

## Authority Adopts New Logo

Over the years, the logo for the Conservation Authority has evolved. In 2011, we adopted a new logo to take us into our second fifty years. The "Conservation C" was adopted as the Conservation Ontario logo in 2004. As a proud member of this association and with the blessing of Conservation Ontario, we adopted the "Conservation C" as our logo as well. It symbolizes our commitment to the Conservation Authority family. With our name, St. Clair Conservation added, we also maintain our own identity and local priorities, one of the founding strengths of Conservation Authorities.

## Reel Paddling Film Festival

Join us to explore the outdoors through film. The St. Clair Region Conservation Authority and Canoe Water Adventuring are hosting the Reel Paddling Film Festival ([www.reelpaddlingfilmfestival.com](http://www.reelpaddlingfilmfestival.com)). Several award winning films on canoe and kayak adventure around the world featuring wildlife encounters, personal adventure and stunning scenery will be screened.

The festival is being held on Friday April 15 at 7:00 pm at the SDCI/Holy Cross Auditorium, Strathroy. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for students with all profits going to projects to protect species at risk. For tickets and information contact Kevan Baker, St. Clair Region Conservation Authority 519 245-3710 ext. 16 or Canoe Water Adventuring 519 246-1667.

## Conservation Scholarships Available

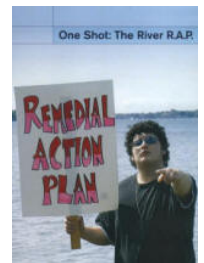
The St. Clair Region Conservation Authority is offering scholarships for graduating high school students who are continuing in post secondary studies in a conservation field (biology, ecology, geography, forestry, fish and wildlife etc.). Applicants must be from one of the schools within the jurisdiction of the SCRCA. There are up to two \$1,000 awards and two \$500 awards available for successful candidates. These scholarships are provided by trust funds established through the St. Clair Region Conservation Foundation. Applications can be found at [www.scrca.on.ca](http://www.scrca.on.ca) under downloads or from the guidance departments at local secondary schools. Deadline for applications is May 31, 2011.

## Sansin Supports Tree Planting

For the second year trees and shrubs were purchased with the help of funds donated by Sansin to support reforestation projects in the community of Strathroy - Caradoc. On May 11, schools throughout the community will take part in a tree planting day at the Gemini Sports Complex. Sansin is a local company that has pioneered the use of environmentally-friendly water-borne wood protection technologies.

## Friends of the St. Clair River Support Education

Friends of the St. Clair River donated funds to support the Conservation Authority's St. Clair River RAP program. This program teaches the students about the impairments to the St. Clair River and the progress toward the goal of delisting the river as an Area of Concern.



## Spring Tree Planting to Begin Soon

Spring tree planting season begins mid-April. Thousands of trees are on order for this spring's planting activities. Approximately 7,000 trees will be purchased and planted by landowners. Another 60,000 trees will be planted by Conservation Authority staff. In addition to the seedling program, staff will continue to work on the Twin Creeks Landfill site in Watford to establish a "green" screening berm. Last year more than 850 large stock coniferous trees and 275 large stock deciduous trees were planted. The final phase of the berm construction was completed last fall by Waste Management and tree planting is scheduled this spring to finish off the site.



To find out more about SCRCA tree planting programs and grants available for landowners please contact Steve Shaw or Tim Payne at 519 245-3710.



## Maple Syrup Festival

Over 2,000 people visited the A.W. Campbell Conservation Area to experience the sights, sounds and smells of one of the oldest industries in Canada. The 39th Annual Maple Syrup Festival was held on March 19 - 20. The Alvinston Firemen's Association provided the traditional pancake and sausage meals at the Alvinston Community Centre.



