details

- Donated to LTC in 1970 by the Proctor family, a prominent Brighton family.
- A 1.48 acre parcel was added to the property through a private donation in 2020.

4.6.2 Facilities and Visitor Opportunities

- 2.5 kilometres of wooded trail
- Hiking, fishing, nature appreciation, photography, picnicking, cross-country skiing, and tobogganing
- Picnic shelter with picnic tables and seasonal outhouses
- Parking



Map 6: Proctor Park Conservation Area

4.6.3 Restoration Works

- Majority of property maintained in natural state
- Naturalization projects
- Several tree/shrub planting projects
- Invasive species control

4.6.4 Restoration Priorities

- Removal of hazard Ash trees
- Invasive species control
- Reforestation to replace dead Ash trees
- Complete full flora and fauna inventory

4.6.5 Development Potential

No potential for development on this property (See Appendix A):

- Property was donated to LTC/provides conservation benefits

Additionally:

- Zoned “Open Space”
- Partially floodplain lands
- Partially unevaluated wetland
- Restoration work ongoing in open areas
- 70 acres managed under Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program (MFTIP)
- Used for Cultural heritage purposes (2.5 acres leased to SOHO – Save Our Heritage Organization)
- Offers passive recreation opportunities

4.6.6 Mandatory/Non-Mandatory Programs and Services

Mandatory programs:

- *Natural Hazard Management Program*: floodplain; snow course survey location
- *Conservation Authority Lands and Conservation Areas*: Management and maintenance of LTC owned and controlled lands in support of passive recreation (e.g., fencing, signage, patrolling, trail maintenance); natural heritage rehabilitation/restoration

Program Funding Sources: Category 1 Municipal Levy

Non-mandatory programs:

- *Local Water Monitoring*: Temperature Logger site

Program Funding Sources: Municipal, through agreements

4.6.7 Proximity to Other Public Lands/Trails

- Near Presqu'île Provincial Park
- Near Great Lakes Waterfront Trail
- Near Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) Lands
- Adjacent to Municipality of Brighton trail

4.6.8 Linkage to Natural Heritage System

- Near Spring Valley Significant Natural Area (Brownell & Blaney, 1996)
- Near Cankerville Swamp wetland

4.6.9 Additional Information Sources

- LTC Lands Inventory (2024)
- Proctor Park Conservation Area Master Plan (1999)

4.7 Sager Conservation Area

Sager Conservation Area is a 47 acre parcel located in Sidney Ward of the City of Quinte West. It can be accessed at 30 Golf Course Road (Map 7).

Sager Conservation Area is part of a glacial feature known as Oak Lake Island; this is a series of large drumlins that formed an island in glacial Lake Iroquois. The drumlin in the conservation area is one of the highest points of land in the area.

4.7.1 Acquisition Details

- Purchased by LTC in 1971 from the Sager family



Map 7: Sager Conservation Area

4.7.2 Facilities and Visitor Opportunities

- 30 foot high lookout tower on the drumlin, which provides an excellent point from which to view the surrounding countryside which is typical of the area
- Interpretive signage is located on top of the tower
- 600 metre trail loop, which includes a 200 metre trail to the tower and 97 steps
- Hiking, nature appreciation, photography
- Bench and picnic table near the tower
- Picnic shelter with two picnic tables near the parking lot, along with an information kiosk and a permanent vault privy
- Parking

4.7.3 Restoration Works

- Tree planting on slope of drumlin in northwest corner
- Prairie restoration (tree removal and invasive species removal)

4.7.4 Restoration Priorities

- Gradually enlarge existing remnant prairie-savanna populations by reversing encroachment of woody vegetation, including plantations
 - Cut and fell several plantation trees adjacent to remnant populations to allow more sunlight to reach the ground
 - Cut and treat with herbicide aggressive woody vegetation, both native (i.e. Staghorn sumac, red cedar, riverbank grapevine, large toothed aspen) and non-native (i.e. Tartarian honeysuckle) species
- Control invasive plants before they become a problem
 - Dig up, cut and treat dog strangling vine, common buckthorn and other serious invasive plants growing in the surrounding area
- Collect seeds and propagate plants to enlarge remnant populations and support efforts at other restoration sites
 - Compete full flora and faunal inventory of the communities
 - Collect native wildflower and grass seeds from remnant populations
 - Direct sow and propagate stock from seeds to plant in opened-up areas
 - Use seed to support restoration efforts at other prairie-savanna sites especially Goodrich-Loomis CA.
- Determine presence/absence of the endangered Mottled Dusky-wing butterfly, if absent determine feasibility of reintroducing a viable population
 - Invite Mottled Dusky-wing researcher to conduct surveys, and/or complete own surveys
 - Determine abundance of New Jersey Tea, Mottled-dusky wing host plants at Sager CA and neighbouring properties

4.7.5 Development Potential

No potential for development on this property (See Appendix A):

- No municipal water or wastewater services

Additionally:

- Zoned “Open Space”
- Entirely Located within Earth Science and Life Science Areas of Natural and Scientific Areas (ANSIs)
- 47 acres is managed under the Conservation Lands Tax Incentive Program (CLTIP)
- Some restoration projects
- Offers passive recreation opportunities

4.7.6 Mandatory/Non-Mandatory Programs and Services

Mandatory programs:

- *Natural Hazard Management Program:* snow course survey location
- *Provincial Groundwater Monitoring Program:* One of the program wells is located on the property.
- *Conservation Authority Lands and Conservation Areas:* Management and maintenance of LTC owned and controlled lands in support of passive recreation (e.g., fencing, signage, patrolling, trail maintenance); natural heritage rehabilitation/restoration

Program Funding Sources: Category 1 Municipal Levy

Non-mandatory programs:

- *Youth Education:* Educational opportunities for visiting youth groups
- *Community Outreach and Stewardship:* Educational opportunities for visitors

Program Funding Sources: Municipal, through agreements, self-generated revenue

4.7.7 Proximity to Other Public Lands/Trails

- None nearby

4.7.8 Linkage to Natural Heritage System

- Entirely within Sager Sand Barrens and Forest Complex ANSI, which extends beyond property
- Entirely within Oak Lake Island Shorelines ANSI, which extends beyond property
- Near Oak Lake Slope ANSI

4.7.9 Additional Information Sources

- LTC Lands Inventory (2024)
- Sager Conservation Area Backgrounder and Management Plan (2017)

4.8 Seymour Conservation Area

Seymour Conservation Area is 197 acres in size. Located in Seymour Ward of the Municipality of Trent Hills, the property can be accessed through 5754 County Road 30 (Map 8).

This Conservation Area consists almost entirely of woodland. A meandering stream flows through the southwest corner, and a swamp runs from north to south through the centre of the property. The Conservation Area is a limestone plain (western half) covered with varying soil depths, including a provincially significant oak alvar savanna habitat. A drumlin, composed of glacial till, lies to the east. An old quarry is situated on the site. There are also a series of pair ponds for waterfowl.

4.8.1 Acquisition Details

- Purchased in 1973 for the purpose of preserving a natural setting in the face of urban development

4.8.2 Facilities and Visitor Opportunities

- 3.25 kilometres of trail
- Hiking, cross-country skiing
- Picnicking, nature appreciation
- Two picnic shelters with picnic tables and one permanent vault privy
- Parking

4.8.3 Restoration Works

- Majority of property maintained in natural state
- Oak Alvar Savanna Restoration (including prescribed burns and planting)
- Ducks Unlimited Pair Ponds
- Tree planting



Map 8: Seymour Conservation Area

4.8.4 Restoration Priorities

- Control aggressive or invasive plants
 - Cut and/or treat red cedar, common buckthorn and other aggressive plants encroaching the bur oak savanna community
- Collect and propagate savanna species to sow/plant back at the site or elsewhere as appropriate
 - woody species seed of bur oak, red oak, shagbark hickory
 - wildflower species
 - grass species i.e. established side oats gramma
- Complete full flora and fauna inventory
- Removal of Hazard Ash Trees

4.8.5 Development Potential

No potential for development on this property (See Appendix A):

- No municipal water or wastewater services

Additionally:

- Zoned “Environmentally Sensitive/Environmental Protection/Rural”
- Some wetland on property
- Some floodplain lands
- 195 acres is managed under the Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program (MFTIP)
- Oak Alvar Savanna Restoration projects in open areas
- Offers passive recreation opportunities

4.8.6 Mandatory/Non-Mandatory Programs and Services

Mandatory programs:

- *Natural Hazard Management Program*: floodplain, snow course survey location
- *Conservation Authority Lands and Conservation Areas*: Management and maintenance of LTC owned and controlled lands in support of passive recreation (e.g., fencing, signage, patrolling, trail maintenance); natural heritage rehabilitation/restoration

Program Funding Sources: Category 1 Municipal Levy

Non-mandatory programs:

- *Youth Education*: Educational opportunities for visiting youth groups
- *Community Outreach and Stewardship*: Educational opportunities for visitors

Program Funding Sources: Municipal, through agreements

4.8.7 Proximity to Other Public Lands/Trails

- Near Ferris Provincial Park
- Near Ranney Gorge Suspension Bridge
- Near TransCanada Trail: Campbellford

4.8.8 Linkage to Natural Heritage System

- Near the Trent River

4.8.9 Additional Information Sources

- LTC Lands Inventory (2024)
- Seymour Conservation Area Backgrounder and Management Plan (2017)

4.9 Trenton Greenbelt Conservation Area

The Trenton Greenbelt Conservation Area is a long narrow strip of land along the west side of the Trent River in Trenton (City of Quinte West) (Map 9). The 37 acre Greenbelt is made up of lands owned by LTC, the City of Quinte West and Parks Canada, with 5 acres owned by LTC.

Remnants of a provincially significant oak savanna plant community are located at the north end of the property.

4.9.1 Acquisition Details

- Trenton Greenbelt project was initially established in 1972 as a joint effort by LTC and the City of Trenton for the purpose of rehabilitating the west bank of the Trent River
- LTC has purchased properties along the river from private landowners
- The City has transferred several parcels of land, including road allowances to LTC to become part of the Conservation Area
- Two railway easements are leased from CNR and CPR.

