



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

***Manitoulin Streams Improvement Association is a grass roots, registered Canadian charitable 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;**

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## Local Home School Group Tours Providence Bay

A slightly crisp but very nice day for a winter tour in Providence Bay. Sue lead a local home school group on a beach/dune and stream restoration educational. She also enjoyed being educated by these very knowledgeable young stewards. Last year this group went on a tour to Kagawong and this appears to be an annual educational that Manitoulin Streams is proud to accommodate. We thank Shannon and the group for their donation and look forward to further adventures!



## 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Eyed Egg Brook Trout Event

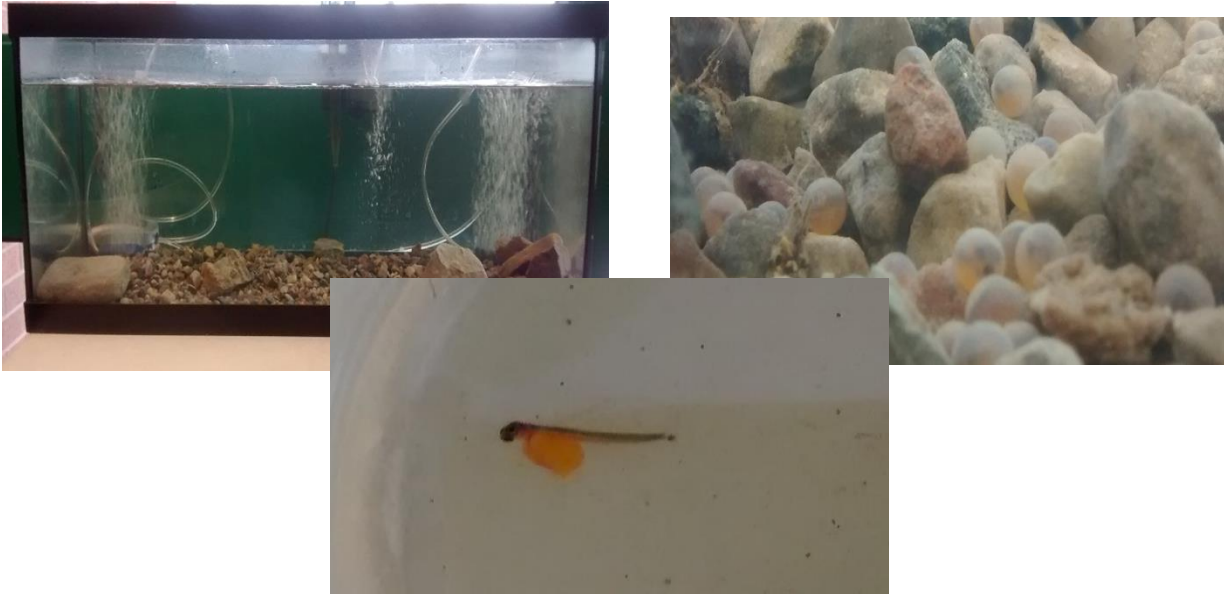
Thank you to everyone that came out to help stock the brook trout eggs into Scotty boxes. It was a beautiful December day and students came out from Pontiac P.S in Wiikwemkoong and Central Manitoulin P.S. from Mindemoya. A wonderful day walking up the creek after the staging process to watch the boxes be secured along the stream. A special thank you to Les & Delmer Fields, Burke & Alice Pennie, the Hutton family and Sue Moggy for all your help and the wonderful feast.



## Setting up a Mini-hatchery at Assiginack Public School

Once again, following our Annual Eyed Egg Brook Trout event, we take the eggs that were too small for the Scotty box trays (that had fallen through) and set them up in their new temporary home in a mini-hatchery at Assiginack Public School in Manitowaning. Each year one of the grades are chosen to be the "champions" of raising these fish and assisting in releasing them in early spring into Norton's Creek, a restored stream. The kids will learn about monitoring techniques and keeping favourable conditions for these fish to hatch.

These educational experiences are key to forming stewardship attitudes in our youth. Many thanks to Rolly Frappier and Bob Florean for their support in these efforts.



### **Sheshegwaning Public School Nature Talk**

Jesse Beaudin visited the Sheshegwaning Public School to give a talk on healthy environmental habitats, human impact and the work Manitoulin Streams has been doing to reverse negative impacts. We are anticipating continuing stream restoration work in this community down the road and would like to involve the children and teach them to become stewards of the land. Jesse was well received and enjoyed his visit.



