

HSC Work Plan for 2012/13

Initiative	Description	Comments / Actions
Huron Stewardship Council Admin	Annual Report, CIPS, Provincial and local web site updates. revise HSC brochure, meeting planning and minutes, facilitate other council activities, membership recruitment, etc.	Ongoing throughout the year with peak of activity in the spring
MNR Area Team and District role	Provide customer and counter service as required, participate in team and or district meetings or other activities as required, training and development activities	Ongoing throughout the year
Ontario Stewardship Provincial or Zone Roles	Represent Ontario Stewardship on committees and in other capacities as required.	Periodic meetings and related commitments
SAR - Wood Turtle and Queensnake SAR Recovery Efforts	Contribute to recovery efforts for these species at risk	Fulfil partner obligations and build on previous accomplishments in Habitat Stewardship Program and SAR SF projects
SAR Education and Outreach	Engage the local community in SAR research (of non-sensitive species), and continue raising awareness about the ecology and importance of SAR.	Ongoing throughout the year
COA (Canada Ontario Agreement) Initiative	Promote and support restoration of aquatic habitat through implementation of various projects, e.g. enhancement or restoraion of buffer strips, riparian areas and wetlands	We are hopeful that funding will again be received as in recent years. In 2011 the Clinton MNR office received \$45,000 which was tranfered to landowners for suitable projects through the HSC. We hope to receive a similar amount of funding in 2012
Wetland & Riparian Corridor / Healthy Headwaters Restoration Initiative	as above with COA initiative - promote and support restoration of aquatic habitat through implementation of various projects, e.g. enhancement or restoraion of buffer strips, riparian areas and wetlands	Pursue through multiple partnerships including ABCA funding, COA funding, SAR SF funds and lever additional support wherever possible.
Envirothon	Co-coordinate Huron Perth regional competition including promotion with teachers, preparation workshops and delivering regional competition	Planning and delivery of 2012 event will likely start in January 2012. Regional competition in April.
Huron Perth Agriculture and Water Festival	Fun and educational event profiling agriculture as well as water quality and quantity through hands on activities targeting grade 4 students. Offered annually in April.	Marg and Donna have lead delivery of one section for several years
Woodlot Association Support	Supporting this group is a key oppotunity to promote responsible stewardship of woodlands	Continue to support events and activities.

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Lower Maitland Stewardship Group	Group with varied backgrounds (including landowners, interest groups and agencies) but with common interest in the Lower Maitland Valley and stewardship of it's natural features	Continue active participation and support in keeping with HSC strategy and council capacity.
Maitland Watershed Partnerships	Representatives from varied backgrounds (including landowners, interest groups and agencies) focussed on developing understanding of resource issues, building local ability to deal with these issues and building alliances	HSC representation on terrestrial team (and on the Water Action Team if any council members are interested), support and participate in partnership activities that are in keeping with HSC strategy and within council capacity
Trees for Benmiller	Contribute to the reforestation effort in woodland areas around Benmiller that were devastated by the tornado of summer 2011.	HSC will be the lead agency on the Treble Woodlot project for 2012. HSC will assist with project facilitation and tree planting in summer of 2012.
Water Protection Steering Committee	Representatives from varied backgrounds (organizations and agencies) focussed on learning about water related issues, then building capacity and setting direction to deal with them	Continue to participate as member of this committee
Huron County Natural Heritage Strategy	Provide input and assist wherever possible with development of the plan by the Huron County Planning Department	Planning document that could possibly inventories, recognizes and vaues natural heritage features as well as providing direction for protection and enhancement
ABCA Conservation Strategy Development	Provide input during strategy development process	Donna is representing HSC in the process
Other community group / networking opportunities	Participate as appropriate and as opportunities arise, e.g. Friends of the Bayfield River, North Gullies Watershed Initiative, etc.	Assist with stewardship as well as outreach and education while building community network and HSC profile
Huron Community Stewardship Web Portal	Intent is to provide a web portal with a stewardship focus (i.e. the place to go for stewardship related information in Huron) through provision of self updateable web sites for stewardship groups, sites for local initiatives, a calendar of events, links to Stewardship related sites, etc. The intent is to build synergy through local groups and initiatives building on each other's members, contacts and profile.	Currently experiencing some technical issues. Once those are sorted out, resolve future sustainability of the site