

# DUCK'ntario



WINTER 2022 – VOLUME 28

NEWS FOR YOU FROM DUCKS UNLIMITED CANADA

UNLIMITED IMPACT. UNLIMITED POTENTIAL.

**ONE MILLION  
ACRES  
CONSERVED  
IN ONTARIO**

**\$6M WETLANDS  
CONSERVATION  
PARTNER  
PROGRAM**

**CHASING  
PHRAGMITES**

**FALL FLIGHTS  
RENEWED**

**NEW YOUTH  
COUNCIL**



## **We've surpassed an incredible milestone.** Your support and our hard work have resulted in more than one million acres of nature conserved in Ontario.

It's been an unprecedented year for wetland restoration in Southern Ontario. The Ontario team completed more than 100 conservation projects in 2021, thanks in part to a historic investment by the provincial government. We hope you will celebrate this conservation milestone with us. We've protected 4,000 square kilometres of natural beauty in Ontario together and we want everyone, especially our friends and supporters, to enjoy it.

Since 1974, we've completed more than 5,000 conservation projects in this province. Together with conservation-minded landowners, both public and private, we are making progress on conserving important wetlands across the province.

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### **About the cover image**

A mallard hen with duckling.

© JEREMY HYNES

### **DUC'TARIO: NEWS FOR YOU FROM DUCKS UNLIMITED CANADA**

**DUC'tario** is a newsletter for Ducks Unlimited Canada volunteers, project landowners and other partners in conservation in Ontario. We strive to inform and engage our valued supporters with stories and news about the people, projects and events that make up our Ontario community.

### **CONTACT US**

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**We're glad you're here.** Search for **@DUCOntario** to join us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. You can also join us on LinkedIn.

# Support renewed for Fall Flights Program

**I**n 2021, the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies renewed their commitment to the Fall Flights program, which funds critical waterfowl habitat work across Canadian breeding grounds. For three decades, the Fall Flights program has delivered pivotal habitat that supports the goals of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan.

State Fish and Wildlife Agencies in the United States are champions for collaborative conservation and we need that to effectively steward our shared wildlife resources. Since 1991, state wildlife agencies have contributed more than \$88 million to help conserve millions of acres of habitat across Canada.

The Fall Flights program provides the important “first dollar” that leverages matching funds towards eligibility for grants under the U.S. federal North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA). DUC and our sister organization, Ducks Unlimited Inc., commit to match every dollar contributed by the state agencies with one dollar from our own fundraising efforts.

In this way, Fall Flights has been the catalyst for millions of acres of habitat conservation in Canada.

## Renewed commitment to waterfowl breeding landscapes

Prior to the renewed commitment, the Fall Flights Presidential Task Force reviewed progress made in the program and provided recommendations. The commitment includes an interim goal of \$5 million in annual contributions to increase investment in the Canadian breeding grounds which provide a significant portion of North America’s waterfowl and other migratory birds.

While all habitat is important to the lifecycles of waterfowl, science shows that breeding landscapes in Canada are critical to ensuring continental populations remain healthy and sustainable. The Fall Flights program, including Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, South Carolina, Alabama and our newest this year Pennsylvania, demonstrates the success and impact of leveraging resources across borders to the benefit of both countries.



*The Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies and all the contributing states, whose dollars are the first step in leveraging important matching funds, have renewed their support for Canadian habitat conservation.*

**Below:** The future of Hillman Marsh is secure thanks to the conservation commitment of Fall Flights partners—wonderful news for waterfowl and other wildlife, and for the thousands of humans who visit the nature centre, trails and viewing towers at the Hillman Marsh Conservation Area.



# Ontario's Wetlands Conservation Partner Program

UNPRECEDENTED COMMITMENT BY LANDOWNERS  
TO WETLAND RESTORATION

**D**emand for wetland restoration is at an all-time high as landowners of all kinds connect healthy landscapes with clean water and flood management for their communities. In 2021, we were able to meet some of the demand thanks to support from the Government of Ontario.

DUC received \$6 million for wetland restoration from the province, scaling up a longstanding conservation partnership that contributes to both climate resiliency and green jobs in Ontario's rural and near-urban communities. The investment was made through the Wetlands Conservation Partner Program that commits \$30 million to create and restore wetlands in Great Lakes watersheds.

The new, five-year program builds on decades of teamwork and mutual respect that have helped us deliver thousands of wetland restoration projects across the province since 1974. The program recognizes the power of small wetlands for cleaner water, climate resiliency and reduced flood risk.

