

2010 ANNUAL REPORT



NIAGARA PENINSULA
CONSERVATION
AUTHORITY



THOSE WHO CONTEMPLATE THE BEAUTY OF THE EARTH FIND RESERVES OF
STRENGTH THAT WILL ENDURE AS LONG AS LIFE LASTS. ~ RACHEL CARSON



250 Thorold Road West, 3rd Floor
Welland, ON L3C 3W2
Phone: 905.788.3135 | Fax: 905.788.1121
www.npca.ca





MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I am pleased to share the 2010 Annual Report of the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority. Our work encompasses a broad range of services and activities to benefit our watershed residents and creates a positive environmental and economic impact. The highlights of these activities are contained throughout this report and I hope that you will take the time to read about the year's accomplishments.

In our 51 years, the NPCA has been a custodian of our natural environment and proudly continues its work on the protection, restoration and management of the precious natural resources within our watershed jurisdiction. This watershed is a treasure trove consisting of many unique and magnificent qualities; from the abundance of watercourses to the hectares of green space. We are happy that so many visitors have taken the time to visit our conservation areas to learn about our work and to enjoy many of the recreational facilities that are offered. We will continue to acquire new lands as they become available in order to ensure that our natural heritage system remains intact for the future generations who will come after us.

Our water resources are a key part of our mandate and I want to acknowledge the work of the Source Protection Committee. The members have worked diligently to ensure that drinking water continues to be protected from threats of contamination. A great deal was accomplished in 2010 and this committee has dedicated hundreds of hours to ensure that the timelines to complete the tasks they have been mandated with have been met.

It has been my privilege to serve as the Chairman and I look forward to the continued success of this Authority. Thanks to our member municipalities, board members, staff, residents, businesses and community groups for the ongoing support. We are truly honoured to serve you.

Doug Ransom
Chairman

MESSAGE FROM THE CAO/SECRETARY-TREASURER



It is my pleasure to share some highlights of the Conservation Authority's activities during 2010.

In Niagara, we are fortunate to live in an area that has phenomenal natural resources. We are blessed to live in a watershed encompassed by 2 Great Lakes, and over 138 waterways that provide us with numerous opportunities for enjoyment. The strong linkage between a healthy environment to a vibrant and healthy community cannot be overstressed. The staff and board of the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority in collaboration with our member municipalities strive to ensure that our vital natural resources are protected and enhanced so they can perform as nature intended. In order to maintain this, we need to continue to invest financial and human resources to ensure that our watersheds continue to stay healthy and contribute to the economic prosperity within the watershed.

As the leading watershed management agency, part of our services focus on ensuring that watershed residents have the opportunity to enjoy the abundance of green spaces spread among our 36 conservation areas. These areas play a major role in contributing to nature based

recreational activities. We are grateful to our many partners who continue to work with us to help sustain these green spaces for the benefit of this and future generations.

We continue to reach out to our community through our stewardship and outreach initiatives. Our staff and volunteers work with landowners, businesses, school boards and community groups to deliver innovative, and curriculum linked programs and projects that are all contributing to making a difference in the way we live our everyday lives.

I would like to acknowledge the ongoing support and dedication of the NPCA Board, staff, Region of Niagara, City of Hamilton, Haldimand County, our municipal, provincial and federal partners, as well as our volunteers and residents for helping us to make our efforts successful. Each of us has an important part in making this watershed area the best that it can be and we look forward to our continued partnerships.

Tony D'Amario, P.Eng.
CAO/Secretary-Treasurer

CORPORATE SERVICES

Established on April 30, 1959, the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority serves approximately 500,000 people and covers an area of 2,424 square kilometres encompassing the entire Niagara Region, 21% of the City of Hamilton and 25% of Haldimand County. Throughout the past 50 years our efforts have focused on a variety of natural resource programs. Our environmental and human resources are dedicated to enhancing the quality of life and general well being of the citizens in our watershed. The NPCA had the foresight to pursue the acquisition of some of the most sensitive conservation lands found in Niagara - lands that are now held in trust for future generations.

