

PINE RIVER WATERSHED INITIATIVE NETWORK

PRWIN ANNUAL REPORT

***A Review of our 2024 In-ground Projects & Programming
Challenges & Opportunities***





PINE RIVER WATERSHED INITIATIVE NETWORK

PRWIN'S MANDATE

- **TO RESEARCH, ORGANIZE AND PARTICIPATE IN PROJECTS DESIGNED TO IMPROVE AND PRESERVE THE ENVIRONMENT AS IT RELATES TO THE PINE RIVER WATERSHED.**
- **TO EDUCATE AND INCREASE THE PUBLIC'S UNDERSTANDING OF THE PINE RIVER WATERSHED AND ITS IMPORTANCE BY OFFERING PRESENTATIONS, PARTICIPATING IN CONFERENCES, MEETINGS AND DISSEMINATING INFORMATION TO THE PUBLIC ON OUR WEBSITE, NEWSLETTERS AND SOCIAL MEDIA.**
- **TO PROVIDE INFORMATION TO THE PUBLIC ON PROGRAMS AND FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES THAT WILL IMPROVE THE WATER QUALITY WITHIN THE PINE RIVER AS IT FLOWS INTO LAKE HURON.**

PINE RIVER WATERSHED INITIATIVE NETWORK

In-ground Projects

COA 2023 FUNDING Project



- This fall, PRWIN completed a multi in-ground project that developed a livestock crossing, ditch clean up and rip rap to stabilize and protect the soil surface against erosion, berm reconstruction and a pollinator garden.
- This project will provide great results in managing water while also improving the quality and health of our waters through to Lake Huron.
- The project was supported by Bruce Power's Environment & Sustainability Fund and Ministry of Environment, Conservation & Parks through the Great Lakes Program.



PINE RIVER WATERSHED INITIATIVE NETWORK

In-ground Projects

Shoreline Reforestation Project

Project



- The Shoreline Reforestation Project offered 100 junipers to lakeshore residents. PRWIN and the Township of Huron-Kinloss partnered to encourage residents along the township shoreline beaches to begin restoring the beach dunes following the high lake levels of the past few years.
- PRWIN delivered the junipers to the recipients of the lakeshore residents.

PINE RIVER WATERSHED INITIATIVE NETWORK

In-ground Projects

2024 Spring Seedling Planting Day



- **PRWIN directors organized a community seedling planting day with community groups: The Kinetic Knights, Kincardine 2nd Scouts, Sawjan Samanvay Sanatan Centre, Point Clark Beach Association, Enbridge, and PRWIN families worked together planting seedlings at our project sites.**
- **The volunteer's hand planted seedlings, large stock trees and shrubs along with plants to create a pollinator garden.**

PINE RIVER WATERSHED INITIATIVE NETWORK

In-ground Projects



- **Our annual Spring Seedling Give-Away Program offered 90 personal seedling orders to our community and a total of 5500 seedlings were handed out. Sponsorship and donations supported the seedlings from SVCA.**
- **The program was created in 2014 and is a very popular community program. Some of the orders supported the Kincardine Naturalization Project, 2nd Kincardine Scouts and the Ripley Huron Community School Green Team.**

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PRWIN PTARP



- **This fall, we had 24 recipients receive a tree, courtesy of our Potted Tree Ash Replacement Program (PTARP). The goal of PTARP is to provide the lakeshore communities with trees to replace those ash trees that declined due Emerald Ash Borer.**
- **This yearly program has enabled us to make a significant impact to an area that was devastated by the ash borer and has offered shoreline residents 190 mature potted trees.**
- **The mature trees are sourced from Smeltzer's Garden Centre and the Community Well Being Program supported our 2024 fall tree program.**

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PRWIN Engagements With Community



- Our organization participated in the Lake Huron-Georgian Bay Community Action Initiative - Webinars: A Deeper Dive into Monitoring and Evaluating the Lake Huron-Georgian Bay Ecosystem’.
- Submitted articles to support the Healthy Lake Huron Partnership - HLH e-newsletter and The Bruce County Federation of Agriculture paper.
- PRWIN attended the Ecological Farmers Association of Ontario (EFAO) Watershed Conference and Huron Soil & Crop Cover Planting Demo Day.

