Wetland Restoration Program—Invasive Species Control

Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority
$40,000 Grant

This project enhanced the network of restored and existing wetlands for migratory species. By repairing the fragmented landscape, the LTVCA is beginning to see more fluent migration and improved water quality for the Lake Erie Basin.

Project Achievements:

- 60+ acres of increased migratory bird, vegetative, animal, and reptile species populations.
- Progression of ecosystems and corridor linkage throughout the Lower Thames Valley.
- Mitigation and control of invasive *Phragmites Australis* on 10 acres of wildlife habitat.

St. Clair/Sydenham River Waterfowl Habitat Improvement Initiative

Rural Lambton Stewardship Network
$60,000 Grant

The St. Clair/Sydenham River Waterfowl Habitat Improvement Initiative successfully created 10 acres of waterfowl habitat on 7 properties. Pollinator and grassland bird habitats were implemented on 7 properties resulting in 30 acres of native prairie. One coastal wetland was targeted and 10 acres of non-native Phragmites was eradicated.

Project Achievements:

- 10 acres of land was retired and converted into wetland habitat on 6 properties.
- 30 acres of locally grown native tallgrass prairie was established on 7 properties.
- 10 acres of non-native Phragmites were treated at one large coastal wetland site.
**Eradication and Outreach of Water Soldier (Stratiotes Aloides) in the Trent Severn Waterway**

**Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters $19,988 Grant**

The Water Soldier Working Group monitors more than 30 miles of the Trent Severn Waterway annually by boat to map the extent and locations of water soldier and document the plant community. *(Results compared to previous year’s “pre-treatment” maps to assess effectiveness of treatment).*

**Project Achievements:**

- 78% reduction of water soldier populations on Lake Seymour.
- 48% reduction of water soldier populations on Crowe Bay.
- All known populations of water soldier in Ontario were treated in 2018.

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**Why Wetlands?**

**Credit Valley Conservation Foundation $22,549 Grant**

“Why Wetlands?” is an investigative look into wetlands through multimedia and environmental inquiry. CVC created a curriculum-based video, an in-class activity, and hosted field trips to a wetland for elementary students to increase their knowledge and hands-on experience in wetland conservation.

**Project Achievements:**

- 1046 students and approximately 56 teachers engaged and educated about:
  - Why wetlands are important for ducks, other animals and people;
  - Importance of wetlands, threats facing wetlands, and their importance for people historically and today – including as hunting sites for waterfowl;
- Students and teachers participated in a 1.5 hour guided tour of at Terra Cotta Conservation Area.
Using and Improving the Great Lakes Marsh Monitoring Program to Meet OEHJV and NAWMP Marsh Bird Priorities (Year 1 of a 2 year project)

Bird Studies Canada
$25,000 Grant

Bird Studies Canada’s Great Lakes Marsh Monitoring Program assists the Ontario Eastern Habitat Joint Venture in assessing the success of its wetland restoration work, particularly for wetland-associated birds and migratory game birds.

Project Achievements:

- Distribution maps of priority locations for wetland restoration and protection to conserve marsh-breeding bird species in southern Ontario were developed.
- Findings provide strong evidence that control of non-native invasive *Phragmites* increases populations of marsh-breeding bird species.
- Engaged hundreds of members of the public in wetland bird conservation and monitoring, and garnered support for OEHJV and NAWMP objectives among new target audiences.

Restoring Critically Impaired Wetlands in the Great Lakes Basin through Invasive Phragmites Control

Nature Conservancy of Canada-Ontario
$25,000 Grant

Phragmites populations in early and advanced stages were controlled, protecting critical waterfowl and wildlife habitats at key breeding, nesting, and staging areas across Ontario.

Project Achievements:

- 58.9 acres of Phragmites eliminated in important wetland habitats.
- Over 50 acres of Phragmites cut or rolled and/or prescribed burned.
- Over 200 members of the public engaged and informed regarding Phragmites management at information sessions and workdays.

*CREDIT: The Nature Conservancy of Canada*
Greenwing Pool Restoration—Hullett Marsh

Ducks Unlimited Canada
$70,000 Grant

Extreme weather events can result in rapidly changing floodwaters within the South Maitland River, which have historically wreaked havoc on the infrastructure associated with the Hullett Marsh Greenwing Pool. Complex repair work was completed at the Greenwing Pool that will stabilize water levels in the marsh and prevent flood damage to ensure the wetland continues to provide valuable habitat for waterfowl and wetland-dependent wildlife.

Project Achievements:

- Installed new flap gate to keep floodwaters out of the marsh.
- Repaired 50 meter fragile section of dyke that had been breached with new, robust materials.
- Rebuilt, re-sloped, and re-cored 600 meters of dyke. Removed shrubs and trees and re-graded vehicle ruts.

CREDITS: Ducks Unlimited Canada