4.9.2 Facilities and Visitor Opportunities

- 2.25 kilometres of trail along river (Jack Lange Memorial Walkway)
- Walking, picnicking, public access to the water in downtown Trenton
- Walking, hiking, cycling, fishing and wildlife viewing
- Two picnic shelters, several picnic tables and benches
- Boat launch provides access to the Trent River and the Bay of Quinte



Map 9: Trenton Greenbelt Conservation Area

4.9.3 Restoration Works

- Savanna/meadow restoration projects (including prescribed burns)
- Shoreline naturalization
- Tree planting

4.9.4 Restoration Priorities

- Control aggressive or invasive plants
 - Dig up, cut and/or treat dog strangling vine, common buckthorn, grey dogwood, staghorn sumac, black locust and other aggressive plants growing in the surrounding area
- Collect, propagate savanna species to sow/plant back at the site or elsewhere as appropriate
 - woody species seed of bur oak, red oak, shagbark hickory, American hazel
 - wildflower species
 - tall grass species
- Complete full flora and fauna inventory of the community

4.9.5 Development Potential

No potential for development on this property (See Appendix A):

- Building envelope limitations - most of Greenbelt is narrow, with minimal land between the road setback and the Trent River floodplain

Additionally:

- The property is zoned “Open Space/ Environmental Protection/Downtown Commercial”
- Partially within Trent River floodplain (along shoreline)
- Mostly in regulated area of the Trent River
- Some sections are owned by City of Quinte West and some are leased from other parties
- Several Oak Savanna restoration projects and shoreline restoration projects have been undertaken
- Offers passive recreation opportunities

4.9.6 Mandatory/Non-Mandatory Programs and Services

Mandatory programs:

- *Natural Hazard Management Program*: floodplain
- *Conservation Authority Lands and Conservation Areas*: Management and maintenance of LTC owned and controlled lands in support of passive recreation (e.g., signage, patrolling, trail maintenance); natural heritage rehabilitation/restoration

Program Funding Sources: Category 1 Municipal Levy

Non-mandatory programs:

- *Youth Education: Educational opportunities for visiting youth groups*
- *Community Outreach and Stewardship: Educational opportunities for visitors*

Program Funding Sources: Municipal, through agreements

4.9.7 Proximity to Other Public Lands/Trails

- Lower Trent Trail starts just north of the Trenton Greenbelt Conservation Area (no direct link currently, without following roads)
- Adjacent to the Trent-Severn Waterway. While not a trail in the traditional sense, it is a recreational boating corridor extending from Georgian Bay to the Bay of Quinte and beyond. Parks Canada owns several public properties adjacent to the river system and there are also nearby trail systems.
- Near Great Lakes Waterfront Trail

4.9.8 Linkage to Natural Heritage System

- Adjacent to the Trent River

4.9.9 Additional Information Sources

- LTC Lands Inventory (2024)
- Trenton Greenbelt Conservation Area Backgrounder and Management Plan (2015)

4.10 Warkworth Conservation Area

Warkworth Conservation Area is a 2.8 acres property located at 25 Northumberland County Road 29 in the village of Warkworth (Municipality of Trent Hills, Percy Ward) (Map 10).

Burnley Creek (also known as Mill Creek) flows through the property. The Warkworth Dam is located at the east end of the property, forming a pond upstream. The dam and pond are the focal points of the property. Much of the Conservation Area is in the regional floodplain. On the south side of the pond, the floodplain lands are maintained as parkland (mown grass). To the north of the pond is an upland area that is sparsely wooded.



Map 10: Warkworth Conservation Area

4.10.1 Acquisition Details

- Township of Percy donated approximately 6.75 acres of land to LTC in 1971

- An additional property (approximately 0.6 acres) was donated by Arthur Wartman in 1972
- In 1981, the Conservation Authority turned over 0.43 acres of Conservation Area land that is outside of the floodplain to the Township, in exchange for an 8 acre parcel of floodplain lands located further downstream (see Section 5.10)
- In 2010, the 4.07 acre portion of the property that is located on the west side of Old Hastings Road was transferred back to the Municipality

4.10.2 Facilities and Visitor Opportunities

- There are no facilities on the property
- Nature interpretation, photography and picnicking

4.10.3 Restoration Works

- Shoreline restoration projects

4.10.4 Restoration Priorities

- Complete full flora and fauna inventory
- Control aggressive or invasive plants
- Maintain/enhance shoreline restoration project

4.10.5 Development Potential

No potential for development on this property (See Appendix A):

- Building envelope restrictions – almost entirely located in the floodplain

Additionally:

- Zoned “Environmental Protection”
- Some restoration projects
- Offers passive recreation opportunities

4.10.6 Mandatory/Non-Mandatory Programs and Services

Mandatory programs:

- *Natural Hazard Management Program*: floodplain, flood control, and dam operations
- *Conservation Authority Lands and Conservation Areas*: Management and maintenance of LTC owned and controlled lands in support of passive recreation (e.g. signage, patrolling, trail maintenance); natural heritage rehabilitation/restoration

Program Funding Sources: Category 1 Municipal Levy

Non-mandatory programs:

- *Community Outreach and Stewardship*: Educational opportunities for visitors

Program Funding Sources: Municipal, through agreements

4.10.7 Proximity to Other Public Lands/Trails

- Near Millennium Trail in Warkworth
- Near Oak Ridges Moraine Trail

4.10.8 Linkage to Natural Heritage System

- Near Burnley Creek Provincially Significant Wetland (PSW)
- Within Rice Lake Plains region

4.10.9 Additional Information Sources

- LTC Lands Inventory (2024)
- Warkworth Conservation Area Master Plan (2011)

5 **DESCRIPTION AND ASSESSMENT OF LTC MANAGEMENT AREAS**

Natural Habitat Areas

5.1 Alderville Woods Natural Habitat Area

Alderville Woods Natural Habitat Area is a 114 acre property located in the Township of Alnwick/Haldimand, adjacent to 11754 County Road 29 (Map 11).

The property is on the eastern part of the Oak Ridges Moraine. It is a source area for a cold-water stream flowing into Burnley Creek and contains numerous springs and seepage areas. The upland portions of the area are dominated by sugar maple, and the wetlands are mostly seepy, mixed, conifer-dominated swamps, with some good open beaver pond and beaver meadow habitats also present. Most of the area is recovering from being logged in the 1980s/1990s, however, a small area of mature white cedar-black ash-yellow birch-hemlock swamp remains.

There are no trails or facilities on the property.



Map 11: Alderville Woods Natural Habitat Area

5.1.1 Acquisition Details

- Donated to Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) by Jane Hardacre and then transferred to

LTC in 2002

- Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) facilitated the transfer of the property and covered all costs
- A landholding agreement was signed between NCC and LTC and a Management Plan for the property was prepared in cooperation with NCC

5.1.2 Facilities and Visitor Opportunities

- Not promoted as recreational use area
- No maintained trails or facilities but are open to the public
- Wildlife viewing, nature appreciation, education and research
- No parking

5.1.3 Restoration Works

- Left in natural state
- Tree planting, including Butternut
- Invasive species control (garlic mustard, dog-strangling vine)

5.1.4 Restoration Priorities

- Complete full flora and fauna inventory
- Control aggressive or invasive plants

5.1.5 Development Potential

No potential for development on this property (See Appendix A):

- Donated and has conservation benefits
- No access to the property as the road frontage is entirely wetland/inundated
- No municipal water or wastewater services

Additionally:

- Zoned “Oak Ridges Moraine Core/Oak Ridges Moraine Environmental /Oak Ridges Moraine Plan Review”
- Partially Provincially Significant Wetland (PSW) and unevaluated wetland
- 114 acres is managed under the Conservation Lands Tax Incentive Program (CLTIP)
- Some restoration projects

5.1.6 Mandatory/Non-Mandatory Programs and Services

Mandatory Programs:

- Natural Hazard Management Program: floodplain, wetland

- Conservation Authority Lands and Conservation Areas: Management and maintenance of LTC owned and controlled lands in support of passive recreation; natural heritage rehabilitation/restoration

Program Funding Sources: Category 1 Municipal Levy

5.1.7 Proximity to Other Public Lands/Trails

- Near Oak Ridges Moraine Trail
- Near Burnley Creek Natural Habitat Area
- Near Peter's Woods Provincial Park
- Near NCC properties
- Near Northumberland County Forest

5.1.8 Linkage to Natural Heritage System

- Located on the Oak Ridges Moraine
- Located in Burnley Creek PSW, which extends beyond property
- Located in Alderville Woods Significant Natural Area (Brownell & Blaney, 1996), which extends beyond property
- Near Burnley Creek Area of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI)
- Located within a very large node of natural areas near Alderville which contains the Burnley-Carmel Headwater (Brownell & Blaney, 1995) and the Northumberland County Forest Significant Natural Areas (Brownell & Blaney, 1996)
- Within Rice Lake Plains region

5.1.9 Additional Information Sources

- LTC Lands Inventory (2024)
- Conservation Management Plan Alderville Woods – Hardacre Property (2004)

5.2 Barnum House Creek Natural Habitat Area

Barnum House Creek Natural Habitat Area is located at 424 Barnum House Road in Grafton (Township of Alnwick/Haldimand). The property is 48 acres in size (Map 12).

Much of the property is within the floodplain of Barnum House Creek which runs the length of the area. A flow regulation weir, built by the Ministry of Natural Resources in 1977, is located at the

branching of the stream. The northern section of the property is densely wooded, while the central region consists of mixed scrubland.



Map 12: Barnum House Creek Natural Habitat Area

5.2.1 Acquisition Details

- Deeded to LTC in 1978 from the Ministry of Natural Resources
- An additional 3 acres was acquired from the Ministry of Government Services in 1980.

5.2.2 Facilities and Visitor Opportunities

- Not promoted as recreational use area
- No maintained trails or facilities but open to the public
- Wildlife viewing, nature appreciation, education and research, and fishing
- Parking is available for several vehicles on the west side of Barnum House Road

5.2.3 Restoration Works

- No major restoration; left in natural state

5.2.4 Restoration Priorities

- Complete full flora and fauna inventory
- Control aggressive or invasive plants

5.2.5 Development Potential

No potential for development on this property (See Appendix A):

- No municipal water or wastewater services

Additionally:

- Zoned “Agricultural/Rural/Environmentally Sensitive Area”
- Significant portion is floodplain
- All 48 acres is managed under the Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program (MFTIP)

5.2.6 Mandatory/Non-Mandatory Programs and Services

Mandatory Programs:

- *Natural Hazard Management Program:* floodplain
- *Conservation Authority Lands and Conservation Areas:* Management and maintenance of LTC owned and controlled lands in support of passive recreation; natural heritage rehabilitation/restoration

Non-mandatory programs:

- *Local Water Monitoring:* Baseflow sampling site, Temperature logger site

Program Funding Sources: Category 1 Municipal Levy

5.2.7 Proximity to Other Public Lands/Trails

- Near Great Lakes Waterfront Trail

5.2.8 Linkage to Natural Heritage System

- Near Grafton Undulating Woods Significant Natural Area (Brownell, 1993)

5.2.9 Additional Information Sources

- LTC Lands Inventory (2024)
- Barnum House Creek Natural Habitat Area Management Plan (2017)

5.3 Burnley Creek Natural Habitat Area

Burnley Creek Natural Habitat Area is located in the Township of Alnwick/Haldimand, adjacent to 12223 County Road 29. The property size is 117 acres (Map 13).

Burnley Creek Natural Habitat Area includes diverse forest habitat with a tributary of Burnley Creek dividing the property into two portions. It is located on the Oak Ridges Moraine and contains a provincially significant wetland and the headwaters of Burnley Creek (a cold-water stream). Most of the property is covered with shrub swamps, mixed forest swamps, and coniferous forest swamps. A small portion at the southeast corner of the property is a dry-fresh mixed forest. Since the property is mostly wetland, and there is limited access, the property has extremely low human disturbance.

The Natural Habitat Area is home to approximately 90 bird species, some of which are federally, provincially, and regionally rare. Three species of reptiles and eight species of amphibians have been observed on the property and due to the amount of wetland habitat there is a strong likelihood there are more species present.

