

**2ND REPORT OF THE**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL AND ECOLOGICAL PLANNING**  
**ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Meeting held on January 20, 2016, commencing at 5:00 PM, in Committee Rooms #1 and #2, Second Floor, London City Hall.

**PRESENT:** S. Levin (Chair), E. Arellano, A. Boyer, L. Des Marteaux, K. Doughty, C. Dyck, P. Ferguson, B. Gibson, S. Hall, D. Hiscott, Dr. N.P.A. Huner, C. Kushnir, S. Madhavji, K. Moser, N. St. Amour, J. Stinziano, M. Thorn, R. Trudeau, M. Watson and N. Weerasuriya and H. Lysynski (Secretary).

**ABSENT:** E. Boynton, M. Murphy and S. Peirce.

**ALSO PRESENT:** C. Creighton, I. Listar, J. MacKay, L. MacDougall, A. Macpherson, H. McNeely and C. Smith.

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**I. CALL TO ORDER**

1. Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest

That it **BE NOTED** that S. Levin disclosed a pecuniary interest in clause 12 of this Report, having to do with the application of Corlon Properties Inc. relating to the property located at 259 Sunningdale Road West, by indicating that he is a member of the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority Hearing Committee and this application may be heard by the Hearing Committee.

**II. SCHEDULED ITEMS**

None.

**III. CONSENT ITEMS**

2. 1st Report of the Environmental and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee

That it **BE NOTED** that the 1st Report of the Environmental and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee from its meeting held on December 16, 2015, was received.

3. 2nd Report of the Advisory Committee on the Environment

That, it **BE NOTED** that the 2nd Report of the Advisory Committee on the Environment from its meeting held on January 6, 2016, was received.

4. 9th Report of the Environmental and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee

That it **BE NOTED** that a Municipal Council resolution adopted at its meeting held on December 8, 2015, with respect to the 9th Report of the Environmental and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee from its meeting held on November 19, 2015, was received.

5. Property located at 2300 Richmond Street

That it **BE NOTED** that a Municipal Council resolution adopted at its meeting held on December 8, 2015 with respect to the application of Old Oak Properties Inc., relating to the property located at 2300 Richmond Street, was received.

6. Appointments to the Environmental and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee

That it **BE NOTED** that a Municipal Council resolution adopted at its meeting held on January 4, 2016, relating to the appointments to the Environmental and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee, was received.

## 7. Acronym List - S. Levin

That it **BE NOTED** that the acronym list completed by L. McDougall, Ecologist Planner, was received.

## 8. Property located at 2001 and 2215 Sunningdale Road West - Nelson Morphy and Glen and Lianne Ruby

That a Working Group consisting of S. Levin (lead), E. Anello and J. Stinziano **BE ESTABLISHED** to review the application by N. Morphy and G. and L. Ruby related to the properties located at 2001 and 2215 Sunningdale Road West.

**IV. SUB-COMMITTEES & WORKING GROUPS**

None.

**V. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

## 9. 2016-2019 Budget

That a Working Group consisting of S. Levin (Lead), E. Anello, C. Dyck and B. Gibson **BE ESTABLISHED** to provide comments on the draft 2016-2019 Multi-Year Budget;

it being noted that the Environmental and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee reviewed and received the following communications with respect to this matter:

- a) a report from Dillon Consulting with respect to the City of London Invasive Species Control Program Results for the Medway Valley Heritage Forest Environmentally Significant Area (ESA);
- b) a Municipal Council resolution adopted at its meeting held on January 12, 2016, with respect to the draft 2016-2019 Multi-Year Budget;
- c) pages from the draft 2016-2019 Multi-Year Budget relating to Environmentally Significant Areas; and,
- d) the attached presentation from L. McDougall, Ecologist Planner, with respect to the City of London's ESA's – 2015/2016 Projects; and,
- e) the attached update on Habitat Protection, Restoration and Stewardship from L. McDougall, Ecologist Planner.

## 10. London's Urban Foresters are Laying the Groundwork to Test Tree Species now Found in Warmer Climates

That a Working Group consisting of E. Anello, L. Des Marteaux and J. Stinziano **BE ESTABLISHED** to provide comments to the Trees and Forests Advisory Committee with respect to the Urban Forest Climate Action Plan; it being noted that the Environmental and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee heard a verbal presentation from I. Listar, Manager, Urban Forestry, with respect to this matter.

