



The Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation

October 2019

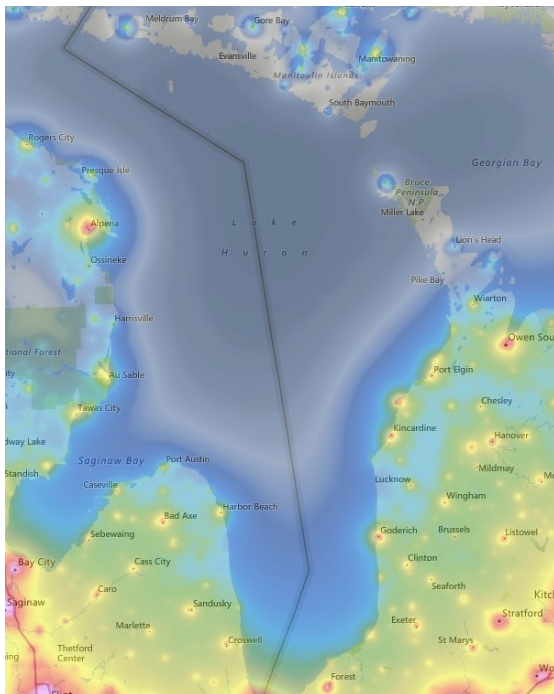
Keeping a Great Lake great since 1998!

Short Days and Long Nights; Autumn is Here

Autumn has arrived! Time for crisp, short days and long, dark nights. Even though the dark can be spooky, it's very beneficial for some creatures, including bats. Let's keep the skies dark for our night-flying friends!

Light Pollution:

Is the light in your life pollution?



Light pollution is caused by excessive use of artificial light which can have negative consequences on our environment and its inhabitants. As defined by the International Dark Sky Association, light pollution comes in four different types:

- **Glare** – excessive brightness that causes visual discomfort;
- **Skyglow** – brightening of the night sky over inhabited areas;
- **Light trespass** – light falling where it is not intended or needed;
- **Clutter** – bright, confusing and excessive groupings of light sources.

Outdoor lighting used at night is often inefficient, wasting both resources and money. To keep it short and sweet, downward pointing light fixtures are the most efficient, and reduce sky glow. Keeping your light bulbs a 'warm white' instead of a 'clear or blue white' will also help nocturnal animals keep their nighttime rhythm.

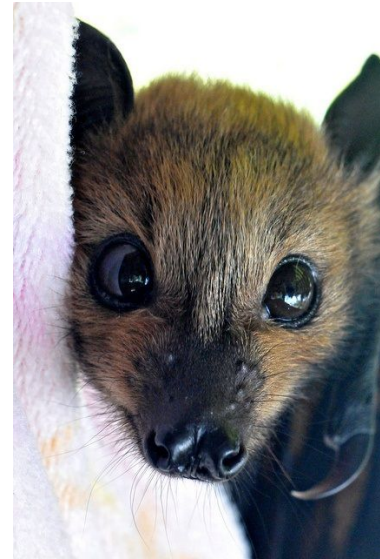
Warm white lights will also help you, and your neighbours, sleep, as the cool white lights affect our circadian rhythm.

Visit Darksky.org to find out how you can reduce your output as the longer nights approach us.

Bat Week: Oct 24 - Oct 31

THREE of the **EIGHT** species of bats in Ontario (Little Brown Myotis Bat, Northern Long-eared Myotis Bat, and Tricolored Bat) are considered provincially and nationally endangered.

- **Did you know** that bats eat **TONS** of insects, **POLLINATE** flowers and **SPREAD SEEDS** for new plants to grow?!
- **Did you know** that contrary to popular belief, bats are **NOT BLIND**? Bats have great eye sight very similar to humans.
- **Did you know** that most North American bats eat insects? One bat can eat up to its **OWN BODY WEIGHT OF INSECTS IN ONE NIGHT**. This can help protect food crops from harmful insects.
- **Did you know** that it is **ILLEGAL** to **KILL, TRAP** or **HUNT** bats in Ontario? Even if they've entered your home or attic, harming a bat is illegal.



Here's how to help:

- **Avoid disturbing bats.**
- **Get involved with protecting, monitoring and helping bats in your area.**
- **Provide homes for bats. Homes for bats are called "Bat Boxes" and can be purchased from some conservation authorities or you can 'DIY' one!**

Stay tuned for our upcoming posts on social media regarding issues affecting bats

**Water Fill
Station at
Courthouse
Square**



A brand-new water bottle filling station is open in Goderich! Located in front of the Courthouse. Help cut down on single use plastics by bringing your refillable water bottles. You can also purchase your own Goderich water bottle at:

**Goderich Tourism
Office & Bluewater
Cleaners.**

Coastal Plant ID Workshop Re-Cap



On September 21, the Coastal Centre hosted a Coastal Plant ID workshop with special Guest Lynn Short, Professor of Horticulture at Humber College. The educational walk along the shoreline at Point Clark was attended by 35 people. A massive thank you to Lynn for teaching the attendees about native flora, invasive species and the vital role coastal vegetation provides to our shoreline ecosystems.