5.3.1 Acquisition Details

- Donated to LTC in 2006, under the Environment Canada's Ecological Gift Program

5.3.2 Facilities and Visitor Opportunities

- Not promoted as recreational use area
- No maintained trails or facilities but open to the public
- Wildlife viewing, nature appreciation, education and research
- No parking



Map 13: Burnley Creek Natural Habitat Area

5.3.3 Restoration Works

- No restoration work/left in natural state

5.3.4 Restoration Priorities

- Complete updated full flora and fauna inventory
- Control aggressive or invasive plants

5.3.5 Development Potential

No potential for development on this property (See Appendix A):

- Donated through Environment Canada's Ecological Gift Program which has requirements for recipients to protect the property perpetuity including maintenance of the biodiversity and environmental heritage
- Access is limited for development, road frontage is floodplain/wetland
- No municipal water or wastewater services

Additionally:

- Zoned "Oak Ridges Moraine Core/Oak Ridges Moraine Environmental"
- Significant portion is floodplain and wetland (including Provincially Significant Wetland)
- Almost entirely within Burnley Creek Area of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI)
- Entire 117 acres is managed under the Conservation Lands Tax Incentive Program (CLTIP)

5.3.6 Mandatory/Non-Mandatory Programs and Services

Mandatory Programs:

- *Natural Hazard Management Program*: floodplain, wetland
- *Conservation Authority Lands and Conservation Areas*: Management and maintenance of LTC owned and controlled lands in support of passive recreation; natural heritage rehabilitation/restoration

Program Funding Sources: Category 1 Municipal Levy

5.3.7 Proximity to Other Public Lands/Trails

- Near Oak Ridges Moraine Trail
- Near Alderville Woods Natural Habitat Area
- Near Peter's Woods Provincial Park
- Adjacent to Nature Conservancy of Canada property
- Near Northumberland County Forest

5.3.8 Linkage to Natural Heritage System

- Partially within Burnley (Mill) Creek Provincially Significant Wetland (PSW), which extends beyond property
- Almost entirely within Burnley Creek ANSI, which extends beyond property

- On the Oak Ridges Moraine
- Located within a very large node of natural areas which contain the Burnley-Carmel Headwater (Brownell & Blaney, 1995) and the Northumberland County Forest Significant Natural Areas (Brownell & Blaney, 1996)
- Within Rice Lake Plains region

5.3.9 Additional Information Sources

- LTC Lands Inventory (2024)
- Burnley Creek Natural Habitat Area Management Plan (2011)

5.4 Douglas Springs Natural Habitat Area

Douglas Springs Natural Habitat Area is a 15 acre property located on Slab Street in the Municipality of Centre Hastings (Map 14).

The property has a large spring, providing a major source of water for the east branch of Rawdon Creek. The concern for both the quality and quantity of the water supply to Rawdon Creek by the Township of Stirling-Rawdon and the Municipality of Centre Hastings led to the acquisition of the property.

5.4.1 Acquisition Details

- Purchased in 2002 with funding from the Municipality of Centre Hastings and the Township of Stirling-Rawdon

5.4.2 Facilities and Visitor Opportunities

- Not promoted as recreational use area
- No maintained trails or facilities but open to the public
- Nature appreciation, education and research, and fishing
- Parking is available on the property for a few vehicles off of Slab Street.



Map 14: Douglas Spring Natural Habitat Area

5.4.3 Restoration Works

- No major restoration; left in natural state

5.4.4 Restoration Priorities

- Complete full flora and fauna inventory
- Control aggressive or invasive plants

5.4.5 Development Potential

No potential for development on this property (See Appendix A):

- No municipal water or wastewater services

Additionally:

- Zoned “Environmental Protection/Rural”
- Approximately 50% floodplain/wetland
- Purchased for protection of headwater area
- Area susceptible to karst

5.4.6 Mandatory/Non-Mandatory Programs and Services

Mandatory Programs:

- *Natural Hazard Management Program:* floodplain, wetland, karst
- *Provincial Groundwater Monitoring Program:* One of the program wells is located on the property
- *Conservation Authority Lands and Conservation Areas:* Management and maintenance of LTC owned and controlled lands in support of passive recreation; natural heritage rehabilitation/restoration

Program Funding Sources: Category 1 Municipal Levy

5.4.7 Proximity to Other Public Lands/Trails

- Near Eastern Ontario Trail Alliance trail

5.4.8 Linkage to Natural Heritage System

- Within Moreland Lake Complex Significant Natural Area (Brownell & Blaney, 1995), which extends beyond property
- Near Moreland Lake Provincially Significant Wetland (PSW)
- Near White Snake Lakes PSW

5.4.9 Additional Information Sources

- LTC Lands Inventory (2024)
- Douglas Spring Natural Habitat Area Management Plan (2017)

5.5 Keating-Hoards Natural Habitat Area

Keating-Hoards Natural Habitat Area is located in the Municipality of Trent Hills (Seymour Twp) and City of Quinte West (Murray Ward) (Map 15). The Keating component is located on and adjacent to the eastern portion of Wilson Island along the Trent River, just to the west of Stirling. The Hoards component is adjacent to the mouth of Hoards Creek and has a portion on the central portion of Wilson Island. The property is 766 acres in size.

A large portion of the property is wetland and is part of the Wilson Island East Provincially Significant Wetland. There are also upland forests, agricultural fields, and abandoned pastures. A portion of the property is still leased for agricultural purposes.

5.5.1 Acquisition Details

- Purchased in three parcels in 1971, 1975 and 1976.

5.5.2 Facilities and Visitor Opportunities

- Not promoted as recreational use area
- No maintained trails or facilities but open to the public
- Hiking, picnicking, nature appreciation, and education and research
- Small areas leased for agriculture
- Small parking area (not on LTC property) that provides access to the Trent River and the Hoards section of the Natural Habitat Area (located adjacent to the western bridge onto Wilson Island off of 1st Line East Road)
- No designated parking at the Keating section of the property

5.5.3 Restoration Works

- Several tree planting projects undertaken in various locations on abandoned farmland
- Fencing to prevent ATV access to sensitive lands
- Species at Risk Inventory
- Significant portion left in natural state



Map 15: Keating-Hoards Natural Habitat Area

5.5.4 Restoration Priorities

- Control aggressive or invasive plants

- Cut and/or treat red cedar, common buckthorn, and other aggressive plants encroaching planted areas
- Collect, propagate savanna species to sow/plant back at the site or elsewhere as appropriate
 - Woody species seed of bur oak, red oak, shagbark hickory
 - Wildflower species
 - Tall grass species
- Follow recommendations in the 2010 Species at Risk Management Plan including
 - Further survey work for Least Bittern, King Rail and turtles species
 - Regular monitoring of invasive species
 - Continued planting of old fields with native species to provide a wetland buffer
- Encourage best management practices and regenerative agriculture on leased agricultural lands

5.5.5 Development Potential

No potential for development on this property (See Appendix A):

- Building envelope restrictions - almost entirely in floodplain of Trent River
- No municipal water or wastewater services

Additionally:

- Zoned “Rural/Provincially Significant Wetland” in City of Quinte West portion and “Environmental Protection/Environmentally Sensitive” in the Municipality of Trent Hills portion
- Mostly Provincially Significant Wetland (PSW)
- 600 acres is managed under the Conservation Lands Tax Incentive Program (CLTIP)
- 236 acres is managed under the Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program (MFTIP)
- Some restoration projects

5.5.6 Mandatory/Non-Mandatory Programs and Services

Mandatory Programs:

- *Natural Hazard Management Program*: floodplain, wetland
- *Conservation Authority Lands and Conservation Areas*: Management and maintenance of LTC owned and controlled lands in support of passive recreation (e.g., fencing, signage, patrolling); natural heritage rehabilitation/restoration

Program Funding Sources: Category 1 Municipal Levy

5.5.7 Proximity to Other Public Lands/Trails

- Adjacent to the Trent-Severn Waterway (a recreational boating corridor extending from Georgian Bay to the Bay of Quinte and beyond; Parks Canada owns several public properties adjacent to the river system)
- Near Eastern Ontario Trails Alliance
- Near Lower Trent Trail
- Near Murray Marsh Natural Habitat Area and provincially owned crown lands in the Murray Marsh

5.5.8 Linkage to Natural Heritage System

- Within the Wilson Island East PSW, which extends beyond property
- On the Trent River

5.5.9 Additional Information Sources

- LTC Lands Inventory (2024)
- Keating-Hoards Natural Habitat Area Management Plan (2017)

5.6 Murray Marsh Natural Habitat Area

Murray Marsh Natural Habitat Area is LTC's largest property at 1632 acres. It is located in the Municipality of Brighton (former Township of Brighton) along Goodfellow Road (Map 16).

The Natural Habitat Area is situated in the Murray Marsh, which is the largest and most complete tract of undisturbed marsh and swamp forest remaining in southeastern Ontario. A variety of land types make up this wetland comprised of marsh, thicket and treed swamp, upland forest ridges, open water, and 27 drumlins of various sizes. Encompassing approximately 10,000 acres, Murray Marsh is classified as a provincially significant wetland and is of regional significance for wildlife. The marsh provides nesting and feeding sites for over 100 bird species. Numerous migrating waterfowl species use the marsh as a nesting and feeding area. A diverse array of vegetation can be found in the wetland - approximately 300 plant species and over 85 types of trees and shrubs.

This marsh is the only major flood water storage for the Trent River system south of Campbellford. It serves as a giant filtration system for nutrients, improving the water quality in the Trent River. Almost 50 percent of Murray Marsh is protected through the combined ownership of LTC and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources.



Map 16: Murray Marsh Natural Habitat Area

5.6.1 Acquisition Details

- LTC acquired several properties in the Murray Marsh in 1986 and 1987

- Financial assistance was received from the Nature Conservancy of Canada, Ontario Heritage Foundation, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, and Wildlife Habitat Canada to purchase the properties
- In 1989, an additional 590 acres was purchased from Charlie Puddephatt.

5.6.2 Facilities and Visitor Opportunities

- Not promoted as recreational use area
- No maintained trails or facilities but open to the public
- Wildlife viewing, nature appreciation, photography,
- Education and research
- Hunting by permit
- Trapping (with written permission)
- Some areas leased for agriculture (cropping, apiculture)

5.6.3 Restoration Works

- Mainly left in natural state
- Buffer planting between agricultural fields and wetland

5.6.4 Restoration Priorities

- Complete full flora and fauna inventory
- Control aggressive or invasive plants
- Ongoing maintenance and potential expansion of wetland buffers
- Create grassland bird habitat in the old field on Ames Island
- Encourage best management practices and regenerative agriculture on leased agricultural lands

5.6.5 Development Potential

No potential for development on this property (See Appendix A):

- Road access is within 100 year floodplain and is poorly maintained
- No municipal water or wastewater services

Additionally:

- Zoned “Environmental Protection/ Rural”
- Almost entirely within floodplain of Trent River
- Almost entirely Provincially Significant Wetland (PSW)
- 1307 acres is managed under the Conservation Lands Tax Incentive Program (CLTIP)
- Some restoration projects

5.6.6 Mandatory/Non-Mandatory Programs and Services

Mandatory Programs:

- *Natural Hazard Management Program*: floodplain, wetland
- *Conservation Authority Lands and Conservation Areas*: Management and maintenance of LTC owned and controlled lands in support of passive recreation (e.g. signage, patrolling); natural heritage rehabilitation/restoration

Program Funding Sources: Category 1 Municipal Levy

5.6.7 Proximity to Other Public Lands/Trails

- Near the Trent-Severn Waterway (a recreational boating corridor extending from Georgian Bay to the Bay of Quinte and beyond; Parks Canada owns several public properties adjacent to the river system)
- Adjacent and near provincially owned crown lands in the Murray Marsh
- Near Keating-Hoards Natural Habitat Area

5.6.8 Linkage to Natural Heritage System

- Within Murray Marsh PSW, which extends beyond property
- Within Murray Marsh Area of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI), which extends beyond property
- Near Codrington East Ravine Significant Natural Area (Brownell & Blaney, 1996)
- On the Trent River

5.6.9 Additional Information Sources

- LTC Lands Inventory (2024)
- Murray Marsh Natural Habitat Area Management Plan (2014)

5.7 Trenton Escarpment Natural Habitat Area

5.7.1 Description

The Trenton Escarpment Natural Habitat Area is a 19 acres property located in Trenton (City of Quinte West), adjacent to Hanna Park (Map 17).