## 11. 2016 Provincial Environmental Advisory Committee Symposium

That consideration of the 2016 Provincial Environmental Advisory Committee Symposium **BE POSTPONED** to the next meeting.

**VI. DEFERRED MATTERS/ADDITIONAL BUSINESS**

## 12. Property located at 259 Sunningdale Road West

That a Working Group consisting of R. Trudeau (lead), B. Gibson, S. Hall, C. Kushnir, K. Moser, J. Stinziano and M. Thorn **BE ESTABLISHED** to review the application by Corlon Properties Inc. for the property located at 259 Sunningdale Road West.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 6:57 PM.

**NEXT MEETING DATE: February 18, 2016**

# City of London Environmentally Significant Areas – 2015 / 2016 Projects

Environmental and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee  
January 21, 2016



Sifton Bog ESA Boardwalk



## City of London ESAs

### ■ Presentation Overview

- Management of ESAs in London
- Summary of 2015 Accomplishments
- Summary of 2016 Projects
  - Master Plans & Studies
  - Invasive Species Management
  - Trail Work and Closures
  - Adopt an ESA / Stewardship
- Questions



False Rue-anemone (*Enemion biternatum*) THR SAR in Medway VHF ESA



## City of London ESAs

### ■ Managed ESAs in London

- Westminster Ponds (204 ha)
- Sifton Bog (40 ha)
- Warbler Woods (29 ha)
- Kains Woods (26 ha)
- Killaly Meadows (132 ha)
- Meadowlily Woods (58 ha)
- Medway VHF (129 ha)
- Coves ESA (46 ha)



UTRCA manages 8 City owned ESAs – 664 ha under a \$450k multi-year contract with the City.

## City of London ESAs

### ■ ESA Management Team

- 8 ESAs are managed by the UTRCA ESA team under contract with the City
- ESA Team have unique skills:
  - Wildlife Management
  - Professional foresters/arborists
  - Tree Risk Assessor Qualification
  - Carpentry
  - By-law Enforcement
  - Licensed Pesticide Applicators (Forestry)
- Multiyear Operating Budget
- Multiyear Capital Budget



## 2016 Multiyear Operating Budget

The UTRCA manages about 660ha of publically owned ESA land under a multiyear contract for the City at a cost of about 450K/year and the mandated priorities include:

- Invasive Species Management & Restoration
- By-law Enforcement
- Maintaining / Closing Trails
- Garbage Removal
- Education
- Research Coordination & Grants



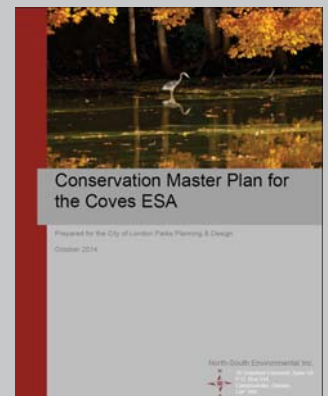
Photos UTRCA – Managing Phragmites by cutting / drowning in WMP ESA



## Project Planning in ESAs

### ■ Conservation Master Plans

- Goals, Objectives, Recommendations
- Phase I and Phase II Process
- Sifton Bog 2009
- Westminster Ponds 2005 & 2015
- Killaly Meadows 1999
- Medway Valley HF 1996
- Meadowlily Woods 1989
- Coves 2014
- Update to Medway VHF On Hold
- Update to Meadowlily Woods On Hold

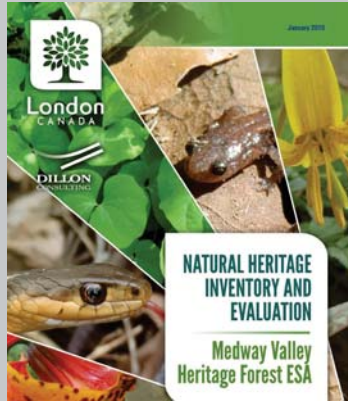




## Overview of 2015 Capital Projects in ESAs

### Master Plans & Other Studies

- Medway Valley Heritage Forest Phase 1 Conservation Master Plan
- Westminster Ponds/Pond Mills ESA: Ecological Inventory & Management Zone Report
- Sifton Bog Terrestrial Study



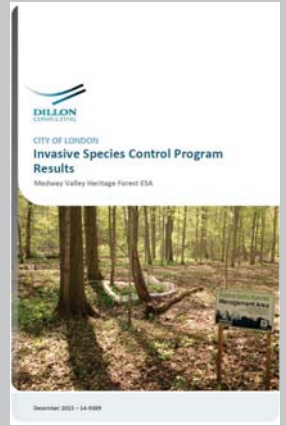
## Overview of 2015 Capital Projects in ESAs

### Invasive Species Management

Prioritized as multi-year projects as per ESA Conservation Master Plan recommendations, ESA Invasive Terrestrial Plant Species Overview (2012), Early Detection Rapid Response (EDRR) and Observation Reports from the public.

