



## **The Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation**

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

### **The Phragmites Have Fallen!**

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The Coastal Centre, in partnership with Saugeen Valley Conservation and the Invasive Phragmites Control Centre has been generously supported by Enbridge and the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks during the 5-year coastal wetland restoration project at Brucedale Conservation Area. As part of the provincially significant MacGregor Point Wetland Complex, this area hosts a highly diverse network of plants and wildlife and acts as an important stopping point for many of migratory birds. Brucedale Conservation Area also caters to many visitors looking to camp, swim, kayak, canoe, bird watch and enjoy the beautiful piece of paradise.

The biggest current threat to the coastal wetlands at Brucedale is the presence and persistence of invasive species, and Phragmites is public enemy #1. *Phragmites australis*, also known as the common reed, Phrag, or for many who have battled with this plant, a logistical nightmare, is a non-native invasive plant originating from Europe and Asia. This plant has spread through much of south-western Ontario over the past few decades and has claimed the title of “Canada’s Worst Invasive Plant” for its ability to quickly monopolize and conquer invaded ecosystems. This plant can reproduce via seed dispersal, complex root networks, and from small viable fragments of a healthy plant that breaks off and floats to a new location. It is fast-growing, and can reach heights of up to 15 feet high which can easily block the view of beautiful Lake Huron sunsets.

This year, two amphibious Phrag-Fighting machines (Truxors) made their return to remove the remaining large stands of Phragmites at Brucedale. This 2-day initiative brought together teams from the Coastal Centre, the Invasive Phragmites Control Centre, Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority and residents and campers from Brucedale Conservation Area to cut, remove and pile the remaining Phragmites. The results don't disappoint! The hard work has paid off and only a few areas remain for maintenance in 2019.



*Above: Brucedale in 2015. Below: Brucedale in 2018.*

Throughout the entirety of this project, education has always been a key focus. Cutting the Phragmites is an amazing step forward for this section of the Lake Huron shoreline, but it's important to remember the lessons at hand. Being able to recognize invasive species and learning how to safely remove them is a great way to prevent large scale problems like what was experienced at Brucedale Conservation Area. It's also important to be aware of the mechanisms that can help spread an invasive species. Phragmites is often spread through the use of ATV's in invaded areas, so avoiding these areas with vehicles and practicing proper sanitation of equipment before moving it into an new area can help to prevent furthering the spread of invasives.



# COMPLETE OUR GREENPEOPLE SURVEY FOR A CHANCE TO WIN a \$50 MEC GIFT CARD !

Through our generous funding from the Ontario Trillium Foundation we are working to create a healthy coastline with vibrant communities on Lake Huron. In order to learn and share our learning with communities, the foundation has requested that we ask our communities what they value about Lake Huron and their connection with nature.

We'd like to welcome you to fill out the Green People Survey- it will take about 5 minutes to complete. You will be entered for a chance to win a \$50 gift card for Mountain Equipment Co-op! Winner will be drawn September 30th, 2018.

Thank you for sharing your thoughts with us!

[TAKE THE SURVEY](#)

## Fishing at the River Mouth

It's that time of year again! Many migratory fish species will begin moving from Lake Huron to the inland river systems to begin spawning. September to October is when you'll see species such as Chinook, Coho Salmon and Rainbow Trout moving into rivers. Take a moment to appreciate the spectacles or drop a line. Most of the fishing for these particular species take's place on piers



and at the river mouths, but also further inland. You'll find yellow perch, small mouth bass, and sunfish along the entire Lake Huron Shoreline.

Check out the Huron County Fishing and Paddling Guide for more information. Just remember before you cast your line make sure to obtain an Outdoors Card, Fishing License and know the regulations. Copies of the Guides are available at your local or regional Tourist Centres, or online.

Happy Fishing!

## Love Your Greats Day - September 15th

Join us in celebrating Love Your Greats Day in  
Goderich on **Saturday, September 15th.**

Registration opens at 10 am at **Pavilion 2** (in front of Beach Street Station). Bring reusable gloves!



[Pre-register for the Cleanup](#)

**As a non-profit, charitable organization, The Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation supports environmental efforts along the Canadian coast of Lake Huron. Thank you for supporting our Coastal Centre!**

**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!](#)**