The Natural Habitat Area is heavily wooded, with a swamp centrally located within the property. An intermittent stream flows through the area most of the year. Passive recreational

5.7.2 Acquisition Details

- Purchased land which was unsuitable for development from Sunrise Park Development in 1977 to allow for storm and flood water runoff within the City of Trenton
- The Ministry of Natural Resources provided 50% of the cost (\$62,500)

5.7.3 Facilities and Visitor Opportunities

- Not promoted as recreational use area
- No maintained trails or facilities but open to the public
- Nature appreciation
- Education and research
- Preferred access is through Hanna Park (road frontage exists along Parkside Drive on top of the escarpment)

5.7.4 Restoration Works

- No restoration; left in natural state

5.7.5 Restoration Priorities

- Complete full flora and fauna inventory
- Control aggressive or invasive plants

5.7.6 Development Potential

No potential for development on this property (See Appendix A):

- No suitable road frontage/access
- Building envelope restrictions - acquired from Sunrise Park Development in 1977 to allow for storm and flood water runoff within the City of Trenton

Additionally:

- Zoned “Open Space)/Environmental Protection”
- Mostly unevaluated wetland
- 19 acres is managed under the Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program (MFTIP)

5.7.7 Mandatory/Non-Mandatory Programs and Services

Mandatory Programs:

- *Natural Hazard Management Program:* floodplain, wetland
- *Conservation Authority Lands and Conservation Areas:* Management and maintenance of LTC owned and controlled lands in support of passive recreation (e.g. signage, patrolling, trail maintenance); natural heritage rehabilitation/restoration

Program Funding Sources: Category 1 Municipal Levy

5.7.8 Proximity to Other Public Lands/Trails

- Adjacent to Hannah Park (City of Quinte West parkland)
- Near Great Lakes Waterfront Trail
- Near Bay of Quinte

5.7.9 Linkage to Natural Heritage System

- Hydrologic linkage with wetland at base of escarpment that connects with Dead Creek Provincial Significant Wetland

5.7.10 Additional Information Sources

- LTC Lands Inventory (2024)
- Trenton Escarpment Natural Habitat Area Management Plan (2017)

Public Safety Lands

5.8 Barry Heights/Mayhew Creek (Murray Ward, Quinte West)

LTC purchased a 0.94 acre property to gain access for the flood control project at Barry Heights. It is located in the City of Quinte West (Murray Ward).

The Barry Heights Flood Reduction Channel was built between 1981 and 1983 to prevent further flooding of Barry Heights Subdivision due to inadequate drainage. Flooding in the Barry Heights Subdivision resulted in damage to residential properties and contaminating ground water wells.

This channel is inspected by LTC staff regularly and occasionally requires cleaning out of sediment and debris. The last cleanout occurred in August 2014.

5.8.1 Development Potential

No potential for development on this property (See Appendix A):

- Must be maintained to allow for future access to the flood control works for maintenance purposes

5.8.2 Mandatory/Non-Mandatory Programs and Services

- **Mandatory Programs:** Natural Hazards– Flood and Erosion Control Structures
Program Funding Sources: Category 1 Municipal Levy

5.8.3 Additional Information Sources

- LTC Lands Inventory (2024)
- LTC Capital Asset Management Plan
- LTC Flood and Erosion Control Structures Operation and Maintenance Manual (2024)

5.9 Frankford Pipe (Frankford Ward, Quinte West)

LTC owns a pipe (flume) along Cold Creek in Frankford (City of Quinte West). It was purchased to complete an ice-jamming and flood control project in Frankford. The property size is only 0.23 acres.

Formerly there was a mill on Mill Street in downtown Frankford. As part of the flood control works completed in 1982 for Cold Creek in Frankford, the mill pond was drained, the dam removed, berms around the former pond were increased in height and a spillway to the Trent River was constructed. The flume that used to supply the water from the upstream side of the dam to the mill was left in place to provide bank stabilization and erosion control measures around the last bend of Cold Creek. LTC owns this small portion of land where the pipe is located. There are no records of any structural assessments of the pipe or the hydro-geomorphologic impacts over time.

The pipe forms an integral part of the stream bank, helping to maintain bank stability. It is inspected for visible structural damage, shifting or noticeable erosion around it.

5.9.1 Development Potential

No potential for development on this property (See Appendix A):

- Must be maintained for its natural hazard protection purpose.

5.9.2 Mandatory/Non-Mandatory Programs and Services

- **Mandatory Programs:** Natural Hazards – Flood and Erosion Control Structures
Program Funding Sources: Category 1 Municipal Levy

5.9.3 Additional Information Sources

- LTC Lands Inventory (2024)
- LTC Capital Asset Management Plan
- LTC Flood and Erosion Control Structures Operation and Maintenance Manual (2024)

5.10 Mill Creek Floodplain

This 8 acre property encompasses floodplain lands of Mill Creek in the village of Warkworth (Municipality of Trent Hills, Percy Ward).

The property was obtained through a land trade between the municipality and LTC in 1981. The municipality received a portion of the Warkworth Conservation Area lands that is outside of the floodplain, while LTC received this block of floodplain lands located further to the south-east.

5.10.1 Development Potential

No potential for development on this property (See Appendix A):

- located within the floodplain
- Insufficient Road Frontage

Additionally:

- Zoned “Environmental Protection”
- 8 acres managed under the Conservation Lands Tax Incentive Program (CLTIP)

5.10.2 Mandatory/Non-Mandatory Programs and Services

- **Mandatory Programs:** Natural Hazards – floodplain
Program Funding Sources: Category 1 Municipal Levy

5.10.3 Additional Information Sources

- LTC Lands Inventory (2024)
- LTC Capital Asset Management Plan

5.11 Trout Creek Property (Campbellford Ward, Trent Hills)

LTC purchased 0.5 acres of land along Trout Creek in Trent Hills (Campbellford Ward), to enable access to for completion and maintenance of the Trout Creek Flood Control Channel, which was completed in 1986.

The construction of the channel included a concrete block retaining wall system along Inkerman Street and a widening of the creek and bank stabilization on the north side of the stream. LTC owns the property at the very east end of the channel where the stream turns southward. The majority of the creek bank on the LTC property does not have the concrete retaining wall. The property owned by LTC includes the bed of the creek from Inkerman Street to the Balaclava Street Bridge.

This channel is inspected by LTC staff regularly. Maintenance and repair work has been completed since construction. Occasionally the creek requires clean out but not typically in the section owned by LTC. The last clean out of the creek between Simpson and Pellisier Streets was in 2018.

5.11.1 Development Potential

No potential for development on this property (See Appendix A):

- Must be maintained to enable access to the creek/channel for maintenance work

5.11.2 Mandatory/Non-Mandatory Programs and Services

- **Mandatory Programs:** Natural Hazards – Flood and Erosion Control Structures
Program Funding Sources: Category 1 Municipal Levy

5.11.3 Additional Information Sources

- LTC Lands Inventory (2024)
- LTC Capital Asset Management Plan
- LTC Flood and Erosion Control Structures Operation and Maintenance Manual (2024)

5.12 Warkworth Flood Wall

The Warkworth Flood Wall property is 0.51 acres and is located adjacent to Warkworth Conservation Area (Municipality of Trent Hills, Percy Ward).

The concrete floodwall was constructed downstream of the Warkworth dam in the early 1980s. The flood wall protected over 50 homes from the 100-year flood hazard.

5.12.1 Development Potential

No potential for development on this property (See Appendix A):

- Must be maintained for its natural hazard protection purpose.

5.12.2 Mandatory/Non-Mandatory Programs and Services

- **Mandatory Programs:** Natural Hazards – Flood and Erosion Control Structures
Program Funding Sources: Category 1 Municipal Levy

5.12.3 Additional Information Sources

- LTC Lands Inventory (2024)
- LTC Capital Asset Management Plan
- LTC Flood and Erosion Control Structures Operation and Maintenance Manual (2024)

6 DESCRIPTION AND ASSESSMENT OF LTC ADMINISTRATION AREAS

6.1 Administration Office

LTC's Administration Office is located at 714 Murray Street, just south of Wooler, in the City of Quinte West (Murray Ward). The office is located on 1.4 acres of land.

The grounds do not have any public recreational facilities. However, wildflower gardens have been planted on the property near the building, to naturalize the property and as public education tool. A rain garden was installed as a demonstration project.

The property was acquired in 2004 through a land swap with the City of Quinte West (the City acquired the old LTC Administration Office at 441 Front Street in Trenton). The City retained ownership of a public works yard adjacent to the LTC Administration Office on Murray Street.

6.1.1 Development Potential

No potential for further development on this property (See Appendix A):

- No municipal water or wastewater services

6.1.2 Mandatory/Non-Mandatory Programs and Services

- **Mandatory Programs:** Enabling Services
Program Funding Sources: Category 1 Municipal Levy

6.1.3 Additional Information Sources

- LTC Capital Asset Management Plan

6.2 Workshop

The LTC Workshop is located at 39 Wall Street in Trenton (City of Quinte West). The Workshop was built on a 2.4 acre parcel of the Trenton Greenbelt in 1988 to house the Conservation Lands staff and equipment.

6.2.1 Development Potential

No potential for development on this property (See Appendix A):

- The workshop is located on the Trenton Greenbelt Conservation Area (see Trenton Greenbelt Conservation Area for restrictions)

6.2.2 Mandatory/Non-Mandatory Programs and Services

- **Mandatory Programs:** Enabling Services
Program Funding Sources: Category 1 Municipal Levy

6.2.3 Additional Information Sources

- LTC Capital Asset Management Plan

7 LAND SECUREMENT POLICY

LTC does not actively seek out properties to purchase but will consider securement of lands located within its jurisdiction, on a parcel-by-parcel basis, to increase its Conservation Lands base and contribute to its vision, goals, and objectives.

Land securement includes obtaining from a willing landowner, interest in land title for conservation purposes through land bequest, land trading, donation, and fee simple purchase, as well as other means of holding rights on land such as leasing, restrictive covenants, and easements.

When protecting environmentally significant lands, the preferred tool is holding title to land. Use of these other land securement tools will be considered on a case-by-case basis by the Board of Directors.

7.1 Land Securement Criteria

The quality of future secured lands is as important as the amount of land secured by LTC. A property considered for securement must meet one of the following five primary criteria:

1. Oak Ridges Moraine property designated under the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan as Natural Core Area or Natural Linkage Area.
2. Lands near or adjacent to existing LTC land holdings or other secured public natural areas.
3. Land identified with public outdoor recreation opportunities (e.g. linkage to existing Conservation Authority trails).
4. Lands with natural features or vegetation communities not currently represented in LTC current land holdings.
5. Previously identified for securement (through a Master Plan, Management Plan, or other Strategy/Plan/Priority List developed by the Conservation Authority or in conjunction with partners).

