

PINE RIVER WATERSHED INITIATIVE NETWORK

Spring 2018 Tree Planting **4H Conservation Club Volunteer Tree Planting Day!**



Above: 4H Ripley Conservation Club members pose on the flatbed before the hard work begins! Photo courtesy of Liz Dadson from the [Kincardine Record](#).

Saturday May 5th proved to be a beautiful day for the Ripley 4H Conservation Club to hand plant 1,500 bare root tree seedlings! This friendly and productive army planted more than expected, keeping the PRWIN directors busy funneling bags of seedlings to the able-bodied youth. Many thanks to the club members and leaders Steve Hallam, Emily Neitzel and Jenny Middelkamp for leading their tree planting army to plant the river-flats on a landowners property on the 12th Concession in Huron Kinloss.



Above: Members of the 4H Ripley Conservation Club plant white spruce with PRWIN's Emily Martin. Photo courtesy of Liz Dadson from the [Kincardine Record](#).



Above: PRWIN and 4H members enjoyed a BBQ lunch and trimmings after the planting courtesy of local family the Martens-Oberwellands! Thank-you for your generous donation!

Spring 2018 Tree Planting

Over 21,000 Seedlings Sorted & Handed to Local Residents!



Above LEFT: local resident Mr. Neidlinger (left) gets a helping hand from PRWIN Chairperson David Grant (centre) and PRWIN Employee Penny Faragher Robertson during the seedling pickup at Ripley District Co-op. Above RIGHT: David Grant hands over a custom seedling order to an excited participant! Some participants donated during pick-up to our Not-For-Profit organization to help fund next years *Tree Seedling Give-Away* program.

In total, the Pine River Watershed Initiative Network ordered 27,000 tree seedlings this spring! Over 21,000 were set aside for our ***Tree Seedling Give-Away*** program to local residents!! This is our second year of this program and it is rapidly gaining popularity. Caravans of PRWIN volunteer directors continuously picked-up bags of seedlings during delivery week. The loads were taken and organized for the handpicked 141 custom seedling orders for area residents that had pre-ordered their seedlings last winter. With the help and dedication of our PRWIN directors, and special guest volunteers Christine and Jim Roberts, we got 'er done!



The 141 personalized seedling orders were handed out at Ripley Hensal District Co-op for two continuous days! The space was graciously donated by owner Dave (centre) and colleague Corey (left). Thank you to Dave and his friendly staff for bending over backwards to accommodate our program and Not-For-Profit organization!

The remaining seedlings were planted at our three project sites funded by separate grantors. Funding for our **Tree Seedling Give-Away** program was generously given to us by the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change, as well as our steady supporter Ontario Power Generation.



Ministry of Environment and Climate Change

Spring 2018 Tree Planting **PTARP Spring 2018 Success!**



Above: Coastline residents Mary Lou & Ross Klopp sent a picture to us of their delivered and planted oak tree from our PTARP program this spring!

The PRWIN directors delivered 19 trees before the first long weekend this Spring! The teams loaded up the 7 gallon (and larger!) mature trees for participating Huron-Kinloss and Kincardine residents. ***Our Potted Tree Ash Replacement Program*** aims to reforest our local coastline from the annihilation that the Emerald Ash Borer has caused to ash trees. One potted native tree is offered per property to help reforest these sensitive

areas. We are hopeful this program will be offered annually in the future, but will only be available in the Fall season going forward.

Call to see if you live in the program boundaries!

A special THANK-YOU to Darlene Smeltzer for her continuous support and help organizing our large order of potted trees!



Our spring 2018 PTARP was funded by the Nuclear Waste Management Organization.

PRWIN's Emily Martin Presents at *Is The Coast Clear?* Coastal Centre Conference



Emily Martin presents at the "Is The Coast Clear?" conference May 10th. Photo credit: Devin Sturgeon

The Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation hosted their 10th biennial conference in Grand Bend on May 10th and 11th. The conference is a fantastic forum for professional environmentalists and the general public to learn about issues effecting lady Lake Huron! Our own Emily Martin was asked to speak as an expert and present the work and programming that the Pine River Watershed Initiative Network has done, and continues to do, to improve the local water quality. Emily presented for almost an hour at the conference and had terrific feedback from the participants. Go Emily! Thank you to our hard-working friends at the Coastal Centre for the invite and opportunity! All presentations from the conference will be made available on the Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation very soon! Website at <https://www.lakehuron.ca/>

