SVCA Ag Outreach Program

Presentation at Healthy Lake Huron Meeting June 13, 2018
Great Lakes Agricultural Stewardship Initiative (GLASI) Education and Outreach Component:

- A three year program – November 2015 to February 2018
- Partnership with Maitland Valley Conservation Authority
- Financial support from Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association, Growing Forward 2
- Total funding from OSCIA and Healthy Lake Huron COA $261,850 with matching In Kind dollars from SVCA, MVCA and our Agricultural Partners
- SVCA successfully piloted Cover Crop Incentive Program for 2016 and 2017
- SVCA established an Ag Advisory Committee
WORKSHOPS

DEMO PLOTS
  - Connecting with Agricultural Industry
  - Connecting with Producers

EDUCATION OUTREACH
  - Connecting with local Not for Profits
  - Provide Agriculture based education

COMMUNITY OUTREACH
  - Programming
Delivered Programming for the Roots of Bruce and Grown in Grey

Working with Conservation Education programs for both Maitland and Saugeen Conservation to enrich agriculture and soils components of the program

Developing an AGRI WORKS module with our partners at Grey Bruce Sustainability Network and OMAFRA that was implemented within the framework of WaterWORKS programming geared to High School students and bring awareness to them on the agricultural industry
Improved agronomic capacity with Environmental Planning and Regulations Department
Farmer Advisory Service
Field Walks in the Pine River watershed
Provide workshops that would engage Certified Crop Advisors and support continued Learning (CEU’s)
COFFEE, CROPS AND DONUTS
Farmer-to-Farmer in Field Workshops

Nine Workshops in total for 2016 and 10 in 2017
Including Pollinator Habitat and Programming
In addition, 100 participants in a Phosphorus Workshop – the Dirt on Phosphorus in the fall of 2017
TEN DEMO SITES
Illustrating 10 BMP’s related to environmental stewardship in varying contexts

Demo Site #6:
Plant Green, cover crop and good Crop rotation
545 workshop attendees
240 high school students
600 elementary students
288 contacts
163 meetings & events
2018 Proposed Programming

Soil & Water Stewardship Program

- Workshops
- Demo Plots
- Community Outreach
- PLUS...
Soil & Water Stewardship Passport

Engagement in Educational Opportunities
Creating a “Community of Practice”
Promoting Stewardship

Financial support for Stewardship Projects
Building on Success

Coffee, Crops & Donuts

• A focus on partnered events

Cover crop cost-share programming

• 2017 - Farmer Advisory Service, Demonstration Plot Project & Cover Crop Incentive Program
• 2018 – Soil & Water Stewardship Program (GLGPF)
SVCA 2018 Funding Strategy

Components of the proposed Funding strategy are multi pronged:

- Saugeen Valley Member Municipalities
- Healthy Lake Huron – Canada-Ontario Agreement Fund
- Ontario Trillium Foundation – SEED Grant and GROW Grant - Through Stewardship Grey Bruce - Pending
- Great Lakes Guardian Community Fund (GLGCF Received $25,000)
- TD Friends of the Environment Foundation (TDFEF) – Need to Re - Apply
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic &amp; Speaker</th>
<th>Host &amp; Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 3rd</td>
<td><strong>Beneficials for Integrated Pest Management</strong>&lt;br&gt;Dr. Simon Lachance, UofG Ridgetown&lt;br&gt;$20, lunch included</td>
<td>A part of the BSCIA Mystery Car Tour&lt;br&gt;Paisley Community Center</td>
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<td>July 13th</td>
<td><strong>Strip Till Benefits</strong>&lt;br&gt;Harry Biermans</td>
<td>A part of the GSCIA Crop Walk visit&lt;br&gt;ontariosoilcrop.org/upcoming-events</td>
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<td>August 21st</td>
<td><strong>BMPs and Soil Biology</strong>&lt;br&gt;Lori Phillips, AAFC&lt;br&gt;Stefan Zehetner, Huron Cover Crops</td>
<td>Grey Ag Services&lt;br&gt;206 Toronto St S. Markdale</td>
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<td>August 28th</td>
<td><strong>Soil Health Car Tour</strong>&lt;br&gt;Anne Verhallen, OMAFRA</td>
<td>Gerard Grubb, Peter Kotzeff &amp; Wilfried Boerkamp&lt;br&gt;1147 Concession 15 E South Bruce</td>
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<td>Sept. 4th</td>
<td><strong>Equipment for BMPs</strong>&lt;br&gt;Stoltz, Sprucedale, Huron Tractor, Roberts and J&amp;H&lt;br&gt;tillage, cover crop seeding, precision nutrient management &amp; compaction</td>
<td>Schaus Land &amp; Cattle Co.&lt;br&gt;1633-1635 Bruce County Rd 4 Walkerton&lt;br&gt;<strong>Plus FREE BBQ lunch!</strong></td>
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<td>October 30th</td>
<td><strong>Economics of Stewardship</strong>&lt;br&gt;Clarence Swanton - UofG, Adam Ireland, Gerard Grubb, Lois Sinclair &amp; Keith Reid&lt;br&gt;cost of production, programs and profitability mapping</td>
<td>Saugeen Conservation&lt;br&gt;1708 Bruce Rd. 12 Formosa</td>
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Objectives