If you would like a copy of the Dune Planting Guide used on this walk, visit our website here:

[Dune Planting Guide](#)

An in-depth identification guide is also available at our office for \$45.



This workshop was made possible through the generous support of:

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VOLUNTEERS WANTED!!!

We are looking for hard-working and dedicated volunteers to assist in a **beach restoration** project with the Coastal Centre's Restoration Technician, Samantha.

The Coastal Centre is happy to announce a pilot program, Green Ribbon Champion, in the Township of Huron-Kinloss shoreline started this Summer!

Green Ribbon Champions are coastal stewards committed to the protection of the Great lakes and are recognized for their efforts to understand coastal ecosystems, and for their actions to preserve, protect and restore them. Participants receive a free beach assessment of their shoreline property and a beach care toolkit. Assessments were started in August, with over 20 property owners signing up for the program. **Thank-You to all of our willing Green Ribbon Champions!**

If you are interested in learning more please visit www.lakehuron.ca/grc.

The Green Ribbon Champion program is generously supported by:

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We are looking for the next

**GREEN RIBBON
CHAMPION**

UPCOMING EVENT

Saturday, November 2

Huron Hues

PAINTING FOR CONSERVATION

SAT NOV 2, 2019 | 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM
POINT CLARK COMMUNITY CENTRE

\$10

Includes admission, paint
materials, and refreshments

Tickets available now at
lakehuron.ca/upcomingevents

Enjoy morning tea while learning about Lake Huron's beaches and ways to preserve these sandy relics. You will be guided by Artist, **Bethany Davidson**, through a beginner level painting of Lake Huron's mesmerizing blue beaches. Take home your canvas painting, ready to be proudly displayed. Have fun, meet other beach lovers, and learn new skills!



Supported by:



Buy Tickets Now

100 Debates on the Environment

100 Debates on the Environment is a national initiative to hold non-partisan all-candidates debates specifically on the environment in 100 ridings across Canada, all on the same evening.

Green Goderich will be hosting the Huron-Bruce debate on Thursday, **October 3rd from 7:00-9:00 PM** at Lakeshore United Church. Green Goderich says:

“Come out to hear how our local federal candidates plan to stand up for the protection of our local ecosystems and the broader environment. This election will lock in a new government for up to four years and the decisions we make now will have a massive impact on the future. We are at an extreme tipping point right now, so knowing what our parties plan to do for the environment is something voters deserve to know before casting their ballots on October 21st.”

For more information, please go to www.greengoderich.com or the Facebook event here:

Facebook Event

Webinar Series Now Available Online

The end of September concludes the final installments of our online webinars series regarding issues affecting Lake Huron, from understanding Species at Risk to impacts of Climate Change.

Missed them? They're available to view on our website. Click the link below.

Webinar Series Videos

THANK YOU!

A big **THANK YOU** to the Fermented Femmes for choosing the Coastal Centre as the featured charity for their 3rd annual Hop-Hearted Craft Beer Festival on September 27th. The effervescent evening was attended by fabulous women sampling local and unique craft beer and ciders. The event raised a total of **\$1,500** for The Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation.



Go Green!

Through generous funding provided by the Ontario Trillium Foundation, we are working to create a healthy coastline with vibrant communities on Lake Huron. In order to learn and share our learning with coastal communities, the Foundation has requested that the Coastal Centre survey residents to ask what they value most about the environment.

The survey questions and parameters were prepared by Forum Research for the Ontario Trillium Foundation and therefore were not prepared by the Coastal Centre. If you wish to remain anonymous, do not fill in the final page of the survey, the survey results are not matched with participants in any way. Please note the Pre- and Post-option is not applicable for this survey and a Participant ID is not required. Thank you! To complete the "Green People" Survey, please click the link below:

[Green People Survey](#)



The Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation supports environmental efforts along the Canadian coastline of Lake Huron. We foster communication and partnerships between environmental agencies and organizations, working towards a sustainable and resilient coast. We provide education, resources, and information on lake-wide

issues and our programs reflect the inter-connectivity between land and water.

DONATE TODAY!

Follow our social media for updates about our upcoming events and some interesting quick facts about Lake Huron and its coastal ecosystems!