We're also pleased to see recognition of the role of conservation to generate valuable economic activity in Ontario communities. Conservation projects create jobs for engineers, biologists, field specialists and local businesses hired for construction, fabrication and maintenance contracts.

## Fast-tracking wetland restoration for resilient landscapes

The Ontario conservation team hustled to complete 60 wetland conservation projects, accelerating the existing wetland restoration program with nearly 1,000 hectares of restored natural infrastructure in the watersheds of Lake Ontario, Lake Erie and their connecting waterways.

The projects completed in the Great Lakes region include newly restored wetlands and restoration projects for permanent wetlands that were ready for habitat improvements to enhance function, ecology and longevity.

This exceptional year couldn't have happened without the strong network of trusted partners, suppliers and landowners we've created over the years, including municipalities, stewardship volunteers and conservation authorities. These local relationships help us identify and realize conservation opportunities across the province.

Altogether, the Ontario Conservation team implemented more than 100 conservation projects in 2021. As spring approaches, a new season of rewarding work is in front of us. We can't wait to get started.

**957** HECTARES  
(2,364 ACRES)  
OF NATURE

**60** WETLANDS

**89** CONSERVATION  
AGREEMENTS

**15** PARTNERSHIP  
AGREEMENTS

**90** PERMITS

**60** ENGINEERING  
DESIGNS

**60** COST ESTIMATES

**39** CONTRACTORS

**100** FTE EMPLOYMENT  
IN LOCAL  
COMMUNITIES

[ducks.ca/wcpp](https://ducks.ca/wcpp)

*Restoring wetland habitat contributes to the natural infrastructure of landscapes by boosting climate readiness, water quality, flood mitigation, phosphorus reduction and overall watershed health.*

© KETTLE CREEK CONSERVATION AUTHORITY



Mary Ann Doré, a seventh-generation dairy farmer, by her restored wetland on her farm in Wellington County. © DAIRY FARMERS OF CANADA

## Focus on biodiversity

We're working all the angles to support biodiversity in our communities. All of us who know waterfowl understand that biodiversity starts small — with the roots, seeds and insects that sustain birds and other wildlife through their life cycles. Healthy habitat is where it's at.

### Enhancing biodiversity on dairy farms

DUC is partnering with Dairy Farmers of Canada to integrate habitat stewardship planning on dairy farms. Research was commissioned from the University of Guelph to establish biodiversity benchmarks and identify ways to enhance farms with wetland and grassland restoration.

Hundreds of farmers participated and we learned that nearly one-quarter of farms have already established buffers to protect waterways and ponds. Looking ahead, DUC will collaborate with dairy farmers across the country to create habitat restoration programs that meet their needs.

*Support included the Canadian Agricultural Partnership, a five-year investment by Canada's governments in agriculture and agri-food sectors.*

### Eyes on biodiversity with microdrone technology

Last summer, we explored ways to improve our regional field programs using microdrones. These are small, inexpensive drones that substantially increase the efficiency of field activities. We looked at how drones can help with aerial monitoring, such as tracking invasive species and land management inspections, providing accurate data and powerful mapping outputs.

We confirmed that drones boosted productivity for our field staff because they can access habitat visually from a single point — even from a roadway adjacent to the habitat. Even better, the powerful camera allows us to study habitats from heights that substantially diminish any disturbances to wildlife.



### Habitat loss is the number one threat to reptiles

Road mortality is a key threat to snakes and turtles, but a study led by DUC research scientist James Paterson strongly indicates that habitat loss is the number one threat that limits where reptiles persist.

