



... FOR THE SAKE OF WATER QUALITY AND THE  
FISHERIES RESOURCES ON MANITOULIN ISLAND AND THE  
GREAT LAKES THAT SURROUND IT

**Spring 2015**

*Manitoulin Streams Improvement Association is a grass roots, non-profit organization that is focused on large-scale, community based efforts to rehabilitate aquatic ecosystems on Manitoulin Island, in central Ontario. We bring the entire community together to do this via joint, private and public driven initiatives. Our efforts rehabilitate and enhance water quality and the fisheries resource on Manitoulin Island and Lake Huron which is fed by the streams.*

## **What's Inside**

Brook Trout Eyed Egg Event 2014 Another Success.....	2
Brook Trout Carving.....	3
Welcome Nathan Page.....	4
OFAH Update.....	4
Manitoulin Streams recipient of the 2013 Minister's Award for Environmental Excellence.....	5
Amalgamation with the Manitoulin Area Stewardship Council.....	5
Senior Staff Workshop with Kensington Conservancy.....	7
United Walleye Workshop.....	7
Little Current Public School Earth Day Presentation.....	7
Little Current Fish and Game Club gives \$500 to Manitoulin Streams.....	7
Kagawong Green Living Event.....	8
Assignack Public School Career Day.....	8
Native Tree and Shrub Planting.....	8
2015 Trade Fair .....	9
Misery Bay Provincial Park BioBlitz.....	9
Bass Lake Creek Educational Tour Event.....	9
Summer Stream Rehab projects 2015.....	10
Funding and Contributors.....	13

## Brook Trout Eyed Egg Event 2014 Another Success!

Another great year for the Brook trout Eyed Egg Event! Over 60 volunteers came out including Assiginack and Lakeview Public School, members of Manitoulin Streams, the Lake Manitou Area Association, Little Current Fish and Game Club and local volunteers. 10,000 eyed brook trout eggs were put into Scotty boxes by the volunteers and then placed into Norton's Creek.

Thank you to everyone that came out to help and for the wonderful chili, snacks and cookies provided by Leslie Fields, Sue Moggy and St. Paul's Anglican Church. A special thank you goes out to the Hutton Family who have supported this project from the beginning and have allowed us to use their garage as a staging area to hold this wonderful grass roots event. Over the years 40,000 eyed brook trout eggs have been stocked into Norton's Creek in order to restore this once historical brook trout creek.

Recent electro-fishing studies by College Boreal have shown that brook trout are once again surviving in this restored stream due to these community efforts. Thank you also to the MNRH Hills Lake Hatchery in Englehart for supplying the brook trout eggs over the years.



This Spring Nathan and Seija headed out to Norton's Creek where they picked up the 10 Scotty boxes that were placed in the creek this past December at the Annual Brook Trout Eyed Egg Event. All of the boxes were found in good condition and we expect a good hatch rate. A special thank you to Lynn Hughson for providing us with these wonderful water proof gloves for this annual event. Finally warm hands!



## Brook Trout Carvings

A special thank you to Delmer Fields who has been keeping very busy this winter carving brook trout at various life stages that will be placed along the Norton's Creek trail so that educational tours can showcase our restoration efforts.





## Welcome Nathan Page!

We would like to thank the [Northern Ontario Heritage Fund](#) Corporation for allowing us to hire Nathan Page under their internship program. Nathan will be compiling data and creating GIS maps of all the past (2000) to present (2015) stream restoration projects completed to date across Manitoulin Island. These maps will include developing layers showcasing bio-engineered site designs, before and after pictures, documentation of shoreline and riparian restoration and in-stream structure etc. Once he has created these maps he will be working on creating our new website and formulating interactive online maps that will showcase our restoration work so that the public can see our efforts to date. He will also gain experience this summer helping coordinate stream restoration projects, engaging volunteers in stewardship activities and helping with our organizations new transformation process.



Welcome to the Streams Team Nathan!

## OFAH Update

There has been recent updates and changes to our membership costs in which we receive our club liability insurance through the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters. OFAH provides our liability insurance as long as all of our membership has a OFAH membership. The yearly membership cost has increased to \$38.55. Sue Meert will be contacting members 1 month in advance to notify members of renewal dates. Please submit your membership renewal ASAP because if your membership should lapse it will affect our liability insurance. If you wish to discontinue your membership please let us know so that we can notify OFAH. It's important that your contact information be kept up to date in our records. Should we not be successful at contacting you, we will be forced to remove you off our list.