- Coves (East Pond) – Buckthorn, Honeysuckle
- Killaly – Dog Strangling Vine
- Medway (south) – Goutweed/Knotweed to protect SAR
- Medway (north) – Buckthorn, Phragmites
- Warbler – Buckthorn
- WMP – Buckthorn, Purple Loosestrife, and Aquatic Invasives
- Sifton Bog – Buckthorn

Invasive species management (EDRR etc.) is also a part of the UTRCA's operational contract funded by the City.



## Overview of 2015 Capital Projects in ESAs

### MANAGING INVASIVE GOUTWEED

PROTECTING SPECIES AT RISK 2015 UPDATE



### 1 RESEARCH & POLICY

As part of that plan, Goutweed (*Aegopodium podagraria*) was identified as a high priority species to control and manage as it poses a threat to a significant population of False Rue-anemone (*Emenon biternatum*). False Rue-anemone is listed under both the provincial Endangered Species Act, 2007 and federal Species at Risk Act, 2002 as Threatened. Currently, False Rue-anemone is believed to occupy only six sites in southwestern Ontario, one of which is the MVHF ESA (COSEWIC, 2005). Goutweed has been identified as a direct threat to False Rue-anemone through encroachment.

Goutweed was also identified as encroaching on populations of Cream Violet (*Viola striata*) and Green Dragon (*Arisaema dracontium*) in the MVHF ESA. Although not listed at risk, both species are rare and of conservation concern. Control efforts took place in close proximity and in some cases, within patches of False Rue-anemone. Therefore, management activities have been registered under Section 23.17 (Species protection, recovery activities) of Ontario Regulation 242/08 under the Endangered Species Act, 2007.



## Overview of 2015 Capital Projects in ESAs

### Trail Improvements - Coves ESA East Pond (NTC/EAP Grant \$45K)



## Overview of 2015 Capital Projects in ESAs

### Trail Improvements and Closures - Coves ESA East Pond



## Overview of 2015 Capital Projects in ESAs

### Trail Improvements – Coves ESA East Pond





## Overview of 2015 Capital Projects in ESAs

- Trail Improvements & Signage - [Coves ESA East Pond](#)



Photo Nov. 2/2015 by Steve Sauder UTRCA



## Overview of 2015 Capital Projects in ESAs

- Trail Improvements – Kains Woods Trail Relocation (as per EEPAC rec.)



## 2015 Stewardship Projects in ESAs

### Adopt an ESA

- 10 Adopt an ESA Groups - 3 in Medway, 3 in WMP, Coves, Meadowlily, Kains & Killaly since 2013
- Buckthorn Busting, [turtle habitat maintenance](#) – Medway
- Dog Strangling Vine and Garlic Mustard work - Killaly
- Direct seeding of acorns, milkweed, and, tree & shrub planting, & after care - Coves



Photo by Rebecca Doyle Friends of Coves Adopt an ESA



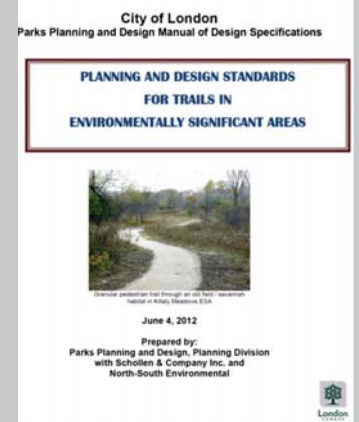
Photo by Ian Bailey Friends of Killaly Adopt an ESA



## 2016 Proposed Capital Projects in ESAs

### Master Plans and Studies

- Update to Trail Standards
- Medway (south) Phase II CMP on hold
- Meadowlily Phase II CMP on hold



## 2016 Proposed Capital Projects in ESAs

### Invasive Species / Habitat Restoration

- Kains – Buckthorn, Knotweed, Goutweed
- WMP – Phragmites, Buckthorn, Black Locust, Knotweed
- Medway - Phragmites, and, SAR/Goutweed/Knotweed & restoration
- Meadowlily - Phragmites
- All ESAs – Emerald Ash Borer TreeAzin injection of ~ 150 Ash Trees (done bi-annually since 2012)
- All ESAs – Monitor using EDRR approach & touch ups of all 2014/2015 work under operational budget
- City Wide – Invasive Species Management Strategy (Non ESA Capital Budget)



