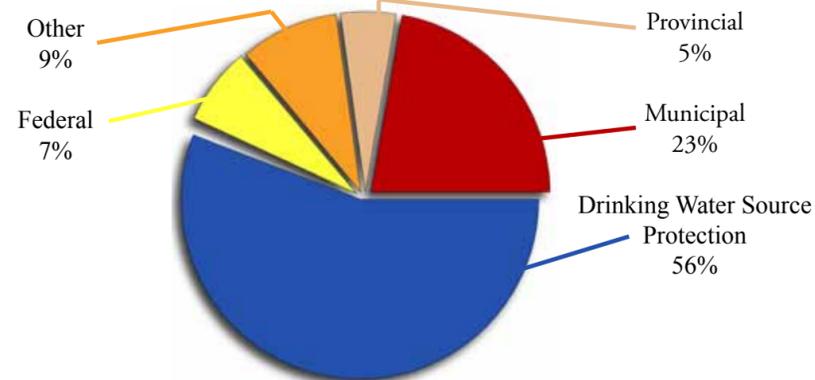
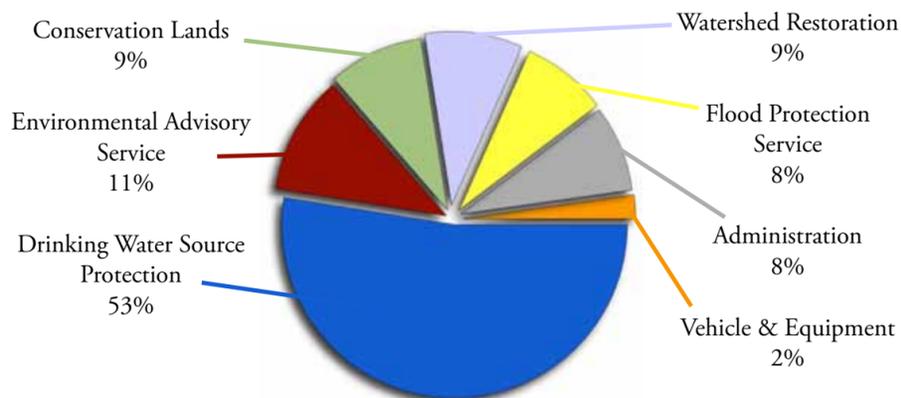


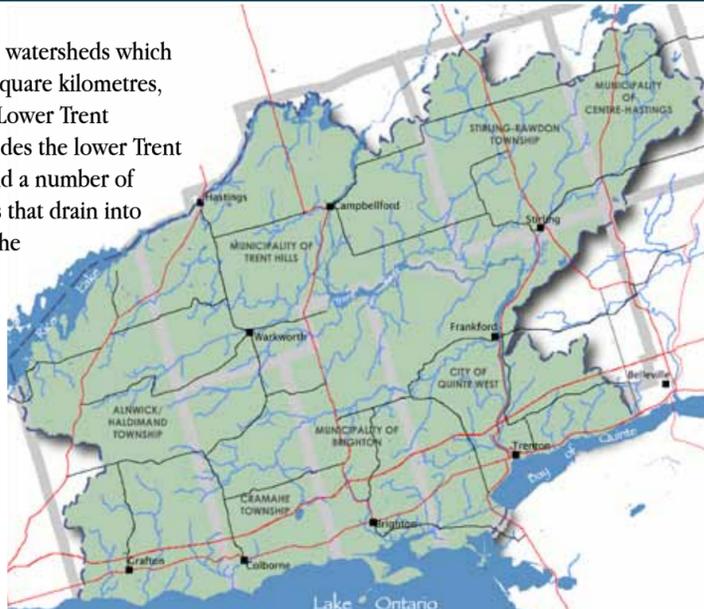
2007 Revenue \$2,742,860



2007 Expenses \$2,742,860



Based on several watersheds which encompass 2,121 square kilometres, the jurisdiction of Lower Trent Conservation includes the lower Trent River watershed and a number of smaller watersheds that drain into Lake Ontario and the Bay of Quinte.



Our mission is to deliver conservation services to protect and manage our local environment. Fulfilling our mission requires coordinated planning, communication with others, and cooperative action.

