



The Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation



August 2019

Keeping a Great Lake great since 1998!

A clean beach is a happy beach!

3rd ANNUAL KINCARDINE BEACH CLEAN-UP!

- come join in on the fun! -

WHERE?: 201 Station Beach Rd, Station Beach

We will have a few stations set up across from the Snack Booth (Small yellow building) to register volunteers, hand out data cards, and materials if you did not bring your own (gloves, buckets, bags, etc.)

We will provide information on what to expect during the clean-up and guide you to areas that require the most attention.

WHEN?: Saturday, August 17, 2019

WHAT TIME?: 10:30am - 1:00pm **We have changed our time to accommodate the 7th Annual Kincardine Marine Heritage Festival's boat regatta.

The clean-up will occur from 10:30-12:00.

After 12:00 we will sort what was found into garbage and recycling and weigh the trash.

WHY?: You want to take pride in your community and help keep it clean, healthy and thriving for all to enjoy!



DID WE FORGET TO MENTION.... FREE FOOD?

That's right, who doesn't enjoy free food as a thank-you for their hard-work?!

We will be offering a free BBQ hot dog lunch and refreshments courtesy of Sobeys for our lovely participants.

We encourage all participants to bring your own buckets, gloves, and mugs for refreshments to reduce waste.

Enter your name in for a chance to win some amazing **DOOR PRIZES!**

Thank you to our sponsors and partners for all of their help in organizing this event:



The Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup

We register our coastal clean-ups with the Great Canadian Shoreline Clean-up which collects citizen science-based data from volunteers all around the country.

According to data collected last year, the top three most commonly found litter items on Canadian shorelines were cigarette butts (560,432), micro-plastics (353,773), and food wrappers (56,116). As you can see, our biggest contributors to water pollution are cigarette butts by a whopping 206,659! Registering our clean-ups with an organization such as this is important to highlight the negative effects our litter has on our environment and how we can implement change to prevent creating increased negative impact on the way we live in the future.

[Register for the cleanup](#)



Step In and Speak Out for the Great Lakes

You're Invited – Please Join Us!

Join the International Joint Commission (IJC) at one of our upcoming community conversations on Great Lakes water quality

Goderich, ON

Wednesday, August 7

7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Goderich Columbus Hall,
390 Parsons Court

[Details and registration](#)

Collingwood, ON

Tuesday, August 6

4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Canadian Legion, Collingwood
Branch, 490 Ontario St.

[Details and registration](#)

Follow the links or see below for details and registration for an event near you.

Why attend the IJC's public meetings on Great Lakes water quality?
Please watch [this short video](#) to learn more.



These IJC meetings are part of its consultation throughout the Great Lakes region to assess both countries' progress to accomplish the goals they agreed to in the 2012 Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement. To review the governments' latest progress report for their work under the Agreement, please visit binational.net. Your and others' views are essential to the IJC's review process, so thank you for participating and please share this invitation with others.

Collingwood, ON



Tuesday, August 6, 2019
4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Canadian Legion Collingwood Branch, Normandy Room, 490 Ontario Street, Collingwood

Join local experts, professionals, and advocates for a panel discussion followed by community conversation with the International Joint Commission (IJC) about the health of Georgian Bay, Lake Huron and the Great Lakes.

Panel presentations by:

