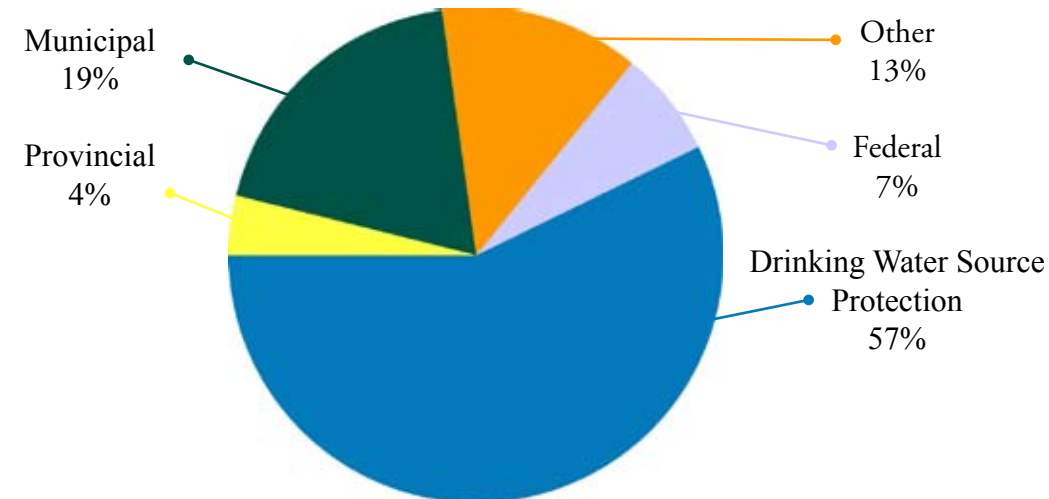
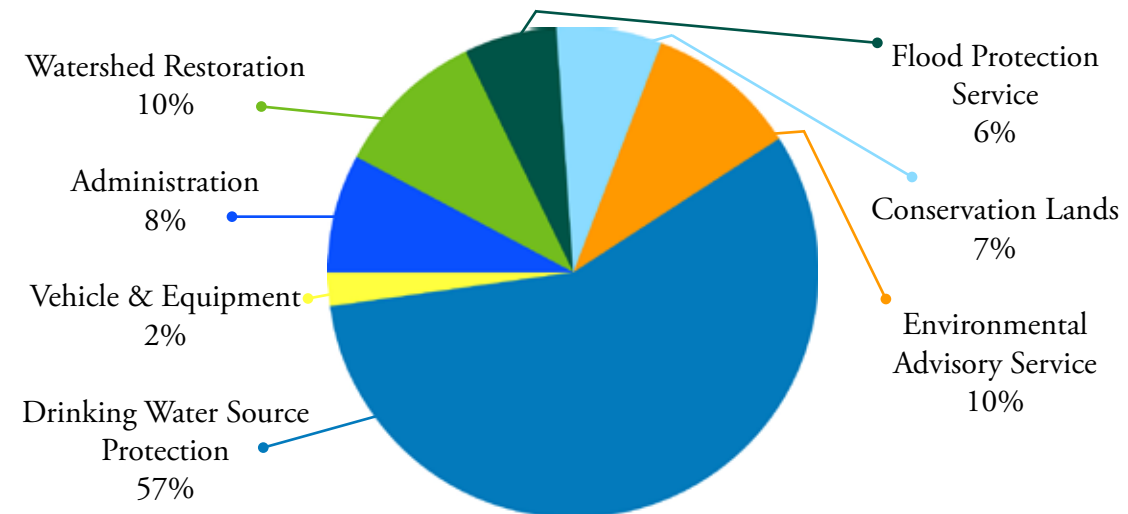


2008 Revenue - \$3,380,900



2008 Expenses - \$3,380,900



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.



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Our Watershed

2008 Annual Report

Message from the General Manager



In May 2008, Lower Trent Conservation celebrated its first 40 years of watershed conservation. What a difference 40 years makes. So much has been accomplished for conservation in the Lower Trent watershed region and yet so much remains to be done. At a time when being green is in vogue and at the top of mind for so many people, I am proud to say that we have been working to protect and restore the local environment for the past 40 years.