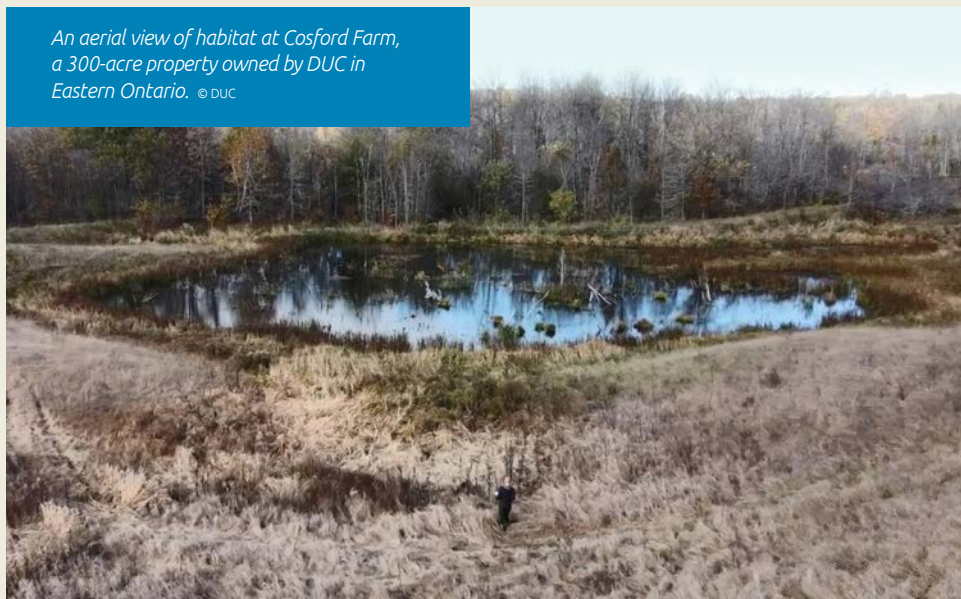
The project used data provided by thousands of community scientists who contributed observations to the *Ontario Reptile and Amphibian Atlas* to model occupancy of 22 reptile species (e.g., turtles, snakes, lizards) — including species-at-risk such as Blanding's turtle (above). Overall, habitat loss was a strong predictor of reptile occupancy with less evidence that road density or the coupling effects of habitat loss and road density reduced reptile occupancy in Ontario.

*Supported by the Liber Ero Fellowship Program, the Government of Ontario and the Government of Canada.*



**Learn more: Individual and synergistic effects of habitat loss and roads on reptile occupancy**

<https://t.co/XY5jTGuaWn>



An aerial view of habitat at Cosford Farm, a 300-acre property owned by DUC in Eastern Ontario. © DUC

**Top:** Drone capture of phragmites crowding out native vegetation in a wetland in eastern Ontario.  
**Below right:** Kyle Borrowman, DUC's invasive species specialist in Ontario, appears in a stand of phragmites on Lake St. Clair in Southwestern Ontario. © DUC

# Chasing phragmites: The race we have to win



**T**he relentless spread of an introduced Eurasian reed persists across North America, in spite of the millions that are spent every year trying to stop it. For decades, invasive phragmites has been moving from the Atlantic coast across the landscape, outstripping all attempts at physical or chemical management beyond small, localized victories.

Phragmites thrives where it finds water and is common in many countries including Canada. But unlike the native form of this common reed, the invasive form develops into woody thickets that crowd out local plant and animal life. The dense stands also block views, fill in access points for swimming and boating, and disrupt water flow in shallow channels and ditches.

Some removal projects do yield local success; yet the plant's range continues to grow year after year.

## The importance of managing invasive species

In Ontario, the Invasive Species Centre estimates the combined impacts of invasive species on agriculture, fisheries, forestry, healthcare, tourism and recreation at \$3.6 billion per year.

Ducks Unlimited Canada (DUC) certainly feels the pain of the extra costs phragmites brings to conservation projects. The problem is widespread enough that DUC has a protocol for managing phragmites at wetland habitat projects in Ontario. Across the province — from Ottawa to Oshawa to Elmville to Woodstock to Lake St. Clair — wetland restorations regularly include the added timeline, expense and disturbance of removing invasive phragmites from the immediate area.

## Current methods to remove non-native phragmites

DUC has joined with other conservation leaders to collaborate on strategic and effective management so we can reduce the ecological damage caused by this relentless survivor.

Current control options for managing phragmites are intrusive, ranging from hand-cutting to machine removal to specially permitted herbicides. The good news is that rehabilitated wetlands rebound swiftly once the invasive species is removed, and native plants, birds and animals return to the habitat once again. But removal projects for large-scale infiltrations of phragmites

can be frustrated by ongoing reintroduction of new stands that migrate by wind and water from nearby aquatic environments.

## Collaborative innovation with Invasive Species Centre

DUC is a member of Green Shovels Collaborative, coordinated by the Invasive Species Centre with innovative projects for phragmites management in Ontario. The partners are Ducks Unlimited Canada, Nature Conservancy of Canada, Invasive Species Centre, Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations and the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters. One of the promising major projects is a strategic management framework to coordinate the response to phragmites across the province.