Our Watershed

2007 Annual Report



Lower Trent Conservation
714 Murray Street, R.R.1
Trenton, ON
K8V 5P4

613-394-4829

information@ltc.on.ca

www.ltc.on.ca



LOWER TRENT CONSERVATION

Message from the General Manager



So much has been accomplished for conservation in the Lower Trent watershed region and yet so much remains to be done. When the Conservation Authority was formed in 1968, there were 21 Board members and one part time employee. Today, there are 10 Board members and 21 employees. I am proud to be a part of this dedicated team of members and staff working towards our vision of healthy watersheds with natural areas for all to share.

In 2007 Lower Trent Conservation issued its first watershed report card. The report card is available online at www.ltc.on.ca or by contacting our office. Some of the features of the watershed received high marks while others need work. The stresses on our watershed are increasing. We cannot rest on the success we have achieved for much remains to be done.

Collaboration with our many partners is key to the success of the watershed programs and projects required to protect and improve the environmental health of the lower Trent watershed. Working together with others has been one of the biggest reasons for past success. This approach will continue to be central to our ongoing efforts to secure the health of our local watershed and the natural areas within.

Jim Kelleher

Drinking Water Source Protection

Under the umbrella of the Trent Conservation Coalition, Lower Trent Conservation has partnered with four other Conservation Authorities across the Trent/Ganaraska River watersheds (Crowe Valley, Ganaraska Region, Kawartha Region and Otonabee Conservation Authorities) to assist in the development of local source protection plans.



The Trent Conservation Coalition Source Protection Committee (SPC) was formed November 2007 as part of the Ontario Government's *Clean Water Act* requirements. The SPC will oversee the process of gathering information about the watershed, assessing threats and assembling this information into a comprehensive Source Protection Plan.

Municipalities in the Lower Trent watershed region appoint representatives to the Board of Directors. The 10 Board members oversee the activities of the Conservation Authority and report back to their municipal councils. Seven municipalities represent the public's interests:

Alnwick/Haldimand Art Jeninga	Cramahe Patricia Westrope	Trent Hills Hector Macmillan Dean Peters
Brighton Craig Kerr Mike Vandertoorn	Quinte West Jim Alyea Jim Harrison	
Centre Hastings Tom Simpson	Stirling-Rawdon Barry Cooper	

Lower Trent Conservation monitors, evaluates and reports on our watershed's existing conditions which allow us to offer important environmental services and programs to municipalities and the watershed community.

Many development activities in environmentally sensitive areas such as wetlands, shorelines and waterways can damage the environment or pose a threat to public safety. Provincial policies, and provincial and federal legislation are in place to help control such activities. Lower Trent Conservation offers advice to municipalities, landowners and developers to help them meet provincial policy requirements and to ensure compliance with government legislation. These services also ensure environmental integrity and protect people and property from flooding and erosion hazards.

Long-term strategies, including watershed plans, natural heritage strategies and shoreline management plans, also help guide land use and resource management decisions.

Lower Trent Conservation provides a flood protection service to local municipalities and the general public to reduce the risk of property damage and loss of life from natural hazards such as flooding and erosion.

Twelve water control structures including a dam, flood walls, berms, weirs and overflow channels help to protect existing development from potential flood damages. Ongoing inspection and maintenance ensure these structures continue to function as designed.

Water and flow levels along the region's waterways and weather forecasts are monitored daily as part of a flood forecasting and warning system intended to provide the earliest possible notification to municipalities and the public of the potential for flooding.

Regulation of construction activities in environmentally sensitive areas such as wetlands, shorelines and waterways ensure that activities in these areas will not result in a risk to public safety or property damage. This preventative approach also ensures that wetlands, shorelines and waterways are protected.

Lower Trent Conservation owns 3800 acres of natural open space. These forests, valleys, meadows and wetlands form part of a regional system of protected landscapes that depict the natural diversity of the region. They are special places in the watershed that are protected from development, where the natural world comes first.

There are 17 properties in total that range in size from small parkettes to over 650 hectares. Ten properties are classified as Conservation Areas and provide venues for healthy and active lifestyles such as hiking, bicycling, fishing, canoeing and other recreational activities to residents and tourists alike. Seven Natural Habitat Areas, while open to the public, are left in a natural state with no maintained trails or recreational facilities.