In addition to meeting one of the above primary criteria, the property must meet at least one of the following secondary criteria:

- Significant Wildlife Habitat
- Provincially/Regionally Significant Area of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI - Earth or Life Science)
- Provincially/Regionally Significant Wetland
- Environmentally Significant Area or Significant Features and Vegetation Community
- Woodlands, Fish Habitat, Valleylands
- Species at Risk and Habitat of Species at Risk

- Natural Area Linkages/Corridors
- Significant Water Resources (e.g. headwaters, floodplain, significant recharge/discharge areas, riparian lands)
- Hazard Lands (floodplain, erosion sensitive, dynamic beaches, valleylands)
- Improves access to existing LTC property

Other criteria that should be considered when evaluating lands for securement include:

- Parcels of adequate size to protect the feature and support/contribute to the natural heritage system and its many functions in the watershed.
- Areas where development pressure and urgency of securement is high
- Candidate site for habitat restoration

7.2 Costs

While there are many benefits to ownership of Conservation Lands, there are also associated costs:

- Securement costs (e.g. appraisal, purchase price, surveys, legal fees, etc.)
- Property development costs (e.g. fencing, trails, signage, etc.)
- Ongoing maintenance costs (e.g. taxes, insurance, grass mowing, etc.)
- Potential management issues (e.g. trespassing, invasive species, accessibility, etc.)

To minimize costs, LTC will partner to acquire lands, where possible and appropriate, with municipalities or other agencies including, but not limited to, the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Nature Conservancy of Canada, Ducks Unlimited, land trust organizations, etc. Such partnerships will require specific agreements and be considered on a case-by-case basis.

In addition to partnerships, there is potential to cover costs through programs such as the Ecological Gifts Program and other federal and provincial funding programs that are available from time to time.

A “Land Securement Evaluation Form” is provided in Appendix B to assist with evaluating the conservation qualities of the property, identifying any other assets on the property, and estimating the short-term and long-term costs of securement. This form should be completed for potential securements (including donations, easements, and securement through partnerships) that meet the criteria outlined above.

Following completion of the “Land Securement Evaluation Form”, staff will prepare a report for potential acquisitions that warrant Board of Directors consideration. The report will consider both the benefits and the short-term/long-term costs for Board decision making purposes.

7.3 Other Requirements

- A proposal to acquire a property must be supported by an appraisal by an accredited appraiser.

- Legal council must be provided by any partnering agency to represent their concerns with respect to the land securement process.
- Prior to finalizing any property acquisition, a Registered Plan of Survey must be obtained from a registered Ontario Land Surveyor.

8 LAND DISPOSAL POLICY

LTC will consider disposing of any of its properties that do not contribute to its conservation objectives. Disposal may also be considered for any lands that have significant management or liability issues.

The lands disposal process will include:

- Identification of any legal requirements/restrictions on the disposal of the land.
- Review of requirements, restrictions, and proposed method of disposal with LTC Board of Directors.
- Public notification and/or public meetings, where appropriate, of intent to dispose of lands.
- Board of Directors decision.

If the decision is to proceed:

- Survey property, if required.

If the Province provided a grant under section 39 of the CA Act with respect to a given property, disposal (to sell, lease or otherwise dispose) of the lands must follow the procedures set out by the Province under Section 21(2) of this Act.

A summary of this process includes:

1. Provide a written notice of the proposed disposition to the Minister at least 90 days before the disposition.
2. The written notice to the Minister is not required if:
 - the disposition is for provincial or municipal infrastructure and utility purposes;
 - the province, the provincial agency, board or commission affected by the disposition or the municipal government, agency, board or commission affected by the disposition has approved it; and
 - the authority informs the Minister of the disposition.
3. Posting a notice and consulting with the public for a minimum of 45 days for any properties that include:
 - areas of natural and scientific interest or wetlands as defined in section 1 of the [Conservation Land Act](#);
 - the habitat of threatened or endangered species;
 - natural hazard lands (as per subsection 1 (1) of [Ontario Regulation 686/21](#))

4. Describe how the comments received during the public consultation, if any, were considered by the Conservation Authority prior to the disposition, and provide this in the notice to the Minister (under item 1 above).

It should be noted that the Minister may, within 90 days after receiving the notice, direct the Conservation Authority to apply a specified share of the proceeds of the disposition to support programs and services provided by the Conservation Authority under section 21.1 of the [Conservation Authorities Act](#).

9 GUIDELINES FOR LANDS MANAGEMENT

LTC's lands are divided into three broad categories: Conservation Areas, Management Areas, and Administration Areas. Management Areas are subdivided into Natural Habitat Areas and Public Safety Lands.

9.1 Conservation Areas

As noted in Section 5, LTC owns ten (10) Conservation Areas. Conservation Areas are natural areas with facilities such as trails, picnic tables/shelters, and washrooms. All of the properties provide for natural heritage protection, while some play a role in natural hazards management. They are open to the public and provide opportunities for passive recreation. LTC's Conservation Areas are also ideal places to provide environmental education and promote conservation awareness.

Management Guidelines:

Conservation Areas are to be maintained in a manner that respects the natural environment. Public use is promoted on Conservation Areas.

Permitted Uses:

- hiking
- cross-country skiing
- snowshoeing
- cycling
- picnicking
- nature appreciation
- education and research
- fishing
- special events hosted by LTC or others via a rental permit
- large group events compatible with the existing uses of the Conservation Area, including low impact sporting events, where appropriate (user fees apply)
- selling, serving, consuming alcohol, with a permit (Goodrich-Loomis and Proctor Park only)
- grandfathered management activities

Prohibited Activities:

Prohibited activities are outlined [O. Reg. 688/21: Rules of Conduct in Conservation Areas](#) established under the CA Act.

These include, but are not limited to:

- hunting and trapping
- motorized vehicles
- open fires
- overnight camping
- dogs off leash
- horses

Signage:

Signage has/will be installed, as required, at Conservation Areas, as per the Conservation Lands Signage Program report (2017) noted above, for the following purposes:

- identify property and provide directions (road signs)
- welcome visitors to the property (entrance signs).
- dam safety
- identify property boundaries, where practical
- provide general information about the property which may include a map, rules and regulations, notices, event posters, and donation box (entrance kiosk)
- provide information about the trails (trail head kiosk)
- education and interpretative signage
- recognize significant partners that contributed to the acquisition/management of the property
- address safety concerns/provide warnings (e.g. toxic species, ticks, spraying of herbicides, potentially dangerous activities such as bee farming)

Promotion:

The features and facilities of LTC's Conservation Areas are promoted through various means including the LTC website, brochures, through social media, and in publications.

9.2 Management Areas: Natural Habitat Areas

LTC owns and maintains seven (7) Natural Habitat Areas. They are generally large tracts of land that remain in their natural state. They have no maintained trails or facilities but are open to the public. They are intended to be low use areas. These are large areas with significant natural features. Long-term protection of such natural areas is required to ensure healthy watersheds, and for the enjoyment of present and future generations.

Management Guidelines:

LTC's Natural Habitat Areas are to remain in a natural state.

Limited facilities may be permitted on a Natural Habitat Area to support the permitted uses (e.g. parking lot, water access).

Permitted Uses:

- nature appreciation
- education and research
- fishing
- grandfathered management activities

Prohibited Activities:

Prohibited activities are outlined in the [O. Reg. 688/21: Rules of Conduct in Conservation Areas](#).

These include, but are not limited to:

- hunting and trapping (unless permitted through an approved Management Plan)
- motorized vehicles
- open fires
- selling, serving, consuming alcohol
- overnight camping
- dogs off leash
- horses

Signage:

A Conservation Lands Signage Policy is under development for implementation beginning in 2024. The policy will standardize signage and direct future signage requirements.

Signage has/will be installed, as required, at Natural Habitat Areas for the following purposes:

- to identify property ownership/property boundaries
- to recognize significant partners that contributed to the acquisition/management of the property
- to identify prohibited uses
- to provide warnings for out of the ordinary high risk conditions, as deemed necessary

Promotion:

Natural Habitat Areas are included in communication products/media to create awareness of the conservation value these areas provide (e.g. general brochures, website).

Natural Habitat Areas are generally not promoted for public use.

9.3 Management Areas: Public Safety Lands

Public Safety Lands are Conservation Authority owned lands that provide flood and/or erosion protection, but are not meant for public use. LTC owns four (4) such properties. Taxes and maintenance costs are minimal.

Management Guidelines:

All Public Safety Lands should remain in LTC ownership due to their flood/erosion protection roles.

Public Safety Lands are not promoted as they are not for public use.

Some signage is permitted to recognize land ownership or safety concerns.

9.4 Administration Areas

LTC's two (2) administration areas (the Administration Office and Workshop) house LTC's staff and equipment. There are considerable upkeep and costs with these properties, the building and asset inventory.

Management Guidelines:

Undertake regular maintenance to maintain safety and prevent the need for major/costly building repairs.

9.5 Master/Management Plan Priorities

A master/management plan will be prepared for Conservation Lands when significant changes in management are proposed, or to address public concerns. They will also be prepared for all new properties acquired by LTC.

Management Plans

Management Plans provide the framework to ensure that the ecological integrity and biological diversity of Natural Habitat Areas is maintained in the long-term.

Management Plans will be prepared, as required, to:

- guide naturalization and wildlife habitat enhancement
- identify maintenance requirements
- identify the potential for educational/recreational activities (canoe routes, wetland interpretation guides) and possible re-classification to a Conservation Area
- identify permitted uses and prohibited uses

LTC will consult with agencies, adjacent landowners, and any other groups that have an interest in the management of the property during development of Management Plans.

Master Plans

Master Plans provide the framework for the development/redevelopment of Conservation Areas and may include proposals for naturalization and/or facility development.

Master Plans will be prepared, as required, to:

- identify potential for new or improved facilities
- assess trails
- guide naturalization and wildlife habitat enhancement
- identify maintenance requirements
- identify the potential for educational/recreational activities

- identify areas for conservation demonstration sites
- identify permitted uses and prohibited uses

LTC will consult with the public, agencies, and any groups that have an interest in the development/management of the property during the planning phase. Public consultation for Master Plan development will be broader than for Management Plans.

In the absence of an approved master/management plan, a Conservation Area/Natural Habitat Area Backgrounder and Management Plan will be produced. These in-house reports will provide background information on the property and direction to staff on future management and maintenance needs and will be updated on an ongoing basis. Master and management plans will be updated when capacity (staffing and financial) is available.

Public Safety Areas

1. Maintenance/operations for Public Safety Areas are included in the LTC Flood and Erosion Control Structures Operation and Maintenance Manual (2024) prepared for the Natural Hazards Management Program.

9.6 Invasive Species Control

Invasive species control is desirable but can be labour intensive, costly and, in some cases, futile. LTC will:

- Ensure staff are knowledgeable about current best management practices.
- Monitor for invasive species, on LTC properties, as part of its regular maintenance program.
- Educate the public about invasive species (e.g. signage, notices on properties, websites).
- Undertake spot control for small patches (pulls or, under some conditions, herbicide use).
- Support and host special events on its properties to eradicate/control invasive species, where practical (e.g. garlic mustard pulls).
- Use bio-controls, where available (e.g. release of insects).
- Continue to partner with the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters for an Invasive Species Outreach Summer Technician.
- Document presence of invasive species on LTC lands and any actions taken.

9.7 Use of Herbicides

Use of herbicides will be minimized on Conservation Lands, but may be used in the following circumstances:

- For health and safety reasons to control toxic species (e.g., poison ivy, giant hogweed, wild parsnip). Only those areas where the public is apt to come into contact with a toxic species (e.g. trails, around kiosks, access points, etc.) will be sprayed. This will be completed on an as needed basis.
- To control invasive species, where warranted.

- For site preparation for habitat restoration projects, where other site preparation techniques (e.g. burns, soil solarization) are not feasible.

Herbicides will be applied by a licensed applicator.

