

ESA Management Committee Meeting
11 AM to 1 PM, Tuesday, April 30, 2019
UTRCA Boardroom

Membership

City - Linda McDougall, Gregg Barrett, Christine Jarvis
UTRCA - Alex Shivas, Cathy Quinlan, Christine Creighton
ESA Team - Dan Jones, Brandon Williamson, Cole Volkaert, Richard Brewer, Jacob Mehlenbacker, Owen Mueller (coop student)

1) Welcome and Introductions

- Introductions were made

2) ESA Team Operations Report

- a) **Power Point of Operations Activities** – review of Sept 2018 to Dec 2018, and Jan to April 2019 activities
- b) **Quarterly Report, Wages-to-date Summary** – reviewed

3) Environmentally Significant Areas (ESA) – Conservation Master Plans and General Updates

4a. Medway Valley Heritage Forest ESA

- Buckthorn management continues in north and Goutweed / Knotweed management and monitoring continues in south
- Phragmites management/monitoring continues in 2019
- Touch up and monitoring of 2018 invasive species work (noting all top and high restoration priorities addressed and most moderate and low are underway)
- Several encroachments under an enforcement process
- Friends of Medway Creek/City leading design for kiosk sign for Sunningdale Road West access point - funded by City.

4b. The Coves ESA

- City/Reforest London tree planting/restoration projects proposed for 2019/2020 for Briscoe Woods and west of Silver Creek ravine.
- City submitted a \$600k federal funding application for implementing stream channel restoration implementation as per CMP.
- Phragmites management/monitoring continues in 2019
- Touch up and monitoring of 2018 invasive species work

4c. Meadowlily Woods ESA

- Draft Conservation Master Plan by Natural Resource Solutions Inc.; James McKay leading process to address comments and revise report; Phase I public meeting held March 22nd 2019
- Phragmites management/monitoring continues in 2019
- Touch up and monitoring of 2018 invasive species work

4d. Westminster Ponds/Pond Mills ESA

- ESA Team continuing the adaptive management process in the Restoration Plan for the 4.0 ha buckthorn site behind tourism building.
- Boardwalk lifecycle replacements/AODA upgrades in 2019
- Phragmites management/monitoring continues in 2019

- Touch up and monitoring of 2018 invasive species work
- Several encroachments now under an enforcement process

4e. Sifton Bog ESA

- Touch up and monitoring of 2018 invasive species work

4f. Kains Woods ESA

- Kains Woods is a successful example of early detection rapid response for invasive species management.
- Touch up and monitoring of 2018 invasive species work

4g. Warbler Woods ESA

- Phragmites management/monitoring continues in 2019

4h. Kilally Meadows ESA

- DSV work continues north and south of river in 2019 including touch ups of previous work and Hypena biological control work with Silv-Econ.
- TVTA volunteer group buckthorn baggie project on north side continues, possible restoration planting in fall 2019 w ESA Team leading project.
- ESA Ecological Restoration Plan presented to the Adopt an ESA group will be finalized and posted to City website in May 2019.

4i. Lower Dingman ESA

- Touch up and monitoring of 2018 invasive species work

4j. Pottersburg Valley ESA

- Half hectare of Phragmites management in 2018, monitoring and management continues 2019
- ESA Team Ecological Restoration Plan for Oak Savannah area for 2019-2023 implementation.

4k. Kelly Stanton ESA

- Phragmites management/monitoring continues in 2019.

5) Other

a) Brochure Updates

- All nine brochures now updated (Coves, Kains, Kilally, Lower Dingman, Medway, Meadowlily, Sifton Bog, Warbler, Westminster)

b) Tree Risk Assessment Policy/Procedures Review/Update

- Includes update to backyard tree policy/procedure in discussions – Linda to tee up meeting

c) The Invasive Species Centre commends the City of London for the excellent work completed under its London Invasive Plant Management Strategy (see attached letter).

6) Next Meetings – July/Aug and Oct/Nov.



April 8, 2019

City of London, Long Range Planning and Sustainability Department
ATTN: Linda McDougall

Dear Ms. McDougall,

The Invasive Species Centre commends the City of London for the excellent work completed under its London Invasive Plant Management Strategy. Not only was London the first municipality in Ontario to create, approve and implement an invasive species strategy, but your implementation can now act as a model for other Ontario municipalities to follow. Beyond the tremendous ecological benefits of this strategy, London is enabling community-led engagement around invasive species control such as the notable buckthorn removal work undertaken at the Kilally Meadows Environmentally Significant Area.

The implementation of the strategy has been thoughtful and well-advised. Use of provincial standards for invasive species management as well as investing in biological control efforts such as those targeting purple loosestrife and dog-strangling vine are but two examples of a thoughtful approach to addressing established invasive species within your municipality.

City staff have also worked to develop partnerships with organizations such as the Invasive Species Centre to work collaboratively on invasive species issues facing London and other communities alike. Recent examples include partnering to deliver a workshop on oak wilt, and invasive disease threatening native oak trees. Staff from the City of London also recently participated in the Invasive Species Centre's municipal economic survey, which helps all Ontarians better understand just how costly invasive species are at the community level. With the average Ontario municipality spending \$3.06 per person, per year on invasive species control, London is making strides towards costs saving through prevention and action. The Invasive Species Centre looks forward to working with the City and the broader London community to help prevent and reduce the spread of invasive species.

Sincerely,

Tracey Cooke
Executive Director