

Grant Assistance

The following grants are available to landowners who live in qualifying areas of our watershed to implement projects which will help improve local water quality. Grant rates and ceilings may vary between watersheds.



Eligible Items	Grant Rate	Grant Ceiling
Livestock Restriction, Alternate Watering Systems & Crossings	Up to 75%	Up to \$10,000
Manure / Nutrient Management & Milkhouse Washwater Treatment and Disposal	Up to 75%	Up to \$12,000
Conservation Farm Practices including erosion control structures, sediment control basins, bank stabilization, grassed waterways, spillways, rock shutes, etc.	Up to 75%	Up to \$5,000
Habitat Restoration including buffer strips, wetlands & riparian habitat creation or protection, floodplain & fragile land retirement, reforestation of sensitive lands or connecting fragmented woodlands	Up to 75%	Up to \$10,000

Other program funding may be available for projects such as private well decommissioning, septic systems, etc. Check with the Conservation Authority for current funding information.

Program Guidelines

To qualify for current funding the following criteria must be met:

- Projects must be within the qualifying areas
- Projects must demonstrate an improvement to local surface and/or groundwater quality
- The landowner must demonstrate good land stewardship practices
- The landowner must contribute financially to the project in some capacity
- The landowner must complete a water quality improvement application and sign a project agreement form*

How to apply for Grants

- Obtain specific program information from the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority to determine if your project qualifies
- Complete a Water Quality Improvement Application
- A site visit from Authority staff will be necessary to determine eligibility
- Projects that will result in the best benefits to water quality will be prioritized for funding
- All proposals are subject to review by an established project committee

** To acquire your water quality improvement application and project agreement form, please contact our local office at the address and / or number below.*



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“Treat the earth well – remember that it was not given to us by our parents...but was lent to us by our children”.

Water Quality

I M P R O V E M E N T P R O G R A M



Get Involved!

- **Land stewardship is something that everyone can participate in to improve the health of our natural environment.**
- **The Conservation Authority has a number of financial grants available to landowners who qualify.**
- **You can make a difference in the improvement of local water quality, and we would like to help get you started.**



DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority runs a routine water quality monitoring program for our watershed?

Water quality is important to the citizens in the Niagara Peninsula. Identifying areas of pollution inputs is important for the long-term health and happiness of our human and non-human residents.

Did you know that the NPCA is committed to taking the promise of routinely checking local water quality one step further?

We have developed a watershed restoration program which is geared specifically towards working with area residents to develop projects that will help improve local water quality and habitat diversity.

Did you know that water quality is a "report card" of how we are treating our landscape, which includes our own backyards?

Whatever we do to the land will be reflected in the quality of our water. If we are cutting down trees, filling in wetlands, paving over natural environments, not maintaining septic systems, pouring chemicals down drains, using fertilizers and pesticides, etc... poor water quality will result. Problems such as turbidity, low dissolved oxygen, high levels of bacteria, phosphorus and other nutrients indicate that we are not being good stewards of the land.

Did you know that over 93% of the land base in the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority's jurisdiction is privately owned?

If every landowner improved just one aspect of their own land management practices, all these little changes would add up to big benefits in terms of improving local water quality.

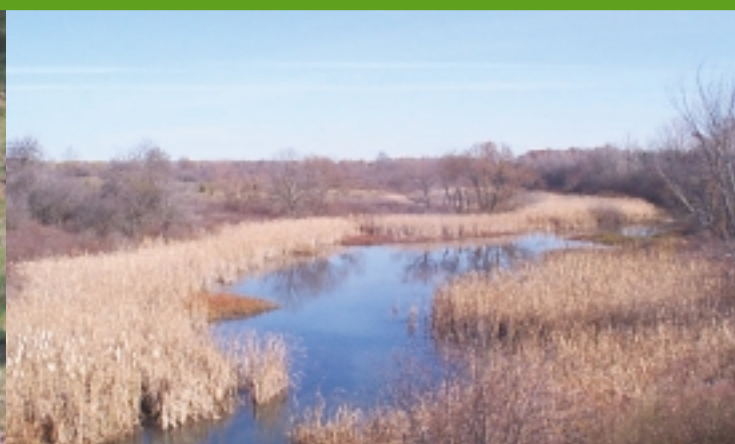
NIAGARA PENINSULA CONSERVATION AUTHORITY'S RESTORATION PROGRAM

Eligible Projects for Grants



Livestock Restriction

Keeping livestock such as cattle and horses out of our creeks and streams is an easy and cheap way of improving water quality, increasing habitat and controlling erosion.