We're a Bunch of Bullies that Exclude Livestock

We're a very inclusive group. However, when it comes to excluding livestock from the Pine River, we are proud bullies! Our trusted fencing contractor was out even before the snow melted this spring. Shown below is a freshly finished exclusion fencing project that is just one part of a multi-component project funded by the [Bruce Power Community Investment Sponsorship Program](#). Bruce Power has partnered with us to fund this local project that includes 1) tree planting along the river banks (riparian planting) to help stabilize the eroding soil on the banks 2)

livestock exclusion fencing to keep out the livestock in the Pine River 3) an installed livestock crossing and 4) the purchase and installation of a solar powered alternative water source.



Above: The exclusion fencing component is complete!



Above: Landowners host the 4H Conservation Club to complete the planting of the riparian area between the fence and the Pine River!

Bully Redemption: Installed Solar Powered Alternative Water Source for Livestock.



Above: Victims no longer! The cattle at the project site are happy to hangout by the alternative solar powered water source.

Solar powered alternative water sources are simply a solar panel with an attached pump. Once exclusion fencing is installed, livestock cannot access their original water source. With the installation of the alternative water source, livestock can access water pumped in from the river(s) or a well into a water tub or tank via the new system. Having this unit solar-powered is essential in a rural landscape where electricity may not always be accessible. Landowners that partner with us sign agreements that they will maintain and care for the construction material left on their property after the project is complete.

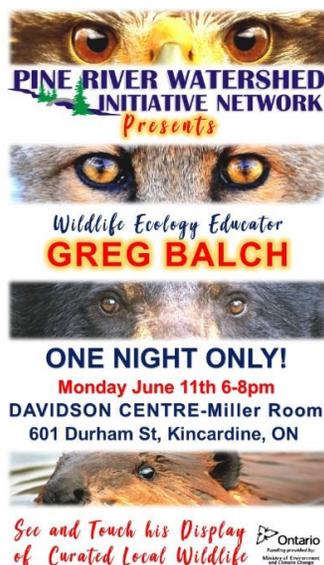


*This multi-component project is funded
by Bruce Power*

The remaining project component of the installed river crossing will be completed in the summer months when the water course is lower and permitting allows it. We will feature this installation in the Summer or Fall newsletter!

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PRWIN Presents Wildlife Display Kincardine's Davidson Centre

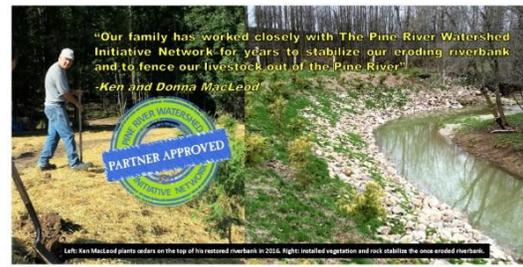


Many of you may remember Greg Balch's display at last September's Ripley Fall Fair. Well, we got him to drive back up from southern Ontario!

Greg will be presenting to Lucknow and Ripley students during the day, but on the night of Monday June 11th, bring your family and friends to his display in the Miller Room at the Davidson Centre in Kincardine from 6:00pm-8:00pm. Admission is FREE courtesy of the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change. Greg is very knowledgeable about wildlife and ecology and will be displaying wildlife that exists in the Pine River Watershed. For more details, check out our website homepage under "Events". See you there!

Check-out Our "**Partner Approved**" Features on our Website's Homepage





We wanted to highlight the valuable partnerships we have honed over the past 15 years, and celebrate new relationships we have forged with local landowners, businesses and like-minded organizations! We are shining a spotlight on our support system right on our homepage. Check out our "[Partner Approved](#)" testimonials stamped with our partners approval that rotate (or click manually) throughout the pictures! Additional features to follow this spring and summer!

Bruce County Federation of Agriculture Donates Again!



This spring, the Bruce County Federation of Agriculture once again donated to our Sponsorship Program and remain "Soil Soldiers"! This generous donation of money helps us cover the rising costs of material like tree seedlings, livestock cement slabs, and solar powered water sources. Thanks once again to the BCFA for this support to help in our mission of "Clean water and a healthy ecosystem within the Pine River Watershed". If you wish to donate to our on-going projects and programming, you can always mail to us at 86 Huron Street, Box 367 Ripley, ON N0G 2R0 or go online to donate directly through CanadaHelps.ca



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