



GRAND RIVER
CONSERVATION
AUTHORITY
2005 ANNUAL REPORT

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Protecting our water

Conservation authorities are leading the effort to safeguard water sources

It was five years ago this month when heavy rain washed bacteria-laden manure into a municipal well in the town of Walkerton.

What happened next has become well known in Ontario and across Canada: a series of human and system errors allowed the deadly E. coli bacteria to get into the municipal drinking system.

Seven people died, thousands became ill. And the way we think about our drinking water changed forever.

Since then, provincial and municipal governments have upgraded water treatment systems, raised drinking water standards and ensured that the people who run our water systems are properly trained and supervised.

These are known as "end of the pipe" solutions that ensure the water that comes out of our household taps is clean and safe.

But what about the other end of the pipe? What needs to be done to protect the raw water before it enters the drinking water sys-

tem so that the experience of Walkerton is not repeated?

Protecting drinking water sources is a critical step toward safeguarding municipal water supplies. In his report on the Walkerton tragedy, Justice Dennis O'Connor said, "keeping contaminants out of drinking water sources is an efficient way of keeping them out of drinking water."

Not only does source water protection provide an extra layer of safety, it is also cheaper to keep water from becoming polluted in the first place than to try to clean it up later.

Recommended by O'Connor

O'Connor recommended that source water protection plans should be developed across Ontario to identify the threats to water safety and supplies, and then to recommend a plan of action to reduce those threats.

As a result, the provincial government is establishing a source water protection planning process. Based on a recommendation from Justice O'Connor, the provincial government has asked conservation authorities to coordinate development of the proposed plans in collaboration with the province. Conservation authorities have decades of



experience in water issues and, just as importantly, they represent a partnership of watershed municipalities working together to resolve common environmental concerns.

The GRCA and the other 35 conservation authorities in Ontario are currently laying the scientific foundation for source water protection plans. The provincial government will pay the cost of the process and last fall advanced \$10.5 million to the conservation authorities to assist them in their research efforts.

The GRCA has teamed up with three nearby conservation authorities to share resources and technical expertise. Staff from the GRCA are working with experts at Long Point Region, Kettle Creek and Catfish Creek conservation authorities. All four authorities are responsible for rivers and streams that drain into Lake Erie. This technical expertise will be used to develop a planning approach to protect sources of water for this area.

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Along the Grand

Open for the season



The 12 conservation areas operated by the GRCA are open for the season, with some of the best camping, fishing, hiking and picnicking in Ontario

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A busy year



Every year the GRCA is involved in a wide variety of activities, from tree planting to fishery development and flood control

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Award winners



Watershed awards are presented annually to groups, families and corporations who work to improve the environment of the Grand River watershed.

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THE GRAND RIVER A Canadian Heritage River





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519-621-2763 ext. 519

Planning and Permits:

519-621-2763 ext. 230

Conservation Areas: 519-621-2763 ext. 250

Belwood Lake (Fergus)	519-843-2979
Brant (Brantford)	519-752-2040
Byng Island (Dunnville)	905-774-5755
Conestogo Lake (Drayton)	519-638-2873
Elora Gorge (Elora)	519-846-9742
Guelph Lake (Guelph)	519-824-5061
Laurel Creek (Waterloo)	519-884-6620
Luther Marsh (Grand Valley)	519-928-2832
Pinehurst Lake (Paris)	519-442-4721
Rockwood (Rockwood)	519-856-9543
Shade's Mills (Cambridge)	519-621-3697

Reserve a campsite:

By phone 1-866-ONT-CAMP
Online www.grandriver.ca

Nature Centres:

Apps' Mill (Brantford)	519-752-0655
Guelph Lake	519-836-7860
Laurel Creek (Waterloo)	519-885-1368
Shade's Mills (Cambridge)	519-623-5573
Taquanyah (Cayuga)	905-768-3288

Grand River Conservation Foundation

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THE GRAND

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A Message FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Amid all of the concern about our water supplies in recent years, the people of Ontario have looked to government and other agencies, such as conservation authorities, for the answer to a basic and fundamental question: What can be done to ensure that Ontario's drinking water supplies are safe, secure and reliable?