Any areas sprayed with herbicide will be posted to advise the public.

9.8 Prescribed Burns

Historically, fire played an important role in maintaining now globally rare prairie and oak savanna habitats. Prescribed burns are an important tool for the restoration and maintenance of these habitats as they stimulate native grasses and wildflowers. LTC has several properties which contain prairie and oak savanna habitats, and conducts prescribed burns as needed to help preserve their integrity.

9.9 Partnership Opportunities

Land Securement

LTC will work with its partners (e.g. Rice Lake Plains Partnership, neighbouring Conservation Authorities, Nature Conservancy of Canada, Ducks Unlimited, Hastings-Prince Edward Land Trust, Northumberland Land Trust) on any future initiatives to develop a comprehensive Natural Heritage Land Securement Plan/Strategy. This strategy would map out high priority lands for securement and identify the partner(s) in the best position to secure/manage the property.

Ecotourism Opportunities

LTC will consider entering partnerships with the private sector to provide ecotourism opportunities on Conservation Lands. Any such proposal will be carefully considered on a number of factors including, but not limited to:

- Impact on the natural environment
- Impact on existing activities
 - Neighbourhood
 - Public perception
 - Liability
 - Cost/benefit assessment

10 PUBLIC CONSULTATION

As outlined in the regulation, conservation authorities are required to ensure stakeholders, and the public are consulted during the preparation of the Conservation Areas and Lands Strategy in “a manner that the authority considers advisable”. To meet this requirement staff held two engagement periods, a stakeholder engagement period from May 29 to June 21, 2024 and a public engagement period from July 12 to September 6, 2024. During the public engagement period staff completed the following:

- Posted the draft strategy and supporting information on the website.

- Contacted stakeholders and partners via direct e-mail to inform them of the strategy and opportunity to review and provide input.
- Utilized LTC E-news and social media platforms to direct the public to the draft document.
- Developed a survey to guide input to the strategy.
- The survey was available on the website.
- Distributed the survey via direct email and on social media.

The following provides a summary of the input received through the public survey:

Land Acquisition and Management

- **Pace of Acquisition:** Concerns regarding the slow pace of land acquisition by LTC.
- **Land Securement Criteria:** Benefits to include hazard lands in the primary criteria given the emphasis the provincial government has put on natural hazard management for CA's. A focus on abutting properties adjacent to protected lands needs to be emphasized.

Community Engagement and Involvement

- **Volunteer Participation:** Suggestions for LTC more actively involve volunteers in establishing new habitat restoration projects, rather than focusing solely on maintenance and invasive species removal.
- **Educational Opportunities:** A call for enhanced outdoor education programs and public engagement, emphasizing direct involvement in restoration efforts and community learning.
- **Recognition of Indigenous Land:** Advocacy for the installation of signs that acknowledge the significance of Indigenous land and traditions.

Environmental Stewardship and Restoration

- **Restoration Efforts:** A strong emphasis on the importance of tree planting and prairie grassland restoration, with suggestions for community training and involvement.
- **Conservation Lands as Demonstration Area:** Highlighting the significance of lands managed by the LTC for both preserving ecosystems and supporting recreational activities.
- **Waterfront Cleanup:** A call for cleaning up waterfront areas to enhance visual appeal and deter encampments.

Funding and Financial Strategies

- **Parking Fees:** Opposition to implementing paid parking at conservation areas, with suggestions for alternative fundraising methods.
- **Community Access:** Belief that recreational access should remain free, as closed gates can negatively impact community engagement.
- **Economic Growth Potential:** Emphasizing the need to improve the aesthetic appeal of the riverfront to attract visitors and benefit the community.
- **Property Tax Relief:** Assess the viability of including properties that are fully taxed or within the Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program (MFTIP) in the Conservation Land Tax Incentive Program (CLTIP).

Infrastructure and Accessibility

- **Improvements Needed:** Recommendations for infrastructure upgrades, such as spaced boulders for kayakers at Keating-Hoards and replacing the out-of-service bridge in Goodrich Loomis.

- **Collaboration with Local Businesses:** Suggestions for partnerships with local businesses along the conservation area's shoreline to enhance access and services.

Principles

Below are the guiding principles established to provide the framework for decision-making regarding the Conservation Lands program. The following table details how respondents ranked each principle:

Principles	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
LTC lands should be managed in a manner that values respects and enhances the natural heritage of the region		1		2	14
Management actions and promoted activities on LTC land holdings should be compatible with healthy watershed, respectful of the unique character of the lands, and sustainable in environmental, physical and economic terms			1	3	13
All current LTC land holdings and any future securements should contribute to LTC's vision of "Healthy Watershed for Healthy Communities"		1		4	12
Outdoor recreation opportunities should be affordable, education and accessible, where appropriate			3	4	10
Partnerships are a valued means of protecting natural areas and establishing trail networks throughout the watershed			2	4	11
Public input regarding the Conservation Lands program is valued		1	1	5	10

Restoration and Stewardship

To meet the Strategic Plan's goals and ensure that the Conservation Lands contribute to a healthy watershed and healthy communities, LTC must direct efforts to stewardship and restoration. Respondents were asked to identify the top 5 stewardship and restoration actions LTC should focus on. The following are the results:

Action	Number of Responses
Monitor for invasive species and undertake management as feasible	12

Specific habitats/ecosystems (ie Prairie-Savanna habitat restoration at Goodrich-Loomis, Sager, Seymour, Glen Miller and Trenton Greenbelt conservation Areas)	10
Survey and monitor potential threats to property ecosystems	9
Establish demonstration sites to engage and educate the local community in restoration efforts	7
Monitor for invasive species and undertake management as feasible Complete Ecological Land Classification for all LTC lands	6
Inventory Species at Risk and their habitats	6
Maintenance and expansion of wetland buffers, creation of grassland bird habitat in the old field on Ames Island in Murray Marsh Natural Habitat Area	6
Participation in the seed strategy/cooperative with Rice Lake Plains Partnership including establishment of a seed orchard	5
Encourage regenerative agriculture on leased agricultural lands (Murray Marsh/Keating Hoards)	4
Enhance volunteer opportunities starting with trail steward program	4
Thinning of pine plantations to allow for more diverse regeneration	3
Research potential carbon offsetting programs that would pay to manage LTC forested lands	3

Management Priorities

To meet the Strategic Plan's goals and ensure that the Conservation Lands contribute to a healthy watershed and healthy communities, LTC must prioritize management actions within available resources. Respondents were asked to identify the top 3 management priorities that LTC should work on:

Management Priority	Number of Responses
Natural resource protection and restoration	15
Complete biological inventories (ie ELC, Species at Risk, Invasive Species)	8
Acquisition of additional conservation lands	8
Environmental/conservation education	6
Enforcement of conservation land rules and regulations	5
Infrastructure improvements	4
Outdoor recreation enhancements	3

Benefits of LTC Conservation Lands

LTC's properties contribute to healthy communities and individuals in many different ways. The following table details how respondents ranked each:

Benefits of Conservation Lands	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree

Conservation Lands play a role in maintaining environmental and watershed health			1	2	14
Conservation Lands play a role in maintaining physical health			2	4	11
Conservation Lands play a role in maintaining mental health		1		3	13

Land Securement

Respondents were asked whether LTC should continue to acquire lands for protection:

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
Do you think LTC should continue to protect key greenspace through land acquisition			2	5	10

The following table details the responses to the primary criteria set out in Land Securement Evaluation:

Primary Criteria for Land Securement	Yes	No
Oak Ridges Moraine property designated under the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan as Natural Core Area or Natural Linkage Area	11	6
Lands near or adjacent to existing Lower Trent Conservation land holdings or other secured public natural areas	14	3
Land identified with public outdoor recreation opportunities (e.g. linkage to existing conservation authority trails)	10	7
Lands with natural features or vegetation communities not currently represented in LTC current land holdings	10	7

Previously identified for securement (through a Master Plan, Management Plan, or other Strategy/Plan/Priority list developed by the conservation authority or in conjunction with partners)	12	5
Secondary Criteria for Land Securement		
Significant Wildlife Habitat	13	4
Provincially/Regionally Significant Area of Natural and Scientific Interest	12	5
Provincially/Regionally Significant Wetland	10	7
Previously identified for securement (through a Master Plan, Management Plan, or other Strategy/Plan/Priority list developed by the conservation authority or in conjunction with partners)	5	12
Environmentally Significant Area or Significant Features and Vegetation Community	10	7
Woodlands, Fish Habitat, Valleylands	12	5
Species at Risk and Habitat of Species at Risk	12	5
Natural Areas/Linkages/Corridors	10	7
Significant Water Resources (e.g. headwaters, floodplain, significant recharge/discharge areas, riparian lands)	14	3
Hazard Lands (floodplain, erosion sensitive, dynamic beaches valleylands)	6	11
Parcels of adequate size to protect the feature and support/contribute to the natural heritage system and its many functions in the watershed	12	5
Development pressure and urgency of securement is high	9	8
Candidate site for habitat restoration	11	6

Education and Outreach Activities on Conservation Lands

LTC's Conservation Lands provide an opportunity for education and outreach to the local community. The following are the types of opportunities respondents would like to see LTC focus on:

Education and Outreach Opportunities on Conservation Lands	Number of Responses	
"How to" Workshops	11	
Guided Hikes	10	
Outdoor Education	10	
Family focused activity days	8	
Volunteer days	6	
Demonstration sites	3	
	Yes	No
Would you be willing to pay to participate in these opportunities	13	4

Signage

LTC is developing a signage plan. The following table details the types of signage survey respondents think LTC should prioritise:

Signage	Yes	No
Directional and trail signage	11	6
Signage related to health and safety consideration (e.g. ticks, noxious plants)	7	10
Interpretive signage	10	7
Updated trail maps	13	4
Boundary signage	5	12

Additional Questions

In recent years there has been discussion regarding paid parking to raise revenues for maintenance of LTC Conservation Lands and whether permitted hunting should continue at Murray Marsh Natural Habitat Area. The following summarizes the responses to those questions:

	Yes	No
Would you be willing to pay a parking fee to support our efforts to enhance our conservation areas	8	8
Hunting is a permitted activity through an LTC issued annual permit at Murray Marsh Natural Habitat area. Would you like to see this activity continue?	12	4

11 PERIODIC REVIEW

This document should be reviewed every four years. This will permit the Conservation Authority to document any changes in its Conservation Lands and Areas objectives and management priorities. It will also give an opportunity for every Board of Directors (appointed every four years) to review, update and approve the Conservation Lands and Areas Strategy. Ongoing/annual review of the Strategy by staff will facilitate the four-year review.

Stakeholders and the public should be consulted during these periodic reviews, in a manner that aligns with the degree of revisions and meets any regulatory requirements.

