



DUC'tario

SPRING 2026 – VOLUME 32

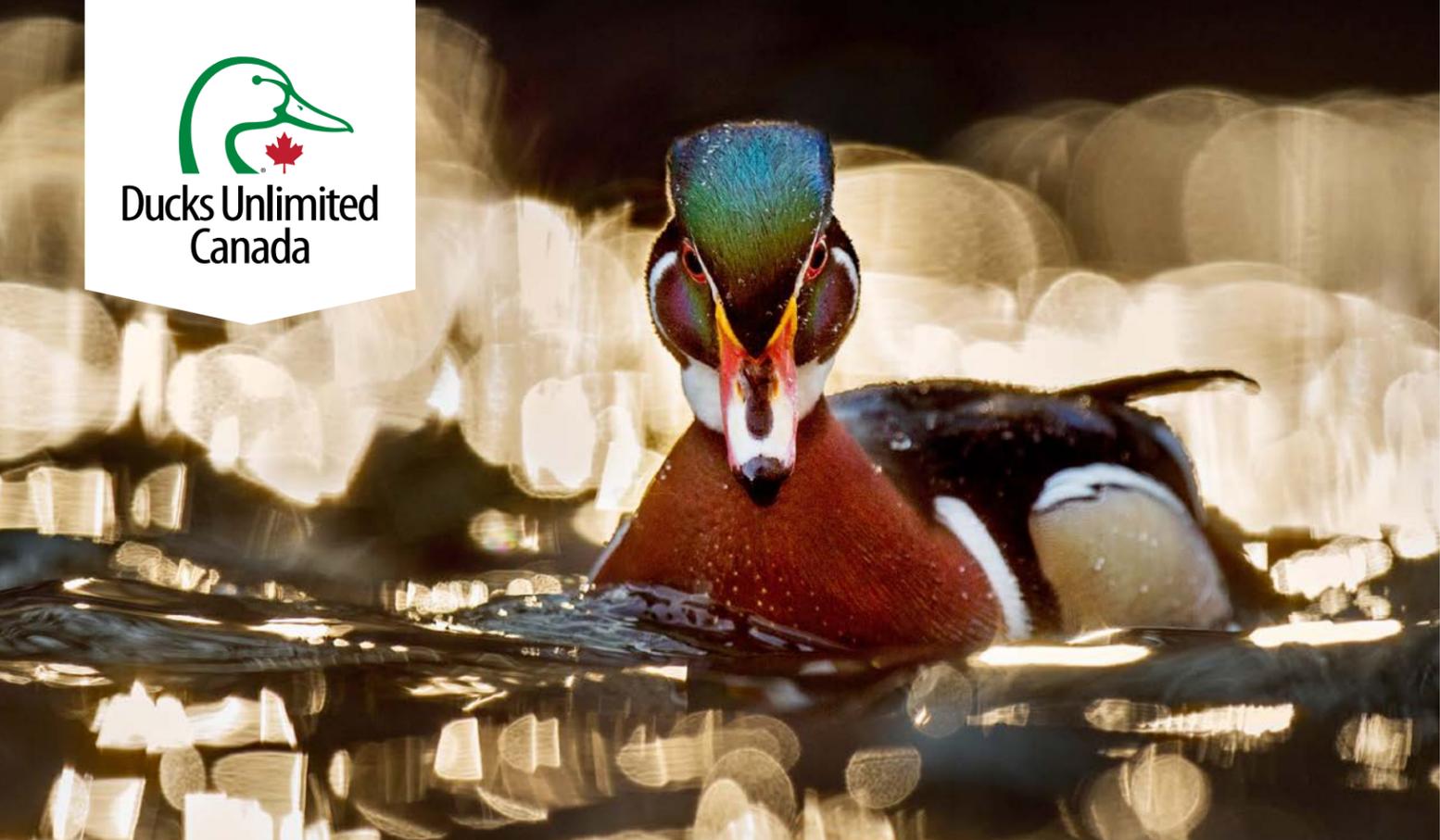
NEWS FOR YOU FROM DUCKS UNLIMITED CANADA

CELEBRATING A DECADE OF RESTORATION AT **BIG CREEK**

**BIODIVERSITY
BURST AT LUTHER
MARSH**

**DUC CAMPUS CLUBS:
CONSERVATION IS
FOR EVERYONE**

**PRESERVING
ONTARIO'S
NATURAL LEGACY**



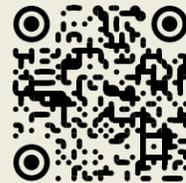
The heart of conservation

We want to start this issue with a thank you to our conservation champions who make our mission possible. We are especially grateful for the 4,289 landowners who have chosen to conserve and restore vital habitats on their own properties. By working with our specialists to secure existing wetlands or restore them back on the landscape, these individuals are creating safe homes for wildlife and ensuring our communities remain resilient to a changing climate.