We're collaborating with other conservation leaders to find new and more effective methods to protect our thousands of wetland projects and the landowners who look to us for leadership in defending those wetlands. In our search for answers, we've found reasons for hope.



# Purple loosestrife: Invasive blast from the past

SEARCHING FOR A NATURE-BASED SOLUTION

**Remember how purple loosestrife dominated conservation concerns in Ontario?** Here's a blast from a past conservation emergency, offering hope that collective focus can find solutions that will slow down invasive phragmites.

DUC's past field and research experiences include teamwork in the 1990s on the province-wide mitigation of purple loosestrife. Similar to the phragmites problem, purple loosestrife is an introduced species that was aggressively taking over wetland habitats in the late twentieth century despite extensive reduction efforts.

After years of study, scientists planned the strategic release of a small beetle, a natural predator of purple loosestrife, which slowly turned the tide on what had seemed to be an unstoppable wave. It took collective innovation to find a nature-based solution that worked across the landscape with minimal habitat disturbance.

Today, loosestrife populations in Ontario are well in check without the need for heavy-handed or costly management. That success is a beacon of hope that collaborative innovation can solve the worst environmental problems with nature-based solutions.

Phragmites management is an intrusive and often repetitive activity that disturbs wetland habitats. DUC is working with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and the University of Toronto on a potential nature-based solution that has been two decades in the making.

The promising work builds on research from Cornell University in the United States where extensive investigations identified two European moths in the noctuid family, also known as owl


*"We know from past experience that solutions appear when people unite to resolve complex environmental problems—especially the ones that affect all of us."*

— KYLE BORROWMAN, DUC'S INVASIVE SPECIES SPECIALIST IN ONTARIO

moths, whose stem-boring larvae feed solely on phragmites. The moth larvae mine the shoots of phragmites, causing wilt and mortality to the stems, which slows the growth of phragmites populations.

Researchers at University of Toronto have cultivated the moths and secured approval from federal regulators to conduct controlled field experiments. In 2021, the first biocontrol releases took place in carefully selected wetland ecosystems.

Right now, the research emphasis is on understanding the results of release methods and timings, and post-release observation of the insects and their activities. Early monitoring has detected some emergence holes and boreholes, as well as stem wilt damage to the test plants. The field study will continue in spring of 2022 with assessment of the moths' overwintering success and an expanded moth release program.

 Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada    Agriculture et Agroalimentaire Canada



Find more news about DUC's Invasive Species Programs (including an update on the European water chestnut program in Eastern Ontario)

[ducks.ca/our-work/invasive-species](https://ducks.ca/our-work/invasive-species)



## NEW! Youth Advisory Council

[ducks.ca/youth-advisory-council](https://ducks.ca/youth-advisory-council)

DUC's first Youth Advisory Council brings together a diverse group of young people, aged 18 to 23, from across the country. The council was formed in 2021 to understand young Canadians' perspectives on the future of conservation, what role they want to play, and how DUC can move their vision forward.



### Meet the members from Ontario

**Cassidy Morgan** (*left*) has a deep love for the environment and has a passion for finding effective solutions to environmental problems. Through her environmental engineering studies at the University of Guelph, Cassidy has learned about watershed management, site remediation techniques and machine-learning computerized models. Her work and volunteer experience include

tree planting, establishing wetlands in sensitive flood zones, and creating habitat for bats, wood ducks, turtles and fish species.

**Murdoch McKinnon** (*right*) is a wetland ecologist and graduate student at the University of Waterloo, where he is studying new methods to reclaim oil and gas well pads back into peatlands in Canada's boreal region. He spends much of his time knee-deep in peat, swatting away mosquitoes and pouring water from his boots, all in the name of science. He looks forward to bringing an urban perspective to the table, in addition to his perspective as an early-career wetland researcher.



DUC Education is proud to support youth-led conservation. **Have a project idea? Contact us at [education@ducks.ca](mailto:education@ducks.ca)**



@duc\_youth



## Wetland Heroes

[ducks.ca/wetland-heroes](https://ducks.ca/wetland-heroes)

### Traci Blacksmith

We're proud to recognize 22-year-old Traci Blacksmith (*above*) as a Wetland Hero. Traci is from Waswanipi in northern Quebec. Since moving to Ottawa, she's been inspired to lead plastic clean-ups along the Ottawa River. After each clean-up, she photographs what she finds (*below*) to raise awareness of pervasive plastic pollution in our wetlands and waterways.