Habitat

Without trees we would not have air to breathe. Without wetlands we would not have clean water to drink. By protecting and restoring habitat we protect ourselves, fish and other wildlife.



Buffer Strips



Buffer strips such as grassed waterways can filter harmful pollutants and sediment from surface water before it reaches a creek or river. Maintaining vegetative areas between waterways and cultivated land is another easy way landowners can improve local water quality.

Conservation Farm/Land Practices



There are many different techniques that can be used around your property to help control erosion and prevent sediment from entering waterways. Properly placed grassed waterways, spillways and rock shutes will help control surface runoff volumes and help filter pollutants.

Nutrient Management



Properly contained and managed nutrients are a very important part of improving water quality; this includes lawn fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides, manure, compost, septic sewage, organic soil runoff, etc.



Project Summary

Total estimated cost of the project _____

Total estimated of project grant _____

Total estimate of landowner contribution; Cash _____ In kind _____

Estimated start date for project _____

Landowner Agreement for Habitat Restoration Program

This agreement is to acknowledge that (name, please print) _____

I, the undersigned landowner, will ensure that the completed project will be managed to the best of my ability for the purpose of furthering conservation in the Niagara Peninsula for a period not less than 15 years. To the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this form which relates to the project and property is true and accurate.

Signature of Applicant _____

Date _____

*“Nobody made a greater mistake
than he who did nothing because
he could do only a little”.*

— Edmund Burke



**NIAGARA PENINSULA
CONSERVATION
AUTHORITY**

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Water Quality Improvement Program HABITAT RESTORATION PROGRAM

Applicant Name _____ Telephone _____

Mailing Address _____ Town _____ Postal Code _____

Project Location

County _____ Lot _____

Township _____ Concession _____

Habitat Restoration Program

Purpose: To improve degraded water quality in the watershed by restoring forest, wetland and riparian habitat (buffer strips).

How: In consultation with landowners the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority will develop a Habitat Restoration Plan.

Detailed site preparation and restoration objectives will be specified.

Landowner Participation: Participating landowners may be compensated for restoring habitat by adding the value of land retired as “in kind” support to the total project cost, therefore lessening the landowners cash contribution. All projects will be reviewed and assessed for approval by the Project Steering Committee. Project approval will be based on the priority of the site and the direct demonstrated benefits to water quality improvement and habitat diversity.

Please check the program that you are applying for:

- I Woodland Restoration
- II Streambank/ Riparian Restoration
- III Wetland Restoration
- IV Fish & Wildlife Habitat Enhancement

Existing Site Conditions

Soil _____

Drainage _____

Property Size _____

Watershed _____

Flooding Condition _____

Available Resources

Please check appropriate boxes to request additional resource information on the following:

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| Native Species Planting Lists <input type="checkbox"/> | Native Plant Nurseries <input type="checkbox"/> | Wetland Habitat Fund <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Ducks Unlimited <input type="checkbox"/> | Woodlot Association Information <input type="checkbox"/> | Environmental Farm Plan <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Community Fisheries (CFWIP) <input type="checkbox"/> | Extension Notes (How to....) <input type="checkbox"/> | Conservation Land Easements <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Tax Incentive Programs <input type="checkbox"/> | Other Funding Opportunities <input type="checkbox"/> | |

I Woodland Restoration

Do you have existing woodlands on your property? Yes No

Please provide details _____

Is this land adjacent to a watercourse? Yes No

What is the name of the watercourse? _____

What is the project land currently being used for? _____

How many acres do you wish to reforest? _____

Provide a brief description of your project goals and objectives for this site (eg. what type of plants would you prefer?)