The activities of the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority are governed by a Board of Directors comprised of 15 members appointed by the member municipalities. The Directors are committed to serving the local rural and urban communities on behalf of the watershed municipalities and contribute their leadership and expertise in decisions that determine the policies and programs of the Authority.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The following members served on the Board in 2010

Region of Niagara:

Douglas Ransom
Chairman
Town of Lincoln

Brian Baty
Vice-Chairman
Town of Pelham

Bob Bentley
Town of Grimsby

Gary Burroughs
Town of Niagara
on the Lake

Barbara Butters
City of Port Colborne

Damian Goulbourne
City of Welland

Mickey DiFruscio
City of Thorold

Barbara Greenwood
City of Niagara Falls

Brian Heit
City of St. Catharines

Barbara Henderson
Township of Wainfleet

Norm Johnson
Township of West Lincoln

Bob Steckley
Town of Fort Erie

Haldimand County:

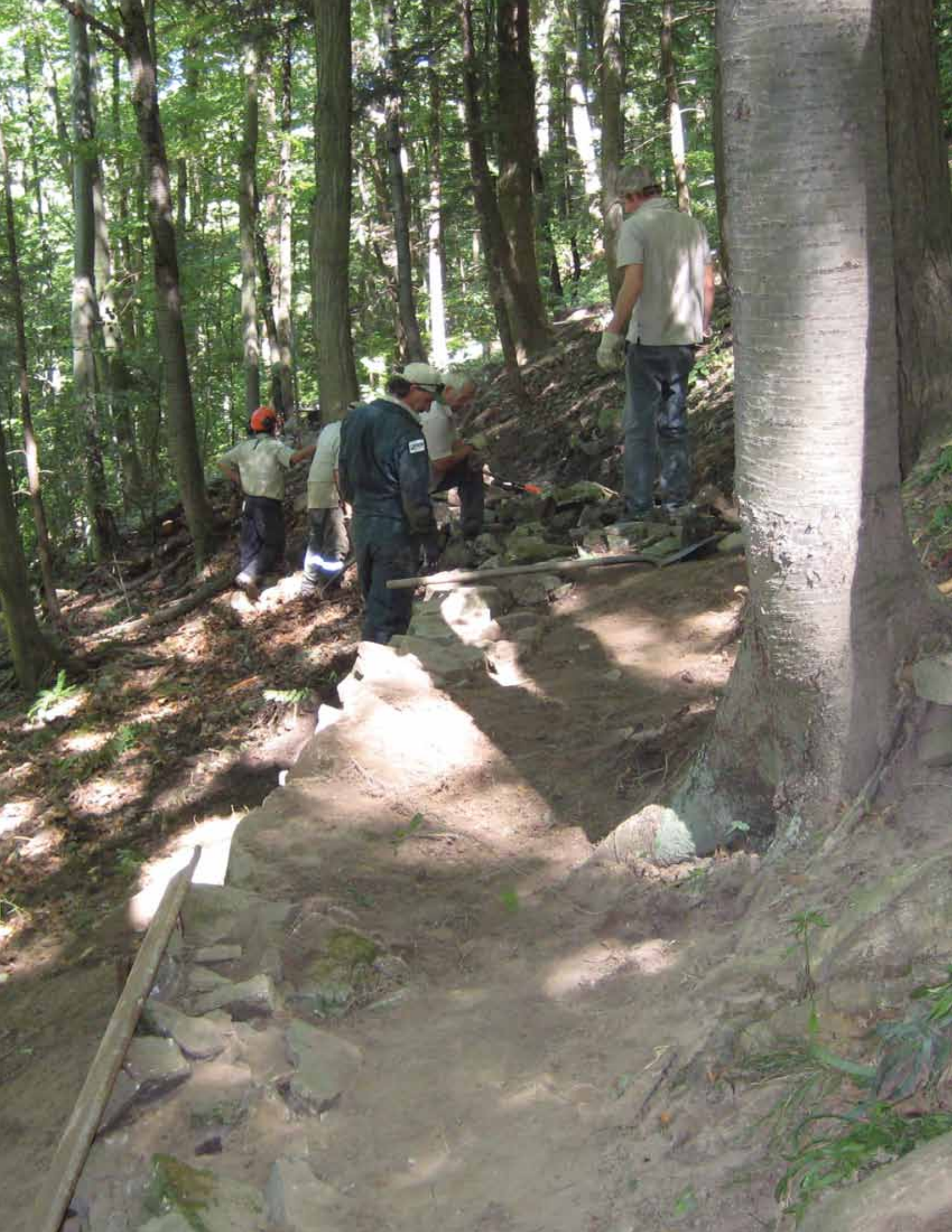
Tony Dalimonte

City of Hamilton:

Carmen D'Angelo

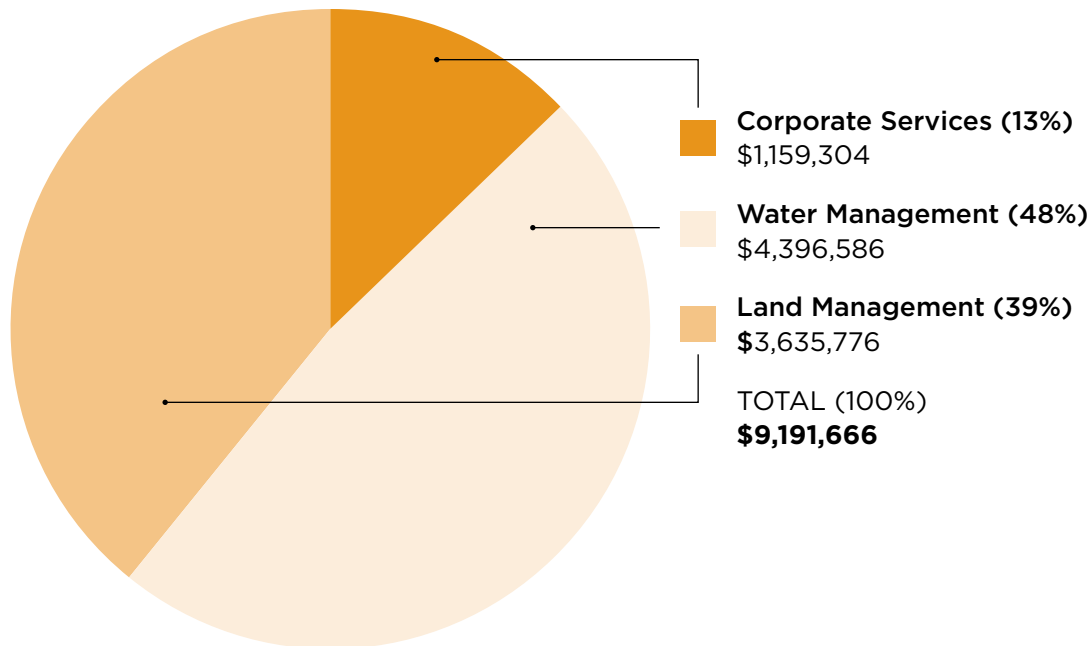
Andy Fevez



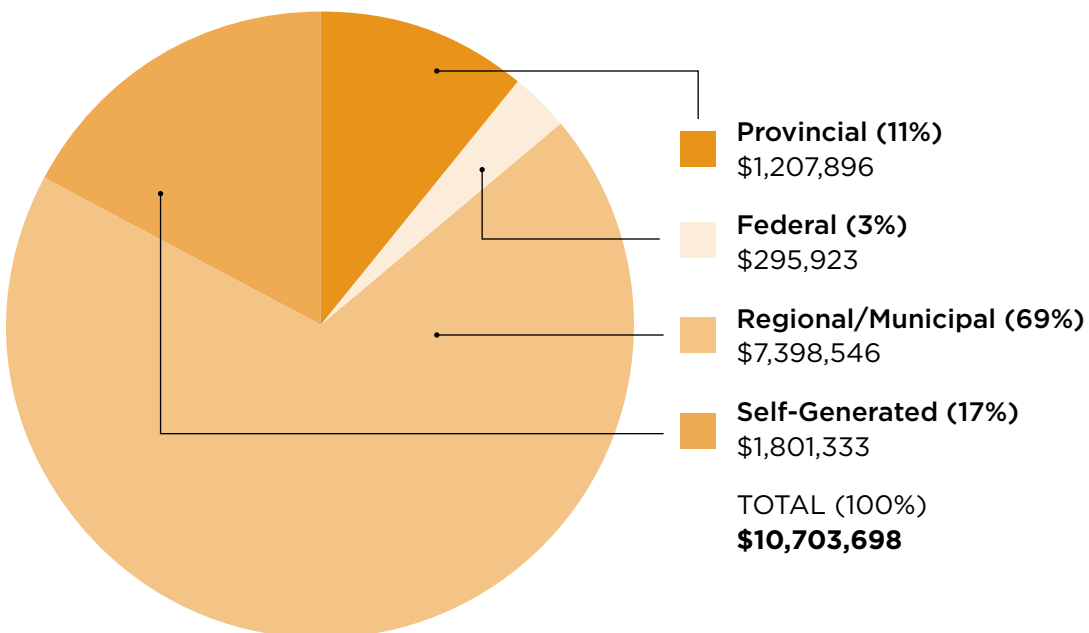


FINANCIAL INFORMATION

EXPENDITURES



REVENUES



For Further information or to obtain a copy of the Audited Financial Statement please contact Mary Stack, Director of Communications.

