



Announcements

Claim Your Spot as a CCYC Participant in 2022!

The Coastal Conservation Youth Corps (CCYC) program engages local youth in Great Lakes science projects, building hands-on skills that complement the school curriculum, inspiring involvement in the local community and encouraging continuing education in the environment field. **Register now to claim your spot!**



Week-long Sessions (9:00-3:00 daily)

Group 1: July 11 - 15 Saugeen Shores- **FULL**
Group 2: July 18 - 22 Saugeen Shores
Group 3: July 25 - 29 Saugeen Shores
Group 4: August 8 -12 Goderich

Weekend Session (9:00-3:00)

Group 5: September 17/18 & October 1/2 Goderich

[Register now!](#)

Wild Rice & Fisheries Protection Webinar

Environment and Climate Change Canada

Join Environment and Climate Change Canada on **Tuesday, April 12, 2022 at 10 a.m. CT (11 a.m. ET)** for a one-hour public webinar. They will discuss wild rice and fisheries protection in the Lake Huron basin, the stressors affecting these resources, such as climate change, and actions the U.S. and Canada are taking to address these issues.

You will hear from guest speaker **Arunas Liskauskas of the Ontario Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry**, who will discuss the status and conditions of Lake Huron fisheries and current fish rehabilitation projects that will help protect this important resource.

You will also hear from **Jon Mauchmar of Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians**, who will discuss how environmental changes are affecting manoomin (wild rice) in the Great Lakes basin and restoration work to preserve this culturally significant plant.



Participants will have an opportunity to ask questions to experts.

This is a virtual webinar hosted on Zoom and is the latest in the webinar series 'Let's Talk Lake Huron' hosted by Environment and Climate Change Canada.

For questions, contact james.d.luke@usace.army.mil or carol.kim@ec.gc.ca.

Register
here!

Coast Watchers 2021 Annual Report

Findings from the Coast Watchers Report include qualitative and quantitative measurements taken by Coast Watcher citizen scientists from May 2021 - October 2021. These findings enable us to compare 2021 data to previous years to **determine trends** or **altered findings** over Coast Watcher's **17 year data set**.

Click below to learn about how atmospheric conditions, wildlife, algae blooms, beach litter, microplastics, human activity, storm and erosion damage has **impacted the Lake Huron Shoreline**.

Thank you to all of our dedicated Coast Watcher volunteer citizen scientists!

2021 Annual Coast Watchers Report

Become a Coast Watcher

Coast Watchers is generously funded by:



Microplastic Awareness Project

2021 Results

Microplastic was found in **83.3%** percent of the 24 samples collected at the beginning and end of the Coast Watcher season. When lake water samples were tested in 2018, **95.7%** of the samples contained microplastic. **Microfibers were the most common** microplastic found in **both** 2018 and 2021. This was expected since microfibers are **commonly released from clothing in washing machines**. If the washing machine does not have a microfiber filter they are released into the municipal wastewater system. Since microfibers are 100 times finer than a human hair, most wastewater treatment plants do not filter the fibers before they are released into Lake Huron.



Microplastic poses a risk to humans through contamination of drinking water. More research needs to be done to better understand how ingestion of microplastics can impact human health.

What is Buried in your Beach?

Treasure hunting has always been a past-time common along Lake Huron beaches. Some beachcombers focus on rocks of different colours and shapes, some go for the unusual piece of flotsam, while plastic shovels and pails meticulously create large water filled depressions for catching “elephants” and other imaginary species.

However, these past few years of high water on Lake Huron have uncovered all sorts of different items that were either forgotten or misunderstood. Wave action does an amazing job of redistributing beach material regardless of the material being sand, cobbles or rocks. This story is part of a series of articles titled “What is Buried in Your Beach?” planned to continue in future e-newsletters and will describe some of the items that our Coast Watchers and staff at the Coastal Centre have found over the past few years.

Buried Treasure – “Ship A-hoy!”

Point Clark, Huron Kinloss, Bruce County

The beach immediately south of Point Clark is a cobble beach with stones and elongated shaped rock deposits, shaped by the action of waves along this rocky point. Residents for several years have been collecting water-smoothed lumber and timbers that have been found scattered along the shore. It was only when in the spring of 2021 the partial deck of a former sailing ship was revealed complete with iron bars exposed those residents realized what was emerging was a ship wreck.

Marine archeologists were contacted, and the ship has been confirmed to be a schooner, named Homer Hine that sunk in 1883. Local media reported the beach treasure in May, 2021 describing the find and how the local community responded by assembling the found pieces and providing them to the archeologists for further analysis.



And what about you? What have you found? If you have an interesting item that was uncovered by the waves of Lake Huron, let us know so that we can include your description of them and a photo in future articles.

Stay tuned for future newsletters to find out what is buried in other Lake Huron beaches!

Article scribed by:
Patrick Donnelly, Coastal Science and Stewardship Advisor, Lake Huron Coastal Centre

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 TODAY!



www.lakehuron.ca