



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

Fall & Winter 2014

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.

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Mouth of Mindemoya River Dredging

We dredged the mouth of the Mindemoya River with the help of the Municipality of Central Manitoulin so that migrating salmon could make it upstream to spawn. Positive incoming comments this year about the fisheries improving over the past 4 years, a noted result from our dredging work. Prior, a sand bar built up blocking access due to wave action and caused a trickle of water from the river (2-3 inches) over the sand making it impossible for the salmon to cross. This was causing salmon to become beached. We are pleased to see such positive results!



M'Chigeeng Fall Harvest

What a beautiful day in M'Chigeeng at their Fall Harvest. Manitoulin Streams had a display at the festival showcasing the restoration work completed with Lakeview School in M'Chigeeng Creek as well as provided educational information about invasive species. Hundreds of visitors dropped by our display and to see our work and our invasive species samples.



Great Canadian Shoreline Clean Up - Gore Bay 2014

On Friday we went out to Gore Bay and conducted a shoreline cleanup with the Gore Bay Fish and Game Club and the Grade 8 class from C.C. McLean Public School. We would like to thank Dean's Valu-Mart in Gore Bay for all the snacks and drinks they provided for the volunteers and the Town of Gore Bay for the garbage bags and gloves they provided. We were able to clean up the whole shoreline from Buoys right through to the top of Bickell's Creek. Lots of garbage removed! Thank you to everyone that helped out.



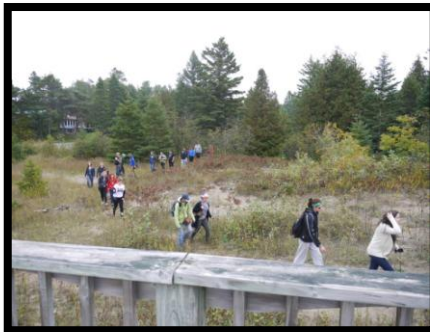


Trees Ontario Holds a Workshop for Landowners FORESTS ONTARIO

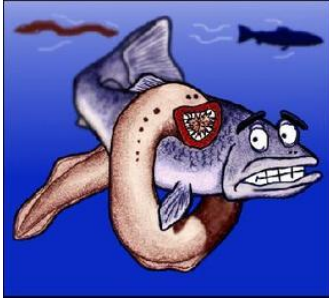
On October 2, 2014, Trees Ontario visited Manitoulin Island to educate on tree planting subsidies available for landowners. Manitoulin Streams attended as a participant in this group as we were approached prior for possible partnering. Further meetings will be held to decide if our organization may benefit for this long term project.

Espanola French High School tours with Manitoulin Streams

The Espanola French High school visited for a tour around Manitoulin Island to showcase different stream restoration sites to the students and to see the salmon spawning in the rivers. Some of the students had never seen salmon spawning before and there was a lot of excitement! We are hoping to develop more educational tour packages that we can send to the school board that will highlight some of the curriculum being taught at different grade levels.



Presentation at Little Current and Assiginack Public School on Invasive Species

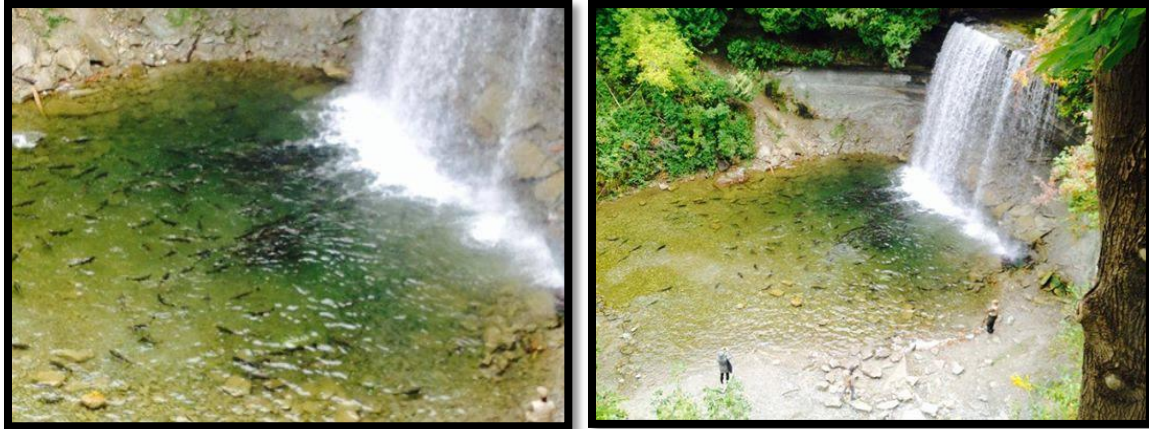


In October, Sue Meert was pleased to have been invited to speak about invasive species at Little Current and Assiginack Public School to the 6/7 and 5/6 classes. Many inquisitive children sought answers to the unknown about the creatures invading our land and water. We hope we have given some food for thought on the topic and we hope to continue attending schools to educate them on stream rehabilitation and invasive species throughout the 2015/16.