WATER MANAGEMENT

Water Management is one of the Authority's major program areas and plays an important role in protecting our waterways and natural areas in order to sustain a healthy ecosystem. With the increasing economic pressures that affect all aspects of our community, the programs undertaken strive to provide a balance between responsible resource management and balanced infrastructure, development and economic needs.

Highlights of 2010 activities:

WATERSHED REGULATIONS

Responsible for Administration of O.Reg 155/06, Flood Control Structures, Flow Monitoring, Flood Forecasting and Warning, Floodplain Mapping and Erosion control projects.

Staff processed 90 permit applications for works affecting wetlands, valley lands and waterways pursuant to Ontario Regulation 155/06; investigated 85 complaints related to the regulation. Under agreement with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) staff reviewed & provided advice on 71 proposals under this agreement, including 25 separate Municipal Drain Projects; 8 PTTW applications.

The NPCA has 13 gauge stations which are monitored on a daily basis as part of the routine flood forecasting/warning duties. In addition, water levels at the Binbrook Reservoir are continuously monitored and valves are adjusted as required based on weather forecast. The public were able to access real time water levels at Binbrook Reservoir through the NPCA's website.

Floodplain Mapping projects undertaken in 2010 include Wignell Drain and Beaver Dam Drain in the City of Port Colborne and Point Abino Drain in the Town of Fort Erie. Work included undertaking the necessary calculations, field work and map analysis to accurately determine the extent of the 100 year flood elevations for those areas.

Staff issued 4 water safety bulletins to warn the public of high water conditions.

WATERSHED PLANNING

The Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority comments, provides input and technical support to landowners and our member municipalities on a range of services including planning applications, severances, minor variances and plans of subdivisions.



**We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors;
we borrow it from our children. -Native American Proverb**

Activities undertaken pursuant to statutory responsibilities and the Memorandum of Understanding between Niagara Region, local municipalities and the NPCA provide a streamlined process for applications. Planning staff reviewed and responded to: 293 Building Permit Reviews; 10 Official Plan Amendments; 4 Secondary Plans; 24 Subdivision Plans/Condominiums; 27 Site Plans; 39 Zoning By-Law Amendments; 48 Severance Applications; 72 Minor Variance; 45 Niagara Escarpment Commission Reviews; 98 Lawyer Property Inquiries.

Work on several Watershed Plans was undertaken for the following basins: Lake Erie North Shore Watershed Plan; Central Welland River Watershed Plan; Beaverdams and Shriners Creek Watershed Plan; Upper Welland River watershed Plan and Lower Welland River Watershed Plan.

NATURAL HERITAGE SYSTEMS PROJECT

In February 2010, staff completed the final stage of the first comprehensive inventory of natural heritage features within our watershed. The goal of the project was to provide both the Authority and its watershed partners with scientifically defensible information which will serve useful for future planning and land use decisions. On a go forward basis funding

was obtained through Water Smart Niagara to complete the next logical step in the natural heritage planning process and to develop a Natural Heritage System Plan. Terms of Reference for this project were developed and Steering Committee, Scenario Development Team and Education and Outreach Committee comprising of stakeholders from across the watershed were established. The project's vision, goals and target setting including what will be included in the system were determined using a consensus-based approach.

SOURCE WATER PROTECTION

The Source Protection Committee completed the Proposed Assessment Report following several public consultation sessions. The science based studies identified land use activities around Municipal Intake Zones which could be a potential threat to drinking water sources. The team also continued to work on material for the Source Protection Plan. NPCA is participating on a number of provincial working groups that are developing guidance materials for the Source Protection Plan program.

As part of the Source Protection division, routine water quality and spot flow



monitoring was completed. The NPCA collects groundwater level data at 15 monitoring wells as part of the Provincial Groundwater Monitoring Network (PGMN). Biological monitoring using benthic macro invertebrate for the Hamilton Airport and Glanbrook Landfill were completed. Field work for the Welland River Eutrophication Study continued and the Water Well Decommissioning Grant Program continued to garner a great deal of interest.

GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS (GIS)

GIS staff provides technical expertise for every department of the NPCA including database management and mapping. Through the efforts of GIS staff, the threats inventory for the prescribed Assessment Report Database was completed for both the surface and groundwater vulnerable areas. As a result, NPCA was one of the first Source Protection Region in the province to be in full compliance with MOE for the data deliverables prescribed thus far to be submitted back to the province through the ARDB upon Assessment Report approval.

REMEDIAL ACTION PLAN

In 1987, the governments of Canada and the United States identified 43 Areas of Concern and Remedial Action Plans were developed and are being implemented to restore impairments within these areas. The NPCA has coordinated the Remedial Action Plan encompassing the Niagara River Corridor for 11 years. The program is aimed at improving the water quality of the Great Lakes. A number of key actions have been implemented including restoring fish access to many of the tributaries in the Niagara River. This project was a partnership of the Niagara River Restoration Council, Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority and Environment Canada. This project succeeded in unlocking approximately 511 km of potential fish habitat. This will assist in a greater number of fish being able to reach areas where they can reproduce.

WATERSHED RESTORATION

Over 100 restoration projects were completed in 2010. The restoration activities support numerous projects and for every dollar invested by the Authority, additional funding was provided through various funding agencies.



General Restoration:

- » 32 woodland restoration/riparian projects implemented.
- » 100,000 trees and shrubs and 20,000 wildflowers and grass plugs were planted; 30 kilograms of native seeds were seeded into restoration sites.
- » 25 wetland and riparian projects completed.
- » 40 BMP projects implemented.
- » Since the program was initiated in 2006, Yellow Fish Road has engaged over 480 volunteers who have helped with the program; 1,201 drains have been painted and over 4,000 door hangers have been distributed.
- » 23 schools participated in the Eco School program; over 5,000 wildflowers, 23 trees and 90 shrubs creating over 4,280 square feet of green space in Niagara's school yards. Since its inception, this program has contributed 25,600 square feet of green space to school grounds in the watershed.
- » Angler Diary program continues to collect data in the Welland River and Twelve Mile Creek watersheds. The

program enjoys great success and since its inception in 2003, 594 fish have been tagged and 59 recaptures have been recorded. Information gathered is used to track how fish move through the Welland River watershed, the species that occur and where barriers might exist.

Welland River Restoration:

- » 3 riparian restoration projects covering a 1 kilometre stream length completed.
- » 200 m shoreline stabilization and habitat restoration along Welland River downstream of the canal was completed.
- » 5 upland restoration and reforestation projects encompassing 16 ares completed with over 15,000 native trees and shrubs planted.
- » 3 windbreak Conservation Farm Practices projects completed covering over 1 kilometre, with 800 trees planted to improve water quality through the reduction of soil erosion and improve habitat linkages.

Fort Erie Creeks:

- » In partnership with Ontario Power Generation and Land Care Niagara, assisted with 2 upland reforestation



projects within Black Creek watershed totaling 12 acres with over 14,000 seedlings and nuts planted.

- » Completed a riparian buffer within Black Creek watershed including the installation of live willow and dogwood stakes to reduce erosion.

Twenty Mile Creek:

- » Nutrient management manure project completed in Spring Creek to eliminate a potential threat to a small tributary.
- » 14 acres of land planted for woodland habitat restoration on three sites with over 10,000 trees.
- » 2 one acre wetland projects completed in West Lincoln and Hamilton.
- » 600 meters of riparian area planted with plans to add an additional 10 acres in the future.
- » Invasive species removal at a site in the headwaters in Hamilton to control spread of Phragmites.
- » 5 - half acre size wetland restoration projects at five sites were excavated and planting of 1,500 trees, shrubs and wildflowers were installed.
- » 455 meters of windbreak was planted with more than 500 trees in Jordan, creating a wildlife corridor and reducing topsoil losses from adjacent farms.
- » 450 feet of fencing installed to prevent livestock from accessing a newly restored site in the 16 Mile Creek watershed.
- » 1 meadow and riparian project completed and planted with over 1,800 wildflower plugs and native seeds.
- » 300 m² of stream bank was restored to assist and improve the movement of juvenile Snapping Turtles (Species at Risk) into 15 Mile Creek.
- » 600 m of vineyard property was buffered with native vegetation to assist with increasing biodiversity.

15, 16, 18 Mile Creeks:

- » 11 acres within 2 project sites planted with over 1,200 trees and shrubs in 15 Mile Creek.