*2,000 people visited the A.W. Campbell Conservation Area during the 39th annual Maple Syrup Festival held March 19 - 20.*

## Campgrounds Open April 29

Staff are busy preparing the campgrounds for the April 29 opening. The Authority operates three regional campgrounds: Lorne C. Henderson C.A., Enniskillen Township; Warwick C.A., Warwick Township; and the A.W. Campbell C.A. in Brooke-Alvinston and Southwest Middlesex Townships. In total, there are over 500 serviced campsites. We expect to attract about 370 seasonal campers with the rest of the sites available for overnight camping. Overnight campsites are booking up quickly so you may wish to make your reservation soon. The campgrounds offer sites serviced with hydro and water, swimming pools, playgrounds and nature trails.

**A.W. Campbell Conservation Area 519 847-5357**  
**L. C. Henderson Conservation Area 519 882-2280**  
**Warwick Conservation Area 519 849-6770**

## Conservation Foundation Holds Annual Meeting

Duncan Skinner was elected President and Lynn Goddard was elected Vice President at St. Clair Region Conservation Foundation's Annual Meeting held on March 3. The Foundation raises funds for Conservation Authority programs and projects. In 2011, the Foundation has committed to supporting conservation education, tree planting and the construction of a new visitor centre at the Lorne C. Henderson Conservation Area.

## Conservation Authority Receives Grants for Employment Programs

**Career Focus:** Two post secondary school graduates will be able to gain valuable work experience through this federal program. The SCRCA received \$29,000 to hire two technical positions for a period of 26 weeks.

**Summer Experience Program:** A summer student will be working out of the A.W. Campbell Conservation Area under the Summer Experience Program assisting with a number of projects including maintenance of the Conservation Authority stream gauge network. The grant of \$2,700 will employ this student for 7 weeks.

**Summer Job Service:** Application has been made for wage subsidies for 14 summer positions including tree planters and campground staff.

**Canada Summer Jobs:** Application has been made for campground Visitor Services position for 16 weeks.

**Job Creation Partnership:** Application has been made for a contribution agreement worth \$151,000 with the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities under the Job Creation Partnership program to provide employment training for 8 people for 30 to 52 weeks.

## Canoe Race - April 17

The Sydenham River Canoe Race is fast approaching. Each year, about 70 canoes and kayaks compete in one of several classes. There are classes ranging from the 12-mile competitive races to the 5-mile recreation race. Funds raised from the canoe race go toward conservation education. Conservation Authority board members and municipal councilors are invited to join the VIP class for some friendly inter-municipal competition. To find out more, visit our website at [www.scrca.on.ca](http://www.scrca.on.ca) or call Sharon at 519 882-2399.



## Reporting on Lambton Natural Heritage

In 2010 the Ontario Trillium Foundation approved a \$75,000 grant over three years to the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority to help develop a Natural Heritage Strategy for Lambton County. The grant provides funds for field surveys. During the first field season, landowners of nine woodlands generously approved access to their properties for this study. North-South Environmental surveyed sites in seven municipalities, providing records for over 350 plants species and 46 species of birds, reptiles, amphibians and mammals. They noted many healthy woodlands with a rich diversity of native plants and animals, and also observed sites with their diversity negatively affected by drainage ditches, Emerald Ash borer, invasive plant species and/or logging.

Regionally rare birds or plants were noted at every site. Birds which require deep woodlands to breed, like the melodic Wood Thrush and the beautiful Scarlet Tanager, were also noted. This field work indicates that the woodlands of Lambton, large and small, indeed do support Lambton's Natural Heritage.

The Natural Heritage Study is led by Lambton County, working with the SCRCA, the City of Sarnia, Carolinian Canada Coalition and the Sarnia Urban Wildlife Committee. The study will provide information to help Lambton protect a functioning natural heritage system and sustain a healthy environment for all residents in Lambton County.



photos courtesy of Ronny D'Haene



### St. Clair Region Conservation Authority

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member of



**Next Board Meeting**  
**Thursday, April 21, 2011**  
**10:00 am**  
**Administration Office**