Source water protection is a critical part of the answer. It is more efficient and more effective to stop water from becoming polluted in the first place than to pay the high costs of cleaning it up later.

Protecting our drinking water sources reinforces the link between a healthy environment and healthy communities.

We have long understood that connection in the Grand River watershed. Over the last few decades, a lot of time and money have been invested in cleaning up the river, protecting out groundwater and guarding natural areas such as forests, wetlands and moraines.

The results have been remarkable. And what is even more remarkable is that these improvements have been made while our watershed has gone through a period of dramatic growth.

The provincial government has identified the cities of the Grand



A Message FROM THE CAO

As you look through this edition of The Grand you'll quickly see that the GRCA carries on a wide-ranging and diverse group of programs to protect the health of the Grand River watershed and its residents.

For example, our network of dams and reservoirs helps to protect our communities from flooding. The reservoirs also ensure that we have adequate water supplies during the dry summer months.

We provide planning advice to municipalities to ensure that growth and development are compatible with environmental protection.

We plant trees, promote water conservation, work with farmers to keep water clean, and protect natural areas such as wetlands and forests.

The GRCA operates one of the largest system of parks in the province and maintains dozens of kilometers of rail-trails. We have an outdoor education program serving tens of thousands of students at five nature centres.

And, of course, there are the rivers and streams of the watershed

River watershed as major growth centres.

Hundreds of thousands of new residents will be added over the next few decades and farmers will be under continuing pressure to make their land even more productive.

These trends will put more pressure on our water resources and natural areas. That makes it critical that we protect the environmental gains we have made and build on them in the future.

The source water protection planning process will help us to do that. It will bring together people from across the watershed to examine the threats to water quality and water supply and propose ways to reduce those risks.

It will be done against the backdrop of the considerable growth projected for our watershed and do so in a way that meets the needs of the watershed's residents and the natural environment.

Peter Krause
Chairman

WHO SPEAKS FOR YOU?

The municipality where you live appoints one or more representatives to the Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA) board to oversee the budget and activities of the Conservation Authority. These members, who have often been elected in your municipality, speak on your behalf at the GRCA.

REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WATERLOO
(including Cities of Cambridge, Kitchener, Waterloo, and Townships of North Dumfries, Wellesley, Wilmot and Woolwich)

Jane Brewer, Jean Haalboom, Ross Kelterborn, Peter Krause (GRCA chair), Joe Martens, Claudette Millar, Jane Mitchell, Ralph Shantz, Bill Strauss, Lynne Woolstencroft

HALDIMAND AND NORFOLK COUNTIES
Craig Ashbaugh, Lorne Boyko

REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF HALTON
(including Towns of Halton Hills, Milton)
Barry Lee

CITY OF HAMILTON
Jeanette Jamieson

COUNTY OF OXFORD
(including Townships of Blandford-Blenheim, East Zorra-Tavistock, Norwich)
Alan Dale

CITY OF BRANTFORD
Robert Hillier, Vic Prendergast (GRCA 2nd vice-chair)

CITY OF GUELPH
David Birtwistle, Dan Moziar

TOWNSHIPS OF AMARANTH, EAST GARAFRAXA, EAST LUTHER GRAND VALLEY, MELANCTHON, SOUTHGATE
Paul Chantree

TOWNSHIPS OF WELLINGTON NORTH AND MAPLETON
Pat Salter

TOWN OF NORTH PERTH, TOWNSHIP OF PERTH EAST
George Wicke (GRCA 1st vice-chair)

TOWNSHIP OF CENTRE WELLINGTON
Jean Innes

TOWN OF ERIN, TOWNSHIPS OF GUELPH/ERAMOSA AND PUSLINCH
Archie MacRobbie

COUNTY OF BRANT
Brain Coleman, Gord Moore

The GRCA's Vision

To be a leader in ensuring a healthy and sustaining relationship between the natural environment of the Grand River watershed and the demands on this environment by all forms of life.

The GRCA's Mission

To work with partners to conserve the natural process and resources that support a safe and healthy environment for future generations in the Grand River watershed.