### **M'Chigeeng First Nation Hosts "Little Warriors" Group**

M'Chigeeng First Nation has introduced a new initiative known as the Youth Warrior's

Program. Inspired by the conventional "Big Brother, Big Sister" groups commonly found in urban communities, this after-school initiative seeks to encourage healthy relationships between young pre-teen youth and positive community role models. This initiative will present youth with opportunities to gain life experience by participating in events and activities that may otherwise not organically occur in the household. It will encompass an aspect of traditional teachings and land-based knowledge to empower the youth of M'Chigeeng and establish a sense of responsibility and ownership to the land. Manitoulin Streams' First Nation Stewardship Liaison meets once per week to act as a mentor (facilitator) that works and mediates the activities, meals and events that the kids plan out themselves based on their needs and expectations of the program.

Each session takes place between 3:15pm and 5:00pm every Thursday afternoon throughout various venues. It begins with a traditional smudging ceremony led by the kids, followed by a short ice-breaker activity. The rest of the session is spent participating in the event, workshop, activity or exercise that the kids had planned out in previous sessions such as: informed hiking, survival skill practice, lodge building, snowshoeing, stream rehabilitation, etc. There is an emphasis on land-based knowledge and activities for each session, led by the First Nations Stewardship Liaison. The age of kids in these sessions range between 11 and 13 years of age (grade 7 and 8). Jesse Beaudin will be assisting in facilitating this program throughout the year.



## Deer Save Efforts

Many thanks to volunteers that helped out by taking immediate action in January during some heavy snow with freezing rain causing crusting layers. Trail breaking had started and response off of our Deer Save Facebook page was very encouraging. Currently we have a regularly updated list of about 160 landowners allowing permission on their properties to allow deer save efforts. While this recent weather was harsh, it was not a concern for intense long term emergency action needed, however, assisting deer by breaking trails helps the deer conserve energy and access food.

Should emergency protocol efforts be placed in effect, the Ministry of Natural Resources will confirm conditions requiring feeding permission and many volunteers on the island (some retired MNR) are ready to jump in and start the ball rolling. This is a big process and would not run smoothly without all those involved.

If you have property on the island and want to give permission for volunteers to access to break trails and possibly feed, or if you want to place your name down as a volunteer, please contact Sue Meert at (705) 859-1653.



### **Jesse Attends Casino Rama "Our Land" Conference**

From January 24-26th, Jesse was invited to attend the Our Land Conference at Casino Rama.

Hosted by the Ontario Centre for Climate Impacts and Adaptation Resources (OCCIAR), the information and practical learning sessions will help to build capacity to respond to the impacts of climate change through adaptation and mitigation.

Workshops covered a variety of topics including: First Nations energy adaptation plans, how to adapt local communities to meet needs of changing climates, potential government funding sources, among many others.

Conference Link : <http://www.ourlandconference.com/>



### **Wild Kids Outdoor First Aid Program**

Manitoulin Streams has now partnered with Manitoulin Training Solutions to develop a youth wilderness first aid certification program. Funding is being requested to help reduce

the cost to our local youth to attend this course. This program will consist of 3 different age level groups, the oldest being a 4 day session with 2 days in class and 2 days practical outdoors that will earn a First Aid certificate. We anticipate holding these sessions at Norton's Creek in Assiginack Township, and having a good response from the community.

Ideally, this course could potentially be offered throughout the island at different townships in the future, should the initial phase be successful. This course is a life saving preventative option and is encouraged for all age groups.



### 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Jacket & Jeans Fundraiser

## SAVE THE DATE

JUNE 9, 2018

3<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL JACKETS & JEANS FUNDRAISING DINNER



MANITOULIN HOTEL AND CONFERENCE CENTRE, LITTLE CURRENT

MORE INFORMATION TO COME

## We're Looking for Donations for our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Jackets & Jeans Fundraiser

If you're interested in donating something to be used in our silent auction, live auction or raffle tables please contact us. The money raised will be put towards stream restoration and youth education on Manitoulin Island.

(705) 859-1653

[streams@amtelecom.net](mailto:streams@amtelecom.net)

## Changes to the Manitoulin Streams Membership

We have made some changes to the membership. Currently, if you are an OFAH club member, you will be able to remain current at the \$41.45 (plus yearly increases set by OFAH). This cost goes directly to OFAH, as our club membership reduces fee's for all members.

Now, any NEW person signing up will receive the following options:

### 1) **New** OF AH/Manitoulin Streams Membership

For \$100 per year

- Funds go towards Manitoulin Streams projects and club insurance.
- Up to date information about Manitoulin Streams projects.
- A Manitoulin Streams e-newsletter subscription or a mailed out newsletter for those of you that are not online.
- An OFAH Membership.
- A subscription to the OFAH's publication, Ontario Out of Doors Magazine.
- \$5,000,000 member's public liability insurance through the OFAH for outdoor activities such as fishing, hunting and hiking.
- Personalized OFAH membership card and an OFAH decal.
- Discounts on hotels, clothing, insurance and much more.