# Wetland Centres of Excellence

wce-education.ducks.ca

## Holy Trinity School WCE wins DUC 2021 Case Study Competition

WCE students from across the country competed in our National Case Study Competition, which featured real conservation challenges that DUC experts face in the field. Chloe, Mabel and Neha from the Holy Trinity WCE (Richmond Hill) took home the grand prize. Their winning solution to sea-level rise was to restore salt marshes and co-transplant mussels with cordgrass to increase restoration success.



## Hilliardton Marsh WCE

Bird-banding projects are full speed ahead at the Hilliardton Marsh WCE (New Liskeard). Student volunteers from Kerns Public School, affectionately known as the “School of Flock”, band everything from songbirds (*above right*) to hawks to owls and add that information to the growing inventory.

## 2021 Wetland Centre of Excellence Scholar: Nathan Zeinstra



Nathan Zeinstra (*left*), from the Luther Marsh WCE (Mount Forest), received a WCE scholarship for his outstanding growth and achievement within the program. He started out as one of the shyer students, but he worked hard to learn the material, improve his delivery and become a leader in front of the other students. He’s since taken his passion for conservation to the University of Guelph, where he’s learning about forest management and habitat restoration.



We’re bringing conservation education into the classroom with accessible virtual experiences that meet curriculum needs and support learning outcomes.

Learn more: [ducks.ca/online-learning](https://ducks.ca/online-learning)

# One million acres of nature conserved in Ontario

HELP US MARK OUR MILLION-ACRE CONSERVATION MILESTONE

Ducks Unlimited Canada (DUC) passed an incredible milestone of conserving one million acres in Ontario. Together, we've protected 4,000 square kilometres of natural beauty. Truth is, we're just getting started.

We've been hard at work in Ontario since 1974, seeking to reverse the downward trend of wetland habitat loss and turn it around to a net gain on the landscape. We want everyone to experience the hush of a wetland morning and a sky filled with noisy waterfowl. That's our mission.

Keeping our focus at ground level — protecting and restoring landscapes — has resulted in more than one million acres of healthy wetlands we've conserved, along with their next-door natural spaces like grasslands and forests. Together, these habitats help make up functioning ecosystems and they're making life better for waterfowl, other wildlife and communities.

"What we've learned over the course of more than 5,000 conservation projects has uniquely

positioned DUC to provide large-scale wetland restoration," said Lynette Mader, DUC's manager of provincial operations for Ontario. "That's what is both needed and demanded by our communities for clean water and flood protection."

Demand for wetland restoration is increasing as leaders and landowners of all kinds connect healthy landscapes with clean water and flood management for their communities.

## Instead of scrolling, invite them to go strolling!

Help us celebrate our million-acre milestone by inviting your friends, family or co-workers to put on their boots and jackets, and discover a wetland trail this spring.

Wetlands are part of the natural infrastructure of landscapes that boosts climate resiliency, water quality, flood mitigation, phosphorus reduction and overall watershed health. That same produc-

tive habitat sustains wildlife, including waterfowl, other birds and hundreds of other species such as turtles, fish and pollinators.

Tell your friends. And take them to a wetland to see for themselves.

## What does one million acres look like?

Since 1974, we've worked with our dedicated partners and supporters to complete more than 5,000 conservation projects in Ontario. Some of those projects are on public land and you can visit them.

Our interactive storymap helps people discover some of the public wetlands they can enjoy. The wetlands featured on the map are all conservation projects carried out by DUC on public lands, which are owned and overseen by the Province of Ontario, the Government of Canada or local Conservation Authorities.