The GRCA's values

Openness, clarity, understanding, sensitivity, action, holism, integrity, accountability, trust, flexibility, fairness, preparedness, creativity, innovation.

The best the Grand has to offer is on display at GRCA parks

For more than 50 years, the GRCA has operated conservation areas featuring the best the Grand River watershed has to offer.

From the lush land around Luther Marsh, to the rushing waters of the Elora Gorge and the wide expanse of the Grand near Byng Island, there's something for nature lovers of all types in the watershed.

The GRCA operates 12 conservation areas offering thousands of campsites, hundreds of kilometres of trails and plenty of places to drop a line and catch a trout, bass or pike. They're open from April 29 to mid-October.

Luther Marsh Wildlife Management Area - Grand Valley

A biological treasure in the river's headwaters and home to many rare species, Luther Marsh offers hiking, biking, skiing, birding, hunting and great nature photography.

Belwood Lake Conservation Area - Fergus

The 1,350-hectare lake was created with the construction of the Shand Dam in 1942 and provides boating, water-skiing and great fishing. The park has picnic grounds, a stocked fishing pond for youngsters and a swimming beach on a spring-fed quarry. Downstream is a premier fly-fishing reach.



Conestogo Lake Conservation Area - Drayton

Conestogo Lake is in the heart of Mennonite Country. The Y-shaped lake, created by Conestogo Dam in 1958, stretches six kilometres up each arm. It offers fishing, boating and swimming. The campground has 175 sites. Picnicking and hiking are other popular activities. Trout are stocked in the river below the dam.

Elora Gorge Conservation Area - Elora

Limestone cliffs plummet 22 metres into the bubbling Grand River as it makes its way through the Elora Gorge. Hiking trails line the gorge. Tubing down the rapids is an exciting and popular attraction. The 200-hectare park has about 500 campsites, picnic shelters and playgrounds.

Elora Quarry Conservation Area - Elora

The centre of attraction is the 0.8 hectare (two acre) limestone quarry encircled by sheer cliffs up to 12 metres high. This day-use park is tree-covered, making it a great spot for picnicking and hiking.

Guelph Lake Conservation Area - Guelph



This 1,600-hectare lake, created by the construction of Guelph Dam in 1976, is a favorite spot for picnics and hiking, as well as major events including the Hillside Festival and triathlons. Windsurfers and sailors can catch the wind on the lake, which also has two beaches.

Rockwood Conservation Area - Rockwood

Limestone cliffs, caves and glacial potholes are a few of the natural wonders at Rockwood. There are hiking trails along the lake and Eramosa River. The lake is also stocked each spring with trout. The park has more than 100 campsites, a

swimming beach, picnic areas and a miniature golf course.

Laurel Creek Conservation Area - Waterloo

Just minutes from the cities of Waterloo and Kitchener, this park offers a quiet place to relax and enjoy the outdoors. Swimming, windsurfing, hiking and bird-watching are popular activities at the 294-hectare park. The park has more than 130 campsites and picnic facilities.

Shade's Mills Conservation Area - Cambridge

This day-use park is along the eastern edge of the city. It's a popular spot for picnics, swimming, fishing and non-motorized boating. There's a disk golf course, with disks for sale at the gatehouse. The park has 14 km of hiking trails through a hardwood forest surrounding the 36-hectare reservoir.

Pinehurst Lake Conservation Area - Paris

A mature Carolinian forest shelters a spring-fed kettle lake, where swimming, boaters and anglers can enjoy a sunny afternoon. The nine-hectare lake has a sandy beach, with a playing field and picnic area nearby. Trails wind through the forested 140-hectare park, which has about 300 campsites. This is the park's 50th anniversary year.



Brant Conservation Area - Brantford

This 185-hectare park has more than 450 campsites nestled in a bend of the Grand. The huge 0.6 hectare (1.5 acre) swimming pool is great for the whole family. The park has



The beach at Laurel Creek Conservation Area.

picnic sites, three playgrounds and plenty of trails. It's a popular stopping off point for canoe trips.