Equally vital are the 464 volunteers who serve as the backbone of our community. To the dedicated leaders who spearhead 64 annual fundraising events across Ontario and the 8,520 attendees

who show up to support, thank you for turning your passion for conservation into action.

Together, we are stronger in our ability to make a meaningful difference for Ontario's wetlands, wildlife and communities.



Meet Carl and Andrea! Last summer, we had the chance to take a peek at the progress of two wetlands we restored with landowners in Quinte West and Woodstock. We learned their "why" for wanting to bring water back to the land.

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.

ducks.ca/ontario



CONTACT US

DUCKS UNLIMITED CANADA

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We're glad you're here! Search for [@DUOntario](#) on Facebook and Instagram. You can also join us on LinkedIn [@ducks-unlimited-canada](#)

CONSERVATION BY THE NUMBERS IN ONTARIO

Ducks Unlimited Canada (DUC) is backed by a conservation community of dedicated individuals actively supporting our conservation mission across the province. This includes:

27 staff members who advance conservation every day.

464 volunteers who raise funds and awareness for wetland conservation.

4,267 landowners who protect vital habitat on their property.

8,520 attendees at the 64 annual fundraising events across Ontario.

OUR CONSERVATION SUCCESS TO DATE

(CUMULATIVE, AS OF MARCH 31, 2025)

In Ontario, DUC has conserved more than **one million acres**, influenced **348,676 acres** and enhanced an additional **3,657 acres**. Currently there are **5,508 conservation projects** under our care across the province.

CONSERVED ACRES – Acres that DUC has directly protected through habitat programs that extend for 10 years or more such as land purchases, management agreements and conservation easements.

INFLUENCED ACRES – Areas that DUC impacts through partnership and advocacy work.

ENHANCED ACRES – Areas DUC is directly impacting through habitat programs that extend for fewer than 10 years, including invasive species work and nest box activities.

HABITAT PROJECT – A parcel of land that DUC is responsible for protecting and managing.



What's good for ducks is good for us all

TEN NEW WETLANDS CREATED ALONG THE GREAT LAKES WATERSHED

Nature is always hard at work, and Ontario's wetlands are no exception. All year long, they store carbon, filter water, provide habitat for wildlife and quietly prepare for their busiest season—spring migration.

As the ice begins to thaw, millions of migratory ducks return through Ontario along the Atlantic and Mississippi flyways. For mallards, wood ducks and other migrants, shallow wetlands offer exactly what they need: a place to refuel, feed, form breeding pairs and prep for nesting. In 2025, 10 new wetlands were created in Central and Eastern Ontario through a partnership between DUC and Watersheds Canada. Working with landowners, water was brought back to the landscape and 13,500 native plant species were added to enhance habitat and shoreline buffers.

Supported by the Great Lakes Action Fund, these restored ecosystems will have a ripple effect on communities and wildlife alike. By providing essential services such as reduced flood risk, greater climate resiliency and improved water quality flowing into the Great Lakes, these wetlands represent a lasting investment for the Ontario landscape.

Celebrating a decade of restoration at Big Creek National Wildlife Area



As you make the final turn toward Big Creek National Wildlife Area (NWA) along Long Point Road, the neighbourhood suddenly fades away, and a panorama of marshes appears. Almost immediately, a sedge of sandhill cranes comes into view outside your window. Tundra swans pass along the eastern shoreline, and it's clear you've entered a wildlife refuge. Each year, tens of thousands of migratory birds, from American wigeon to Canada geese, flock to Big Creek, and year-round, a rich diversity of life calls it a permanent home. Located in Long Point, this network of undisturbed marshes is one of Ontario's most ecologically significant coastal wetlands.