What project management practices do you intend? (eg. mowing, herbicide, do nothing?) _____

Do you have open spaces between woodlands that could provide connective corridors for wildlife movement? Yes No

Please provide details _____

II Streambank / Riparian Restoration

Is this a natural stream or, municipal drain ?

What is the name of the watercourse? _____

Is there an existing buffer? Yes No

If yes, please provide details (eg. width of buffer, species found in buffer?) _____

Is there an existing erosion problem? Yes No

If yes, please provide details (eg. length of effected area?) _____

What is the project land currently being used for? _____

Provide a brief description of your project goals and objectives for this site _____

What is the approximate length of the watercourse you wish to restore? _____

III Wetland Restoration

Do you have existing wetland areas on your property? Yes No

If yes, provide details (eg. size of wetland, is it wet year round, existing species?) _____

Does a watercourse pass through your property? Yes No

What is the name of the watercourse? _____

Is your property prone to flooding? Yes No

Provide a brief description of your project goals and objectives for this site _____

What is the approximate area of wetland that you would like to restore/create? _____

Please provide details (eg. type of feature - pond, marsh?) _____

What is the purpose of the wetland? (eg: recreation, irrigation, habitat?) _____

IV Fish and Wildlife Habitat Enhancement

Does a watercourse pass through your property? Yes No

What is the name of the watercourse? _____

Have you ever seen fish in the creek? Yes No

Please provide details (eg. species, size, when?) _____

What other wildlife have you noticed in or around the creek? (eg. species, size, when?) _____

Do you have land, which is prone to flooding, erosion, etc? Yes No

If yes, provide details _____

What is the project site currently being used for? _____

Provide a brief description of your project goals and objectives for this site _____

How many acres of land do you wish to enhance? _____

Water Quality Improvement Program

NON - POINT SOURCE PROGRAM

Is the adjacent land currently being used for agricultural purposes?..... Yes No

What is the upstream field area and agricultural practices _____

II Windbreaks

What is the purpose of the proposed windbreak? _____

Please select the number of rows for the windbreak 1 2 3 4 5

What is the length and width selected for the windbreak? _____

What woody species are to be planted in the windbreak? Hardwood Trees Conifer Trees Native Shrubs

III Stream Stabilization (rock chutes, water control basins, spillways)

What type of watercourse is to be stabilized?

1. River, stream or creek..... Yes No

2. Municipal drain..... Yes No

3. Tile outlet Yes No

Please explain the type of work to be completed _____

What are the erosion control measures to be taken for this project (eg. filter cloth, seeding, bioengineering, etc.) _____

Project Summary

Total estimated cost of the project _____

Total estimated of project grant _____

Total estimate of landowner contribution; Cash _____ In kind _____

Estimated start date for project? _____

Landowner Agreement for Non-Point Source Project

This agreement is to acknowledge that (name, please print) _____

I, the undersigned landowner, will ensure that the completed project will be managed to the best of my ability for the purpose of furthering conservation in the Niagara Peninsula for a period not less than 15 years. To the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this form which relates to the project and property is true and accurate.

Signature of Applicant _____

Date _____



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Applicant Name _____ Telephone _____

Mailing Address _____ Town _____ Postal Code _____

Project Location

County _____ Lot _____

Township _____ Concession _____

I Existing Operation

Indicate your farming operation..... Cash Crop Livestock Greenhouse Other _____

If livestock farming, indicate, the number of animals (what type) _____

If cash crop, please indicate an average crop rotation _____

Please indicate what types of manure storage facilities are present on the farm? Solid Liquid Solid/Liquid Separation

At the present time, how many days of storage capacity is there on site? _____ (days)

II Field Practices

Indicate the area (in acres) under various farming practices: Cash crop _____ Pasture _____ Other _____

What are the main tillage practices on your farm?..... No-till Conventional Tillage Contour Tillage

What are the main soil types and drainage on your property? (eg. clay, silty clay, clay loam, well drained, poorly drained, imperfect) _____

III Present Manure Application Practices

Describe the drainage system of your operation:

Natural drainage _____ acres

Random tile _____ acres

Systematic tile _____ acres

Open ditch _____ acres or length

Natural watercourse _____ acres or length

Is the manure:

custom spread?..... Yes No

incorporated within 24 hours?..... Yes No

spread on frozen ground?..... Yes No

spread on slopes near an open drain?..... Yes No

How often do you have to spread manure? _____ (times/year)