Byng Island Conservation Area - Dunnville

This 190-hectare park is set amid a Carolinian forest that is perfect for bird-watching, hiking, fishing, canoeing and boating on the Grand or Lake Erie. The campground has about 375 sites. The park also has a 0.8 hectare (2 acre) swimming pool with a picnic area and playground nearby.

A great way to see it all: A GRCA season vehicle pass allows unlimited entry for all passengers to every GRCA conservation area. They're available at all parks or online at www.grandriver.ca

 FOLLOW THIS SIGN TO THE CONSERVATION AREAS	UNSERVICED CAMPSITES	HYDRO & WATER SITES	FULL-SERVICE CAMPSITES	DUMPING STATION	SWIMMING FACILITIES	BOATING	PLAYGROUND	TRAILS	CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING	CONCESSIONS	SIZE (HA)	
BELWOOD LAKE	(519) 843.2979				Beach	M	•	3K		S	1,347	
BRANT	(519) 752.2040	270	140	30	•	Pool		1K		F-B	184	
BYNG ISLAND	(905) 774.5755	235	148		•	Pool	M	•	1K	F-B	190	
CONESTOGO LAKE	(519) 638-2873	75	100		•	Beach	M	•	2K	F-B	2,348	
ELORA GORGE	(519) 846-9742	312	165	69	•	Beach		•	5K	F-T	200	
ELORA QUARRY	(519) 846-5234					Beach				F	32	
GUELPH LAKE	(519) 824-5061	305	135		•	Beach	NM	•	5K	F-B	1,607	
LAUREL CREEK	(519) 884-6620	76	54		•	Beach	NM	•	8K	8K	B	294
LUTHER MARSH	(519) 928-2832						NM		27K		5,200	
PINEHURST LAKE	(519) 442-4721	105	185		•	Beach	NM	•	8K	13K	F-B	140
ROCKWOOD	(519) 856-9543	50	45		•	Beach	NM	•	10K	F-B-G	79	
SHADE'S MILLS	(519) 621-3697					Beach	NM	•	14K	10K	F-B	177

Legend - M - motorized; NM - non-motorized; S - store; F- food; B- boat; G - miniature golf; T- tubing rentals

Chart designed by Myrias Marketing and Communications



2004: a busy year on the Grand

The Grand River Conservation Authority is one of the world's oldest conservation agencies. It's also one of the province's largest, with a mandate to protect natural resources in an area of 6,800 square kilometres with a population of more than 875,000 people living in 31 municipalities.

The GRCA has broken down its work into seven broad areas of responsibility which form the basis of its business plan and direct its operations during the year.

Here are some of the highlights from 2004.

Reduce flood damages

■ The GRCA monitors river and weather conditions and when necessary, issues flood warning messages and operates its reservoirs to reduce downstream damages. During 2004 warning messages were issued in March and December following rapid snow melts. Another warning was issued in June following a heavy downpour in Wellington County and Waterloo Region. It's been estimated that the flood warning and control systems of the GRCA reduce annual flood damage losses by about \$7 million.

■ The GRCA and the municipality of Centre Wellington worked together to develop an emergency plan to respond to a sudden failure of Shand Dam, which would have serious consequences for towns such as Fergus and Elora. Emergency plans such as this are required by provincial law, even though the possibility of a failure is slight.



Upgrading equipment at Shand Dam

and Shand dams. A safety review of Guelph Dam was started as part of the GRCA's regular maintenance program.

■ One way to reduce flood damage is to restrict building in the floodplain. The GRCA's planning staff reviewed building proposals from throughout the watershed to ensure they conform to floodplain building regulations.

Improve water quality

■ The GRCA participates in water quality monitoring with the province. During the course of 2004 the GRCA collected hundreds of water samples from throughout the watershed for analysis by the province. A long-term study conducted in 2004 showed a reduced level of phosphorus in many places in the watershed, but higher levels of nitrates and chloride (salt). Information such as this helps municipal and provincial officials make decisions that affect water quality, such as proposals for sewage treatment plant upgrades.