In 1977, Big Creek was formally established under the Canada Wildlife Act to protect wetlands essential as staging, stopover and breeding habitat for waterfowl and other migratory birds.

In 1983, Environment and Climate Change Canada entered into a formal long-term agreement with Ducks Unlimited Canada (DUC) to permit DUC to undertake restoration at Big Creek — and we've been part of its story ever since.

This year, we hit a major milestone: completion of 10 years of restoration work at Big Creek. The marsh complex is an example of a ring-dyke system, meaning it relies on infrastructure to exist. This type of coastal marsh is unique because its habitat can be carefully managed to provide ideal conditions for waterfowl and wildlife, including many species at risk. As the marsh managers, our team observes the ecosystem, identifies when intervention is needed, and implements restoration. Our engineers handle the maintenance, while the conservation specialists ensure all work supports biodiversity. As nature often reminds us, good things

take time. Over the past 10 years, we rebuilt multiple dyke systems within the complex, designed new water-control structures, and performed extensive maintenance.

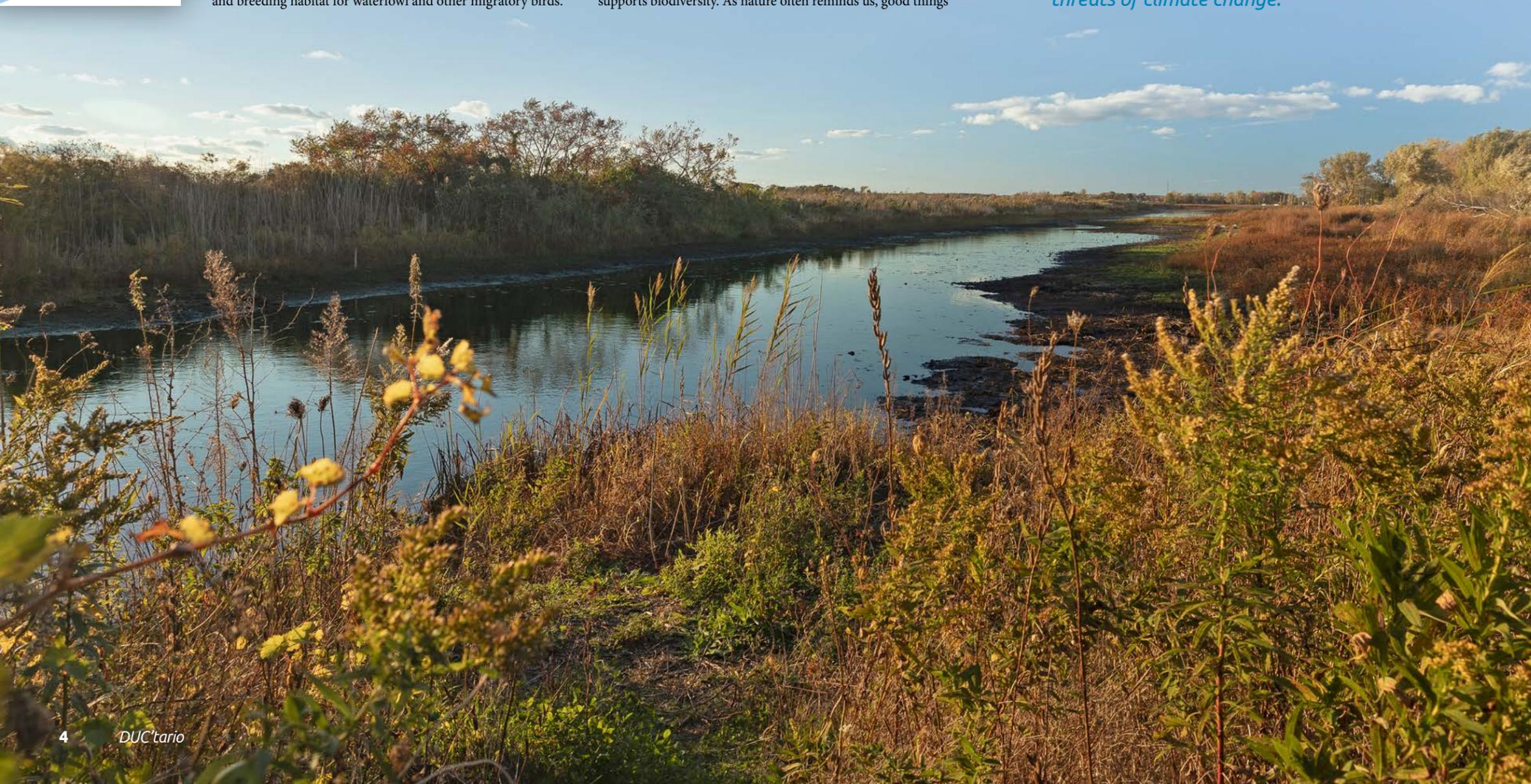
Without restoration, the infrastructure that supports an ecosystem like Big Creek would eventually fail — especially as we face unpredictable changes to the climate. Water levels would fluctuate dramatically, leading to dense cattail growth and a loss of habitat. Not on our watch. Today, Big Creek National Wildlife Area is stronger than ever. The restoration has secured the long-term ecological value of the coastal marsh and enhanced its resilience against threats of climate change. We're grateful to be part of Big Creek's ongoing story, and know that with continued collaboration and management, this remarkable marsh will remain a wildlife sanctuary for decades to come.