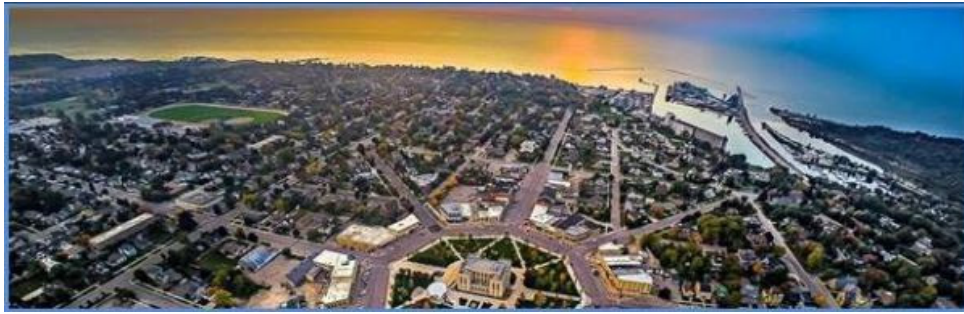
- David Sweetnam, Georgian Bay Forever: The Link Between Water Quality and Invasive Phragmites on our Coastlines
- Suzanne Troxler and Daniel Twigger, C.C. Tatham Associates: Connecting Wastewater and Stormwater Management to Nutrient Pollution in Georgian Bay
- Charlie Lalonde, Thames River Phosphorus Reduction Collaborative: Working Together to Manage Agricultural Runoff

Panel discussion moderated by Sandra Cooper, IJC Great Lakes Water Quality Board member and former Mayor of Collingwood.

Community conversations in breakout sessions will discuss Lake Huron and Great Lakes water quality topics including invasive species, chemical and plastic pollution, nutrients and agriculture, climate change, and coastal land use.

Register today for this public meeting at
<https://step-in-speak-out-lake-huron.eventbrite.ca>

Goderich, ON



Wednesday, August 7, 2019

Doors at 6:30 p.m., Panel and Discussion 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.
Goderich Columbus Hall, 390 Parsons Court, Goderich.

Join local experts, professionals and advocates for a panel discussion followed by a community conversation with the International Joint Commission about the health of Lake Huron and the Great Lakes.

Panel discussion moderated by Nigel Bellchamber

- Hannah Cann, Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation: Stepping Into Action: Shoreline Threats and Opportunities on Lake Huron
- Melisa Luymes, Headlands Ag-Enviro and Rick Kootstra, Huron Soil & Crop Improvement Association: Huronview's Innovative Drainage Demonstration and What it Means for the Great Lakes
- Phil Beard, Maitland Valley Conservation Authority and Mari Veliz, Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority: Lessons Learned and the Future of the Healthy Lake Huron Collaborative

Register today for this public meeting at
<https://step-in-speak-out-lake-huron2.eventbrite.ca>

The International Joint Commission (IJC) is a Canadian-US treaty organization that seeks to prevent and resolve issues facing the two countries' boundary waters. By evaluating efforts to restore the Great Lakes ecosystem, engaging the public on their perspectives of Great Lakes health and completing its own research on issues facing the lakes, the IJC assesses the effectiveness of government programs to meet the agreement's goals and objectives. <http://ijc.org>



High lake levels, and what landowners can do:

"HELP! The high lake levels are eroding my shoreline! My property needs shoreline armoring to protect my investment! What type should I use?!"

We have had inquiries about

whether hardening shorelines are the best option for times of high lake levels, like we have this year. Coastal Engineers, regulatory bodies, and ecologists alike agree that shoreline hardening is not a viable option for lake shore properties on Lake Huron. A great resource from U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is [here](#). High energy beaches, like those on the southeastern coast, many of the typical shore protection devices are unsuitable because they are extremely expensive to implement, require permits from Conservation Authorities and Municipalities, are extremely detrimental to natural coastal processes and coastal environments, and have short lifespans.

"So.. Shoreline Armoring is a bad idea... but what CAN I do to protect my shore?!"

unsuitable shore protection

Shore protection devices that are generally unsuitable for the high-energy open coast environments of the Great Lakes include:

- Revetments formed of stone or concrete pieces light enough for a strong adult to lift
- Seawalls formed of softball- to basketball-sized stone in wire baskets
- Seawalls made of concrete blocks
- Seawalls made of vinyl sheetpiling in areas with heavy shore ice
- Plastic strands or plastic nets intended to build and retain beaches
- Plate-like concrete rubble from construction demolition
- All-timber bulkheads made of materials purchased at typical building supply stores
- Seawalls made of discarded sewer pipe.
- Sheet pile walls that don't sufficiently penetrate the lake bed
- Sand-filled bags

Our best advice is to keep shorelines vegetated; if some of your trees or shrubs are being washed away by the lake, contact your Municipality if they are causing a risk to person or property, otherwise, let the lake wash them away. Reestablishing a dune, or a healthy vegetated buffer between your buildings and the water is your best defense. This method allows the dune to be the 'sacrificial' natural structure to take the brunt of the energy from the waves. In a few years when water levels are low again is the best time to protect your shoreline investments. Building dunes and planting vegetation is cheaper and can be more effective than armor stone or gabion baskets.

