



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

SPRING 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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Brook Trout Eyed Egg Event December 2013



Another great brook trout eyed egg event last Friday. Lots of volunteers came out to help restore the brook trout population in Norton's Creek.

We missed our friend Bob Hutton who has recently passed away but I think he would be proud that his legacy of restoring Norton's Creek lives on through stewardship activities and volunteerism from various members of our communities on Manitoulin Island.



Premiers Award

Manitoulin Streams would like to thank Brent Kennedy, Regional Director of the Economic Development Branch at Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, for awarding us the Regional Premier's Award for Agri-Food Innovation Excellence! We would like to share this acknowledgement in partnership with our agricultural producers on Manitoulin Island that are true stewards of the land and water. We received \$5000, a gate sign and the use of the Premier's Award wordmark for advertising our stream restoration program.



Seija Deschenes, Ted Williamson and Brent Kennedy

Min 678 Restoration 2014



This site will be up for restoration this summer. Date of commencement yet to be advised as this has been in the planning stages. Volunteers will be required to plant trees and shrubs.

Bass Lake Creek Restoration 2014

Manitoulin Streams plans to help out the Little Current Fish and Game Club to deepen their upper pool for Rainbow trout and salmon spawning and enhance the spawning habitat in the upper reaches of Bass Lake Creek.

James Creek Restoration 2014

Manitoulin Streams plans on strategically placing aggregate supplied by the landowner at the mouth of the creek to help keep the mouth of the creek open so that juvenile rainbow trout from the spring spawn can make it back out to the big water and prevent them from being landlocked.

M'Chigeeng Creek Restoration 2014

We are hoping to work with Lakeview Public School again this year to help provide hands on experience for students by improving spawning grounds, tree planting and showing them some bio-engineering techniques to scour out some of the sediment that is covering the prime spawning areas.



Bass Lake Creek Event



Another wonderful and successful year for the Little Current Fish and Game Club walleye egg collection and educational school group tours. The schools participating this year included Grade 4 students from Little Current P.S., Assiginack P.S., Central Manitoulin P.S. and Lakeview P.S.

The students learned about the restoration of the walleye population in Bass Lake Creek by volunteers, how the jar fish hatchery works, how the club performs egg collection for the hatchery and how egg fertilization takes place. They also learned how to create fish habitat (Bass nests), viewed presentations on stream restoration and had a stream walk and talk, looked at fossil displays, conducted invertebrate and invasive species identification, viewed rock and mineral displays, interacted with our local Conservation Officers and each student is taking home a brand new rod and reel. The best educational outdoor classrooms that any student can attend!



Bill Strain Awarded the Larry Wallace Memorial Award

Congratulations to Bill Strain, Little Current Fish and Game Club and Manitoulin Streams Board of Director, for being awarded the Larry Wallace Memorial Award for youth conservation education. Bill Strain received this award from the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters. Mr. Wallace was a long time member of OFAH who worked with young people with regards to conservation.



Bill Strain also received the Co-Curricular Program/Community Partnership Award from the Rainbow District School Board for the educational program that he has developed and implemented on Manitoulin Island with the youth of our communities creating future stewards of the land. Kudos!