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DID YOU KNOW? BIG CREEK EDITION

- + Big Creek is one of the most intact Great Lakes coastal wetlands.
- + Over 200 bird species have been recorded here, with 80+ breeding species making the marsh home.
- + Up to 100,000 waterfowl visit the marsh each year during peak fall migration.
- + Big Creek supports a Monarch butterfly migration in August.
- + The WMA is home to endangered species like the king rail and prothonotary warbler (*below*), and threatened species like the least bittern (*bottom*) and Fowler's toad.





Clayton Lake

Preserving Ontario's natural legacy

TWO MORE WETLANDS SECURED FOR THE FUTURE

It was another landmark year of conservation in Ontario in 2025. Through strong partnerships with landowners, we've preserved two unique natural areas that will bring incredible benefits to our communities and wildlife.

A Georgian Bay gem: Honey Harbour

Tucked along the coast of Georgian Bay, the 85.1-acre (34.4-hectare) **Honey Harbour property** is a significant win for biodiversity. Located within the UNESCO Georgian Bay Biosphere Reserve, the world's largest freshwater archipelago, this site features a mix of provincially significant wetlands and forest, making it a crucial pit stop for migratory birds.

During recent fieldwork, several high-profile residents were spotted at the property, including species at-risk like the Blanding's turtle and red-headed woodpecker. This ecosystem will also support diverse species of amphibians, snakes, fish and mammals.

With increasing development pressures from its proximity to Highway 400 and urban centers, Ducks Unlimited Canada (DUC) acquired the property from the landowner to secure its vital ecological value, conserve wildlife habitat and enhance local

recreation opportunities. Over the coming years, we'll be looking at ways to provide public access so Ontarians can experience this breathtaking spot firsthand while keeping its ecological features protected.



Above: Red-headed woodpeckers have been spotted during fieldwork sessions at DUC's Honey Harbour property.

A family legacy: Clayton Lake

Heading east to Lanark County, we find the **Clayton Lake property**. These 189 acres (76 hectares) of



Honey Harbour

provincially significant wetlands have been stewarded with care by the same family for four generations. Today, nearly half of the property is home to thriving wild rice beds, providing habitat for species at risk like the snapping turtle and American eel.

We are immensely grateful to the landowners who partnered with us on these securements. Thanks to their stewardship, and the ongoing work of the DUC Ontario team, Honey Harbour and Clayton Lake will remain living, breathing ecosystems long into the future.

Thank you to the Greenlands Conservation Partnership program, funded by the Government of Ontario and administered by the Ontario Land Trust Alliance, along with Environment and Climate Change Canada's Nature Smart Climate Solutions program, and a generous donation by the landowners made in memory of John Jamieson.

Interested in protecting the land you love? Reach out to our team today at ontario@ducks.ca

Dam safety saves the day

RESTORATION AT HILLIARDTON MARSH

Wetland restoration isn't a one-and-done deal. At DUC, real work often happens during the years of quiet oversight that follow. Many of the wetlands we manage rely on low earth berms and other civil works to maintain water levels. This infrastructure requires constant upkeep, which is where our dam safety program comes in. By monitoring structural integrity and water levels, our engineering team ensures these habitats can handle ever-changing conditions.