Niagara on the Lake:

- » Creation of manure storage at Southbrook Winery.
- » Completion of a nutrient management project at a greenhouse operation



allowing water to be collected and reused and preventing runoff from entering the nearby creek.

- » 135 m riparian buffer created along 4 Mile Creek.
- » Created a small wetland feature at Red Roof Retreat and incorporated 2 stream crossings to allow for barrier free access.
- » 5 acre livestock restriction created along Routh Drain.

Twelve Mile Creek:

- » Completed a stream buffer and bank stabilization project at Kala Hardware with support of St. Catharines Green Committee.
- » 600 trees planted at a public event in conjunction with Fonthill Lion's Club, Scout Trees and Zehrs.
- » Implemented a 0.5 ha wetland in partnership with Ducks Unlimited leading to another project with adjacent landowner to create a larger 2.4 ha wetland.

- » Undertook a restoration project to restore escarpment edge forest habitat on a 14 acre field adjacent to the Decew water treatment facility in partnership with Ontario Power Generation and Niagara Region.

E.C. Brown Wetland

- » E.C. Brown Wetland Project received a Canadian Society of Landscape Architects (CSLA) National Merit Award... the silver medal of Landscape Architect. This national professional award program is intended to recognize and promote all aspects of the profession of architecture. A total of 58 submissions were received and this project was one of 13 entries that received this award. The national jury commented 'this is a project that saw the landscape architect act as the guiding force to engage the local community in the development of a storm-water quality control project. A longer-term vision for this restoration project demonstrated impressive results in the first year alone, encouraging the implementation of similarly strategized projects elsewhere in the country.'

» Photo by Richard Coote







LAND MANAGEMENT

The Land Management Department is responsible of the management and operation at 37 properties totalling more than 7,200 acres (2,920 ha.) These lands are protected and maintained for both their natural heritage features and for recreational value such as camping and access to our various watercourses.

Ball's Falls

- » The Centre for Conservation continued as a hub of activity hosting many special events, several travelling exhibits, weddings, workshops, corporate functions and the annual Doors Open. Attendance was up substantially over the previous year. The Centre continues to receive praise for its sensitive stewardship activities towards the environment. Exhibits included: Legendary Bears, Ontario Frogs – The Ribbet Exhibit Returns, Count Your Pennies, Northern Owls, and War on the Lakes.
- » Welcomed over 1,500 visitors during the Door's Open weekend.
- » Partnered with the Rotary Club of Lincoln to host the annual 'Lamplighter Tour' series. The theme "You're Invited to a Wedding" featured vignettes about a Ball family wedding.
- » A number of new directional signs were installed.
- » March Break Camp was well received with many fun activities taking place and with a record number of participants in attendance.
- » Upgrades to the trails system to improve walking conditions and clearly identify trail routes, improved trail surfacing, drainage and signage to improve visitor services were undertaken.
- » Volunteers assisted with removal of garlic mustard from the Twenty Valley Trail. The activity provided an opportunity to educate the public and the impact of invasive species in natural areas and the benefits of choosing native plant material over non-native options.



- » Authority staff partnered with the Town of Lincoln on the Communities in Bloom program. Judges visited a number of sites including Ball's Falls as part of their tour. The Town was awarded five blooms for their efforts. This is the highest rating in the program and the Town is very grateful for our partnership in this program.
 - » New sound system was installed in the Multi-purpose Room in the Centre. This is definitely a positive addition to the amenities available for rentals.
 - » Partnered with Jordan Museum and Twenty Valley Tourism Association to produce a number of street banners to promote key elements of the site throughout Jordan Village.
 - » The 36th Annual Thanksgiving Festival which has become a Niagara tradition had over 20,000 visitors. A mix of new artisans, entertainers and food concessions were featured along with several wineries from the Twenty Valley Tourism Association who offered an opportunity for visitors to visit a sampling bar set up in the Centre for Conservation.
 - » Warner Bros. Canada partnered with the Centre to promote the release of their new 3D film "Legend of the Guardians, The Owls of Ga'Hoole as part of the Northern Owls Exhibit. They provided educational materials for the school program and items for giveaways to visitors attending the exhibit.
 - » The annual Christmas in the Country program continues to be a hit with visitors.
- ### Beamer Memorial
- » Hawkwatch season ran from March 1 to May 15. The program monitors birds of prey passing over the Conservation Area as part of a larger network of monitoring programs. The station at Beamer has been operating for 35 years and the Authority has partnered with the Niagara Peninsula Hawkwatch since 1990.
 - » More than 1,000 visitors attended the annual Good Friday Open House held on April 2nd. There were numerous activities taking place and the public was thrilled with the opportunity to participate in the monitoring activities.