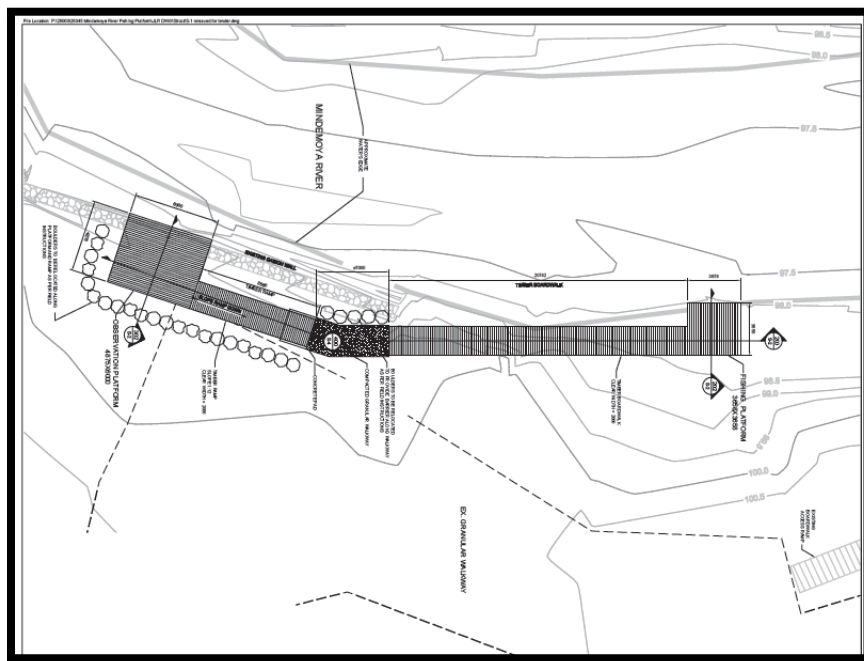
Providence Bay Updates 2014

Educational Viewing and Fishing Platform on Mindemoya River

Last year we had undergone a large stream restoration project at the mouth of the Mindemoya River in Providence Bay, in partnership with the Municipality of Central Manitoulin. Tourist and residents alike will be able to learn about and view bioengineering techniques, biodiversity, food chains as well as see migrating salmon and trout. The educational platform will allow people to see real world solutions such as the proposed stream restoration and learn why it was necessary to conduct

the work and how stream degradation can be prevented in the future. It will teach people how natural environments function and particularly how human beings can manage their behaviours and ecosystem in order to live sustainably. Finally, it will be of interest to young people who are the future stewards of the land.

Rehabilitation increases and renews fishing opportunities. Therefore, we will also be installing a fishing platform would serve as a designated and safe place for physically handicapped, young and old to fish and learn how to fish. This will allow people to take part in one of Canada's oldest cultural heritage activities while helping to prevent inadvertent damage to the newly restored shoreline and in-water habitat. A completion date of this work has not yet been determined but should be in before the salmon start to run in the fall. A big thanks to Amanda and Ruth and the Municipality for their efforts on this project!



Stream Detective at Providence Bay

Great News! The Interpretation Centre in Providence Bay name is going to be changed to the Discovery Centre and will be undergoing a complete facelift with new, modern interactive educational displays and will now include Manitoulin Streams Stream Detective Adventures as part of their highlights. This

partnership with the Municipality for this tour is very exciting to us and we hope to see our other adventures be added to their Discovery Centre in the future.



Tree Planting to Take Place to Enhance Completed Sites

Due to the harsh winter and wildlife, we had to replace some of the tree planted last year. We received 1050 trees from Aquatic Wildlife Services (AWS) to replenish those that didn't make it. Trees were planted at site MIN 900-902 with the help of the Grade 12 Environmental Science Class from Manitoulin Secondary School. Seija gave the students a stream walk and talk to explain the new bioengineering techniques used at the mouth of the river and then the students helped to plant more trees along the site. Additional trees were planted at site MIN 602, MIN 604, MIN 310-320 and Norton's Creek. A big thank you to our contributors and volunteers to help make this take place.



Community Resource Stewardship Liaison

Once again we are pleased to hire Calvin Crispo as our Community Resource Stewardship Liaison in partnership with the Manitoulin Area Stewardship Council. This will be Calvin's second year working with our organization on Manitoulin Island. Calvin's education and experience is an asset to Manitoulin Streams and to all he educates and assists.

Welcome Back Calvin!



Invasive Species Liaison

We are currently hiring a student under the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters (OFAH) invasive species program. This student will provide educational awareness on Manitoulin Island for the summer. They will be in charge of providing awareness about OFAH's new Early Detection & Distribution Maps (EDD mapS). EDD MapS are a web-based mapping system for documenting invasive species distribution. The public can enter information from their observations into the standardized on-line data form, which allows information about the infestation and images to be added. Information entered is immediately loaded to the EDDMapS website for verification. All information is reviewed by OFAH staff to ensure it is accurate before it is made viewable by the public. Once verified, the information is made freely available to scientists, researchers, land managers, land owners, educators, conservationists, ecologists, farmers, foresters, government personnel, and members of the public. Check out the website.

<http://eddmeps.org/>

Shoreline Cleanup

The last two years we have been successful with our WWF Shoreline Cleanup. This year we will be reaching out to another shoreline on the island recognized by the WWF in order to

continue an annual program with the schools to educate on the importance of keeping our water free of debris as well as ditches etc. All volunteers are welcome and appreciated!



Farming Restoration Projects Needed



We are looking for future agricultural stream projects that are in need of our restoration efforts. Anyone in the farming sector wishing to revitalize a stream/river running through their land can now contact Seija at 705-859-1653. Projects will be considered on a priority basis and will be dependent on funding availability for the year. Please contact our office should you require further information.



Manitoulin Streams Rehabilitation Sites MIN 304 and 306 on the Mindemoya River 2010

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
The Dunes B & B
Providence Bay Charter & Resorts
Walmart Evergreen
TD Friends of the Environment
Laurentian University
College Boreal
Kenjgewin Teg Educational Institute
Township of Assiginack
Township of Billings
Township of NEMI

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
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

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