Last summer, this vigilance proved its value at a beloved marsh in Northeastern Ontario.

Spanning 1,800 acres (728 hectares), Hilliardton Marsh is a provincially and continentally significant wetland. Before our restoration efforts in the 1990s, this landscape was dry and provided virtually no habitat.

Today, it is a different story. The marsh and its surrounding grasses are home to 600 species, from migrating waterfowl to local mammals and fish. It also serves as an outdoor classroom through the Hilliardton Marsh Research and Education Centre, a DUC Wetland Centre of Excellence where the public and youth learn about conservation firsthand.

Protecting this site was a priority but in conservation, speed must be balanced with care. When our engineers discovered a slump on the downstream side of the dam, we knew we had to act—but we had to do it on “bird time.”

After collaborating with Hilliardton champion and volunteer Bruce Murphy, we noted that the



Above: Restoration work at Hilliardton Marsh was completed in two weeks during the fall, following the nesting season of black terns.



Above: Workers at Hilliardton Marsh encountered a moose cow and calf at the site early one morning.

specific area requiring work was home to a colony of black terns. To ensure their nesting cycle wasn't disrupted, our team adjusted the schedule, waiting for the birds to finish their season. Once the coast was clear, local contractors moved in. Aided by a thorough design plan and a window of good weather, we completed the structural restoration in just two weeks.

In an era of unpredictable climate patterns, DUC values this kind of adaptive management. By combining rigorous engineering with local partnerships and flexible timelines, we ensure restoration is done well, and at the right time for the species that depend on us.





Above: Brooke from the monitoring team finds a caterpillar! **Right:** A Monarch caterpillar clings to the bottom of a leaf at Luther Marsh.



A biodiversity burst at Luther Marsh

They say “if you build it, they will come.” At one of our restoration sites, we are seeing that promise in full bloom.

In 2019, we began a habitat project within the Luther Marsh Wildlife Management Area, a biological gem at the headwaters of the Grand River. Our team converted 100 acres (40 hectares) of idle farmland into a diverse grassland with the aim of creating a habitat to support species-at-risk birds and Monarch butterflies — and we have been watching its progress closely ever since.

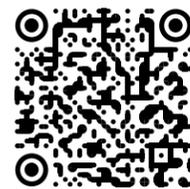
In Ontario, grasslands — including tallgrass prairies, savannas and alvars — are diverse ecosystems rich in plant species and wildlife, though less than 3% of their original habitat remains. They shelter over 200 plants, grassland birds like bobolinks, eastern meadowlarks and wild turkeys, mammals such as deer, and meadow voles, as well as numerous insects that support pollination and ecosystem health. Protecting these fragmented habitats is vital for species at risk, soil health, carbon storage and overall ecological resilience.

The recovery has been a journey. While the bobolinks arrived early, the Monarch butterflies took their time. Each summer, our team surveyed the land by walking in parallel through the fields, searching the milkweed patches for signs of life.

This past July, it was clear that the biodiversity of the field was finally bursting. Among the big bluestem and Indiangrass, we found tall sunflowers, echinacea and Joe Pye weed in full bloom. The maturing milkweed was bustling with insects, from katydids and calligraphy beetles to plenty of bumblebees and more garden

spiders than our team expected! Most excitingly, we recorded 11 Monarch caterpillars, 22 eggs and dozens of adults — our most successful finding to date.

In Ontario, grasslands—including tallgrass prairies, savannas and alvars—are diverse ecosystems rich in plant species and wildlife, though less than 3% of their original habitat remains.



We can't wait to see what next year brings! We're always looking for landowners who are interested in hosting habitat projects like this — get in touch with us today!



Eastern Canada wetlands a bright spot for ducks

This year's *Waterfowl Population Status Report* reinforces a simple truth: when wetlands remain on the landscape, waterfowl endure.

While a persistent drought in the Prairies limited duck populations in Western Canada, Ontario and Quebec emerged as “bright spots” for the 2025 season. Thanks to good-to-excellent habitat conditions, these regions helped sustain strong migrations for ring-necked ducks, black ducks (*above*) goldeneyes (*top*), and mergansers.