\*\* For those of you that would like to switch from your current account to above mentioned, please contact Sue at 705-859-1653

### 2) Friends of Manitoulin Streams

Join our membership for **\$50.00 a year** and receive;

- CHARITABLE TAX RECEIPT
- Support and Participate in stream restoration efforts
- Quarterly Newsletters

### Nature Club talk with Seija

Seija gave a presentation to Manitoulin Nature Club on January 26. What a great group of people with great questions. They have a different 'nature related presenter' attend their monthly meetings in

Mindemoya and they schedule nature outings on regular basis like hiking, snowshoeing, hatchery tours, etc. We look forward to hearing more about the work this group does.





## Upcoming Projects for 2018 Manitoulin Island

This winter we have been busy applying for funding to support the following 2018 projects. Restoration concerns and solutions have been identified. We will be recruiting volunteers for these projects so if you are interested in tree planting or helping to remove log jams please let us know.

### 1. Kagawong River site KAG 172-174

#### KAG 172

Fast flowing water, no resting areas, minor erosion on right bank.

Solutions: Improve edge habitat, accommodate flow fluctuation



#### KAG 174

Fast flowing water, no resting areas, lack of riparian vegetation and canopy on left side, flow split around island, some erosion on right bank across from island.

Solutions: Improve riparian vegetation, improve canopy, improve edge habitat, accommodate flow fluctuations.



## 2. Manitou River site M173

Problems include: sedimentation in the river, lack of riparian vegetation.  
Solutions: Improve riparian vegetation, repair bank.



### 3. Grimesthorpe Creek sites S16, S17, and S18 on Reach 29

Environmental issues at these sites include: unrestricted livestock access with no designated livestock crossing or watering area, degraded water quality and lack of native trees and shrubs in the riparian area.

Solutions: restricting livestock access, building a watering pad/crossing and creating a vegetative buffer to help shade and reduce water temperatures.



#### 4. M'Chigeeng First Nation Creek

Every year we restore a section of this creek with the grade 8 class at Lakeview School. We spend a few days doing shoreline garbage cleanup, stabilizing shoreline by using natural rock and wood material, and tree planting. Adding spawning gravel is also required to enhance the creek's substrate.

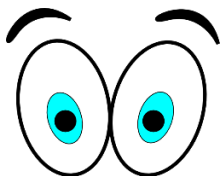


#### 5. Wiikwemkoong First Nation Smith Bay Creek

We are pleased to have commenced work with this First Nation group and have assisted in creating an enhancement strategy for their creek with their Lands and Resources department. Spring garbage collection and further restoration of this creek will commence once again this year. Involving the schools and the community in improving the health of this stream is an important part of growing and protecting stewardship initiatives.



**\*\* Before and after electrofishing and invertebrate studies will continue to take place with College Boreal and Laurention University. This information is beneficial for tracking results.**



**Watch out for our facebook and website posts for a call for volunteers to help with these projects!**

## A Special Thank you to our Funding Partners and Volunteers for 2017-18

A gentle reminder to let you know that if you want to support Manitoulin Streams' efforts we can offer charitable receipts for donations gifted to our organization

Local landowners and donors  
Little Current Fish and Game Club  
United/Gore Bay Fish and Game Club  
Fur Institute of Canada  
Sudbury Game & Fish Protective Association  
Manitoulin Nature Club  
OFAH Zone D  
United Walleye Club  
Lake Manitou Area Association  
LaCloche Ecological Services – Bob Florean  
Manitoulin Transport  
Camp Mary Anne  
Salamander Foundation  
M'Chigeeng First Nation – Lakeview School  
Wiikwemkoong First Nation  
Laurentian University  
College Boreal  
Kenjgewin Teg Educational Institute  
Rotary Club of Gore Bay  
Casson Dentistry  
On the Bay B & B  
Vale – trees  
Mining Innovation, Rehabilitation, and Applied  
Research Corporation (MIRARCO)  
Bank of Montreal (BMO)  
Mindemoya Home Hardware  
Manitoulin Chiropractic Clinic

Pro-Gas Energy Service  
Ramakko's Source for Adventure  
Cedar Grove Resort  
J.A. Rolston Ltd. Estate Brokerage  
Growing Forward II  
Manitowaning Guardian Pharmacy  
MNRF – Canada Ontario Agreement Funds  
MNRF – Ontario/Stewardship Rangers  
Ministry of Environment  
Lake Huron/Georgian Bay Framework for Community Action  
OMAFRA – Rural Economic Development Fund (RED)  
Great Lakes Guardian Fund  
Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority  
Government of Canada – Canada Summer Jobs Program  
Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation  
Environment Canada  
Environmental Damage Funds  
Municipality of Central Manitoulin  
Township of Tehkummah  
Township of NEMI  
Township of Assiginack  
Town of Gore Bay  
Township of Billings

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