■ The GRCA uses water stored in its seven reservoirs to keep rivers and streams flowing through the dry summer months. This ensures that the rivers can accept the effluent coming from sewage treatment plants and so protect water quality downstream.

■ The Rural Water Quality Program is financed by watershed municipalities and other levels of government to provide



Planting a tree at Sunoco Earth Day in Waterloo.

financial assistance to rural landowners to keep water clean on their farms. The program helps them build manure storage tanks, plant trees along streams and build fences to keep cattle out of streams. During 2004 there were 226 projects valued at \$2.2 million, including the landowner contribution of \$1.47 million. The program was supported in 2004 by Waterloo Region, Guelph, Wellington County, Brant County, Brantford, Ontario and Canada.

Ensure secure water supply

■ There are times during summer months that some rivers and streams would come close to drying up if it weren't for the water the GRCA releases from its network of seven reservoirs. During the summer of 2004, these reservoirs contributed more than 80 per cent of the water in the Grand at Kitchener, 77 per cent of the flow at Grand Valley, 69 per cent of the flow at Galt and 48 per cent at Brantford. On the Speed River, reservoir water amounted to 46 per cent of the flow at Guelph.

■ The GRCA conducted studies during 2004 to determine the water needs of the natural environment. The goal was to learn how much water a particular stream or river needs in order to support fish, plants, aquatic insects and other creatures that live on or near the water. The results of the study will be used to guide future decisions about how much water can be used by people without compromising the natural environment.

Protect natural areas & biodiversity

■ About 19 per cent of the Grand River watershed is

forested, which is a significant improvement over the five per cent forest cover of 100 years ago. In order to expand the amount of forest cover, and to properly manage existing forests, the GRCA published its Watershed Forest Plan in 2004. This is a comprehensive plan for forest protection and recovery developed over several years with community-based groups, and will guide future decisions by the GRCA, municipalities and other agencies.

■ The GRCA is one of the largest landowners in the watershed, and GRCA properties are home to a significant number of rare and endangered species. During 2004 the GRCA conducted an inventory of its land to discover what species are out there and where they are living. A poster highlighting dozens of the species was produced and distributed to schools throughout the watershed.

■ One way to protect natural areas is to buy them and protect them from development. In 2004, the GRCA acquired land in the Amaranth Township source area, Luther Marsh, Roseville Swamp and the Sheffield-Rockton wetlands.

■ The GRCA supplied more than 100,000 trees for planting on 40 hectares of private land, and planted another 44,000 trees on 18 hectares of GRCA land in 2004. Forest improvements and thinning took place on another 70 hectares of GRCA land.

■ Small dams along the rivers and streams of the watershed can result in lower water quality and prevent fish from moving upstream. During 2004, plans were initiated to remove small dams on streams near Cayuga, Cambridge and Waterloo. A dam on the Grand in Fergus was damaged in the spring; the remnants were removed and the dam will not be replaced.

■ Grants made to the GRCA under the Canada-Ontario Agreement for Water Quality are being used to conduct studies on aquatic resources and water quality in the lower Grand in Haldimand County.

■ The Exceptional Waters Program developed access points and promoted awareness of the Paris-Brantford section of the Grand River.

Facilitate watershed planning

■ The GRCA assisted the Region of Waterloo in develop-



Taking measurements on the Nith River during a study on the water needs of the natural environment.



Duane Brown, an instructor at the Taquanah Nature Centre near Cayuga.

ing its growth strategy.

■ Work took place in 2004 to develop new regulations to protect floodplains, wetlands and other environmentally significant areas. These new regulations are scheduled to be in place in 2006.

■ Municipalities throughout the watershed sought the advice of the GRCA on the environmental impact of hundreds of development proposals.

■ The GRCA assisted several municipalities as they studied their groundwater resources and developed plans to further protect them.

Provide environmental education

■ The GRCA has five nature centres in Guelph, Waterloo, Cambridge, Brantford and Cayuga which offer outdoor education programs for students as well as evening and weekend nature events, such as owl prowls and dam tours. During 2004 they attracted close to 75,000 people.