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PRWIN Outreach



- **PRWIN directors Tory Colling, Bill Smith and Bill Steele retired from our board and we welcome new directors Shirley Fiebiger and Jen Middelkamp.**
- **Our directors celebrated National Tree Planting Day planting an Eastern Red Bud Tree to honour our retired director Bill Steele's work and dedication to PRWIN and the environment.**
- **PRWIN connects with the Ripley Huron Community School - Green Team to offer support and engagements with their school projects.**

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PRWIN Outreach



- Directors hosted a Sponsorship Day to recognize our sponsors contributions to PRWIN community programs. 2024 Sponsors: Armow Wind, Baywood Interiors Millwork, B.M. Ross & Associates, Corteva, Enbridge, Greenfield Global, Howick Mutual Insurance, K2 Wind, Meridian, NWMO, OPG and Society of United Professionals.
- Our organization offers a quarterly e-newsletter to stay connected with our community and to feature current community programs. PRWIN added “Get Soil Smart” a new section to our newsletter.
- PRWIN sponsored a free tree raffle and participated at the Ripley Fall Fair with an information exhibit table.

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PRWIN Outreach

McLarty Environmental Study Area



- This area is designed for our community to learn about the Pine River; wetland creation and the education of the local wildlife and plants that this area supports. PRWIN has installed a trail system, created two wetland ponds and an osprey nest.
- Community groups have enjoyed outdoor classroom experiences at the site. The Ripley Huron Community School, Ripley Wolf Cub Summer Camp and the Ripley & District Horticultural Society's "For Our Youth" have stopped in to explore in nature.
- Our current initiative "Green Elements – Friends of the McLarty Centre." provided new picnic tables supported by Community Foundation Grey Bruce.

PINE RIVER WATERSHED INITIATIVE NETWORK

PRWIN Investment In Huron-Kinloss



- **Our 2024 operation expenses was spent directly on projects, professional fees, programming, contract services to support inground projects, as well as education and outreach. The remainder of expenses provided administration, auditing and other overhead.**
- **PRWIN has installed 21 berms, 12 livestock crossings, completed 5 bank restorations, planted over 364,000 trees, installed 24 km of livestock exclusion fencing, 4 nitrate filters, a pollinator garden and improved 7 wetland areas.**
- **Our audit, highlights over a million dollars has been invested in Huron-Kinloss alone on in-ground projects and programming by PRWIN.**

PINE RIVER WATERSHED INITIATIVE NETWORK

PRWIN 's Challenges and Opportunities



SEEDLINGS	2018	2025
White Pine	\$ 0.75	\$1.70
White Cedar	\$ 1.00	\$2.75
Red Maple	\$ 1.30	\$3.20

Challenges:

- Increase in the price of seedlings for in-ground projects and community seedling programs.
- Community non-profit groups stated at a meeting it was a common theme that the most challenging funding to obtain is support for covering "Administrative Costs". Corporate donors want their funds to go directly to specific projects in the community.
- The COA (Canada Ontario Agreement) grant administered by MOECP is not determined until December 2024.

Opportunities:

- The COA (Canada Ontario Agreement) grant is a 2 year funding (2024-26) outlined for human resources and in-ground projects. Currently waiting on final agreement documents to proceed with project.
- PRWIN is contacting businesses to help fund 2025 projects/programming.
- We have a legacy fund and apply to sponsorship programs and grant opportunities.
- 2025 funding announcements are expected in the new year.

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PRWIN would not be where we are today without our past/present director's leadership and dedication to our vision of "Clean water and a healthy ecosystem within the Pine River watershed."



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Thank-you for your time!