DRAFT

12 RESOURCES

1. Brownell, V and C.S. Blaney. 1995. Lower Trent Region Natural Areas Volume 1. A Biological Inventory and Evaluation of 20 Natural Areas in the Lower Trent Region
2. Brownell, V and C.S. Blaney. 1996. Lower Trent Region Natural Areas Volume 2. A Biological Inventory and Evaluation of 23 Natural Areas in the Lower Trent Region. Volume 3
3. Brownell, V. 1993. Waterfront Natural Areas Part II. A Biological Inventory and Evaluation of 28 Natural Areas along the Lake Ontario Water Front from Newcastle to Trenton
4. Conservation Ontario. 2022. Guidance on the Conservation Authority Mandatory Conservation Area Strategy
5. Lower Trent Conservation. 2020. Capital Asset Management Plan
6. Lower Trent Conservation. 2017. Barnum House Creek Natural Habitat Area Management Plan
7. Lower Trent Conservation. 2017. Bleasdell Boulder Conservation Area: Background and Management Plan
8. Lower Trent Conservation. 2011. Burnley Creek Natural Habitat Area Management Plan
9. Lower Trent Conservation. 2017. Douglas Spring Natural Habitat Area Management Plan
10. Lower Trent Conservation. 2024. LTC Flood and Erosion Control Structures Operation and Maintenance Manual
11. Lower Trent Conservation. 2017. Glen Miller Conservation Area: Background and Management Plan
12. Lower Trent Conservation. 1995. Goodrich-Loomis Conservation Area Master Plan
13. Lower Trent Conservation. 2017. Haldimand Conservation Area Background and Management Plan
14. Lower Trent Conservation. 2017. Keating-Hoards Natural Habitat Area Management Plan
15. Lower Trent Conservation. 2017. Kings Mill Conservation Area Background and Management Plan
16. Lower Trent Conservation. 2024. Lands Inventory
17. Lower Trent Conservation. 2014. Murray Marsh Natural Habitat Area Management Plan
18. Lower Trent Conservation. 1999. Proctor Park Conservation Area Master Plan
19. Lower Trent Conservation. 2017. Sager Conservation Area Background and Management Plan
20. Lower Trent Conservation. 2017. Seymour Conservation Area Background and Management Plan
21. Lower Trent Conservation. 2018. Strategic Plan
22. Lower Trent Conservation. 2017. Trenton Escarpment Natural Habitat Area Management Plan
23. Lower Trent Conservation. 2015. Trenton Greenbelt Conservation Area Background and Management Plan
24. Lower Trent Conservation. 2011. Warkworth Conservation Area Master Plan
25. Nature Conservancy of Canada. 2004. Conservation Management Plan Alderville Woods – Hardacre Property

26. [Province of Ontario. 2016. Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005, S.O. 2005, c. 11](#)
27. [Province of Ontario. 2023. Conservation Authorities Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. C.27](#)
28. [Province of Ontario. 2021. Conservation Land Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. C.28.](#)
29. [Province of Ontario. 2023. Conservation Authorities Act: Ontario Regulation 686/21 – Mandatory Programs and Services](#)

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APPENDIX A

Development Potential Screening Criteria

DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL SCREENING CRITERIA

As part of developing the Conservation Lands and Areas Strategy, LTC reviewed its land holdings to determine if there was any potential for development. The following screening criteria were developed and applied.

If any property meets ONE of the following criteria, it is considered not developable.

1. Donated, conservation benefits:

Properties gifted to LTC to protect and maintain; property still provides conservation/environmental value (e.g., floodplains, wetland, watercourses, natural habitat, environmental designations, etc.)

2. Access Restrictions:

Properties with no road frontage or where the road frontage has access restrictions (floodplain or wetland)

3. Building Envelope Restrictions:

No building envelope outside of floodplain, wetland or lands with restoration projects. One property was acquired to allow for stormwater runoff

4. No municipal services:

No municipal water or waste water services available

5. Public Safety Lands:

Property is classified as Public Safety Lands – provides flood protection or erosion control

6. Administration:

Lands with buildings used by LTC for administrative purposes

	Donated, Conservation Benefits	Access restrictions	Building Envelope Restrictions	No municipal services	Public Safety Lands	Admin
Bleasdell Boulder	x	x		x		
Glen Miller			x	x		
Goodrich Loomis				x		
Haldimand	x			x		
Kings Mill			x	x		
Proctor Park	x					
Sager				x		
Seymour				x		
Trenton Greenbelt			x			
Warkworth	x		x			
Alderville Woods	x	x		x		
Barnum House Creek				x		
Burnley Creek	x	x		x		
Douglas Springs				x		
Keating-Hoards			x	x		
Murray Marsh		x		x		
Trenton Escarpment		x	x			
Barry Heights					x	
Cold Creek					x	
Trout Creek					x	
Warkworth Flood Channel					x	
Mill Creek Floodplain					x	
Admin Office						x
Workshop						x

In addition to the limiting factors set out above, there are several other development limitations that occur on LTC properties. Many of these factors add to the conservation value of the property, while making it unattractive for development.

Properties with the following attributes are considered to have low development potential. Having multiple limiting factors significantly impacts a property's development potential.

- Environmental Protection/Environmental Control or similar zone
- Riverine property with limited area outside of floodplain
- Floodplain on significant portions of property
- Provincially Significant Wetland (PSW) or other wetland on significant portions of property
- Area of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI) on significant portion of property

- Significant portions of property managed under Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program (MFTIP)
- Significant amount of property managed under Conservation Land Tax Incentive Program (CLTIP)
- Offers passive recreation opportunities
- Portions of land leased from others
- Intake protection zone or wellhead protection area on property
- Within LTC regulated area
- Area susceptible to karst
- Restoration projects
- Cultural value
- Purchased for specific environmental benefit (e.g., headwater protection, storm water runoff)

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APPENDIX B

Land Securement Evaluation Form

LOWER TRENT CONSERVATION - LAND SECUREMENT EVALUATION FORM

Date

Completed by

Reviewed by

1. Landowner

Name

Mailing Address

Telephone

2. Agent for landowner (if applicable)

Name

Mailing Address

Telephone

3. Property Description

Property Address

Municipality

Lot

Concession

911

Roll Number

Size

GPS Coordinates

Attach map

Details/Comments**4. Conservation Considerations**

The property must meet one of the five primary criteria below to be considered for acquisition.

Primary Criteria**Yes****No**

Oak Ridges Moraine property designated under the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan as Natural Core Area or Natural Linkage Area

Lands near or adjacent to existing Lower Trent Conservation land holdings or other secured public natural areas.

Land identified with public outdoor recreation opportunities (e.g. linkage to existing Conservation Authority trails)

Lands with natural features or vegetation communities not currently represented in LTC current land holdings

Previously identified for securement (through a Master Plan, Management Plan, or other Strategy/Plan/Priority List developed by the Conservation Authority or in conjunction with partners)

Details/Comments

If the property meets one of the primary criteria, it must meet at least one of the following secondary criteria.

Secondary Criteria**Yes****No**

Significant Wildlife Habitat

Provincially/Regionally Significant Area of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI - Earth or Life Science)

Provincially/Regionally Significant Wetland

Environmentally Significant Area or Significant Features and Vegetation Community

Woodlands, Fish Habitat, Valleylands

Species at Risk and Habitat of Species at Risk

Natural Area Linkages/Corridors

Significant Water Resources (e.g. headwaters, floodplain, significant recharge/discharge areas, riparian lands)

Hazard Lands (floodplain, erosion sensitive, dynamic beaches, valleylands)

Improves access to existing Lower Trent Conservation property

Details/Comments

If the property meets the tests above, consideration should also be given to the following criteria.

Other criteria

Yes

No

Parcels of adequate size to protect the feature and support/contribute to the natural heritage system and its many functions in the watershed.

Development pressure and urgency of securement is high

Candidate site for habitat restoration

Details/Comments

5. Financial Considerations

a. Securement Costs

Acquisition Cost Estimate

Estimated Cost

Land appraisal fee
 Purchase price
 Legal fees
 Survey cost
 Partnership arrangements
 Staff resources
 Easement costs, if applicable
 Other

TOTAL

Details/Comments

b. Property Development Costs

Property Development Costs

Estimated Cost

Preparation of Management/Master Plan
 Fencing
 Existing infrastructure that needs removed
 Trail development
 Signage needs
 Partnership arrangements
 Future capital needs
 Other

TOTAL

Details/Comments

c. Ongoing Maintenance Costs

Ongoing Maintenance

Estimated Cost

Property taxes

- Eligibility for tax incentive programs (CLTIP, MFTIP)

Insurance
 Easement costs, if applicable
 Grass mowing
 Winter maintenance
 Litter, tree removal, etc.
 Invasive species management
 Other

TOTAL (annually)

Details/Comments

d. Beneficial Property Assets

Beneficial Property Assets

Estimated Revenue

Surplus lands that can be severed and sold
 Existing infrastructure that adds value
 Partnership arrangements
 Ongoing revenue opportunity
 Other

TOTAL

Details/Comments

e. Potential Management Issues

Potential Management Issues

Yes

No

Evidence of ongoing trespassing
 Presence of invasive species
 Significant degradation/environmental damage
 Significant numbers of neighbouring properties

Lack of accessibility

Other management issues

Details/Comments

6. Overall Analysis

7. Staff Recommendation

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LOWER TRENT
CONSERVATION

STAFF REPORT

Date: November 14, 2024
To: Board of Directors
Re: 2025 Draft Budget
Prepared by: Rhonda Bateman, Chief Administrative Officer and
Chitra Gowda, Manager, Corporate Services

PROPOSED RESOLUTION:

THAT the Budget Update report be received as information; and
THAT the adjustment for reserve funding be accepted.

BACKGROUND:

For the development of the 2025 Lower Trent Conservation (LTC) Budget, a sub-committee was formed per Board direction including Directors Brahaney, Wright, and Wheeldon; with Director Sandford as an alternate. Meetings were held on August 16, August 23, September 6, October 4, and October 7, 2024.

The Board of Directors discussed the proposed draft budget versions, including costs within and outside of LTC's control and reviewed further savings determined by staff. At the October 10, 2024 meeting, the Board directed staff to carry out the required 30 day consultation with municipal members. At the time of writing of this report, the consultation is well underway.

DISCUSSION:

Comments were received from staff at Quinte West. Accordingly, Category 3 municipal amounts were lowered to align with the Category 1 levy increase percent. To supplement, an amount of \$14,290 is recommended to be used from the Stewardship Reserve. The changes in the budget are noted in blue colour font.

SUMMARY:

Staff have now completed the 2025 Draft Budget for review and is attached.

- **2025 LTC Draft Budget Details**
- **2025 LTC Draft Budget – Municipal Levies and MOU Amounts**

RECOMMENDATION: That the adjustment for reserve funding be accepted.