Healthy Eastern wetlands act as a critical safety net for the Atlantic Flyway, keeping continental numbers stable even when other regions struggle. However, there is work to do: mallard numbers remain 10% below their long-term average in the East and 17% below in the Prairies.

To address these gaps, DUC is actively conserving and restoring wetlands across Ontario, Quebec and Atlantic Canada. Your support ensures that these habitats stay healthy, protecting the annual migration that defines our Canadian autumn.



Old favourite.
NEW LOOK.

DUC's vintage logo is back.

Our new collection of heritage-inspired apparel lets you celebrate conservation history in style. From hoodies and hats to timeless everyday pieces, every item carries the pride of Ducks Unlimited Canada.

This is just the beginning. Explore our all-new DUCGear store for fresh styles and outdoor essentials designed for members like you.

MEMBERS GET 15% OFF
THEIR ORDER WITH
PROMO CODE DUCKS15

FREE SHIPPING
ON PURCHASES
OVER \$80

(IN CANADA ONLY)

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“We’re so grateful for OPG’s multi-year support for our invasive species program. Invasive species don’t pause when funding does, which makes the consistency of multi-year funding so important to our work.”

– MATTHEW BOLDING, INVASIVE SPECIES LEAD, DUCKS UNLIMITED CANADA

management as part of our broader conservation mandate,” says Ashley Fox, OPG Associate Environmental Advisor. “By supporting organizations like Ducks Unlimited Canada, who are partnering with us on a *Phragmites* management program at our R.H. Saunders Generating Station in Cornwall, we are taking steps to protect wetlands and preserve Ontario’s natural biodiversity.”

It’s encouraging to see companies like OPG step up as meaningful conservation leaders. Creating lasting change means embedding conservation into organizational culture, so it shows up not just in commitments, but in everyday decisions and actions.

“We’re so grateful for OPG’s multi-year support for our invasive species program,” says Matthew Bolding, DUC invasive species lead. “Invasive species don’t pause when funding does, which makes the consistency of multi-year funding so important to our work. It helps us with planning,

developing new tools to manage invasive species, and building partnership to restore Ontario’s landscapes and biodiversity.”

OPG’s partnership shows that conservation leadership isn’t one-size-fits-all, and it doesn’t require choosing between business success and environmental responsibility.

If your company is interested in partnering with DUC through community investment, sustainable business practices, on-the-ground projects, or any combination of these, we’d love to hear from you! Take a first step toward conservation leadership by reaching out to supporter@ducks.ca

Below: OPG expanded its partnership with DUC by committing three years of funding to our invasive species work through its Power for Change community investment program.

Conservation leadership isn’t one-size-fits-all

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP WITH ONTARIO POWER GENERATION

What defines Ontario is a rich mosaic: forests, ancient rock, rolling farmland, and countless wetlands, rivers and lakes. These landscapes aren’t only beautiful — they also sustain nature and our communities.

As Ontario’s population continues to grow, so does the pressure on these landscapes. We cannot leave the balance of meeting the needs of growing communities while protecting nature to conservation organizations alone. It requires leadership across sectors, especially industry.

At Ducks Unlimited Canada (DUC), we know that collaboration is one of the most effective ways to balance conservation with development. By working alongside governments, Indigenous communities, industry and other partners, we have shown that we can conserve nature while supporting resilient and thriving communities.

One company leading this approach is Ontario Power Generation (OPG). As an energy producer with a significant footprint across the province, OPG understands its responsibility to manage environmental impacts. What sets the company apart is how conservation is embedded into its operations, partnerships and long-term planning.

“OPG is committed to long-term environmental stewardship by integrating environmental, social and governance principles into its operations,” says Jade Schofield, OPG Senior Manager Environment & Climate. “Through initiatives like the Regional Biodiversity Grant Program, OPG collaborates with conservation partners to protect and restore vital habitats across Ontario, addressing key biodiversity challenges in reforestation, wetlands, grasslands and aquatic ecosystems.”

What started as a large wetland restoration at

by **Hannah Glover**
Development Manager,
Ducks Unlimited Canada

“OPG is committed to long-term environmental stewardship by integrating environmental, social and governance principles into its operations,”

– **JADE SCHOFIELD**
SENIOR MANAGER ENVIRONMENT &
CLIMATE, ONTARIO POWER GENERATION

Above: OPG’s Lennox GS wetland has been evaluated for its provincial significance on two occasions. During both evaluations, the wetland was determined to be provincially significant, primarily based on the provision of waterfowl staging and the presence of species at risk.