There are a few species of plants that are recommended for use in the Great Lakes Region. To initiate the stabilization process, plant one or more of the following species:

- marram (dune) grass,
- wheat grass,
- wild rye,
- dune willows

Once these plants are established and flourishing, plant the following species:

- sand cherry
- choke cherry

To learn more about building dunes, or protecting your shoreline with vegetation, including natural species lists, check out the resources available on our website [here](#)

We invite you to join our webinar series!

THE COASTAL CENTRE PRESENTS:

COAST WATCHERS WEBINAR SERIES

ENHANCE YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF OUR
COASTAL ECOSYSTEM

- Wednesday, July 31, 7:00 – 8:00pm
Plastic Pollution
- Thursday, August 8, 1:00 – 2:00pm
Coastal Processes
- Wednesday, August 14, 7:00 – 8:00pm
Invasive Species
- Wednesday, August 21, 1:00 – 2:00pm
Species at Risk
- Wednesday, August 28, 7:00 – 8:00pm
Water Quality
- Wednesday, September 11, 7:00 – 8:00pm
Climate Change

Webinar 2: Coastal Processes

Webinar 3: Invasive Species

Webinar 4: Species At-Risk

Webinar 5: Water Quality

Webinar 6: Climate Change

Subscribe for a chance to win!

The Coastal Centre is offering **a chance to win a \$25 Visa gift card** to new subscribers to our newsletter, so tell your friends and family to sign up on our website between now and August 31! The winner will be announced in our September newsletter!

Go Green!

Through the generous funding provided by the Ontario Trillium Foundation, we are working to create a healthy coastline with vibrant communities on Lake Huron. In order to learn and share our learning with coastal communities, the Foundation has requested that the Coastal Centre survey residents to ask what they value most about the environment.

Stay tuned on our social media to find out who the lucky winner is of the Yoga Den and Sunset SUP's **2 hr Stand Up Paddle Board class!**

The survey questions and parameters were prepared by Forum Research for the Ontario Trillium Foundation and therefore were not prepared by the Coastal Centre. If you wish to remain anonymous, do not fill in the final page of the survey, the survey results are not matched with participants in any way. Please note the Pre and Post option is not applicable for this survey and a Participant ID is not required. Thank you! To complete the "Green People" Survey, please click the link below:

Green Ribbon Champion Comes to Huron-Kinloss



We are looking for the next
**GREEN RIBBON
CHAMPION**

The Coastal Centre is happy to announce a pilot program, Green Ribbon Champion, coming to the Township of Huron-Kinloss shoreline this Summer! Green Ribbon Champions are coastal stewards committed to the protection of the Great lakes and are recognized for their efforts to understand coastal ecosystems, and for their

actions to preserve, protect and restore them. Participants will receive a free beach assessment of their shoreline property and a beach care toolkit. Assessments will take place in August and the deadline to register for a spot in the program is August 30, 2019. If you are interested in learning more please visit www.lakehuron.ca/grc.

The Green Ribbon Champion program is generously supported by:

LUSH FRESH
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SOCIÉTÉ DE GESTION
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The Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation supports environmental efforts along the Canadian coastline of Lake Huron. We foster communication and partnerships between environmental agencies and organizations, working towards a sustainable and resilient coast. We provide education, resources, and information on lake-wide issues and our programs reflect the inter-connectivity between land and water.

DONATE TODAY!

Follow our social media for updates about our upcoming events and some interesting quick facts about Lake Huron and its coastal ecosystems!



