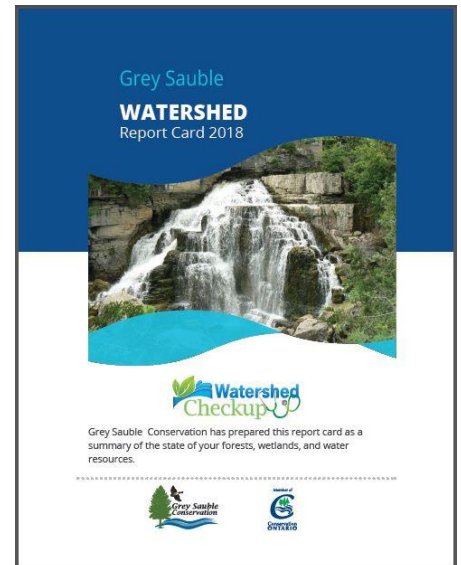
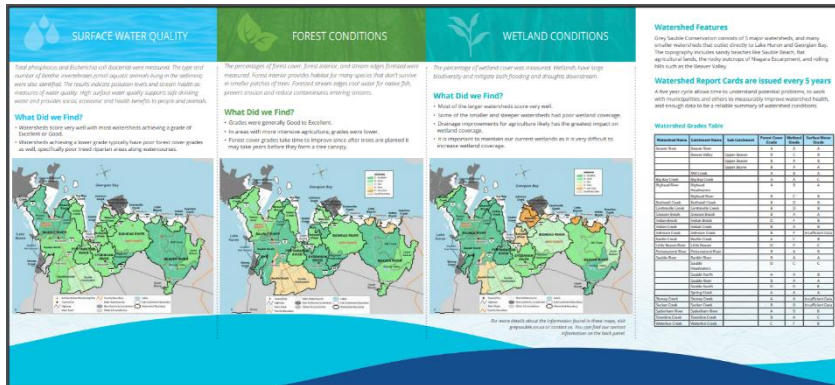


GREY SAUBLE CONSERVATION

Board Meeting Highlights 03/28/2018



- Directors and staff expressed appreciation for the Resolutions supporting increased base funding to Conservation Authorities directed to Premier Kathleen Wynne from the Township of Chatsworth, the Municipality of Arran-Elderslie, and the Municipality of Grey Highlands.
- The Board strongly supported extending the Memorandum of Understanding with Grey County for an additional year. Under this agreement GSC staff deliver trails management, forest management and forest management bylaw work on behalf of Grey County.
- The five-year update of the 2018 Watershed Report Card is on the GSC website. We have worked hard with lots of help from partners, stakeholders and municipalities and our results have stayed quite good. On March 22nd, World Water Day, GSC issued a media release. As part of the Watershed Report Card roll out, copies will be provided to municipalities, and shared with stakeholders and partners. GSC would be pleased to come to councils or other group to speak about the report card and what it says about our watersheds.



- GSC with funding from MNRF is leading the Southern Georgian Bay Coastal Initiative, a three-year broad-based collaborative initiative to develop an overall shoreline strategy, build capacity to understand Georgian Bay on- and near-shore habitats, and to harmonize regulatory and conservation approaches. The work is intended to support conservation organizations and municipalities in making decisions around development and to protect or rehabilitate habitats. It also provides communication products intended to positively influence individual landowners' and partner groups shoreline activities and stewardship activities.
- Each of the three Source Protection Authorities that make up the Saugeen, Grey Sauble, Northern Bruce Peninsula Drinking Water Source Protection Region appoint members to the Management Committee. Cathy Little, Al Barfoot, and Sonya Skinner were appointed to represent GSC.

- The MOECC Great Lakes Guardian Fund approved the GSC application to deliver a \$25,000 water quality improvement program on the Indian Creek Watershed in Georgian Bluffs, including tree planting and livestock exclusion fencing along waterways and clean water diversion around barn yards.



SAMPLE PROJECT

- The Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors endorsed the Staff Priorities/CAO's Performance Plan for 2018. The Plan includes: 1) Better Monitor and Manage Flood Risks; 2) Enhance Current Land Management; 3) Support more Educational Programs and Engage Public with the Environment and GSC; 4) Improved Water Quality; 5) Support Development of Watershed Plans with Municipalities; and 6) Other Priorities such as deliver updated GSC Strategic Plan in partnership with Board; Continue to search for new revenues options; Develop a lands data model.
- The Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors appointed Cathy Little, Dick Hibma, Sue Carleton, and Jaden Calvert to work with the CAO and several staff to investigate the creation of an Indigenous Relationships Sub-Committee.
- Under the Provincial Policy Statement, it is mandatory for municipalities to have a watershed plan to guide decisions made under the Planning Act. The province has posted a draft of what the planning approach and plan should contain on the Environmental Registry for comments. The Board endorsed the following input:
 - *Overall, the document provides an excellent aspirational articulation of what watershed plans should contain. However, Conservation Authorities must be mandatory partners in the development of watershed plans.*
 - *The document appears to assign to municipalities roles that have in the past been under the jurisdiction of the province, such as making the decision to limit new development based on water quality, determining thresholds for the cumulative effects of developments and limiting emissions beyond that threshold.*
 - *To-date most emissions have had a related provincial permission (such as Environmental Compliance Approval or a Nutrient Management Act approval). Other than through Drinking Water Source Protection Plans, municipalities and Conservation Authorities are generally not delegated provincial regulatory powers or instruments to control emissions.*
 - *The province should also discuss with municipalities, Conservation Authorities and Conservation Ontario how the development of watershed plans will be funded, considering the modernization of funding commitments made during the recent update of the Conservation Authorities Act.*