OPG’s Lennox Generating Station in 1981 has become a decades-long partnership. Together, OPG and DUC have conserved and restored significant wetland properties across Ontario and integrated conservation and sustainable business practices across various OPG properties. These projects support biodiversity and deliver essential services like carbon storage, flood mitigation and water filtration.

Last year, OPG expanded its partnership by committing three years of funding to DUC’s invasive species work through its Power for Change community investment program. With a focus on protecting, restoring, and enhancing Ontario’s biodiversity, OPG recognized DUC’s science-driven approach as a solution to one of the province’s most costly and damaging ecological challenges. “OPG is committed to supporting invasive species





Above: Students with DUC's first campus club at Acadia University.
Left: Members of Guelph University's campus club convene.

Conservation is for everyone

THE GROWTH OF DUC CAMPUS CLUBS

Anybody can join. This simple idea is at the heart of our university campus clubs. Across the country, these clubs bring together students from a wide range of programs who share a passion for nature, creating welcoming spaces rooted in community. Fueled by student initiative and supported by DUC, each campus club is shaped by the interests of its members. From birding walks and wetland workshops to career nights and skill-building events, the clubs offer meaningful opportunities for students to connect with conservation beyond the classroom.

In 2023, Mark Maddox was a graduate student in biology and a member of DUC's Youth Advisory Council. He noticed that young people had few opportunities to engage directly with conservation, so he proposed expanding university campus clubs to bridge that gap.

That idea became reality in the fall of 2023, with the launch of DUC's first Campus Club at Acadia University in Nova Scotia. Nearly 100 students joined in its first semester, participating in events like waterfowl ID workshops and walks along the salt marshes. The success of the pilot helped shape a growing network of student-led clubs across Canada. Today, Mark serves as a NextGen Board of Director at DUC, continuing to support youth leadership in conservation.

"Being outside and connecting directly with the environment makes you care about it in a whole new way."

— MOLLY MacAVOY

At the University of Guelph, here in Ontario, the campus club carries that momentum forward. Led by an inclusive, interdisciplinary executive team, the club offers students a grounding alternative to the classroom and a chance to build practical, transferable skills. For co-chairs Molly MacAvoy and Avery Booth, getting involved means learning by doing. "I love to inspire people to care more about nature and get their hands dirty," says Avery.

Molly adds, "Being outside and connecting directly with the environment makes you care about it in a whole new way."

Together, DUC Campus Clubs are proving that conservation is not exclusive. By empowering students to lead, learn and connect, these clubs are helping ensure the next generation has a meaningful role in conserving our shared planet.



ONE MISSION. COUNTLESS WAYS TO EXPERIENCE IT.

From high-energy dinners to quiet moments in the marsh, every Ducks Unlimited Canada event is a chance to connect with nature, community and a mission that matters.

Join us this fall and beyond for unforgettable events that support wetland conservation across the country. There's something wild for everyone.

ducks.ca/events





Powered by volunteers: Ontario's 2025 success

Ducks Unlimited Canada's (DUC) Ontario Volunteer Fundraising Program has delivered another outstanding year in 2025! These achievements are a direct reflection of the incredible dedication of our volunteers and chapters who stretch to every corner of this vast province.

Ontario volunteers and staff continue to lead by example with impactful grassroots-based events while embracing new and innovative fundraising opportunities. The Ontario Firearm Raffle Calendars once again sold out all 5,000 units, with strong engagement from communities across the province. Ontario also played a major role in the nationally-based Duck and Run events, proudly hosting more than 25% of all runs, which took place in Ottawa, Barrie, Toronto, Long Point, Sudbury and Thunder Bay.

Our traditional grassroots fundraising events continue to thrive, and our signature gala events in Toronto and Ottawa were over 95% sold out—a powerful testament to the passion and commitment of our supporters.

Thank you for your continued leadership, dedication and support of the DUC fundraising program. Together, we are making a real impact across Ontario.