- Reduce P loss & soil erosion
- Increase the total # of farmers using cover crops
- Coordinate activities that support a “community of practice”
100% re-imbursement of seed for the stewardship projects below up to $1000 per applicant

**Step 1**
- Check out a Coffee, Crops & Donuts
- Attend any approved workshop (learn about it from @SaugeenStewardship)
- Visit demonstration site or live demo (learn about it from @SVCAstewardship)
- Talk with a soil health mentor on your township's twitter group chat or in person by calling 519-857-3040 x249

*Have 5+ years experience with BMPs? contact us for innovator actions that might apply to you!*

**Step 2**
Tweet about it!

Each time you do any of the above actions, snap a photo and post it on twitter with a quick description, using the hashtag: #SaugeenSteward

**Step 3**
Fill out your Passport & send it

Send your passport to:

1073 Bruce Rd. L2
Formose, ON
N0G 1W0

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Full Name: ________________________________

Mailing Address: ____________________________

Phone Number: ____________________________

E-mail: _________________________________

Twitter Handle: ___________________________

Identify whether you’re a skeptic, innovator or somewhere in between by marking an ‘X’

**Skeptic**

☐ Cover Crops
☐ Buffer Planting
☐ Nutrient Management Plan
☐ Other Stewardship Project

**Innovator**

☐ Grassed Waterway
☐ Organic Amendments
☐ Soil Test
☐ Innovative Trial

For larger stewardship projects, send in your project location, plan & quotes before moving ahead and we’ll submit a grant application, if applicable.

**Project Location** (lot, Concession & Township/Municipality)

Total Project Size (Acres): ____________________________

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Saugeen Conservation
Building Relationships and New Initiatives

Bruce County Soil & Crop Association collaborative projects
- The Bruce County Water Infiltration Project
- The Compaction Recovery Research Project

Ontario Soil Network
University of Guelph

Ontario Ministry of Agriculture Food and Rural Affairs

Grey County water quality program proposal in Partnership with Grey Sauble Conservation Authority
Water Infiltration Project

- Begin to set a baseline water infiltration rate for Bruce County soils
- Set soil type-categorized OM-water infiltration curves for Bruce County
- Contribute to on-going research at Ridgetown and Elora research stations
Compaction Recovery Research Project

Measure compaction recovery rates over 3-6 years

Compare results between till & no-till plots

Compare results within those plots with the addition of cover crop treatments
Proposed 2018 Funding Strategy - Summary

FULLY FUNDED: Funding strategy where we are successful with all the funding applications outlined above.

Event 1: Where OTF SEED funding is not approved*
  $67,000: Cost to fund proposed deliverables as outlined in the SEED Grant (July – Oct)
  $27,000: Cost to fund core function of Ag Outreach program (July to Sept)

Event 2: Waiting for notification on OTF SEED and unsuccessful in other grants;
  $24,000: Cost to continue Ag Outreach programming with SVCA contract staff, with SEED deliverables in mind, until July.

Event 3: Waiting for OTF SEED/TDFEF and where no GLGCF – Gap end of April to June
  $16,000: Cost for SVCA contract staff position cover crop seed other budgeted items

Event 4: Waiting for OTF SEED and have GLGF but no TDFEF
  $8,000: Costs for SVCA contract staff from end of May to July with SEED deliverables

NO FUNDING SUPPORT: $78,000: continues core Ag Outreach Program functions (April – Oct)*

*Work contracts to be negotiated with an external consultant
SVCA Stewardship Services
Connecting with the Community