



## The Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation

*Keeping a Great Lake 'Great' Since 1998!*



## LET'S END PLASTIC POLLUTION THIS EARTH DAY!

Sunday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> is Earth Day, the largest environmental movement in the world! This year's Earth Day campaign is to End Plastic Pollution, an important subject that we address in our programs at the LHCCC. The Great Lakes hold 21% of the world's surface fresh water and 1.5 million residences are provided with drinking water from Lake Huron and Georgian Bay. Lake Huron receives approximately 600 metric tons of plastic pollution annually, which can pose a significant threat to water quality and wildlife. When present in aquatic environments, plastic acts as an attractant for toxic persistent organic pollutants (POPs), like dioxins and DDT. Many species of waterfowl and fish mistake plastic for food, allowing these toxins to enter the food chain and presenting many hazards for the survival of these animals.



One of the ways we work to address plastic pollution on Lake Huron is by holding beach cleanups along the shoreline. Beach cleanups are a great way to raise awareness about plastic pollution and encourage people to become involved in coastal stewardship. This year we are holding the Great Goderich Cleanup on Earth Day weekend. Last year at our Goderich cleanup we had over 100 volunteers clean up over 700lbs of garbage!

Earth Day is an opportunity for people to take part in activities that improve their local environment, and is an excellent reminder that we can all make small changes every day that have a big impact. Come out and show your support to Mother Earth by getting involved with the annual Great Goderich Shoreline Clean-up to help remove shoreline trash from our Great Lake! But, your contribution doesn't have to stop there. There are many ways you can help reduce the amount of plastic entering this incredible resource. We can all make responsible eco-friendly choices such as:

- Packing litter-less lunches
- Using reusable shopping bags instead of plastic grocery bags
- Saying "NO!" to one-time-use plastic straws and cutlery at bars and restaurants
- Using reusable water bottles and coffee mugs
- Reusing (or substituting!) plastic sandwich/snack bags

These steps may seem small, but they are great ways to help reduce our impact on our Great Lake and protect the wildlife who call the waters of Lake Huron home.

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## THE GREAT GODERICH CLEANUP

**Saturday, April 21, 11:00am**

Bring the family! Meet at either the Goderich Main Beach or the Menesetung Bridge.

Please bring your own mug to reduce plastic waste. Dress warmly, bring gloves and a garbage bag or bucket if you can.

There will be a free BBQ lunch for volunteers provided generously by Zehrs!

This event is proudly held in partnership with:

- Lower Maitland Stewardship Group
- Maitland Valley Conservation Authority
- Zehrs
- Compass Minerals
- Yoga Den Goderich
- Rotaract Club of Goderich
- Maitland Trail Association
- Engage Goderich

For more information about the cleanup call or email Tineasha at 226-421-3029 or [tineasha.brenot@lakehuron.ca](mailto:tineasha.brenot@lakehuron.ca).



**'IS THE COAST CLEAR?' LAKE HURON**

# CONFERENCE IS 3 WEEKS AWAY!

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Join us May 10-11 in Grand Bend for our 10th conference on Lake Huron! Held every two years, the conference provides a forum for a diverse audience to learn from experts in the Great Lakes region about coastal topics, local actions, and solutions to environmental challenges.

Great Lakes coastal areas are extremely dynamic environments and require constant adaptation and resilience by our coastal communities. The Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation has been a leader for 20 years addressing the need for stewardship action to respond to the challenges Lake Huron faces, including invasive species, water quality concerns, deterioration of beaches, habitat loss, and increasing demands on coastal resources. This conference will energize new and continued partnerships that can actively work toward solutions to benefit our coastal communities, economies and ecosystems.

This year's conference will explore the theme *Love Your Lake: Actions You Can Take*. Plan to experience Lake Huron in the spring of 2018, and help celebrate the Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation's 20th anniversary!

For more information about the program please visit [www.lakehuron.ca/conference](http://www.lakehuron.ca/conference) or call 226-421-3029.

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## THE COASTAL CENTRE IS TURNING 20! CELEBRATE WITH US AT OUR GALA!

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Tickets to our 20th anniversary Coastal Conservation Gala are selling quickly!

On Thursday May 10th join us for a fun-filled night out with a delicious dinner, live musical entertainment, cash bar, raffle prizes, and a silent auction.

All proceeds from the Coastal Conservation Gala go towards the Centre's coastal education, restoration, and research projects.

Tickets are \$75. Doors open at 6pm and dinner begins at 7pm. For tickets call 226-421-3029 or visit [www.lakehuron.ca/gala](http://www.lakehuron.ca/gala)

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## THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS!

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*Innovation at work*



As a non-profit, charitable organization, The Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation supports environmental efforts along the Canadian coastline of Lake Huron. We rely on donations from people like you to keep doing the amazing work we do along the shores of Lake Huron. Your contributions help engage communities, educate individuals, and create change for a brighter environmental future on our Great Lake!

[DONATE TODAY!](#)