■ Outdoor education programs were expanded in the area served by the Upper Grand District School Board. New facilities were developed at Luther Marsh and Rockwood conservation areas with financial support from the Grand River Conservation Foundation. The foundation also supported improvements at upgrades at the five nature centre buildings.

Provide outdoor recreation

■ The GRCA operates 12 active conservation areas offering swimming, camping, hiking, hunting, fishing and other activities. During 2004 there were more than one million visitors to the parks. The GRCA also has dozens of hectares of passive conservation land and more than 75 kilometres of rail-trails where attendance is not recorded.

■ Elora Gorge Conservation Area celebrated its 50th anniversary with a special ceremony in July, plus several concerts in the park in conjunction with the Elora Festival. The Elora Gorge park was the first of the GRCA's conservation areas.

■ New master plans, setting out development plans for the next decade, were developed for three GRCA properties: Laurel Creek Conservation Area in Waterloo; the Puslinch Tract Conservation Area in Puslinch Township and the Dumfries Conservation Area in Cambridge.

Investing in a better environment

This year the GRCA will spend \$21.9 million to prevent flooding, improve water quality, protect water supplies, provide environmental education, operate conservation areas and trails and manage other sensitive environmental lands.

Watershed management and monitoring - \$6,671,450

Activities include operation of flood and erosion control structures such as dikes and dams; flood forecasting and warning; water quality monitoring; restoration and rehabilitation projects; watershed and subwatershed studies, and administration of floodplain regulations.

Environmental advisory Services - \$631,900

This program involves reviewing municipal planning documents and recommending environmental policies for floodplains, wetlands and other environmentally significant areas; providing advice and information to municipal councils on development proposals and severances; and providing outside consulting services on a fee-for-service basis to other conservation authorities and other countries.

Watershed stewardship - \$2,722,975

Some activities are reforestation through the Burford Tree Nursery and tree planting programs; the Rural Water Quality Program; implementing projects under the Grand River Fisheries Management Plan; providing conservation information through brochures, publications, the website and media contacts.

Conservation land management - \$3,389,250

This includes expenses and revenues associated with the acquisition and management of land owned or managed by the GRCA including woodlots, provincially significant wetlands (e.g. Luther Marsh, Dunnville Marsh), passive conservation areas, rail-trails and cottage lots at Belwood and Conestogo lakes. Activities include forestry disease control, woodlot thinning, hydro generation, and restoration of GRCA property where gravel has been extracted.

Recreation and education - \$5,792,950

Recreation: This includes the costs associated with operating the GRCA's 11 active conservation areas that offer camping, hiking, fishing, swimming, skiing and other activities. The parks record about one million visits each year and are financially self-sufficient in their operating costs.

Education: The GRCA operates five nature centres, which provide curriculum-based programs to students from six school boards and independent schools throughout the watershed. In addition members of the public attend day camps and weekend family events. The majority of this funding comes from school boards and the Grand River Conservation Foundation.

Corporate services - \$2,570,758

This includes the cost of head office functions such as accounting and human resources, as well as the cost of insurance, consulting and legal fees and expenses relating to the general membership board.



Your share of the costs

If you live in the Grand River watershed, a small portion of your municipal property taxes goes toward a levy for the GRCA.

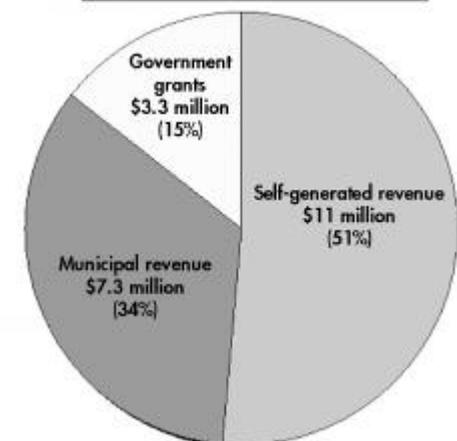
This covers about half of the cost of the core activities of the GRCA including flood protection, reducing pollution and protecting natural areas.

For 2005, the municipal share of the GRCA budget is about \$7.3 million, which works out to \$7.37 per person.