- » Trail improvements were completed with a granular loop at the lookout tower and surface improvements to the main walking trail to the escarpment lookout platforms.

Jordan Harbour

- » The Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority acquired the site from the Province of Ontario in 2005 and the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Foundation has made a commitment to assist the Authority by raising funds to revive the site as a visitor hub. This water body is a Provincially Significant Wetland located along the south shore of Lake Ontario at Twenty Mile Creek. The kilometre-wide harbour site offers a public launching dock for non-motorized watercraft offering visitors the opportunity to experience the magnificent gateway along the Twenty Mile Creek. The waterway is one of the largest uninterrupted natural corridors left in Niagara between the escarpment and the lake. The site is protected as an Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI) containing a variety of unique wildlife and tree species that are rarely seen elsewhere in the peninsula.

- » Sufficient funds were raised to make improvements to the access road, providing dedicated parking, picnic area and pavilion. A general spring cleanup was conducted at the site and hazard trees removed in anticipation of the grand opening of the site. A successful formal opening took place on Father's Day June 20th and many visitors both local and from afar attended.

Binbrook

- » This year we completed the longest ice fishing season which ran from January 6 to March 7th. The 'Hard Water' Ice Fishing Derby was well attended with over 288 participants.
- » The spring fishing derby sponsored by Glanbrook Conservation Committee was a huge success with more than 400 participants in attendance.
- » High water levels damaged the handicapped fishing platform and it was removed to safeguard the public.
- » Renovations to the pump house and water treatment plant were completed.
- » New pavilion and store was completed and opened for the public's enjoyment. Both services are well used.



- » Staff continued to work with the City of Hamilton to make improvements to the Splash Pad to bring the facility into conformance with new regulations scheduled to take place.
- » Funding support for a 'Rods and Reel' project was received from TD Friends of the Environment program. The funding was used to obtain fishing equipment which will be loaned out for 'hands-on' fishing experience. The project is focused on proving young children, persons with disabilities, seniors and the general public the tools to learn about the aquatic food chain and the need for protection and wise use of natural resources.
- » The Binbrook Triathlon took place in June with a record 516 athletes in attendance.
- » Waterfowl hunt was popular again this year.
- » With the assistance of the Glanbrook Conservation Committee, the Hyslop Bay Pike Spawning Bed was planted with additional native aquatic plant species. Funding was provided through the MNR Community Fisheries Wildlife Involvement Program.

Chippawa Creek and Long Beach

- » 2010 was heralded as one of the best camping seasons on record. The season was extended to the Thanksgiving weekend.
- » Several cross country meets were held and a number of cadet exercises took place.
- » We were able to complete construction of a new septic system at Chippawa Creek.
- » New Reservation System installed for Binbrook, Chippawa Creek and Long Beach in conjunction with Mediamix Interactive.
- » Water plant and washroom facilities upgrade completed at Long Beach providing a major improvement to the campground. The upgrades have eliminated a confined space, upgraded the showers to provide barrier free access and improved ventilation.
- » Wetland bio-filter treatment system installed at Chippawa Creek.
- » The annual Bass derby was held at Chippawa Conservation Area in July and the winning fish, a largemouth bass weighed in at 1.87 kg. Catch and release and live well use were encouraged at the event.



- » Both campgrounds are well used, both daily and seasonally.

Cave Springs

- » Field investigation and mapping at Cave Springs continued. Concerns were raised regarding the number of ATV's being used on the trails. Staff continues to refine the draft master plan to include addressing this issue in addition to features such as escarpment lookout points, trail connections, and potential naturalized areas.

Twenty Valley Trail

- » Trail improvements to the Twenty Valley Trail in Jordan were completed. Two sets of wooden stairs were removed as they posed a hazard, and were replaced with a reinforced packed trail descending gently across the slope face. Staff monitor the site on a regular basis to ensure that it remains safe for visitors to enjoy.

Morgan's Point

- » Completed maintenance on the prairie-savannah site. Staff removed non-native invasive species, woody materials and saplings so that the site can continue to regenerate healthily.

Rockway

- » Staff completed trail improvements in the valley lands in order to improve access near the old dam and Bruce Trail.

St. Johns

- » New kiosk signage installed.
- » Opening of Trout Season was well attended on April 24th.