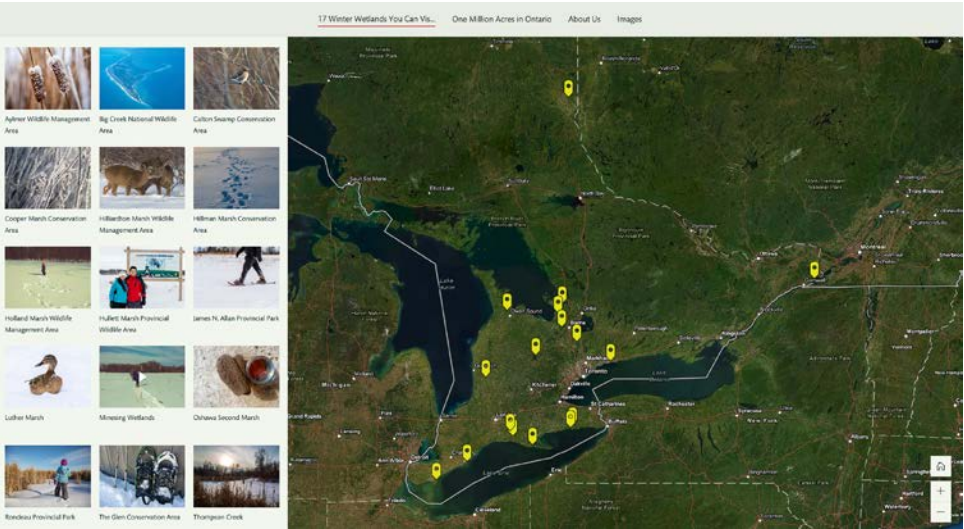
One may be close to your community.



Right: Cooper Marsh Conservation Area. © DUC



*Right: Hullett Marsh.*  
© BRANDON DAVID PHOTOGRAPHY



**Above:** Visit our interactive map prepared in celebration of DUC's million-acre milestone in Ontario. The 17 wetlands featured on the interactive map are all conservation projects carried out by DUC on public lands, which are owned and overseen by the Province of Ontario, the Government of Canada or local Conservation Authorities. Together with conservation landowners, both public and private, we are making progress on conserving important wetlands across the country.

***"There are a million reasons to get outside. Fresh air and special times together, that's what many of us are looking for these days."***

— LYNETTE MADER, DUC'S MANAGER OF PROVINCIAL OPERATIONS FOR ONTARIO

[ducks.ca/millionreasons](https://ducks.ca/millionreasons)



**Above:** The first Long Point Ladies DU Committee is still going strong.

**Left:** Terry Olsen received a big hand for 35 years of volunteer service. Terry is the Northwestern Ontario District Chair, an avid angler and hunter, driving force behind the release of elk in the Lake of the Woods area in the early 2000s, and all-round duck dynamo. Pictured (left to right) are: Rob Watson, Sr. Manager Volunteer & Corporate Fundraising; Roy Lough, founding member of the DUC Chapter in Thunder Bay; and award-winner Terry Olsen. **Thank you, Terry!**

## Volunteer Milestones

Howey MacLaren 45 Years Long Point Men's

Robert Cresswell 40 Years Aylmer

Mike Kapogines 40 Years Aylmer

Mike Streib 40 Years Aylmer

Ross Evans 35 Years Long Point Men's

Matt Herrington 35 Years Kingston Fall

John Krestel 35 Years Long Point Men's

Ronald Schiestel 35 Years Sarnia

David Burwell 30 Years Sarnia

Kerry Coleman 30 Years Rideau Grenville

Robert Cox 30 Years Kitchener-Waterloo

Ian Crokam 30 Years Cambridge Sporting Clays

Claudio De Marchi 30 Years Cambridge Sporting Clays

Eleanor Gould 30 Years Terrace Bay

Michael Gould 30 Years Terrace Bay

Robert McGregor 30 Years Smiths Falls

Andre Rochon 30 Years Timmins

Joyce Rutter 30 Years Long Point Ladies

James Holmes 25 Years Prescott

Sylvio Lesperance 25 Years Lighthouse Cove

Richard Lloyd 25 Years Georgian Triangle/Collingwood

Butch Peters 25 Years Aylmer

Geoff Taylor 25 Years Markham Sponsor

Murray Binch 20 Years Kingston Golf

Scott Coady 20 Years Arnprior

Chris Coady 20 Years Arnprior

Stephen Dolan 20 Years Arnprior

Carole Fortin-Gauthier 20 Years Chelmsford

Glenn Gascho 20 Years Georgian Triangle/Collingwood

Clark Lemon 20 Years Sault Ste Marie

Ralph Leppert 20 Years Dunnville

Faye Leppert 20 Years Dunnville

John Lind 20 Years Cambridge Sporting Clays

Susan Lloyd 20 Years Georgian Triangle/Collingwood

Stephen Simon 20 Years Sault Ste Marie

Kevin Townsend 20 Years Quinte

Paul Van Luit 20 Years Prescott

David Wollin 20 Years Wolfe Island

Karin Worden 20 Years Port Perry

# Ontario's 2021 Volunteer of the Year

**C**ongratulations to Darryl Hutton of the Mount Forest chapter! Daryl created his first habitats as a teen when he built wooden houses for the birdlife all around him. Ten years later, he started making nest boxes for wood ducks and four decades later he hasn't stopped.