Individual OFAH memberships cost more if you purchase them directly through OFAH as compared to going through Manitoulin Streams. As a reminder, this provides you with \$3 million dollar liability insurance while you are fishing, hunting or volunteering during restoration activities. Currently, our new Board of Directors is looking at possible changes to our membership that will benefit our organization.

We thank all our members for participating in our membership and appreciate the volunteer response received at events!

## Manitoulin Streams Recipient of the 2013 Minister's Award for Environmental Excellence

Manitoulin Streams was one of the recipients of the 2013 Minister's Award for Environmental Excellence. We were very excited to receive this award and we would like to thank all the landowners, volunteers and partner funding that continue to help restore the degraded stream habitat on Manitoulin Island. Here are some pictures that were taken on our trip down to the Legislative Building to accept the award.



## Amalgamation with the Manitoulin Area Stewardship Council

In January, the Manitoulin Streams Board of Directors decided to amalgamate with the Manitoulin Area Stewardship Council. Since this time, we have received advice from a lawyer in regards to how to move forward in this adventure. Manitoulin Area Stewardship Council has disbanded and come under our organization. As a Board of Directors we have been reviewing our governance, by-laws and various policies (Employment, Health and Safety etc.) as we merge as a united group. The primary reason for combining these two organizations is to capture synergy. This new entity will enjoy a greater value instead of being two separate organizations. Synergy will arise from:

**Economies of Scale: shared administrative costs**

- Rent, utilities, office supplies, travel
- Staff, payroll, benefits
- Communication, advertising, marketing, website hosting
- Bookkeeping and auditing
- Costs associated with insurance (membership, liability, Director and Officer )
- Costs of MASC becoming incorporated and having to hire their own coordinator

**Economies of Scope: shared funding sources**

A broader business base results in:

- New grant opportunities (MASC having access to MS incorporated and charitable status)
- New private and corporate business contacts and funding sources
- Reduced competition: only one organization not two competing for environmental stewardship funds on Manitoulin Island providing newly enhanced stewardship experiences, activities to participate in and educational awareness opportunities
- Larger membership base
- New stewardship projects pulling in revenue
- New Strategic and Business Plan

**Economies of Experience: shared personnel**

Project Coordinator knowledge can be shared with permanent full-time staff. Looking to have at least 2 full time employees which will allow for:

- A succession plan: the organization can protect its knowledge base
- Operational efficiency: holidays, sick days and leave are covered
- Increased Morale: worry reduction reduces staff burn-out

**Increased educational opportunities for our community and the ability to participate in stewardship activities**

- Stream restoration (in-stream stewardship activities)
- Lake level issues (Protecting our waters)
- Forest management planning
- Climate change (tree planting, awareness etc.)
- Native tree and shrub planting efforts (re-greening)
- Educational workshops (trapping & hunting, invasive species, Species At Risk, invasive species etc.)
- Youth education (hunting & trapping, stream restoration, tours)
- Academic and public education (presentations, tours, workshops)

**Responding to Local Context**

- Helps further our community's long term vision and growth. By supporting a sustainable environment, Manitoulin Streams sustains economic viability of our community and encourages community planning processes
- Supports the need for youth employment -provides seasonal employment for youth in the area (youth internships) and volunteer opportunities to build experiences essential for success.
- Enhances economic potential for individuals and our communities by stimulating economic growth and building and developing skills that create jobs.
- Helps to retain and expand local businesses

- Positive results enhance job opportunities in tourism on Manitoulin Island and increases authentic experiences (stream tours)
- Sustains and promotes a greener economy and community.
- Economically supports the agricultural communities and provides better relationships between the public/tourists in regards to first impressions of agricultural practices.
- Engages and provides new opportunities (education and stewardship activities to participate in) for people of all ages, abilities and cultures.
- Provides a one stop shop for our communities to receive information about land based projects.

## Senior Staff Workshop

In January, Seija attended a Senior Staff Workshop. Seija really felt like there was a lot of information given at this workshop that could be applied to our new organization including presentations on how to get traction and build sustainable fundraising programs (presented by Kimberley MacKenzie, CFRE who is a Management and Fundraising Consultant) as well as a presentation on Human Resource Issues and Solutions (presented by Wanda Stephen and Laura Salmon from Kawartha Conservation). This was a great opportunity to gain knowledge that will help with the success of the new Manitoulin Streams programs.