Stevensville

- » Bridge replacement project was completed and site restoration was initialized to enhance the trail approaches.
- » Fort Erie Conservation Club assisted NPCA in hazard tree trimming activities and maintenance at the site.

Wainfleet Bog

- » Landowners assisted the Authority in developing a strategy to address beaver damming damage at the bog.
- » Region of Niagara Public Health conducted a Black Legged Tick study at the Bog and developed a number of communication messages for the public to ensure their well being when visiting the site.



- » Staff met with MNR to discuss research finding at the bog concerning Species at Risk. The information will be used to refine management initiatives to address various activities.

Virgil

- » Trails were resurfaced with new granular stone and a trail was added to connect to the municipal sidewalk at Niagara Stone Road. These improvements were well received by residents.

NPCA Hunting Program

- » Staff issued over 300 permits for controlled hunting throughout the season and monitored sites closely to ensure that rules/regulations were being adhered to. This is a popular sport within the watershed.

Gypsy Moth Program

- » Staff conducted Gypsy Moth surveys at several conservation areas including Chippawa Creek, Ruigrok Tract, St. Johns, Smith-Ness, Hedley Forest and Willoughby Marsh.



COMMUNITY RELATIONS

- » The 8th annual Niagara Children's Water Festival was held at Ball's Falls, with more than 4,500 students attending the program. Over 2,000 people attended the public day, and 500 volunteers were involved in delivering the program.
- » In partnership with OTMP and Conservation Ontario, the NPCA participated in the Great Outdoor Adventure Show which was held at the International Centre, Toronto. With over 260 Conservations Areas located throughout the Province, this was a great opportunity to attract new users to our areas.
- » We undertook several outreach initiatives in collaboration with the Niagara Water Strategy program. A highlight was a symposium on Niagara Beaches held at Ball's Falls in March.
- » The NPCA was pleased to participate with the Region of Niagara on a number of celebratory initiatives in commemoration of the 40th Anniversary of the establishment of Regional Government.
- » The Authority was recognized for its ongoing support of the Schools in Bloom initiative which is coordinated through the City of Niagara Falls. Since its inception, this program has successfully worked to beautify the school grounds of the 5 Niagara Falls high schools. The Authority assists by providing information and some funding for the use of native plant materials.
- » The Authority honoured over 300 volunteers for their conservation efforts at the annual Conservation Achievement Awards. The work of our volunteers is immeasurable and the Authority is pleased to have such a successful relationship with our stakeholders.
- » A number of Earth Day activities were initiated in conjunction with community groups and the NPCA to assist in ongoing stewardship activities throughout the watershed.
- » The Authority was pleased to sponsor two awards as part of the Niagara Region Science and Engineering Fair.
- » A number of community engagement sessions were planned as part of the Source Protection Planning Draft Proposed Assessment Report consultation process. These were well attended and provided valuable insight into the project.
- » Staff continued to promote the Simply Tree-mendous Program encouraging watershed resident to help plant native trees and shrubs into their landscapes. We were pleased that the newly opened RONA in Welland developed a Native Plant Garden through the efforts of Amy Elison, and supported by the corporation, to encourage customers and visitors to participate in the program.
- » We were pleased to host Gord Miller, Environmental Commissioner along with 15 members of the advisory committee. The group enjoyed a tour of Ball's Falls and presentations by NPCA staff outlining programs and projects.

Our stewardship of the Earth is brief. We owe it to those who follow to keep that in perspective, to be responsible passengers along the way.

George Bush, 41st President of the United States, Speech at Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming, 13 June, 1989





NIAGARA PENINSULA CONSERVATION FOUNDATION

The Niagara Peninsula Conservation Foundation is a registered charitable organization that acts as the fundraising arm for the NPCA. It provides additional financial assistance to support the conservation initiatives of the NPCA by encouraging community support for projects that are not eligible for traditional government funding, or other funding is not sufficient or available.

Since its humble beginnings in 1969 and with the support of many individuals, businesses and organizations, more than \$4 million has been raised to assist in local conservation efforts. This year, funds raised supported the ongoing restoration at Jordan Harbour Conservation Area, fish stocking at St. Johns Conservation Area and the purchase of a collections storage system at the Centre for Conservation at Ball's Falls.





250 Thorold Road West, 3rd Floor, Welland, Ontario L3C 3W2
p. 905.788.3135 | f. 905.788.1121 | www.npca.ca