2025 LOWER TRENT CONSERVATION (LTC) BUDGET - DRAFT

CATEGORY 1 - MANDATORY & ENABLING/CORPORATE SERVICES	PROGRAM	EXPENSES	DRAFT 2025 BUDGET	NOTES	
	NATURAL HAZARD MANAGEMENT				
		Staffing	\$ 570,387	Per program allocation	
		Operating	\$ 201,180	Includes engineering consultant costs	
		Capital	\$ -		
	PROVINCIAL WATER QUALITY-QUANTITY MONITORING				
		Staffing	\$ 25,708	Per program allocation	
		Operating	\$ -	Staff time only required	
		Capital	\$ -		
	DRINKING WATER SOURCE PROTECTION (DWSP)				
	Staffing	\$ 330,559	Per program allocation		
	Operating	\$ 81,935	Regional overhead/admin: \$51,489; plus operating \$30,446		
	Capital	\$ -			
CA LANDS/AREAS AND STEWARDSHIP					
	Staffing	\$ 312,725	Per program allocation, includes CL&S Technician		
	Operating	\$ 165,034			
	Capital	\$ 55,705	Commercial lawn mower \$25k + truck financing or lease \$1500/mo + signage plan phase 1: \$12,705		
ENABLING SERVICES					
	Staffing	\$ 616,516	Per program allocation		
	Operating	\$ 241,525	IT services, board per diems, insurance etc.		
	Capital	\$ 42,400	IT computers 7 qty \$22,4K + Cloud system \$20K		
	Operating Expenses Sub-Total	\$ 2,545,569			
	Capital Expenses Sub-Total	\$ 98,105			
	TOTAL EXPENSES - CATEGORY 1	\$ 2,643,674			
INCOME - CATEGORY 1 PROGRAMS AND SERVICES			DRAFT 2025 BUDGET	NOTES	
	Provincial Funds	\$ 68,831	S. 39 funding from MNRF		
	Federal Funds	\$ 45,840	Canada Summer Jobs (CSJ) funding for 3 students (Cat1)		
	Municipal - Rebates/Recoveries	\$ 22,167	TGBCA (Parks Canada) property taxes removed		
	Legal inquiries / Permit Fees	\$ 180,000	Projecting similar amounts as 2024		
	Plan Review Fees	\$ 130,000	Projecting similar amounts as 2024		
	Conservation Lands Fees and Leases Income	\$ 30,333	Leases \$28,333 (multi-year terms no changes) + Facilities \$2K		
	Administered Programs	\$ 171,489	BQRAP \$120k (same as 2024)+DWSP admin/overhead \$51,489		
	Drinking Water Source Protection	\$ 361,005	Recovered by Regional DWSP - MECP Funding		
	Recovered Miscellaneous Revenue	\$ 60,000	Updated estimate based on actuals and predicted bank int rate		
	General Donations	\$ 3,000	Canada Helps + Other non-dedicated donations.		
	Operations Surplus	\$ 80,000	Anticipated surplus from Enabling Services 2024		
	Municipal - General Levies	\$ 1,392,904			
	Operating Revenue Sub-Total	\$ 2,545,569			
	Municipal - Capital Levies	\$ 98,105	Per the Capital Assets Management Plan (2020 - 2040)		
	Capital Reserves	\$ -			
	Capital Revenue Sub-Total	\$ 98,105			
	TOTAL REVENUE - CATEGORY 1	\$ 2,643,674			
CATEGORY 2 - NON-MANDATORY	PROGRAM	EXPENSES	DRAFT 2025 BUDGET	NOTES	
	NON-OWNED FLOOD AND EROSION CONTROL INFRASTRUCTURE				
		Staffing	\$ 6,568	Per municipal MOUs	
		Operating	\$ 200	Staff travel and mileage	
		Capital	\$ -		
	LOCAL DRINKING WATER SOURCE PROTECTION (DWSP) - RISK MANAGEMENT PART IV & EDUCATION				
		Staffing	\$ 115,186		
		Operating	\$ 28,053	20% overhead costs+ SP operating expenses	
		Capital	\$ -		
		TOTAL EXPENSES - CATEGORY 2	\$ 150,007		
INCOME - CATEGORY 2 PROGRAMS AND SERVICES			DRAFT 2025 BUDGET V3	NOTES	
	Provincial Funds				
	Federal Funds				
	Municipal - Agreements	\$ 6,768	For non-owned FCS and ECS infrastructure work		
	Municipal - SP Agreements	\$ 143,239	For local DWSP - RMO/I Part IV and Education		
	Miscellaneous Revenue				
	TOTAL REVENUE - CATEGORY 2	\$ 150,007			

CATEGORY 3 - SPECIAL PROJECTS	PROGRAM	EXPENSES	DRAFT 2025 BUDGET	NOTES	
	LOCAL WATER QUALITY MONITORING				
		Staffing	\$ 59,126	Per program allocation	
		Operating	\$ 22,797	Travel, equipment, supplies for program operations	
		Capital	\$ -		
	YOUTH EDUCATION				
		Staffing	\$ 55,225	Per program allocation	
		Operating	\$ 15,450	Youth Education events including Children's Water Festival	
		Capital	\$ -		
	COMMUNITY OUTREACH & PRIVATE STEWARDSHIP				
	Staffing	\$ 16,828	Per program allocation		
	Operating	\$ 25,000	Native Plant & Tree Seedling Sales, same as 2024 amount		
	Capital	\$ -			
TOTAL EXPENSES - CATEGORY 3			\$ 194,425		
INCOME - CATEGORY 3 PROGRAMS AND SERVICES			DRAFT 2025 BUDGET	NOTES	
	Provincial Funds	\$ -			
	Federal Funds	\$ 13,902	CSJ Funding, if approved, for 3 Students (2 Monitoring + 1 Yth Ed)		
	Municipal - Agreements Monitoring	\$ 72,655	Local Water Quality Monitoring Program		
	Municipal - Agreements Youth Education	\$ 41,831	.5 FTE Youth Education Technician		
	Municipal - Agreements Stewardship	\$ 2,537	.2 FTE CL Stewardship Technician		
	Reserve - Stewardship	\$ 14,290	To keep mun. agreements at/lower than Cat1 levy increase %		
	Stewardship-Outreach Funds	\$ 25,000			
	Youth Education Funds	\$ 24,210			
TOTAL REVENUE - CATEGORY 3			\$ 194,425		
SUMMARY			DRAFT 2025 BUDGET		
	Staffing	\$ 2,108,828			
	Operating	\$ 781,173			
	Sub-Total Operations	\$ 2,890,001		8.1% increase	
	Sub-Total Capital	\$ 98,105		55.3% decrease	
	TOTAL LTC BUDGET	\$ 2,988,106		3.3% increase	
	Municipal General Levy	\$ 1,392,904		12.8% increase	
	Municipal Capital Levy	\$ 98,105		0% increase (capped amount per Asset Mgmt Plan)	
	Municipal Agreements Funded	\$ 267,030		7.1% increase	
		\$ 1,758,039		11.1% increase	

2025 DRAFT Budget: Municipal Levies and MOU/Agreement Amounts - Updated

Program	Total Cost	Alnwick/ Haldimand	Cramahe	Brighton	Stirling-Rawdon	Trent Hills	Centre Hastings	Quinte West
Category 1 Programs								
General Levy - Operations	\$1,392,903.83	\$145,958.57	\$116,632.31	\$223,256.12	\$52,586.24	\$227,337.84	\$31,631.88	\$595,500.86
Capital Levy	\$98,105.00	\$10,280.15	\$8,214.65	\$15,724.37	\$3,703.75	\$16,011.86	\$2,227.90	\$41,942.32
Total Municipal Levy - 2025 Category 1	\$1,491,008.83	\$156,238.72	\$124,846.96	\$238,980.49	\$56,290.00	\$243,349.70	\$33,859.78	\$637,443.18
Total Municipal Levy - 2024 Category 1	\$1,333,343.00	\$138,824.00	\$110,446.00	\$213,560.00	\$50,154.00	\$218,364.00	\$30,258.00	\$571,737.00
Category 2 Programs								
Risk Management Official	\$114,851.00	\$5,132.00	\$5,779.00	\$6,807.00	\$28,523.00	\$68,610.00	\$0.00	
Source Protection Education	\$28,388.00	\$1,170.00	\$1,340.00	\$1,215.00	\$2,725.00	\$14,126.00	\$0.00	\$7,812.00
Sub-Total Local Source Protection	\$143,239.00	\$6,302.00	\$7,119.00	\$8,022.00	\$31,248.00	\$82,736.00	\$0.00	\$7,812.00
Non-Owned Flood/Erosion Control Structures inspections	\$6,768.17				\$846.00	\$1,692.00	\$0.00	\$4,230.00
Total MOUs - 2025 Category 2	\$150,007.17	\$6,302.00	\$7,119.00	\$8,022.00	\$32,094.00	\$84,428.00	\$0.00	\$12,042.00
Total MOUs - 2024 Category 2		\$6,099.00	\$6,890.00	\$7,764.00	\$31,003.00	\$81,608.00	\$0.00	\$11,393.00
Category 3 Programs - UPDATED								
Youth Education	\$41,831.00	\$4,383.00	\$3,503.00	\$6,705.00	\$1,579.00	\$6,827.00	\$950.00	\$17,884.00
Stewardship/Outreach	\$2,537.00	\$266.00	\$212.00	\$407.00	\$96.00	\$414.00	\$58.00	\$1,085.00
Monitoring	\$72,655.00	\$7,613.00	\$6,084.00	\$11,645.00	\$2,743.00	\$11,858.00	\$1,650.00	\$31,062.00
Total MOUs - 2025 Category 3	\$117,023.00	\$12,262.00	\$9,799.00	\$18,757.00	\$4,418.00	\$19,099.00	\$2,658.00	\$50,031.00
TOTAL MOUs - 2025 Categories 2&3	\$267,030.17	\$18,564.00	\$16,918.00	\$26,779.00	\$36,512.00	\$103,527.00	\$2,658.00	\$62,073.00

Lower Trent Region Conservation Authority Levy Apportionment Data for 2025 and 2024

Municipality	% in CA	Municipal Population	Municipal Population in CA Jurisdiction	2024 Tax Year Current Value Assessment (CVA) (Modified) - used for Budget 2025	2024 Tax Year CVA (Modified) in CA Jurisdiction - used for Budget 2025	CVA Based Apportionment Percentage for 2025	CVA Based Apportionment Percentage for 2024	% Change between 2025 and 2024
Centre Hastings	44	3,504	1,542	574,904,899.0	252,958,156	2.27	2.27	0.1%
Quinte West	77	32,924	25,351	6,184,652,505.0	4,762,182,429	42.75	42.88	-0.3%
Stirling-Rawdon	76	3,925	2,983	553,327,400.3	420,528,824	3.78	3.76	0.4%
Alnwick/Haldimand	88	5,826	5,127	1,326,387,925.7	1,167,221,375	10.48	10.41	0.6%
Brighton	100	9,190	9,190	1,785,364,951.3	1,785,364,951	16.03	16.02	0.1%
Trent Hills	94	10,802	10,100	1,944,391,666.5	1,818,006,208	16.32	16.38	-0.3%
Cramahe	100	5,160	5,160	932,701,138.5	932,701,139	8.37	8.28	1.1%
		71,331	59,453		11,138,963,081	100.00	100.00	

CVA: Current Value Assessment. Note that 2024 Tax Year data is being used for Budget 2025. The 2023 Tax Year data was used for Budget 2024.



LOWER TRENT
CONSERVATION

CAO REPORT

Date: November 5, 2024
To: Board of Directors
Prepared by: Rhonda Bateman, Chief Administrative Officer

CORPORATE SERVICES

Building Maintenance/Repairs/Upgrades

There has been additional water damage noted in the office at the southeast corner of the building in the lower level. This past spring the original repair work included: finding and repairing water damage, waterproofing the skylight, extracting mould and re-drywalling. Mould was spotted again on an inside wall and further work has been undertaken for waterproofing by the contractor. Conservation Lands staff also installed a French drain to guide water away from the corner of the building.

MUNICIPAL PRESENTATIONS

The CAO received a request to present to Quinte West Council's Special Budget meeting October 30th.

The CAO was a delegation at Brighton Council on November 4th to present the draft 2025 budget.

CONSERVATION LANDS/FLOOD AND EROSION CONTROL STRUCTURES

The autumn removal of the logs in the Warkworth Dam was completed by Conservation Lands staff (dam operators) on Monday October 28, 2024. The removal went smoothly and safely.

CONSERVATION ONTARIO

Conservation Ontario (CO) held a virtual manager's meeting on November 4, 2024. The meeting was focussed on opportunities for funding and a discussion of the Minister's freeze on fees.

The Eastern Region CAs met on November 7th in Kingston at the Cataraqui Conservation's new office. The agenda was focussed on legislated deliverables, policies, health and safety, funding opportunities, budget and performance reviews.