Tim Binch
National Manager of Volunteer Relations,
Ducks Unlimited Canada

2025 Ducks Unlimited Canada Volunteer Milestones

Kim Black	45 Years	Aylmer	Patti Brinker	25 Years	Long Point Bay
Ronald Walker	45 Years	Aylmer	Chris Coady	25 Years	Aylmer
Wayne Buck	40 Years	Campbellford	Scott Coady	25 Years	Aylmer
Terry Lehovich	40 Years	Temiskaming Shores	Ken Craik	25 Years	Aylmer
Terry Olsen	40 Years	Thunder Bay	Stephen Dolan	25 Years	Arnprior
Jeff Weaver	40 Years	Campbellford	Nicole Godda	25 Years	Timmins
Leslie Eves	35 Years	Long Point Bay	John Knott	25 Years	Long Point Bay
Ed Seagram	35 Years	Toronto	Justin White	25 Years	Frontenac
Doug Claus	30 Years	Aylmer	T. Michael Lemieux	20 Years	Windsor Sportsmen
Terry Herbison	30 Years	Brockville	Carol Lloyd	20 Years	Napanee
Luc Quesnel	30 Years	Fort Frances	Joe More	20 Years	Coniston
Ron Baldwin	25 Years	Aylmer	Doris Olsen	20 Years	Thunder Bay
Jerry Bell	25 Years	Long Point Bay			

At the Ontario Board table

INSIGHTS, INSPIRATION AND FAVOURITE WETLAND VISITORS



PHIL HOLST – ONTARIO BOARD OF DIRECTOR

What inspired you to get involved with Ducks Unlimited Canada?

I was inspired to get involved with DUC when I participated in and completed a DUC-sponsored wetland restoration project on our home farm in 2005 with Jeff Krete, former DUC conservation specialist. Returning a formerly drained section of our land back to a highly functioning wetland habitat was such a positive experience that I started to lead similar restoration projects with neighbours and landowners in our county of Oxford. In the past 21 years I've completed 108 wetland conservation projects with more in the works for 2026.

Can you share a 2025 highlight or milestone from your work with DUC?

A 2025 highlight/milestone was continuing to work with Janine Massey (DUC chief marketing and communications officer) and staff with the Pattison Signs promotion re: digital and billboard messages across Canada. Continuing to work with our staff to expand Nature Force. Working in my

TOM DAVIDSON, JR
ONTARIO BOARD OF DIRECTOR

What inspired you to get involved with Ducks Unlimited Canada?

I was inspired to get involved in DUC like many volunteers: I attended a dinner not knowing much about DUC. I was inspired by the people in the room and the family nature of the group. Four years later I was running that same dinner.

Can you share a 2025 highlight or milestone from your work with DUC?

The highlight for me of 2025 was attending the Ontario Experience at Bay of Quinte. The level of engagement from DUC staff and the knowledge of our biologists was truly incredible. It was a great opportunity to meet other DUC volunteers and donors from across North America. I am now more engaged than ever.

Why do you think wetland restoration and conservation are so important in Ontario?

As an avid waterfowler I was initially inspired by DUC creating more ducks. Now, I'm inspired by the total wetland habitat restoration and flood mitigation work we do.

Do you have favourite duck or wetland visitor?

I would have to say that it's a tie between the canvasback and the pintail.

volunteer DUC position in my area with land-owners, DUC and other funders, permit officers, staff and contractors to build eight wetland projects.

Why do you think wetland restoration and conservation are so important in Ontario?

Wetland restoration and conservation are important in Ontario for many reasons. I will list one in our local area, where many wells are running dry because of a shrinking water table, especially in periods of drought due to a watershed that isn't as absorbent as it used to be. With a diminished wetland component, less runoff in the form of rainfall and snow melt percolates into the soil to refill the water table. The good news is that the public perception of wetlands as an important watershed/biodiversity "infrastructure" is growing, and there is a far greater understanding and support for the DUC mission.

Do you have favourite duck or wetland visitor?

My favourite duck is the wood duck. As a side note, I must say that often after I have completed a new wetland project and am back on site to review the success of the habitat, my favourite visitor is the green heron.





BEATING AS ONE

Across Canada, our volunteers give their time, skills and passion for the benefit of wetlands, wildlife and natural spaces we love. They're the driving force that keeps conservation moving forward. This fall, you can join them. Whether you have a little time or years of experience, there's a place for you in our volunteer community.

We'll welcome you, in a heartbeat.

ducks.ca/volunteer



Ducks Unlimited
Canada

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