Darryl is retired from his career as a quality assurance manager and has time to share his love of the outdoors with his wife, Faye, three children and five grandchildren on their farm just north of Harriston. He heads out to local wetlands to install and clean nest boxes to keep the duck population thriving whenever he can.

"DUC has allowed me to give back, and that matters to me. I've always loved nature, that's what drew me to DUC," says the avid hunter and fisherman. Daryl joined the Mount Forest DUC volunteer chapter 22 years ago. He's an avid fundraiser, proud of the \$30,000 his chapter raised at their spring dinner — right before the pandemic sent us all inside our own habitats.

"I've had a lifelong passion for hunting and conservation. It's important we conserve the habitat we have, and that ducks have."



## Give back while you kick back with Decoy Lager!

DUC has enjoyed a revenue-generating partnership with Spearhead Brewing Company in Kingston for several years. For every six-pack of Decoy Lager sold, Spearhead sends us one dollar – which is then invested in conservation programs.

Have you tried it? Spearhead's Decoy Lager is light on alcohol (4%) but not on taste. The aroma and taste exhibit malty sweetness with a clean, fast finish on the palate. It's perfect for your next event.

Decoy Lager is available at the Spearhead Taproom in Kingston (along with some sweet branded swag) or through their online sales, at select "The Beer Stores" and select Loblaws-owned grocery stores.

[spearheadbeer.com/decoy-lager](https://spearheadbeer.com/decoy-lager)





## Farewell to Bob Armstrong

Last year, the Ducks Unlimited family lost a champion of fundraising events and education in Mount Forest. Bob Armstrong died in July 2021. He was “an avid outdoorsman, mentor, and keeper of trails and ducks.”

“Bob was an active volunteer with events and also with the education program. He attended every district volunteer event and most conventions. He was intensely loyal to Ducks and an all round good guy,” said Lynette Mader, DUC’s manager of provincial operations in Ontario.

## How can you help the ducks today?

### *Start your own fundraiser*

You may have a passion in your life that you can draw on for conservation. Give your side-line a new purpose — nature and wildlife — and inspire others to join you, whether the gathering is virtual, separate or outdoors. DUC director Kevin McFadden turned his love of biking into the Canada Life Ride to the Lake, an annual fundraiser that continues with careful health guidelines.

### *Be a monthly donor*

Your recurring gift is one of the best ways to help the ducks. Once you have donated \$35 or more in a year, you’ll become a member and receive our *Conservator* magazine, the latest e-news and special offers from DUC and our partners.

### *Honour a personal loss*

You can donate to the conservation of Canada’s wetlands in honour of, or in memory of, an important person in your life—such as a family member, neighbour, friend or colleague.

### *Speak for conservation*

Maintaining a high quality of life, for wildlife and people, depends on the health of landscapes that are changing rapidly, particularly in southern Ontario. Our on-the-ground work is critically important but we make extra headway when we find ways to reduce the large-scale erosion of habitat seen all around us. We cannot achieve our mission by restoring habitat at a small scale while other factors relentlessly erode large areas of habitat.



## Ride for Conservation

**WATER YOU WAITING FOR? PUT YOUR METTLE TO THE PEDAL TO SAVE CANADA’S WETLANDS... AND OUR WATER.**



Contact [ontario@ducks.ca](mailto:ontario@ducks.ca) for more information.

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BE WON!



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BUY TICKETS

[ducks.ca/ontariofishingraffle](https://ducks.ca/ontariofishingraffle)

**ALUMARINE**



# I LOVE WETLANDS

*are disappearing*

Plan ahead to take care of what you love with a **free Planned Giving Guide** from Ducks Unlimited Canada!



◀ Visit [ducks.ca/fullers](https://ducks.ca/fullers) to learn how Mike and Yvonne Fuller are taking time to plan for the next generation.

For more information, contact Janice O'Dette at [j\\_odette@ducks.ca](mailto:j_odette@ducks.ca), call toll-free at **1-877-477-8077** or visit [ducks.ca/plannedgiving](https://ducks.ca/plannedgiving)

**Already left us a gift in your will?** Please let us know, so we can honour your wishes. And if you like, we will invite you to join our Feather Society and commemorate your support.



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