While Lower Trent Conservation believes that prevention is the most cost-effective method of protecting and enhancing the many natural features of our watershed region, there is still a role to play in restoration efforts. By establishing partnerships with other agencies, we offer technical and some financial assistance to private, public and corporate landowners, community groups and individual residents on practices that enhance, restore or protect their properties. Restoration activities allow for a hands-on approach to watershed protection.

Highlights-----

Reviewed 155 municipal planning applications for environmental concerns.

Sampled benthic invertebrates at 42 stream sites. These are insects that live in the bottom of streams, and are excellent indicators of water quality.

Maintained 11 groundwater monitoring wells which provide data on groundwater quantity and quality.

Surface water quality sampled and analyzed at nine locations for several different parameters in partnership with the Ministry of the Environment.

Offered GIS mapping services to member municipalities for their Official Plans and Zoning By-Laws.

Assisted with the source protection planning process as a partner in the Trent Conservation Coalition including preparation of a watershed characterization report for the Lower Trent watershed region

First Watershed Report Card released to provide a comprehensive report on watershed health and grades for three environmental indicators - surface water quality, groundwater quality, and forest cover.



Highlights-----

Issued 120 permits for development activities adjacent to wetlands, watercourses, and shorelines.

Operated and maintained nine stream gauge stations as part of our flood forecasting and warning system.

A minor spring runoff and no major storm events required only two Watershed Conditions Bulletins being issued for local waterways.

Increased base flow (low flow) monitoring sites from 44 to 297. Data collected will help quantify the amount of stream flow arriving from groundwater.

Work completed on flood control projects included minor maintenance to Stirling Flood Control channel, safety improvements at Warkworth Dam, and vegetation removal along Mayhew Creek Flood Control channel.



Highlights-----

Inventories of vegetation, birds, reptiles and amphibians conducted in the Burnley Creek Natural Habitat Area to help create a management plan.

New trail improvements at Bleasdell Boulder Conservation Area in partnership with the Bleasdell Boulder Preservation Corporation.

Prescribed burn of seven acres and planting of native plant species at Seymour Conservation Area to re-establish oak savannah habitat.

Trenton Greenbelt Conservation Area savannah restoration continued with removal of non-native species and monitoring of introduced native grasses.

100 hardwood seedlings planted at Keating-Hoards Natural Habitat Area.

98 participants attended our 4th annual Seymour Family Fishing Day held at Seymour Conservation Area.

Seymour Conservation Area benefitted from trail improvements, signage, and accessible privy.

Surface improvements made to the Jack Lange Memorial Walkway located in the Trenton Greenbelt Conservation Area.



Highlights-----

Sold 17,700 tree seedlings to residents as part of the Tree Seedling Stock Program.

250 butternut tree seedlings given away free to residents as part of the Butternut Recovery Program, funded by the Trent-Severn Waterway through Parks Canada's Species at Risk program.

Through the Caring for the Moraine project, a landowner stewardship program was created for the Rice Lake Plains area, one of the most intriguing areas located at the eastern end of the Moraine.

Lead a partnership between nine environmental organizations and individuals to protect Species at Risk in the lower Trent river.

Promoted the Greencover Canada program in cooperation with the Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association available through the Environmental Farm Plan.



Need a permit?

If your property is adjacent to a river or valley system, wetland, significant natural feature or the Lake Ontario/Bay of Quinte shoreline, you must receive written permission from Lower Trent Conservation before initiating certain types of work.

Need more information?

We are always here to help you and provide you with information regarding any of our programs and services. A copy of the Audited Financial Statement is also available upon request.

Information & Education-----

Ongoing efforts to inform and educate the watershed community are achieved through special events, guest speaking engagements, workshops, web site developments, volunteer activities, displays, publications, advertising, newspaper articles, and much more.

In 2007 LTC promoted its activities at 15 exhibitor shows and special events, participated in 19 public speaking engagements, coordinated 47 volunteers who dedicated over 400 hours to various projects, issued 20 press releases to watershed media, and brought 159 children who attended the Goodrich-Loomis Nature Camp a little closer to nature.

