



July 2002

1st
Antler
River
Rally



Thames has Facebook friend

RANDY RICHMOND, The London Free Press
Tuesday, July 24, 2012 7:11:15 EDT AM



Tom Cull is leading an effort to clean up the trash that litters the water and



160 Volunteers Westminster Ponds 2022



Cleanup in Partnership with London Mosque and First-St. Andrew's United Church



O-Week at Western



Children's International Summer Villages (CISV)



Clean up with The Antler River Guardians from the 4 Directions





Partnership with TVDSB

By the numbers

- 11 Seasons x 12 (plus) Cleanups per season = Over 130 cleanups=
Over 5000 volunteers engaged=
Over 130 piles of garbage diverted from waterways and green spaces.



So what are the specific challenges?

Challenges:
Litter/Garbage/
Plastics







140,000 Cigarette Butts Collected from Canadian beaches in 2021 (Huron Coastal Centre)



Transfer Stations Photo



Homelessness and the Housing Crisis





Opioid and Mental Health Crisis



Illegal Dumping (By-law enforcement?)

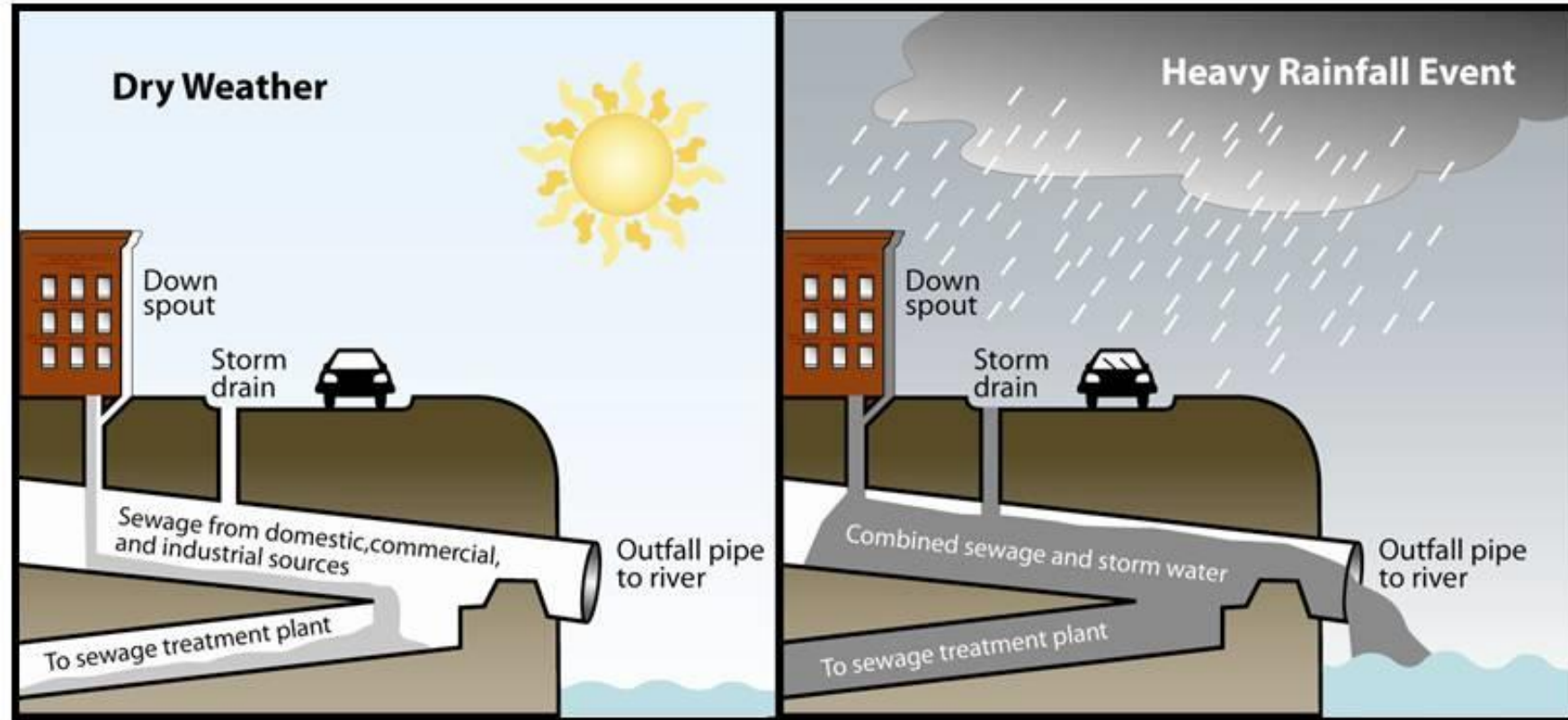




Obstructions: Springbank Dam

Raw Sewage in the River

- “Last year, 260 million litres of sewage — some treated, some not — hit the Thames River in about 32 incidents. They’re officially called “overflows” or “bypasses,” depending on whether the gunk had any treatment at a wastewater plant before it got to the river.”



LFP: April 21, 2021



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Phosphorus pollution contributes to algal blooms. Some algae can be toxic to fish, animals and people, such as the blue-green algal bloom off the southeast shore of Pelee Island, Ontario in 2011.

Photo credit: Tom Archer. Used with permission.