The success of our conservation program has always been heavily dependent on partnerships with all levels of government, a wide array of non-government organizations, community groups, and individuals. With a greater awareness of the importance of our natural environment, I look forward to expanding our relationships with others to further our vision of healthy watersheds for now and future generations.

This region is blessed with healthy and diverse ecosystems. Careful planning and ongoing conservation services are required to ensure its future health and of those that live here. 2009 promises to be another exciting and challenging year and I look forward to working with all of our partners to protect our natural environment.

Jim Kelleher

Drinking Water Source Protection

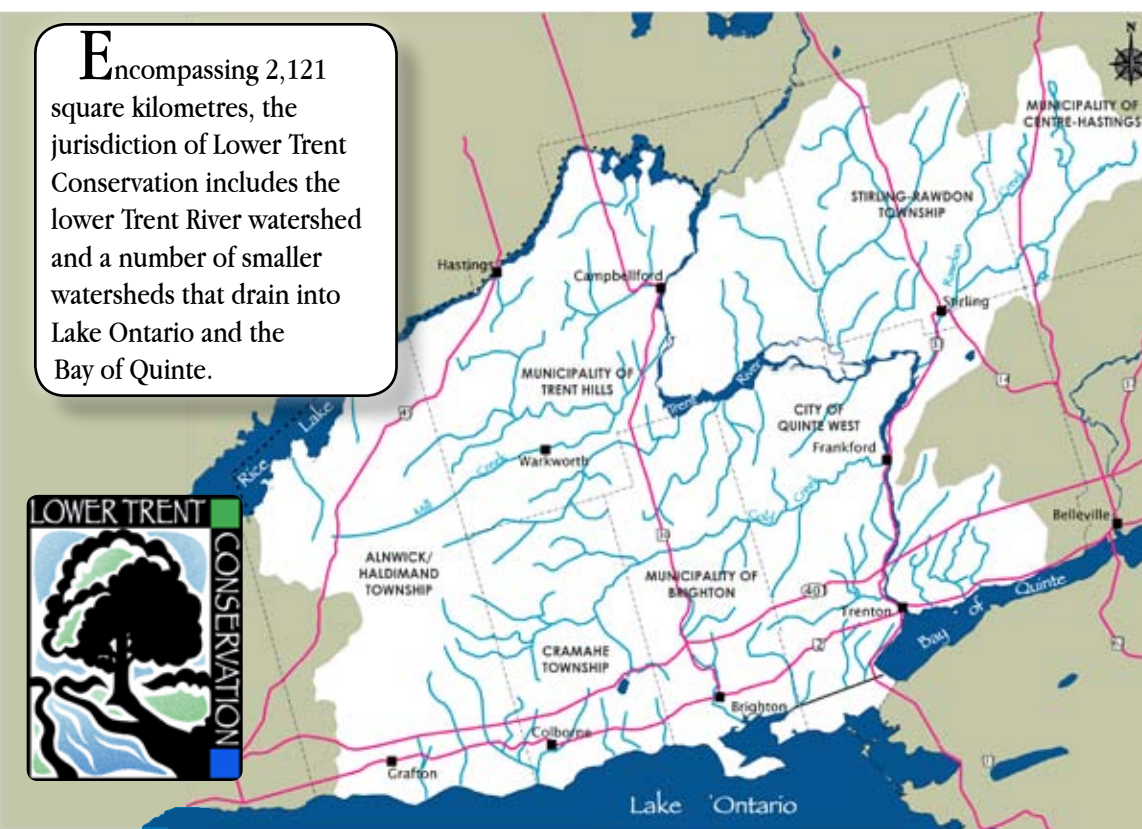
Under the umbrella of the Trent Conservation Coalition, Lower Trent Conservation has partnered with four other Conservation Authorities across the Trent/Ganaraska River watersheds (Crowe Valley, Ganaraska Region, Kawartha Region and Otonabee Conservation Authorities) to assist in the development of local source protection plans. 2008 saw the completion of the Terms of Reference (ToR) by the Source Protection Committee. The ToR outlines the steps to be taken to develop a plan to protect water supplies for drinking water systems including estimated costs and time lines.

