



Clean up the Coast Series July

Are you ready for an opportunity that combines **fun, community, and environmental stewardship**? We invite **YOU** to be part of our July beach clean-up events on the breathtaking shores of Lake Huron!

Our goal is crystal clear: engage 700 dedicated volunteers to join us in removing a staggering 1,000 pounds of litter by the end of summer.

Together, we can make a **significant impact** on the cleanliness and beauty of our beloved lake.

Tobermory - Saturday, July 8th
Kincardine - Saturday, July 15th
Southampton - Sunday, July 16th
Grand Bend - Saturday, July 29th
Kettle Point - Sunday, July 30th

[Details and RSVP](#)

See you there!



Thank you to our incredible partners for the July clean-ups!



great energy. balanced life.



SUNSET
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION



Big Canoe Project

An Interview With Founder Tom Thwaits

Whether it's active living, protecting Georgian Bay through water quality monitoring, or building connections in the community, Big Canoe Project is a non-profit, social enterprise that works to get people into action on the water. We spoke with founder, Tom Thwaits, to learn all about the Big Canoe Project. Tom has been a dedicated volunteer and partner of the Lake Huron Coastal Centre through his involvement in the Coast Watchers and Microplastic Awareness programs.

What inspired you to start Big Canoe Project?

Big Canoe Project is inspired by a desire

to connect people with the incredible ecosystems just offshore.

What is your mission as a non-profit?

Our mission is threefold: to enable active outdoor living in Southern Georgian Bay, to teach environmental literacy locally by engaging in citizen science, and to promote and facilitate big canoe paddling.

What message do you hope people take away from the work you do?

Our hope is that folks who paddle with us leave feeling invigorated: from the physical exercise, from the camaraderie in the boat, and from the beauty of the natural surroundings. Our philosophy is that if we can connect paddlers with the environment in such a way that they can't help but fall in love with it, then that love will serve to motivate them to think about their choices with regards to stewardship, conservation, and the stresses on the Great Lakes, climate, population, and otherwise.

How does Big Canoe Project benefit Georgian Bay and Lake Huron?

In the most concrete way first, we benefit Georgian Bay and Lake Huron by always traveling with a garbage bag (admittedly, sometimes it's not big enough) and are cleaning-up everywhere we go. In terms of numbers, we collect water quality data for Water Rangers and Great Lakes Datastream every time we're on the water. These datasets for places like Owen Sound, Collingwood, Meaford, and Lake Eugenia go on to be used by academics, CAs, NGOs, and government to drive policy decisions. Big Canoe Project also contributes citizen science data as a proud Coast Watchers partner with the Lake Huron Coastal Centre. We also do Seabin waste categorizations 5 times a season at Thornbury Harbour for Great Lakes Plastic Cleanup. In a more abstract way, we act as a hyper visible lightning rod for questions about the Great Lakes, many of which I reply to by directing people to the resources on the Lake Huron Coastal Centre website.

How can people get involved?

People can get involved by booking a tour with Big Canoe Project this summer. We go out on the water for 1.5 or 2.5 hours at a time, with a shore break to collect water quality data and explore a bit. Tours happen in Meaford, Owen Sound, Lake Eugenia, and Collingwood with groups between 5-15 people. Head to bigcanoeproject.org for more info.



Learn
More

DUNE CLOCK

Introducing... Dune O'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!

Submit a Question

Please include "Dune O'Clock" in the subject line of your email.

Lake Huron Forever

The LHCC is proud to receive funding from the **Lake Huron Forever Partners Program** to help protect and enhance water quality that enables healthy and sustainable communities through our Green Ribbon Champion sand dune restoration program.



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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