Here's how your money is spent:

<u>\$7.37 used for...</u>	<u>Your cost...</u>
Watershed studies	.08
Resource inventory & environmental monitoring	\$1.19
Flood forecasting & warning	.55
Flood & erosion control structures	1.35
Floodplain regulations	.35
Resource management division support costs	.34
Municipal plan input & review	.13
Private land tree planting and forestry	.26
Soil and water conservation, stream management and restoration	.51
Communications and nature centres	.60
Conservation Land Property Taxes	.17
Administration and Head Office Facilities	<u>\$1.84</u>
	<u>\$7.37</u>

GRCA revenue sources





Jason and Aaron Richardson



Hitchcock



Welsh



Mellors



Malcolmson



Members of the Ancient Mariners

Awards recognize efforts to improve watershed

The winners of the 2004 GRCA Watershed Awards demonstrated that there are many ways to improve the quality of environment and the quality of life in the region.

The awards are presented annually to individuals, groups and corporations for outstanding examples of conservation and environmental work.

Winners of the award were:

Jason and Aaron Richardson

The Richardson brothers operate a 2,500 acre farm near Dunnville where they have adopted environmentally-friendly farming methods to reduce the use of fertilizers, control erosion and protect waterways.

Cambridge Sculpture Garden

The sculpture garden occupies riverfront land on Grand Avenue South. The land was originally destined to become a parking lot, but several Cambridge groups and individuals banded together to develop the sculpture garden, which presents a wide variety of sculptures placed among carefully tended gardens. Committee member Margaret Hitchcock and landscape designer Judy Welsh played key roles in the project.

Larry Mellors

Mellors has been involved in a long list of fishery and river restoration projects in Brantford and area. He has also worked with elementary and secondary school students on environmental and ecological programs.

Tim Horton Children's Foundation Onondaga Farm

This is one of the Tim Horton Children's Foundation Camps, however, it is far more than a traditional summer camp. The grounds have been restored with forests, wetlands and other natural features, which provide a home for trumpeter swans and other waterfowl. There's a large telescope and a computer lab for science studies.

During the school year, the camp offers outdoor education

programs for students from K-12. During the summer it provides a summer camp experience for hundreds of underprivileged children. John Malcolmson is general manager.

Ancient Mariners Canoe Club

The Cambridge-based club for senior citizens, has conducted

river cleanup days, helped improve river access points and other assisted with other projects.

Last year, to mark the 10th anniversary of the designation of the Grand as a Canadian Heritage River, members of the club canoed the length of the Grand in one day.

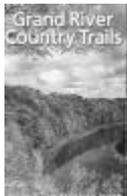


the GRAND RIVER COLLECTION

Great Gifts! Whether you're planning a canoe trip, a fishing expedition or a Sunday afternoon drive there's something in the Grand River Collection to help you make it a *Grand* getaway.

Books

Grand River Country Trails 1
An excellent introduction to the trails of the Grand watershed. (\$14.95)



New!

Grand River Country Trails 2
More trails of the Grand watershed. (\$14.95)



The Grand River: An Aerial Journey
See the Grand River watershed as you've never seen it before in this collection of beautiful and intriguing photos taken by Carl Hiebert. (\$59.95)



Fishing Grand River Country
An introduction to fishing the Grand, its major tributaries and GRCA reservoirs. (\$14.95)



Canoeing on the Grand
Everything you need to enjoy a trip down the Grand. (\$15.95)

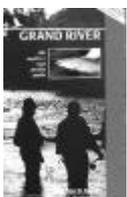


44 Country Trails
A guide to all types of trails in southwestern Ontario. (\$15.95)



Map

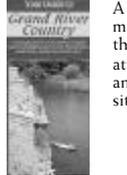
Flyfishing The Grand
A pocket guide to help you enjoy some of the best fishing areas around. (\$18.95)



Oak Ridges Moraine Trails
A guide to 36 trails from this unique region north of Toronto. (\$19.95)



Map
A detailed map showing the Grand, attractions and historic sites. (\$5.95)



Buying Online You can buy all of these products and more at the GRCA website store at www.grandriver.ca. Many of them are also available in area bookstores.

