

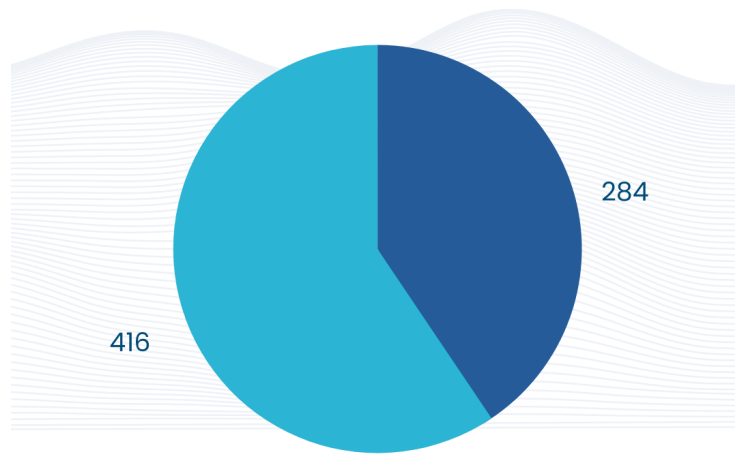




Clean up the Coast Series

UPCOMING CLEAN-UP DATES

- Meaford - Sunday, August 13th (10am - 12pm)
- Owen Sound - Sunday, August 13th (2pm - 4pm)
- Port Elgin - Saturday, August 19th (10am - 12pm)
- Point Clark - Sunday, August 20th (10am - 12pm)
- Sarnia - Saturday, September 23rd (10am-12pm)
- Sauble Beach - **POSTPONED UNTIL THE FALL. Date to come.**

Help Us Meet Our 700 Person Volunteer Target!



-  Number of Volunteers to Date
-  Number of Volunteers Needed

[Details and RSVP](#)

Thank you to the sponsors and partners who make Clean-up the Coast possible!



A Successful Summer of CCYC

633 volunteer hours later...

CCYC participants enjoyed 2 weeks of coastal education, collaboration and fun in the sun this July. They used Lake Huron as their classroom as they learned about coastal ecosystems, native and invasive species, low impact development, plastic pollution, beach restoration and more. Students not only learned about these important topics, but they also made a difference in their communities.



Saugeen Shores Session

In Saugeen Shores, participants took action restoring (and beautifying) Gobles Grove by planting native species as well as adding that 'beachy feel' by including rocks and driftwood in their design. From the planning to the execution, the ambitious 12 volunteers made a tremendous difference helping form a dune which will assist in keeping sand on the beach and off Saugeen Beach Road.



Goderich Session

Participants had an immersive week of learning in the Maitland Woods and travelled to the Old Ausable River in Grand Bend. Southcott Pines hosted the group for an afternoon of removing the invasive Eurasian Milfoil that was disrupting the river's ecosystem. After their hard work, CCYC participants were awarded a swim on the sandy shores of Grand Bend! Some of the many highlights included finding a family of geese nested in the Goderich dune grass, removing Buckthorn with the Maitland Trail Association and meeting some new friends!





THANK YOU to all of the incredible participants who donated their time to learn about Lake Huron and help their communities achieve a healthier coastal environment. Also, a huge thank you to the generous sponsors who made this program possible.

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Swap Your Invasive Garden for Life Giving Native Plants!

This article addresses common questions Lake Huron Coastal Centre is asked about native and invasive plants including: “Why are native plants good and invasive plants bad?”, “What are the best native plants to put in my garden?”

and “Where can I source native plants or seeds locally?”.

Many areas of the Lake Huron shoreline have become overrun with invasive plants. If they are not identified and controlled early, invasive species have the ability to adapt and reproduce quickly in their new environments, outcompeting native plant species. Invasive species can be spread unintentionally through vehicles, wind, rivers, and hiking shoes. Yet, many invasives are planted by well-intentioned gardeners who may not understand the environmental repercussions of their favourite colourful flower.

Below are some photos of great native plant options that are both beautiful flowers and environmentally beneficial.



Common Milkweed

Milkweed is essential to the survival of the Monarch Butterfly.



Beebalm

Beebalm provides a great food source for pollinators and has a vibrant pink flower in bloom.



Little Bluestem

Little Bluestem has a long and complex root system which helps to anchor soil and slow erosion.



Swamp Milkweed

Swamp Milkweeds are perennial plants meaning they will come back again next year!



Coneflower

Coneflowers are drought resistant and thrive in various types of soil.



