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FALL ISSUE 2014

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THE SEASON OF CHANGE

“Autumn, the year’s last, loveliest smile.”

William Cullen Bryant

As autumn brings changes to our backdoor, so it does to our Conservation Authority. Fall has brought changes to our lake levels, via the fall “draw down” (p.3) and to our CA lands (p.2).

The Crowe continues to adapt as the world changes around us at an increasing speed. Two new changes that we are excited to report are our new website at crowevalley.com, and our new logo! What do you think? Flip the page to see what our new logo means to us.



New Logo



Old Logo

OUR NEW LOGO



As you can see, we've decided on a very clean crisp image of a flying crow which makes the logo instantly recognizable and serves as a visual link to our presence in the watershed.

We also believe it embodies the principles of the Crowe Valley Conservation Authority as the organization and our community partners look forward to the future "flying high" over the watershed. The crow portrays an omnipotent presence looking out for the balance between the environment, visitors and residents.

Updating our logo is a wonderful step to demonstrate our long term commitment and continued role to provide our watershed residents with the services and programs that will protect our beautiful watershed and the people who enjoy it.

THE GUT CAMPAIGN PROGRESS



Photos taken by Justin Anderson – Radio Personality with Rock 107.1 FM

One of CVCA's most beloved properties, The Gut Conservation Area, has improved greatly from having its access road upgraded and restored. A big Thank You to JM Longyear for working with our General Manager, Tim Pidduck, to establish this partnership! This kick starts our Gut campaign, which aims to raise \$7,500.00 to complete the restoration of the Gut Conservation Area.



Norwood District High School were the first to start the restoration of The Gut Conservation Area in 2013. As a result, we launched the Gut Campaign, inviting our community to join us in the effort of making the Gut more accessible. All of the funds raised go towards purchasing a new out house facility as well as the materials needed to restore the stairs and railings. This project creates stronger outdoor recreational opportunities for members of our community. The success of this initiative relies solely on generous in-kind and financial donations from you, our watershed residents.

HOW TO DONATE?

We accept donations in the form of cash, cheque, visa, in-kind donations of materials, and online donations as well. All donations of \$20.00 and above are eligible for a tax receipt. For more information, please phone us at **613-472-3137** or email: corpserv@crowevalley.com.

THE FALL DRAW DOWN

It's that time of year again; the Crowe Valley Conservation Authority fall drawdown has begun! But, what exactly is the drawdown, why do it, who "calls the shots", when does it start and end and where does it happen?

The fall drawdown is part of the CVCA Water Management service provided to residents in the watershed for a number of reasons. First and foremost, the fall drawdown is conducted by the CVCA on all of the major lakes in the watershed with water control structures (dams) to lower the lake levels to a winter lake level. It is the lowering of the water on these lakes to create "storage capacity" for the spring freshet (runoff). This extra capacity helps the CVCA to mitigate any potential flooding resulting from the freshet. Typically, the lowering of the lakes averages approximately 35 – 40 centimeters (14 to 16 inches), depending on the lake and the dam's discharge capacity. This water management strategy is essential to assist in protecting lives and property during a flood.

The drawdown completion is targeted for mid to end November so that our lakes are at their winter levels before the winter freeze begins.

Remember to remove your docks (if possible) and any other items out of the flood plain as you close down the cottage for the winter. Water is a powerful force and can easily damage property or sweep it away when flows are high.

SUMMER MONITORING PROGRAM

Watershed monitoring helps us identify issues, project future conditions, focus natural resource management actions where they are needed most and track progress over time.

Regular reporting assists with targeting rehabilitation and protection programs, improving accountability to the public, municipalities and other stakeholders, as well as supporting some of the broader reporting requirements of the provincial government.

Monitoring helps provide information for local watershed plans and programs.

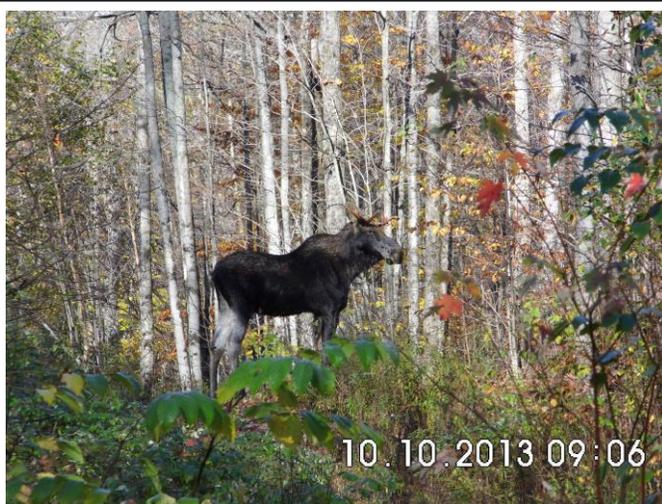
At specific sites across the watershed, we currently monitor:

- Surface water quality
- Ground water quality, and
- Benthos monitoring

Do you know we have a Crowe Valley Watershed Report Card that summarized our monitoring efforts and grades our watershed on overall health?

Visit our website to see what grade was received when we analyzed years of our monitoring data!

SPOTTED AROUND THE WATERSHED!



This moose was spotted in the CVCA watershed during Fall of 2013! What amazing things have you seen in the watershed?

Send us your photos!
info@crowevalley.com



Crowe Valley Conservation Authority is a proud member of Conservation Ontario, the umbrella organization for the 36 conservation authorities in Ontario.

2014 SUMMER IN REVIEW

- Water Levels throughout the year remained at or near the projected summer levels. Due to an average amount of rainfall staff maintained set levels on most of the lakes all summer long. As a result, the Marmora hydro generation station was able to run all year round, generating above average revenue for the CVCA.
- Belmont Lake Dam – 2 end bays and sill logs temporarily sealed to help prevent the lake from dropping below summer level – Thank you to Belmont Lake Cottage Association and HBM Council for financial support for completion of this project.
- Update on Regulations (Planning and Permits) from May-September, 2014:
 - 97 permits processed
 - 49 planning files reviewed
- The official Gut Campaign has been launched with a goal to raise \$7,500.00 over the next year
- We proudly launched our new website – www.crovevalley.com
- 2013 was the first year in the CVCA's Long Range Plan (LRP). The CVCA staff focused on the LRP priorities, implementing safety improvements to three dams and the installation of a server at the administrative office

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN LATE 2014

- The Source Water Protection Plan is expected to be approved with implementation of new policies in the watershed for early 2015. This Plan applies to municipal drinking water systems that are located within the Crowe Valley Conservation Authority watershed, including Havelock, Marmora, Dyno Estates, and Cardiff.
- 2014 WECI Projects – The installation of rock bolt to stabilize the Belmont Lake dam is scheduled to begin in mid to late October, this work is a key component to stabilizing the structure of Belmont dam
- The Gut restoration campaign continues! www.crovevalley.com/en/foundation/projects.html



COTTAGE RENTAL

The Conley Drinkwater Cottage is located on the McGeachie Conservation Area (586 acres) on beautiful Steenburg Lake. This cottage is easily accessible, in a quiet location and is rich in history. The cottage and the property were donated to CVCA by the McGeachie family in October of 1994. The cottage has become a popular summer vacation for many families.

Call now to book your fall getaway and enjoy the beautiful colours of fall! We are also taking reservations for summer 2015. To make your reservation, contact us!

