

The background of the cover is a photograph of a forest with tall, thin trees and a dense canopy of green and yellow leaves. A large, semi-transparent blue rectangle is overlaid on the right side of the image, serving as a background for the text.

# QUARTERLY REPORT Q4 • 2017

Vol. 9 Oct-Dec 2017





# CONTENTS

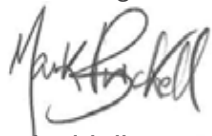
Welcome.....	3
About us.....	4
By the Numbers.....	5
8 Initiatives .....	6
Community .....	7
Our Waters .....	8
Our Lands .....	9

---

**Welcome to the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority (NPCA) Quarterly Report.** This report offers an update to the people in the Niagara peninsula watershed, our funders, and our stakeholders as to what has been happening at NPCA. As laid out in our Strategic Plan, we are making a concerted effort to be more transparent and hope that these reports are helpful in your understanding of our work.



We are so proud of the work staff completed in Q4. As we continue to move this organization forward, we will continue to share the good work NPCA is able to complete.



**Mark Brickell**  
Chief Administrative Officer  
Secretary Treasurer



The Board of Directors was pleased to receive the Strategic Plan 2014-2017 results in Q4, and to welcome new member Paul MacPherson.



**Sandy Annunziata**  
Chair, Board of Directors





# ABOUT US

## **Our Waters**

The NPCA manages the Niagara peninsula watershed with the purpose of keeping people and property safe from flooding and erosion. Our watershed includes several bodies of interconnected waters that flow throughout Niagara and part of Hamilton and Haldimand County. NPCA implements programming aimed at improving water quality.

## **Our Lands**

NPCA manages its 39 Conservation Areas, including Ball's Falls, Binbrook, Long Beach and Chippawa Creek. These lands are held in public trust for recreation, heritage preservation, conservation, and education.

The NPCA also reviews and regulates proposed developments when that development is occurring on land that contains features such as slopes, valleys, wetlands, etc.

## **Our Legacy**

We manage the Niagara peninsula watershed and our conservation areas for this generation and for all future generations.

## **Our Life**

Water and air are essential to biological life. It is all of our responsibility to protect those resources.



# BY THE NUMBERS

## Strategic Plan Review Results:

<b>2</b>	2 Watershed Condition Statements Issued	<b>B+</b>	Governance & Accountability
<b>210</b>	210 Permits Issued	<b>A</b>	Budget/Financial Controls/Asset Management
<b>30,000</b>	30,000 visitors to the Ball's Falls Thanksgiving Festival	<b>B+</b>	Permitting and Development Approvals
<b>7</b>	7 set locations are monitored bi-monthly November-February to measure snowpack throughout the watershed	<b>B</b>	Policy Development Framework
<b>83</b>	Twitter: 83 more followers	<b>C+ to B-</b>	Public/Stakeholder Relations
<b>37,335</b>	Facebook: posts reached 37,335 people	<b>10</b>	10 Well Water Decommissioning Program projects
<b>3,568</b>	3,568 trees planted in a single session with the new WEARTH/The Carbon Farmer, Delta by Marriott partnership	<b>114%</b>	Corporate bookings increased by 114% this past year
		<b>379</b>	379 Hunting Permits issued





# 8 INITIATIVES

**At the #ILoveNPCA launch party, NPCA announced the biggest, most robust initiatives in its history.**

- » New Partnership & Dialogue with the People of the Watershed
- » 1 Million Trees & 3 Million Native Species Plants
- » 100-Year Water Quality Improvement Plan
- » 100-Year Land Plan
- » Lead Role in Climate Change Mitigation
- » Leading & Learning Organization
- » Innovative Technology & Data Integration
- » Establish Annual Watershed Champions Awards Program



# COMMUNITY

The NPCA planted a pollinator garden, as part of the Mickey DiFruscio and Family Legacy Pollinator Project, at Morgan's Point Conservation Area in partnership with the Niagara Restoration Council. Volunteers from NRC and NPCA assisted in planting and mulching the garden.

The 2017 Ball's Falls Thanksgiving Festival engaged a total of 125 volunteers who contributed a total of 1600 hours over the course of the weekend

WEARTH/The Carbon Farmer, Delta by Marriott, and staff volunteers from The Printing House Head Office planted over 3,568 trees (4.1 acres or 10 NHL hockey rinks) in two days at the NPCA's Smith Ness Forest Conservation Area.

## **We also engaged with:**

- » Conservation Ontario Biennial Tour
- » Ball's Falls Thanksgiving Festival
- » Site visit at St. Johns Conservation Area – Centennial Secondary School

- » Niagara Economic Summit-GNCC
- » Lt. Gov. Volunteer Recognition Event-Trans Canada Trail
- » Ceremonial Tree Planting at Niagara Region Headquarters for Canada 150th School board Project
- » Pen Centre
- » Morningstar Mill
- » Stratus Winery
- » School of Restoration Arts at Willowbank
- » Port Colborne Environmental Advisory Committee
- » School Tree Plantings (McKay and A.N. Myer)
- » Westmount Public School Presentation





# OUR WATERS

Staff have completed routine monitoring at all 80 water quality monitoring stations for 2017. This monitoring was performed monthly from March until November at all stations, and samples have been analyzed for general chemistry, nutrients, metals, and bacteria.

Staff undertook fall biological water quality monitoring at 25 water quality monitoring stations, which includes biological monitoring at the Hamilton International Airport as per our agreement with the City of Hamilton

Staff deployed loggers into several watercourses for the 2017-2018 winter to monitor road salt concentrations in these creeks and streams.

NPCA staff continue daily monitoring of water levels at our 15 stream gauge stations, climatic data at our 15 climate stations, and undertake routine maintenance, calibration, and inspections at all 30 installations, as part of the NPCA's routine Flood Forecasting and Warning duties.





# OUR LANDS

The **Living Landscape's** primary objective is to review and complete a fundamental rewrite of NPCA's primary development guidance document entitled 'Procedures and Guidelines for the Administration of Ontario Regulation 155/06 and Land Use Planning Policy Document'.

## **Ball's Falls Conservation Area**

Staff winterized the property, and have begun promoting March Break camps. There is a new Thanksgiving Festival website being built and new branding around wedding promotions, and event support materials.

## **Binbrook Conservation Area**

The 2018 Ice Fishing Derby was planned and promoted.

## **Chippawa Creek Conservation Area**

80 seasonal campers were confirmed for 2018 with a projection of 93 total

## **Long Beach Conservation Area**

91 seasonal campers were confirmed for 2018 with a projection of 115 total











