



SPRING 2022 NEWSLETTER

With Spring upon us and another season of Phragmites management fast approaching, the Lambton Shores Phragmites Community Group executive would like to provide this update on the restoration work that will be taking place in 2022. Please note that all dates for this work are weather dependent!

We have been successful in our grant applications. With the help of funding from our municipal, provincial and federal governments as well as from Green Shovels Collaborative we are looking forward to accomplishing a great deal in our fight against Phragmites! Although our group is recognized as a major player in this fight, we are - quite literally - your friends and neighbours and welcome your interest and help! We are very grateful for volunteers so if you're looking for opportunities please get in touch through our website or social media.

Lambton Shores Wetland Enhancement Project - Port Franks

This year plans are underway for Phase 2 of the Wetland Enhancement Project which began last fall with habitat restored in Mud Creek and along the Ausable River Cut. Our partners include the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority, Nature Conservancy Canada, and the Municipality of Lambton Shores. Recently a new partnership was created with Lambton Shores Nature Trails and we have been successful in obtaining grant money for signage.

The Phase 2 work in L Lake/Outer Drive/Mud Creek and Ausable River is scheduled to begin in October with the Invasive Phragmites Control Centre working alongside the partners listed above. Landowners affected will once again be mailed detailed information from the municipality, along with a permission form to allow access through their property. During Phase 1 we had incredible positive response from landowners who returned those forms promptly and we are thankful for that. We take this as proof that awareness of the negative impacts of Canada's worst invasive plant are understood in our community and there is a communal desire to restore the area's natural habitats. We look forward to a similar positive response this year. Residents should also watch for an information session which will be hosted by Nature Conservancy Canada to explain exactly what will be happening during the next phase of the project. We are hoping that this session will be in June with the community centre as the tentative location.



Assessing the work needed in the L Lake wetland along Outer Drive.



Phase 1: Phragmites was treated along Mud Creek and the Ausable River Cut.



Assessing Mud Creek at the foot of Huron Street

After successful mitigation during Phase 1, we were happy to clear this area of the standing dead Phragmites with the help of the Lambton Shores Nature Trails volunteers at our first ever winter cull in Port Franks. We're looking forward to future successful collaborations. This summer working with LSNT, plans are underway to begin management in Forest. More information to follow - we are looking for volunteers to help us out from the Forest community.



Lambton Shores Wetland Enhancement Project - Wood Drive

The LSPCG has been successful in receiving funds from our grant applications for restoration work in 2022. Wood Drive has been our largest and most challenging restoration project and we are excited to be making plans to complete the final phase. In the future, ongoing monitoring will be necessary and funds will still be required for follow up after this season.

The Invasive Phragmites Control Centre crews will be on site in June for a day of training. Work will begin in July and then the crews will return in October. The Truxor and Fat Truck crew and the Manual crew will be on site.



Ipperwash Phrag Phighters

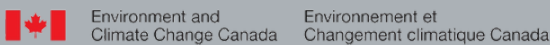
In 2022 the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority will assist the Phrag Phighters with touch up in the locations previously treated in the swales. The Invasive Phragmites Control Centre will be mapping new territory between Ipperwash Road and Army Camp Road. This will include drains in the area as the drains continue to act as spread vectors to the wetland. The mapping will provide the data required for future restoration in this large wetland complex.



Roadsides

The Municipality of Lambton Shores and the County of Lambton have an ongoing roadside program to treat Phragmites. We are also pleased to relate that the municipality's Invasive Phragmites Management Plan is being updated.

We are very fortunate to have amazing partners - we could not do this without their collaboration and continued financial support, expertise and commitment.



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