



The Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation

Keeping a Great Lake 'Great' Since 1998!



14 Conference Speakers Sure to Impress!

Only one week until we celebrate our 20th anniversary as an environmental not-for-profit, by hosting our 10th biennial 'IS THE COAST CLEAR?' conference.

We have an amazing line-up of 14 diverse speakers to talk about the various features, habitats, stressors, and unique happenings going on, on Lake Huron!

Clockwise from top left: Arunas Liskauskas from the MNRF will talk on the changing ecology and fish communities on Lake Huron and Georgian Bay. Jen Pate from Love Your Greats will address the search for environmental optimism in a somewhat disheartening world. Mark Reusser from the Ontario Federation of Agriculture will speak to how Farmers are taking action: initiatives to reduce phosphorus migration from farmland into the Great Lakes. Susan Debreceni from the Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup will be talking about digging into collected litter data: from shoreline cleanups to solutions.

As you can tell, there will be a topic of interest for everybody at our conference, and we would love to see you there!

Want to see the speaker times and dates? Find them at:
<https://www.lakehuron.ca/program>

We have limited spaces remaining! Register now at: www.lakehuron.ca/conference

We can't wait to see you there!



Coastal Conservation Gala

Thursday May 10, 6:00pm - 9:00pm

On Thursday May 10th, the Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation will celebrate its 20th anniversary with a fundraising gala held at the Oakwood Resort.

If you cannot make it to our day sessions at the "IS THE COAST CLEAR?" conference, you are still in luck! Our Coastal Conservation Gala will have many opportunities for fun, learning, and contribution.

With a huge silent auction, a 5 star dinner catered by Oakwood, live musical entertainment, and raffle prizes, this night will be a fun time out for all.

Tickets are \$75. Doors open at 6pm and dinner begins at 7pm.

To Register for the Coastal Conservation Gala Dinner:

Go to: <https://www.lakehuron.ca/gala>

Email: coastalcentre@lakehuron.ca

Call: (226)421-3029

See you there!



A Snappy Personality: Why did the turtle cross the road?

With the warm weather returning, many of the iconic turtle species found in Lake Huron will soon be on the move. Many people think turtles are cute or unique, but there's one that has bad reputation; the snapping turtle (*Chelydra serpentina*). Despite being one of Lake Huron's most abundant turtle species, snapping turtles have been designated as Special Concern status under Ontario's Endangered Species Act, meaning that their population numbers are declining. Snapping turtles play a critical role in maintaining water quality in lakes and wetlands by eating decaying plant and animal matter, making them a free "waste-management system" for some very important ecosystems.

Snapping turtles can be easily identified from other species of turtles by their large body size, prehistoric looking shell that is often covered in algae and their long, spikey tail. Snapping turtles get their reputation from a defensive stance and "snap" when they feel frightened. Unlike other turtle species that can tuck themselves safely inside of their shells, snapping turtles have a reduced plastron (bottom part of their shell) meaning that their soft, squishy belly could be exposed to predators. By snapping at predators, and sometimes humans with good intentions, snapping turtles are able to protect themselves in potentially dangerous situations.

Snapping turtles, in addition to many other turtle species in Lake Huron, travel from the safety of the water to find a suitable place to lay their eggs. These journeys often include crossing roads and highways, putting nesting females at risk of being hit by passing vehicles. If you see a turtle crossing the road, be a turtle crossing guard! Move them in the

direction that they were crossing in and place them safely out of harms way. Snapping turtles require special care when moving due to their large size, claws and snappy personality. They can be firmly grasped at the back of their shell and “wheel barrowed” across the road. This reduces the risk to you and to the turtle!

Check out our educational videos on the turtles of Lake Huron below for more information on how you can help protect these charismatic creatures.

Turtle Crossing

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WzuZYKt_z1A&t=7s

Turtle Tracking

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=twK7wdarVAk&t=1s>

Turtles and Wetlands of Coastal Conservation

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2FhL2qyHLu8&t=2s>

Show your LOVE for LAKE HURON!



Lake Huron Magnets are Here!

Stop by our office in Goderich to show your love for the Great Lakes and Lake Huron. Available for a suggested donation of \$5.

Treasures and Trash - The Great Goderich Shoreline Cleanup in Review

The Coastal Centre had the opportunity to partner with some incredible organizations on Earth Day weekend to clean up the coast in Goderich.

With groups setting out along the three Lake Huron beaches and the Maitland River, garbage was collected by over 175 volunteers. At the end of the day, over 1,000 pounds of garbage was diverted from Lake Huron. Among some of the stranger collected items were 2 dehumidifiers and deep fryer.



A special thank you to all the partners that made this cleanup possible: Zehrs Goderich, Compass Corp, Lower Maitland Stewardship Group, Maitland Valley Conservation Authority, Rotaract Club of Goderich, Engage Goderich, The Yoga Den, and the Maitland Trail Association.

THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS!



Innovation at work



As a non-profit, charitable organization, The Lake Huron Centre for Coastal

Conservation supports environmental efforts along the Canadian coastline of Lake Huron. We rely on donations from people like you to keep doing the amazing work we do along the shores of Lake Huron. Your contributions help engage communities, educate individuals, and create change for a brighter environmental future on our Great Lake!

[DONATE TODAY!](#)

