

## Conservation Lands (cont.)

### Little Cataraqui Creek Conservation Area (cont.)

- Sugar bush stairs rebuilt
- New snowmobile and groomer purchased
- Endangered butternut trees planted to replace trees removed for road construction by the Ministry of Transportation

### Parrott's Bay Conservation Area

- Master Plan completed and approved by CRCA
- New entrance, regulations signs and kiosk installed

### Other Properties

- New entrance signs at Purdy Water Access and Eloida Lake Boat Ramp
- Began work on management plan for Marble Rock Forest

### Cataraqui Trail

- Trail deficit paid off
- Grants received through the National Trails Council to improve trail surfacing. Matched with contributions from local snowmobile clubs, Bedford Recreation Fund and private donations.

## Drinking Water Source Protection

- Staffing changes – Lauren Forrester hired to replace Holly Evans during maternity leave
- Terms of Reference (work plan) approved in May by the Ministry of Environment. This establishes the scope of our work, roles and responsibilities, timelines and costs.
- Three technical studies on municipal wells and intakes were received by the Cataraqui Source Protection Committee:
  - Cana Subdivision Wellhead Protection Area Study
  - Miller Manor Apartments Wellhead Protection Area Study
  - Sydenham Intake Protection Zone Study



Eight public open houses were held to discuss drinking water source protection findings in communities with municipal wells and intakes.

- Hosted eight public open houses in communities where vulnerable areas around a municipal water intake or well have been defined.
- Began preparation of Assessment Report summarizing the findings of 15 technical studies, and describing and assigning priorities to the risks affecting local drinking water sources. A draft will be released in spring 2010.
- Shared \$89,500 in provincial funding with local landowners under the Ontario Drinking Water Stewardship Program. The funding is used to make improvements such as replacing septic systems, upgrading or capping wells or managing hazardous chemicals on properties near municipal wells and intakes.



Richard Horton, CRCA operations staff, during the reconstruction of the sugar bush stairs at Little Cataraqui Creek Conservation Area.



Improvements along the Cataraqui Trail were completed with a grant from the National Trails Council and matching funds from the community.

## Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority - 2009 Accomplishments

### Corporate Services

- Completed inventory of tangible capital assets
- Provided financial and administrative support for all Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority (CRCA) operations and programs
- Balanced our budget
- Tour and joint meeting with South Nation Conservation Authority board
- Hosted a Geographic Information Systems (GIS) workshop for conservation authority and provincial staff
- Continued to work on regional trails initiative – linking of TransCanada Trail, K&P Trail and trails promotion through Frontenac Arch Biosphere Reserve

### Communications

- Communications support for all CRCA programs and events
- Helped to organize events, workshops and open houses
  - displays at community events
  - five well and septic, three agricultural workshops
  - open houses for drinking water source protection and Parrott's Bay Master Plan
  - Fall Colours Weekend at Little Cataraqui Creek Conservation Area provided with funding assistance by Ontario Power Generation and Ontario Nature
- Worked with conservation lands staff on property signage project
- Additional watershed signs through drinking water source protection program



Over 100 people attended our well and septic workshop held in Athens.

### Watershed Management

- Produced first watershed report card
- Reviewed 197 planning applications
- Provided input into City of Kingston and City of Brockville official plans
- Appealed three decisions to Ontario Municipal Board; also provided expert testimony at two hearings
- Participated in the development of three integrated community sustainability plans (Frontenac County, Kingston and Greater Napanee)
- Participated on planning team for a regional natural heritage strategy for Leeds-Grenville/South Frontenac



### CATARAQUI REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

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## Watershed Management (cont.)