## United Walleye Club Workshop

Seija attended the United Walleye Club workshop on April 11<sup>th</sup> in Sudbury. Some of the guest presenters were George Morgan (Fisheries Biologist, Aquatic Ecologist) with his presentation called “Restoration, Rehabilitation and New Opportunities”, Charles Hatry ( MSc Fisheries Biologist) “Spawning activity and residency of Lake Sturgeon (*Acipenser fulvescens*) beneath Espanola Falls, Lower Spanish River, Ontario” and Shane Wood, Community Hatchery Program Coordinator, Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters on “Community Hatchery Program”. George Morgan had a very interesting presentation which had evidence that lakes that have been restored or rehabilitated from acid rain currently have healthy perch populations in these lakes and may be ready for the introduction of walleye which sets up a lot of the community fish hatchery groups in a good position to help raise, supply and/or stock walleye into those local lakes. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Rolly Frappier for his tireless work to create educational opportunities for our youth. The United Walleye Club supplied a microscope and camera to Manitoulin Streams and the Little Current Fish and Game Club for students to see walleye eggs, zooplankton and invertebrates up close at the annual Bass Lake Educational Stream tours. I would also like to thank my brother Mike Mallory for fixing our interactive stream table on behalf of the United Fish and Game Club that will be used at the Manitoulin Trade Fair. Partnerships between our organizations benefit everyone!



## Little Current Public School Earth Day Presentation

Seija was invited to Little Current Public School on Earth Day to give a presentation to the primary level classes on Water Conservation. There were lots of questions and great stories told by all the students!

## Little Current Fish & Game Club gives \$500 to Manitoulin Streams

A BIG thank you to the Little Current Fish and Game Club for the wonderful wild game dinner in April and the \$500 donation to Manitoulin Streams.



## Kagawong Green Living Event

Manitoulin Streams participated in the Kagawong Green Living Event this year. The morning started off with a shoreline cleanup and all garbage collected was sorted and recycled. A wonderful group of volunteers also cleaned up the community gardens. Nancy Kains gave a presentation on the up and coming BioBlitz that is being conducted in Misery Bay on May 30, 2015 and Seija provided a presentation as to what we have planned in regards to stream restoration projects in Kagawong this summer. Thank you to the Mayor Aus Hunt for all his hard work sorting the garbage into recycling bins!



## Assignack Public School Career Day

The Assignack Public School StAR (Students As Researchers) program invited us to the school to be part of their Options/Career Day to showcase to students what types of jobs are involved with stream restoration and to get them excited about possible career options.



## Native Tree and Shrub planting

We are looking for volunteers to help out with native tree and shrub planting at various restoration sites that are in need of a little upkeep. The native trees and shrubs will be delivered by Aquatic and Wildlife Services on May 11<sup>th</sup> coming from Owen Sound on the Chi Cheemaun. Volunteers interested in participating can give Seija or Sue a call at 705-859-1653 to find out the locations where tree planting will take place.



## 2015 Trade Fair

Manitoulin Streams will be at the 2015 Manitoulin Trade Fair with a booth in partnership with the Little Current Fish and Game Club. Anyone interested in volunteering at the booth can contact Seija. We will have our interactive streams table for kids to learn about stream restoration and our display, trees and hats will be available with a donation toward our organization, we will have our signup sheets for our youth hunter education and youth trappers course and we are going to be having a fundraiser selling raffle tickets (License No: 705468). The closing date for the sale of the tickets is September 7, 2015 and the draw date is September 11, 2015 at 11:00am at the Township of Assiginack. The Prizes are as follows:

1<sup>st</sup> prize: 14' Sportspal Canoe

2<sup>nd</sup> prize: Tikka Firearm

3<sup>rd</sup> Shimano Rod/Reel

## Misery Bay Provincial Park BioBlitz

On May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015 Manitoulin Streams will be helping the Nature Club out with their first BioBlitz for the Ontario Reptile and Amphibian Atlas that will involve having volunteers finding and identifying as many species as possible in Misery Bay. If you are interested in being involved you can contact Nancy at [isleaway@gmail.com](mailto:isleaway@gmail.com) or 705 377-6041.

## Bass Lake Creek Educational Tour Event

A great 2 day event, enjoyed by all! Grade 4 classes from Little Current P.S., Lakeview P.S. and Assiginack P.S. and Central Manitoulin P.S. participated in this fabulous event. Although the first day was quite cold, there were lots of walleye spawning in Bass Lake Creek during the educational tours. The students enjoyed hands on educational workshops including stream rehabilitation (Bass nest building) by Seija Deschenes, fossils by Bill Caesar, fish hatchery workshop (netting, spawning, fertilization, jar hatchery) by the Little Current Fish and Game Club, invertebrate studies by John Snow and Susanne Meert, wildlife & fish identification and displays and stream watershed talk by the Little Current Fish and Game Club and a talk by retired Conservation Officer John Diebolt.