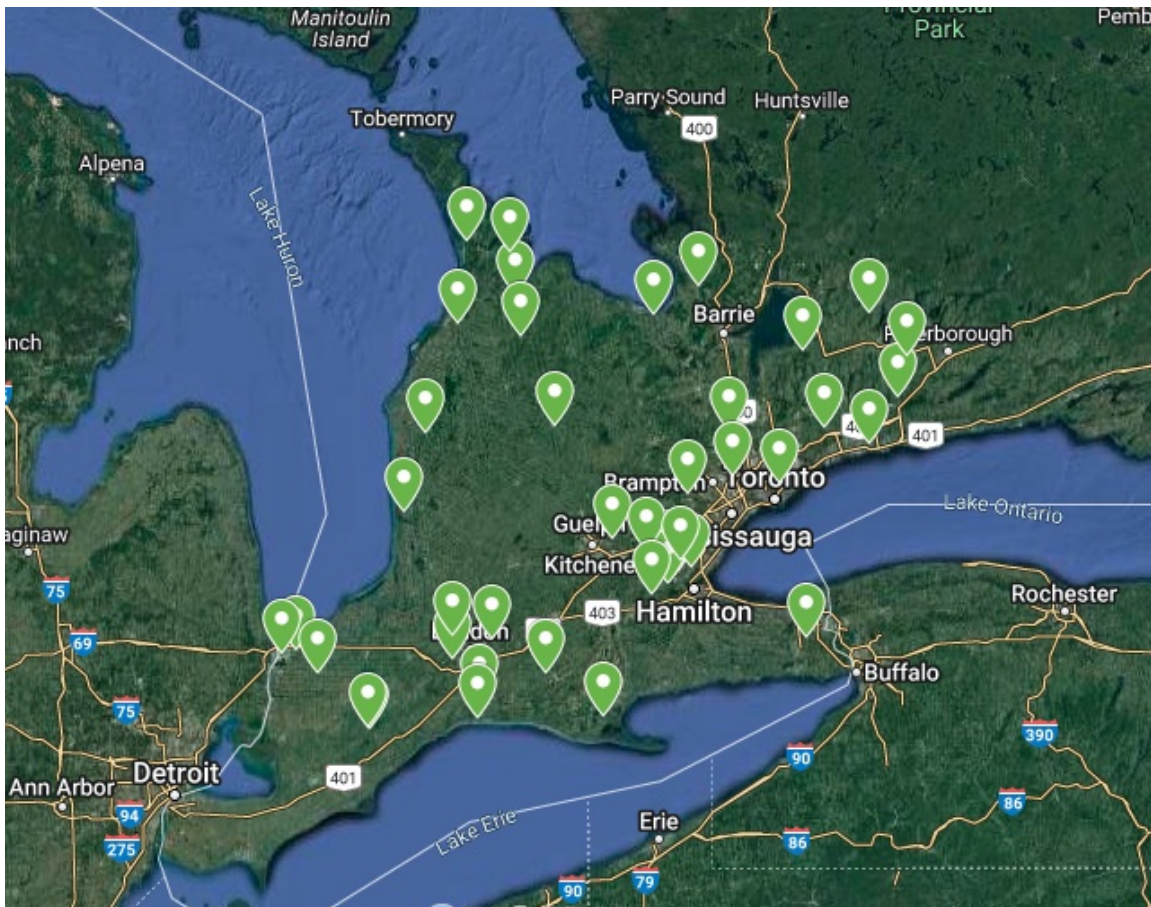
Black-eyed Susan

Black-eyed Susans add a beautiful pop of colour that both you and the bees will love.

Native plants have adapted to the Lake Huron shoreline over millions of years. They are designed by nature to stabilize soil with their long root systems, and they provide life giving habitat to local wildlife that call Lake Huron home. By choosing to plant native species in your garden, you are providing wildlife with what they need to thrive in nature.

To make it easy to find a native nursery near you, we have

created an interactive map below!



View
Map

DUNE CLOCK

Have questions about Lake Huron, water levels, sand dunes, plants, or coastal wildlife? Let us know and we'll answer them here every month.

This month's question is from Liz!

Q: What is the khaki-coloured, green slimy material along the shoreline, sometimes featuring partially floating green mats – sometimes the mats are on the bottom of the lake? What can make it go away? How long do we have to wait for it to dissipate?

A: During the month of July, we experienced record-breaking temperatures and a drastic decrease in air quality throughout the region. Algae thrive in warm, carbon dioxide-rich environments. It is possible Liz observed a harmless (nuisance) or harmful (toxic) algae along the shoreline. As conditions in and around Lake Huron change (temperatures decrease, winds increase, etc.), it

can take up to several weeks for freshwater algae to die and decompose, and a bloom to dissipate.

If you think you see algae along the shoreline, assume toxins are present and avoid interacting with the water (drinking, swimming, etc.). Report blooms to the Ontario Spills Action Centre (SAC) at 1-800-268-6060.

The Lake Huron Coastal Centre is a registered charity founded in 1998 with the goals of protecting and restoring Lake Huron's coastal environment. We are the voice for Lake Huron.

Donate



www.lakehuron.ca

Lake Huron Coastal Centre | PO Box 477, Goderich, N7A 4C7 Canada www.lakehuron.ca

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