If you have a manure facility / storage, what is the approximate distance to the following:

i) catch basin _____ ii) ditch _____ iii) tile drain _____ iv) stream _____

Does manure runoff flow into a nearby catch basin, tile, ditch or stream?..... Yes No Do not know

A) LIVESTOCK RESTRICTION

I Fencing

Name of the watercourse passing through your property? _____

Do livestock currently have access to the watercourse? _____ Yes No

What type of watercourse will be fenced? _____

1. River, stream or creek _____ Yes No

2. Municipal drain _____ Yes No

Will livestock be completely restricted from the watercourse? _____ Yes No

What is the total length of the watercourse to be fenced? _____

If both sides of the watercourse are to be restricted, what is the total length of fence required? _____

What type of fence do you intend to use?

Barbed wire Temporary Electric Page wire Permanent Electric High Tensile Other _____

What is the proposed power source for the fencing? Solar Electric (from barn) Wind Other _____

Average setback of fence from stream's edge _____ (m)

Estimated total cost of the fencing _____

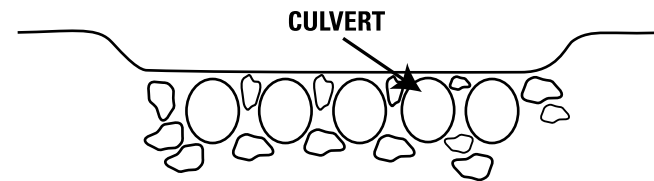
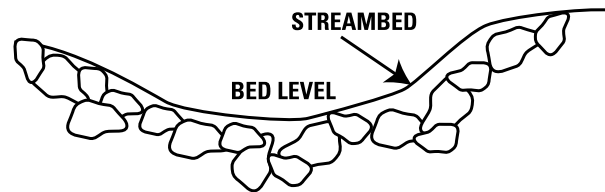
II Crossings

Would a crossing be required for your project? _____ Yes No

Please select the type of crossing proposed for the site

Type A

Type B



Diameter _____ Diameter _____

Length _____ Length _____

Stream width at crossing _____ Stream width at crossing _____

Type and Size of Rock _____ Number of Culverts and Material Type _____

What is the main use for the crossing: _____ Livestock Farm Equipment Truck and ATV

What time of the year will the crossing mainly be used: _____ Spring Summer Fall Winter

What time of year will the crossing be constructed? _____

Estimated total cost of crossing _____

III Alternate Watering System

Are alternate watering sources presently available (i.e. barn, well)? Yes No If yes, what type: _____

If no, what type of watering system do you intend to use?

From barn Solar pumping unit Nose pump Spring box Other _____

Estimated total cost of the watering system _____

Note: Sections II and III must be done concurrently with a fencing project to be eligible for funding.

B) MANURE MANAGEMENT

I Manure Storage Improvement

	Existing System	Proposed System
Type of Storage		
Dimensions of Storage		
Number of Days Storage		
Number of Livestock		

What is the reason for improving your manure storage? _____

Do you have eavestroughs on your barns? _____ Yes No

Does your barn roof or barnyard contribute water to the existing storage? _____ Yes No

If so, Area of Barn Roofs _____ Area of Barnyard _____

What is the distance of your manure pile to:

Tile _____ Catchbasin _____ Watercourse _____ Ditch _____ Well _____

What is the amount of straw bedding used (lbs/day): _____

II Milkhouse Washwater

How many milking cows do you have? _____

The average daily volume of washwater is _____ gallons or litres _____

Calculated by: _____ Water Meter Sink Volume Guess

Volume measurements include: _____ Presan Wash Rinse

Acid Rinse Bulk Tank Floor Wash Other

Where does the washwater currently go? _____

C) CONSERVATION FARM PRACTICES

I Grass Waterways and Buffer Strips

Do you have an existing vegetative buffer along your watercourse? _____ Yes No

If yes, provide details _____

What is the approximate length of the watercourse / swale you wish to buffer? _____