- Phosphorous and Algae Blooms

Habitat Loss, Deforestation, Wetland Loss



<https://www.londonenvironment.net/arrcreativitycontest>



10TH ANNIVERSARY:
**RIVER CLEAN UP
& CREATIVITY
CONTEST**

Participate in an Antler River Rally river clean-up and submit your river-inspired art to the following art contest categories:

- Photographs
- Words (poems, reflections, or stories), and
- Art (paintings, drawings, sculpture, etc.)

Cash prizes for first and second place in each category!



TO ENTER VISIT:

www.londonenvironment.net/arrcreativitycontest





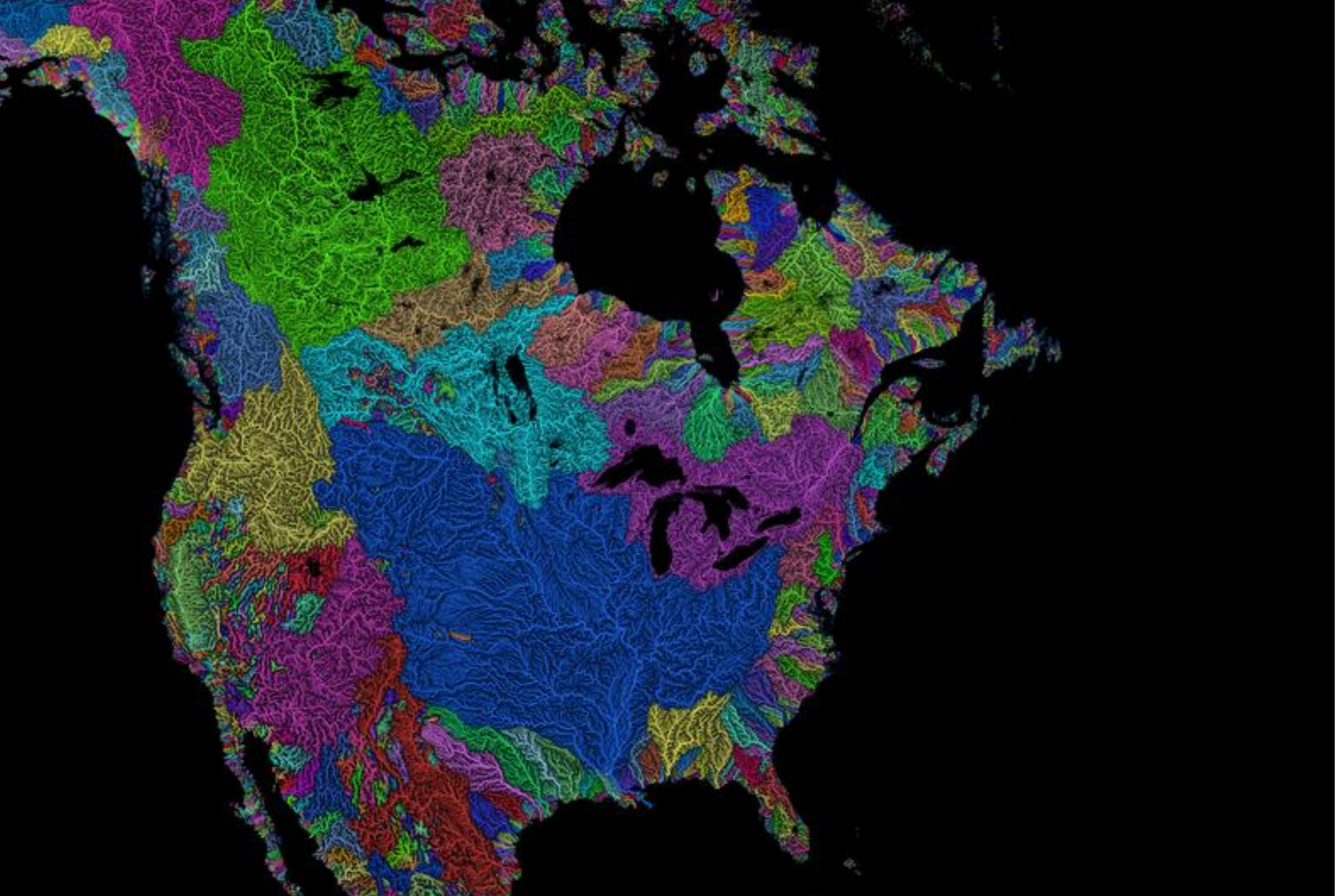
Tom Cull with Danielle Butters & Sruthi Ramanarayanan

UpStream/DownStream, (still), 2020-2021

UpStream/DownStream is a project that brings together art and activism to focus on the question of clean drinking water and healthy river ecology. The work is comprised of two video 'poems' that were composed from footage taken at a number of river cleanups held in London, Ontario, and at Oneida Nation of the Thames—two communities that are connected by one river: Deshkan Ziibi/Thames River. Oneida First Nation is currently on a boil-water advisory due, in part, to the ways that the city of London and other upstream communities pollute the river. Volunteers were invited to participate in the cleanups and share their thoughts about what water means to them.







Where do we go from here?

- Increase citizen engagement (lending library?)
- Advocate for more eyes on the problem, more feet on the ground
- Campaigns? Butt out? Sticker Bins? Drastic Plastic