Thanks to the Little Current Fish & Game Club for providing fishing rods to each student, and a big thanks to Bill and Linda Strain for hosting and organizing this amazing event!

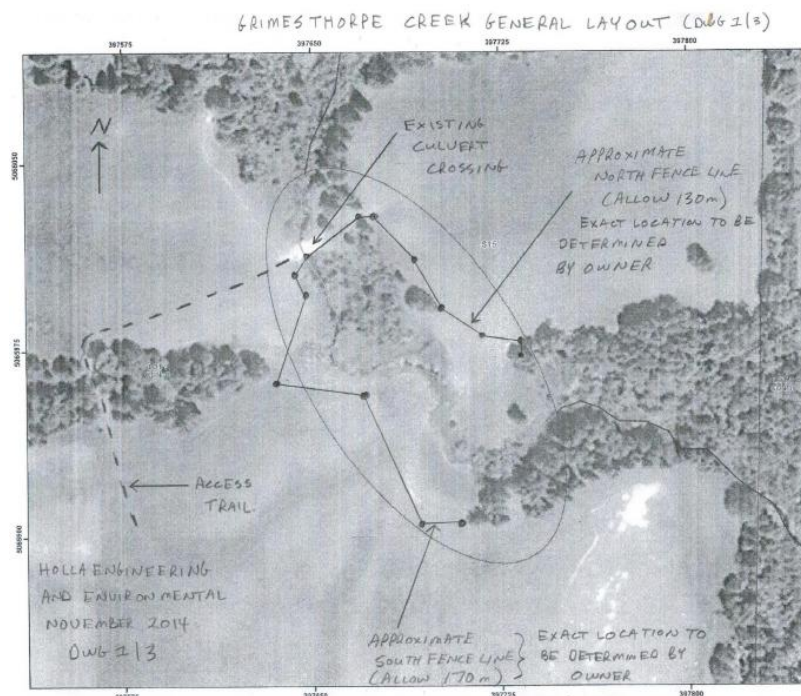


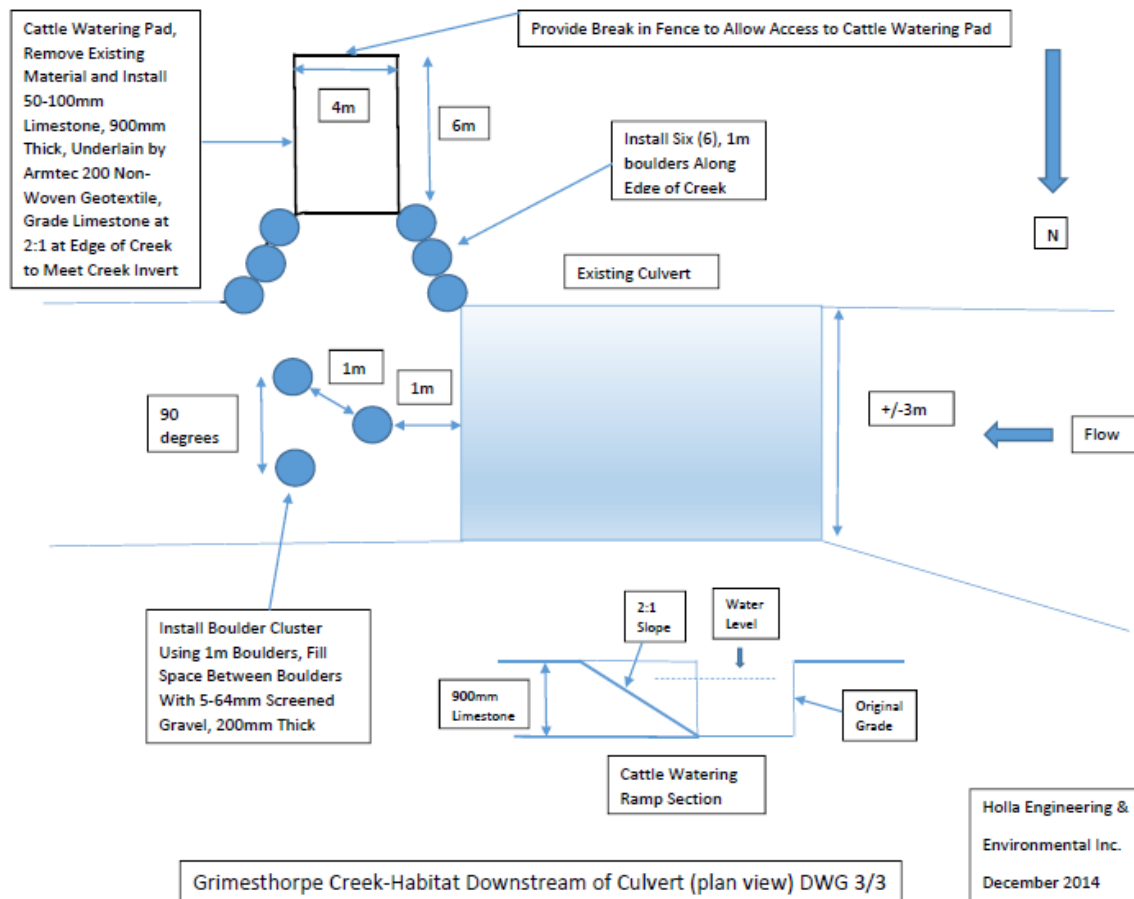


## Summer Stream Rehab Projects 2015

### Grimesthorpe Creek S-15

Site S15 on the Grimesthorpe creek will include restricting livestock access to the watercourse by constructing fencing and natural buffer-this task can be completed by installing standard page wire fence along both the north (130m) and south (170m) side of the creek. The existing 20ft wide culvert provides about a 10ft travelled top width and we will improve this livestock crossing. Native tree and shrub planting will take place along the creek edge to provide shade and riparian habitat.





## KAG 160-170

Manitoulin Streams will conduct restoration on 3 sites on the Lower Kagawong River. The main concerns that the site designs will address are as follows: erosion on shoreline banks, channels widened by erosion, split flow in channels, existing pools near the bank that need to be adjusted, lack of canopy cover over pools and lack of riparian habitat, improving center and edge habitat and accommodating water flow fluctuations due to the hydroelectric dam.

Manitoulin Streams has partnered with the United Fish and Game Club to help with native tree and shrub planting however we will be looking for other volunteers to help out with this activity and to help complete a river shoreline cleanup. Manitoulin Streams will also be partnering with 4elements Living Arts and will work on a joint River School Project including children's educational environmental tours and art activities focusing on life of the stream and human/river interactions. 