- Technical advisory committee participant for the environmental assessment of the third crossing of the Cataraqui River in Kingston
- Reviewed 300 permit applications under Ontario Regulation 148/06 (Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alteration to Shorelines and Watercourses)
- 30 enforcement files – no charges laid; one conviction from charges laid in 2008
- Held workshop for contractors, public health and municipal staff on our regulations
- Issued one water level bulletin and two weak ice warnings
- Completed a class environmental assessment for the restoration of Highgate Creek in Kingston – work to take place in 2010
- Completed extensive minor dam maintenance and operations. Conducted safety training and purchased safety equipment.
- Completed dam break analysis for Fred Grant Dam (Lees Pond) and proceeded with analysis of Broome-Runciman Dam and Buells Creek Detention Basin in Brockville
- Prepared a report for the Ministry of Natural Resources analyzing how to predict and respond to low water conditions in the Cataraqui Region
- Staffing changes – Ian Semple hired to replace planner Michael Dakin; Sara O’Neill moved from regulations to planning to replace Andrea Gummo; Jason Messenger hired to replace Sara O’Neill in regulations; Christine Woods seconded to source water protection planning



Preventing development in flood prone areas is a major focus of our planning and regulations programs.

## Conservation Education

- Provided curriculum-based conservation education programs to 5,685 at Little Cataraqui Creek Conservation Area (up from 2008) and 463 students at Mac Johnson Wildlife Area (down from 2008)
- Participated in the Frontenac Arch Biosphere Reserve Environmental Education Network (FABREEN) and the Earth Day education event held at Landon Bay
- Over 150 children participated in the CRCA’s Nature Explorers Camp for ages six to 11 held at Little Cataraqui Creek and Gould Lake Conservation Areas

## Watershed Stewardship

- Installed 100 wood duck nesting boxes on private and CRCA properties through the Ontario WetlandCare Program with Ducks Unlimited
- Tree planting
  - Planted 118,900 seedlings on 14 properties through the Trees Ontario/MNR 50 Million Tree Program – 13 private properties and one CRCA property (Bayly Conservation Reserve)
  - 1,600 seedlings on one property through the Trees Ontario full service program
  - 29,300 seedlings sold to 34 landowners through our over-the-counter sales program



Installation of wood duck boxes at Little Cataraqui Creek Conservation Area.

## Watershed Stewardship (cont.)

- 5,800 seedlings to Lennox and Addington and Frontenac Stewardship Councils
- 8,000 seedlings to South Frontenac Environmental Action Committee
- Participated in a tree planting workshop for landowners in Brockville and a workshop for technical staff in Kingston

## Conservation Lands

### Lemoine Point Conservation Area

- Planted 400 trees and shrubs in May as part of the 50 Million Tree Weekend planting event promoted by Trees Ontario
- Planted 400 shrubs along fenceline where trees had to be removed for airport security
- Received grants from Trees Ontario, Ministry of Natural Resources, Evergreen and TD-Canada Trust Friends of the Environment Foundation
- Built hoophouse at the Native Plant Nursery
- Sold over \$12,000 worth of plants from the Native Plant Nursery – used by CRCA, St. Lawrence Islands National Park, local school greening projects and the public
- Roof replacements at pavilion and main washrooms
- Approved Conservation Plan for property



The 50 Million Tree Weekend was held at Lemoine Point Conservation Area in May 2009.

### Mac Johnson Wildlife Area

- Purchased new tractor, sweeper and blower to assist with skating rink maintenance
- Successful winter recreation program
- New sign at south entrance to assist in publicizing events and property
- Office/residence sold
- McGhie house destroyed by arson
- Completed feasibility study about enhancing programming and community awareness of the area as well as the replacement of the Nature Centre
- Friends held first BioBlitz in June identifying over 600 plant and animal species



The McGhie house at Mac Johnson Wildlife Area was destroyed by arson in 2009.

### Gould Lake Conservation Area

- Gould Lake bridge (replacing the boardwalk) officially opened in May
- Other enhancements to docks completed thanks to an \$8,000 grant from the Davies Foundation

### Little Cataraqui Creek Conservation Area

- Maple Madness greening program (composting and improved recycling) results in significant waste reduction
- Successful winter recreation and Maple Madness program with record pancake sales