World Youth Group Tour

Our outreach coordinator Sue Meert took a group of 20 women aged 18-24 on a educational stream tour on October 24th. These youth were from Africa, Belgium and Canada. Sue brought them on a stream tour in Providence Bay to showcase some of our stream restoration efforts then off to Kagawong to see Bridal Veil Falls and the salmon spawning which then lead to the chocolate factory and participating in some Canadian customs of carving pumpkins and a hiking trip up the Cup and Saucer. They were really excited and said it was the best part of their experience in Canada so far. Manitoulin Streams is looking at expanding our educational tours to include experiential activities such as these.





Beautiful pictures of the salmon run on the Kagawong River below Bridal Veil Falls Oct 2014.

Lake Huron/Georgian Bay Framework for Community Action Summit

Project Coordinator Seija Deschenes and Bob Florean (MASC) attended the Summit to present Manitoulin Streams accomplishments and provide a display for others around Lake Huron to see our work. Lots of networking took place and there was a panel of various funding partners that could be asked questions concerning funding applications. The main take home message from funding partners is that they want to see more community participation in environmental stewardship activities that provide tangible results to improve water quality, restore and protect aquatic and wildlife habitat.

Upcoming Projects

Kagawong 2015

Three sites will be restored along the Kagawong River in August 2015. The focus on this enhancement will be to stabilize eroding shoreline banks, installing root wads, boulder clusters, vortex weirs and deflectors to improve scouring and pool areas. It has been noted by the engineer that there is a portion of the stream where fish spawn during high flow periods that later the eggs become stranded or dry. Bio-engineering techniques will be put into this site design to encourage fish not spawn in this area. A meeting was held with the Township of Billings, Manitoulin Streams and Holla Engineering & Environmental Inc. to discuss this stream restoration and enhancement. Manitoulin Streams is excited to work with Billings in this new partnership. Riparian tree and shrub planting will be carefully considered in regards to stream viewing access by tourists and locals and use by those

angling. Due to the volume of tourist activity in this area, Manitoulin Streams will make efforts to be present on this site during the construction phase to educate those on the work being done, as well as address any concerns by local residents and visitors. We will be looking for volunteers to help out with this project in regards to a WWF Shoreline Cleanup, native tree and shrub planting and to become engaged in environmental education and art opportunities involving our streams that will be provided through a partnership with 4e Living Arts program. This is a great way to get people of all ages involved in stewardship activities to restore, protect and value our streams and waterways.



Kagawong 2014



Kagawong 2014

Grimesthorpe 2015

Site S15 on the Grimesthorpe creek will be restored in 2015. We will be 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.



Providence Bay Educational Viewing and Fishing Platforms

The educational viewing and fishing platforms have been completed down in Providence Bay. The educational placards are currently being developed and will be installed in the spring of 2015. These platforms provide accessibility for people of all ages and abilities allowing everyone to be able to learn about our river ecosystems and try angling along the river.



Annual General Meeting

At this year's AGM we had 4 positions up for election (Secretary, Treasurer and 2 Board Members). Algis Tribinevicius accepted to continue in the position of Secretary, Therese Trainor accepted the position of Treasurer and 2 new Board members Neil Debassige and Lynn Hughson have now joined us. We would like to thank Pax McKenna for sitting on our Board of Directors. Pax has been a wonderful addition to our group and plans to continue to help out as a member of the organization. We would also like to thank Bill Strain for his dedication over the years as one of our Board of Directors. Bill is reducing his work of load wearing 2 hats (Manitoulin Streams and the Little Current Fish and Game Club President) however we still look forward to working with Bill in the future as a member and in Partnership with the Little Current Fish and Game Club. Therefore our new Board of Directors are as follows:

Ted Williamson - Chair
Paul Moffat - Vice Chair
Algis Tribinevicius - Secretary
Therese Trainor - Treasurer
Delmer Fields - Board Member
Lynn Hughson - Board Member
Neil Debassige - Board Member

New - Website Catalogue for donations etc.

We will be creating a catalogue for donations on our website. Currently we still have hats listed for a \$10 donation to raise money for our efforts. Soon, anyone will be able to purchase root wads, spawning gravel, boulders, meters of fencing, trees and shrubs or other important stream restoration related items. A certificate and charitable tax receipt will be issued to those donations over \$25.00.

Annual Eyed Egg Brook Trout Event Friday December 5, 2014 10:00 am

Join us once again for this fabulous event!



This is the 6th annual brook trout eyed egg event we are going to hold. Success of our efforts are starting to show in electrofishing studies conducted by College Boreal. Brook trout are starting to establish themselves throughout Norton's Creek. We are receiving another 10,000 eggs and will be looking for volunteers to place them in the Scotty box trays. This event includes lunch, refreshments and warm cheer.



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
Sudbury Game & Fish Protective Assoc.
Manitoulin Transport
Carriere Industrial Supply Ltd
Shaw Farm Supply
Walmart Evergreen
TD Friends of the Environment
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 - COA
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 Community 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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