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## Clean-up the Coast Series

It has been a successful season cleaning up the Lake Huron shoreline in multiple communities along the coast. Over **1,600** pounds of litter has been collected to date thanks to the incredible **600** volunteers that have dedicated their time to improving the health of Lake Huron for us and for wildlife. The season continues into the fall with the following two clean-ups:

### UPCOMING CLEAN-UP DATES

**Sarnia** - September 23<sup>rd</sup> at Canatara Park near the Bandshell from 10am-12pm

**Sauble Beach** - **POSTPONED UNTIL THE FALL - Date TBA**

[Details and RSVP](#)

This past month, we have made new connections with stewards along the Coast. The Chippewas of Kettle and Stony Point First Nation hosted us in Kettle Point, Love Your Great Lakes had an impressive beach clean-up and community event in Bayfield with the support of many local businesses



and groups. Georgian Bay Forever and the Rotary Club of Meaford helped us deliver the Owen Sound and Meaford events. Sunset Community Foundation funded our clean-up efforts in the Lambton Shores area and for our last events of the season, Lake Life Studio and Red Bay Lodge are the key local sponsors helping to make our fall clean-ups a success. Working together is the most efficient way to accelerate change in coastal communities and the support we have received is very much appreciated.



The Lake Huron Coastal Center has developed a map to highlight our clean-up locations for 2023. Each clean-up brings together different community groups and volunteers who are dedicated to taking action against the plastic pollution problem affecting Lake Huron. For more information regarding the map, including the locations of our clean-ups, visit <https://www.lakehuron.ca/cleanupthecoast>.



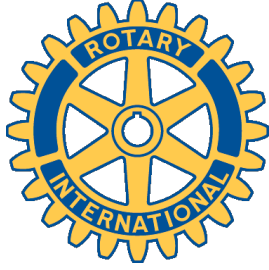
# Clean-up the Coast Map

[View Map](#)

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





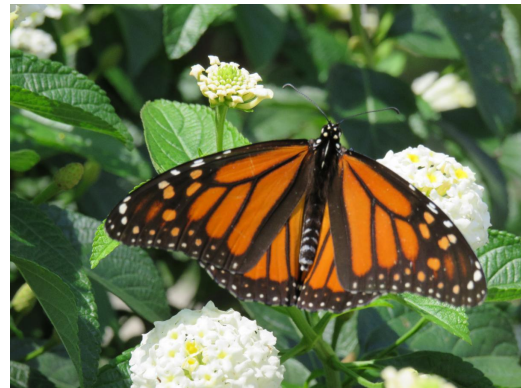


Help us continue our plastic pollution programming in 2024

Donate now!

## Operation Pollination

This year, Rotary Club International has launched 'Operation Pollination' which educates the public on the importance of pollinators by highlighting the Monarch Butterfly's 4,000 km migration route from Mexico to Canada. This is a collaborative project with several environmental partners in three countries. Their mission is to restore the Monarch Butterfly's natural migration route by planting 60,000 trees using a freight train travelling the entire route while making 11 stops to raise awareness and educate the public on the importance of pollinators in a healthy environment. The Monarch Butterfly is a vital component in coastal ecosystems as they symbolize conservation and foster the pollination of many plants. Unfortunately, the monarch butterfly is also an endangered species along the Lake Huron coast and in many parts of North America. Protecting and restoring the Monarch Butterfly's migration route is an action that can be taken as stewards to preserve the multinational treasure.





[Learn more](#)

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## Volunteer Spotlight

### Meet Dave Crocket

Taking responsibility and being an environmental steward is crucial for the health and prosperity of our communities as it directly impacts the quality of our air, water, and overall environment. By responsibly managing natural resources and reducing pollution, the Lake Huron coastal community can remain healthy for future generations. Educating and encouraging residents of the communities to instigate change through an individual effort is the first step. In this article we interview a passionate long-time steward of Lake Huron to gain his perspective on what he thinks we should do to better protect our shoreline.

Meet Dave Crocket and his wife Marcia. The Crocket's purchased a lakefront lot in 1991 and proceeded to build a small cottage the following year. They retired on the lake 13 years ago and it has been a central hub for their family and leisure. Dave's initial interest in environmental stewardship first sparked at 26 years old when he made the commitment to plant one tree for every week of his life, at that time. At now age



73 years old, Dave has planted over 4,000 trees and continues to plant 50-100 saplings per year. Dave and Marcia pursued careers within the healthcare sector, Dave specifically working on land use and development of facilities for

London hospitals. During this time, Dave became familiar with community engagements and “learnings from passionate environmentalists” as a reach to develop land with sustainable practices. His career led him to dedicating 103 acres of ESA land to the city as a natural open space and no development zone. Dave explains that those relationships led to the formation of Reforest London and the goal to plant one million trees. He made connections with ABCA by volunteering and providing input on watershed and shoreline management plans. His connection to Lake Huron Coastal Centre (LHCC) started with an introduction to co-founder Patrick Donnelly who brought Dave to our bi-annual conference where he learned about LHCC’s programs. He has been in active attendance at several of the LHCC conferences since as well as shares reports and education provided by the LHCC team. Marcia Crocket is also an active member of the LHCC Coast Watcher’s program and the Crocket’s regularly can be found cleaning up litter on the shoreline.



Dave with his laneway of 100 planted trees.



Dave planting trees and cover on the lake bank.

Dave Crocket shared sediments that touch on many key issues and discussion circulating the Lake Huron community. He has shared **10 solutions** he believes will help target the pressing environmental challenges facing Lake Huron. He believes the most pressing environmental issues with Lake Huron are rooted in the climate change impacts on water temperature and weather with corresponding negative consequences on habitat, shoreline erosion invasive species and water quality. He suggests that educating the public about topics like water quality and coastal processes will have long term benefits.

1. Mandate yearly sand addition to preserve littoral flow.
2. Enhance lake education, spread shoreline best practices via low-cost channels.
3. Teach the importance of the great lakes as a natural resource in schools for future commitment to protection.
4. Enhance lakeshore habitat and plant trees for carbon capture.
5. Plan for evolving lake: less coverage, adaptable home designs, managed retreats.
6. Seek community partnership with private property owners.
7. Build stronger relationships with realtors and ensure buyers are informed about any ecologically sensitive properties.
8. Shift from fees to green space requirement for sustainable development.
9. Cut harmful substances to prevent lake contamination; prioritize eco-friendly practices.

10. Boost agriculture with cover crops, drainage, and septic upgrades to aid lake preservation.

Hopefully these potential solutions can be integrated into public discussion to help foster need for community involvement. More educated and motivated community members like Dave and Marcia are key assets to establishing a cleaner and greener tomorrow!

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*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](http://www.lakehuron.ca)

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