Be a Grand River Conservation Foundation supporter How about a charitable donation to the Grand River Conservation Foundation? The donation will support its local environmental and educational work. Turn to the next page for more information.

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TITLE	QTY	PRICE/EA	TOTAL
SUBTOTAL			
7% GST			
8% PST (Map Only)			
FOUNDATION DONATION \$25.00 <small>(charitable donation receipt provided from the Grand River Conservation Foundation)</small>			
TOTAL			

Payment: Cheque payable to GRCA
 VISA MasterCard Expiry _____
 Card No. _____
 Signature _____

Mail to:
 400 Clyde Road, P.O. Box 729
 Cambridge, Ontario N1R 5W6
 Call: (519) 621-2761 or Fax: (519) 621-4844

Do you have an award nominee?

Do you know a group, family, business or individual who should be applauded for their efforts to improve the Grand River watershed?

If you know of a worthy candidate for one of the GRCA awards, get a copy of the one-page nomination form and return it to the GRCA by July 31.

Nomination forms are available:

Online: www.grandriver.ca

Phone: 1-519-621-2761

E-mail: grca@grandriver.ca





The GRAND RIVER CONSERVATION FOUNDATION



Photo by Dawn Cole

Champions of the Grand

For more than 40 years, the Grand River Conservation Foundation and the GRCA have worked in partnership to enhance our quality of life, making the Grand River watershed an even better place to live, work and play.

Through the generosity of our community, the Foundation's *Living Classroom – Campaign for Outdoor Education* has raised almost \$1.9 million.

Tomorrow's healthy environment depends on the connections that our children make with nature today; the campaign's success means that 150,000 elementary school children will have a hands-on experience at the GRCA's nature centres by the end of 2007.

But the Foundation does much more, supporting the GRCA to plant thousands of trees a year, manage trails for the bene-

fit thousands of hikers, bikers and walkers, and provide funding to a variety of community groups and students to carry out local projects.

Make a difference – be a volunteer

Want to learn about our unique natural heritage and help to build the profile of the Grand River in our community?

The Foundation is now seeking business and community leaders with a passion for nature, conservation and the great outdoors, to help open doors in the community and add to the growing network of people who care about our River.

If you are interested in getting involved, please contact Sara Wilbur at the Foundation, at (519) 621-2761 x272, or at swilbur@grandriver.ca.

Grants available for community projects

The Grand River Conservation Foundation offers grants of up to \$2,000 to community groups for conservation projects in our watershed, including schoolyard naturalization, tree planting and stream rehabilitation.

The deadline to apply is Oct. 31, with grants awarded in February, 2006.

For more information and an application form, please contact the Foundation or see the GRCA website at www.grandriver.ca

Yes,
I would like
to become a Grand
Champion



Name: _____

Address: _____

Postal code: _____ Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Donation

Please accept my tax deductible donation of \$_____

Please indicate if you would like your donation applied to a particular project or program. _____

Payment Method

Please make cheques payable to the Grand River Conservation Foundation. You can use your credit card to make a contribution.

MasterCard Visa Card No. _____

Expiry date _____ Signature: _____

Volunteering

Yes, I am interested in volunteering

Planned Giving

Yes, I am interested in receiving information on planned giving opportunities, such as wills, bequests and life insurance.

For more information:

Call (519) 621-2761, Ext. 272 or e-mail: foundation@grandriver.ca



A junior angler and instructor at a Eddie Lackenbauer Fishing Camp, a Foundation program.



Ray Tanguay (right), president of Toyota Motor Manufacturing Canada unveils a new kiosk at the opening of the Toyota Way Trail at Shade's Mills Conservation Area in Cambridge. The new trail has special features that will enhance outdoor education programs at the Shade's Mills Nature Centre. Joining in the ceremony are Marilyn Murray of the Foundation and Peter Krause, chair of the GRCA.



Please mail the completed form with your contribution to:

Grand River Conservation Foundation
400 Clyde Road, Box 729
Cambridge, Ontario N1R 5W6

Registered Charity Number: 11894 6045 RR0001