4elements was approved by the Canadian Arts Council to have artist Michael Belmore complete a 5 month residency on Manitoulin Island and he will be creating carvings and land based art in connection with our restoration efforts that will be installed in the river. Sophie Edwards is also looking to get a sound artist to document the sound of the river and provide opportunities for the public to learn about the history of the river. This really will be a community project and we are excited to get it started this summer!





## Funding and Contributors

### A Special Thank You to our Funding Partners and Volunteers

Landowners  
Little Current Fish and Game Club  
Manitoulin Area Stewardship Council  
United Fish and Game Club  
Lake Manitou Area Association  
Manitoulin Nature Club  
National Turkey Federation  
OFAH Zone D  
United Walleye Club  
Sudbury Game & Fish Protective Assoc.  
LaCloche Ecological Services -Bob Florean  
Manitoulin Transport  
Carriere Industrial Supply Ltd  
Shaw Farm Supply  
Walmart Evergreen  
TD Friends of the Environment  
RBC Blue Water Fund  
M'Chigeeng First Nation  
Campbell Township Horticultural Society  
Laurentian University  
College Boreal  
Kenjgewin Teg Educational Institute  
Township of Assiginack  
Township of Billings

Township of NEMI  
Township of Tehkummah  
Municipality of Central Manitoulin  
OMNR - CFWIP  
OMNR - Canada Ontario Agreement Funds  
OMNR - Ontario/Stewardship Rangers  
OMNR - Ontario Stewardship Opportunity Fund  
Great Lakes Guardian Community Fund  
Ministry of the Environment  
Lake Huron/Georgian Bay Framework for  
Community Action  
Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority  
Recreational Fisheries Conservation Partnership  
Program  
Ontario Trillium Foundation  
OMAFRA - Environmental Farm Plan  
Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation  
Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities  
Fisheries and Oceans Canada  
Environment Canada  
Eco-Action  
FedNor  
LAMBAC

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