Goutweed Control w Herbicide



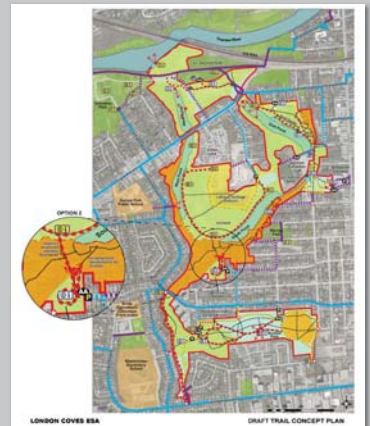
Medway VHF ESA False Rue-anemone (Species at Risk)



## 2016 Proposed Capital Projects in ESAs

### Trail Work and Closures

- Coves – Elmwood Gateway, Euston Meadows & Southcrest Ravine (grants expected)
- Westminster Ponds – Saunders cabin area restoration and trail improvements for 2017
- Sifton Bog - Boardwalk review options with Management Zones for 2017
- Medway (south) – Metamora staircase closure & review options w Trails Focus Group
- Warbler – Boardwalk repairs in south
- Warbler – Trail links to subdivision to the west in 2017



## 2016 Projects in ESAs

### Anticipated ESA Meetings in 2016

- Trail Standards Update to Planning and Env. Committee June 20, 2016
- Medway VHF CMP Phase I to Planning and Env. Committee - Fall 2016
- Medway VHF CMP Phase II Start-up - Fall 2016
- Medway VHF CMP Phase II Local Advisory Committee (LAC) - Late 2016
- Meadowily Woods CMP – Phase I Summary – Fall 2016



Photo courtesy UFRCA



## Multiyear Capital Budget Available Online

- [Lifecycle Renewal Capital Budget Forecast](#)
- Page 201, Pages 278 and 279
- This is the first time City Council will be approving a multi-year budget for 2016-2019.



Photo by Dave Potten, Snapping Turtle hatchling Medway VHF ESA (north)







# UPDATE

## HABITAT PROTECTION, RESTORATION & STEWARDSHIP

### MEDWAY VALLEY HERITAGE FOREST ENVIRONMENTALLY SIGNIFICANT AREA

City of London - Habitat Protection, Restoration & Stewardship Initiatives - Information Sheet

1. SAR False Rue-anemone Protection and Goutweed Invasive-species Mitigation Project - Ontario Invasive Plant Council / Society for Ecological Restoration AGM presentation by Linda McDougall, City Ecologist/Dillon Consulting in 2014 – project continues in 2015.
2. Phragmites, Knotweed invasive species management done in 2014 & Buckthorn, Phragmites, Knotweed, management confirmed for 2015.
3. Tree-Azin Emerald Ash Borer, Bi-annual Injection Program, 74 Ash trees injected in 2012, 51 surviving Ash trees were injected in 2014, next round in 2016 – London is a leader in protecting Ash trees in natural areas.
4. Two boardwalks, a bridge & ecological restoration work completed in 2014 in north portion of Environmentally Significant Area (ESA).
5. Three groups have adopted portions of the ESA through City's Adopt an ESA program, and are active stewards of the ESA.
6. Public Buckthorn Busting events held in 2013 (video), 2014 and planned for 2015.
7. New and effective ESA signage with QR code links to maps & observation reports installed in 2014 at the ESA access points.
8. Turtle habitat nesting areas created in north in 2014 with Scott Gillingwater of UTRCA as advisor. Habitat will be weeded by Adopt an ESA groups / Friends of Medway Creek going forward to protect the sunny habitat required.
9. Natural Heritage Inventory and Evaluation for Conservation Master Plan. Draft Phase 1 Report is available online. Dillon's Biologist Jen Petruniak MSc. presented the study findings, provided a Q&A session for EEPAC in January 2015, and January 2014 & July 2013 at Community Meetings.

For more information on habitat protection, restoration and stewardship initiatives and opportunities, please contact the City of London Environmental & Parks Planning Section.

#### CONTACT

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Visit our website: [www.london.ca/ESA](http://www.london.ca/ESA)

UPPER THAMES RIVER  
CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