Public meetings were held and municipalities and others were invited to review and comment on the Proposed Terms of Reference. The documents were submitted to the Minister of the Environment for approval in October. The next phase of the Source Protection Program is the completion of the Assessment Report, which will identify and assess threats to the quantity and quality of drinking water sources.



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



Lower Trent Conservation uses 100% post-consumer paper that meets the following specifications:



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. 🌿

Highlights

Reviewed 172 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.

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

Public invited to review updated Planning Policy during an open house in October.

Assisted with the source protection planning process as a partner in the Trent Conservation Coalition including review of the Water Budget, technical studies, Terms of Reference and the completion of the Watershed Characterization Report.



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.

Lower Trent Conservation provides services 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. 🌿

Highlights

Issued 114 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.

Record amounts of snowfall resulted in a major flood event on the Trent River creating the need for sandbagging in Quinte West, and Trent Hills declaring a State of Emergency. 13 flood messages were issued during the event.

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

25 flood messages issued throughout the year.



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.

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. 🌿

Highlights

Field surveys conducted for Species at Risk at Keating-Hoards Natural Habitat Area.

New trail improvements and foot bridge completed at Bleasdel Boulder Conservation Area.

1750 native plants planted at Seymour Conservation Area.

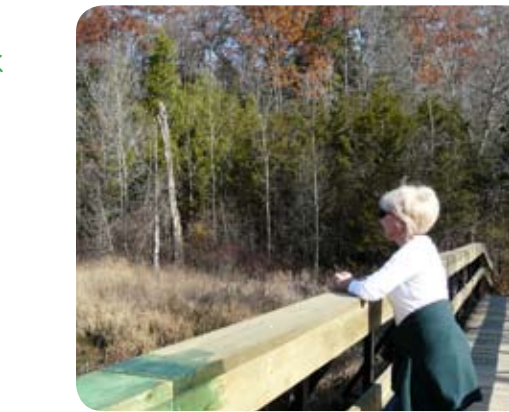
Trenton Greenbelt Conservation Area savannah restoration continued with a Volunteer Planting Day with funds and volunteer help provided by the Home Depot Evergreen Grant program.

800 foot trail loop extended to the Jack Lange Memorial Walkway on the Trenton Greenbelt Conservation Area.

Memorial tree and plaque installed at Proctor Park Conservation Area in memory of Roy Rittwage.

New improvements to Sager Conservation Area including new information kiosk.

5th Annual Seymour Family Fishing Day held at Seymour Conservation Area a huge success.



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

Sold over 21,000 tree seedlings to residents as part of our Tree Seedling Stock Program.

300 Butternut tree seedlings provided free to residents as part of the Butternut Recovery Program, funded by the Parks Canada-Trent-Severn Waterway Species at Risk program.

10,300 native trees, grasses & wildflowers planted on the Oak Ridges Moraine with private landowners through the Caring for the Moraine Project.

Lead a partnership between nine environmental organizations and individuals to protect Species at Risk along the Trent-Severn Waterway.

The Bay of Quinte Remedial Action Plan monitored flora and fauna within 14 coastal wetlands in the Bay of Quinte, surveyed over 150 shoreline landowners, and hosted many workshops and presentations.

Administered the Ontario Drinking Water Stewardship Fund, a program to assist landowners and businesses with projects that protect local sources of drinking water.



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 2008 LTC promoted its activities at 15 exhibitor shows and special events, participated in 19 public speaking engagements, coordinated 10 volunteers who dedicated over 196 hours to various projects, issued 20 press releases to watershed media, and brought 138 children who attended the Goodrich-Loomis Nature Camp a little closer to nature. 🌿

