

The Major Grant Result: People participate in ecosystem conservation and restoration efforts.

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**1) Organizing and Participating:**

The Phragmites Working group started in 2018 after a retired school board outdoor education specialist identified that the plant taking over the shore was Phragmites Australis (European Common Reed) an invasive aquatic plant, although many on the lake had been fighting it for years. A presentation by the Eagle Lake Conservation Association on this plant was attended by several Sundridge residents at the Machar Arena in April 2018 and information on best practices for removal was obtained from the excellent presenters including Lynn Short- Humber College. Internet searches and discussion followed, and a presentation was made at the Lake Bernard Property Owners Association where names of interested phragmites fighters were collected and the working group started to form. A presentation was made at the Village of Sundridge council, and the first working group meeting occurred on July 25. A member arranged for a presentation from the invasive Species Awareness program by Kate Powell Terrestrial Invasive Species Outreach Liaison Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters in August 2018 and the group collected more names of interested Phragmites Fighters. From the original attendees a group of around 20 had formed with over 40 receiving emails containing education information and calls for test cuts. A presentation to Strong Township council followed and the numbers grew by October to around 70 receiving information on future cuts and meetings by email.

Volunteers continued with 5 test cuts that first season using nippers and donated equipment. Some were year around residents, and some were seasonal Lake Bernard property owners. Our municipal leaders from the Village of Sundridge, Strong and Joly Townships were aware of the gathering interest in the invasive removal efforts. Lake health including blue green algae blooms became election issues in their platforms for the fall municipal election. The Lake Bernard Property Owners Association was supportive and posted educational information on Phragmites on their social media sites. The Near North Enviro-Education Centre provided support and pledged to assist with the 2019 work plan including assistance with submission of applications for funding. Area businesses began to express interest and asked how they could help. It was suggested that school personnel be contacted to assist with recruitment of high school students for volunteer hours during the phragmites removal in the 2019 season. The Phragmites working group developed a work plan and summarized learning from the summer test cutting events. It was identified that more education and outreach sessions were needed in 2019.

The following is the summary of the activities undertaken as of October 2019.

**As of October 2019:**

- 77 Volunteers have been involved in cutting events
- 104 Lakeshore property Owners receive information
- 7 Municipal Leaders are receiving information and giving support
- 6 Lake Bernard Property Owners Association Directors have supported
- 3 Near North Enviro-Education Centre key individuals
- 11 Businesses have supported

4 School Personnel (past/present) have corresponded in person or by email

## **2) Purchased services:**

The original workplan proposed the purchase of the services of the Invasive Phragmites Control Centre (IPCC)

**From the various grant proposal:** ."of a specialized cutting team using Amphibious Truxors and Barges for

2 Cutting days at the large west end stands and organize municipalities and volunteers to assist with this large cutting event."

## **Evaluation:**

### Did the above occur?

After assessing the large Phragmites cell along the western shoreline Janice Gilbert Director of the Invasive Phragmites Control Centre (IPCC) found that the water depths were insufficient to provide substantial drowning. We requested a letter of expert opinion on how to manage the west end stand during the 2019 season.

### Letter of expert Opinion and the draft assessment:

Janice wrote in her letter of expert Opinion email:

"After assessing the large Phragmites cell along the western shoreline I found the water depths to be insufficient to provide substantial drowning for that cell; at best we could possibly reduce the areal extent by 20%; we tend to achieve 90-100% mortality after one cut using the Truxors and given the expense of mobilization and the daily rate I need to charge I cannot in good conscience send the crew up there for that great a cost that will have really poor results.

I feel strongly that hiring a local crew is your best option for both the short- and long-term management of that area given that the community consensus is to control using mechanical means.

- I could offer the IPCC's Manual Control Crew to go and train and work with your 'phraggers' on mechanical removal using the Stihl cutters. (They) would be available to cut the Phrag in the vicinity of the dam Thurs Aug 1 8:30-5pm. If there were volunteers that could assist with picking up the cut material and using boats to collect stragglers in the water that would be extremely helpful. Depending on the water depths the crew may need to work out of a boat to get the Phrag along the lake edge. If someone was ok to provide this that would really help as well. I would suggest my crew target the phrag on the lake side of the dam first and then go along the creek. If you have other priorities for them that would be just fine.
- For Friday Aug 2 (IPCC staff) could be on site at the large cell for 8:30 am. They could have 2 additional Stihls with them that could also be used. They can illustrate the proper use and maintenance of the machines and then work with those folks to cut the Phrag in the water. Volunteers could help pick up the cut material and deposit in a dry location on the phrag island. I would recommend earmuffs for those cutting. I would also suggest a path be cut and cleared in the middle to help folks access that area with the cut material. Rakes (both long and short tines), gloves (dollar store has good ones), tarps to pile phrag and drag to dry area, any floating devices ie canoes, kayaks, ice fishing sleds to pile cut material on would be useful. If someone has a fishing net to grab the smaller pieces out of the water that would help too."

Janice wrote in the Lake Bernard Phragmites Control Recommendations draft assessment report about the west end cell:

- it is recommended that the dense Phragmites fridge be cut using gas powered brush saws and the sparse Phragmites removed using either spades or cane cutters to reduce collateral damage to native plants

- if the IPCC's Cutting Crew is contracted then the outer fringe could be removed using the Truxor's
- the dry area could be controlled with backpack herbicide application which would require experienced licensed applicators and a Letter of Opinion from the District MNR office
- for Year 1 the control activities could be confined to manual cutting and a site assessment in 2020 would provide evidence of control efficacy and at that time a decision could be made to apply for use of Habitat to control the remaining population

and for the Dam:

- the Phragmites in this area poses a significant threat to connected downstream water bodies and therefore should be a high priority for control efforts
  - at a minimum, the plants should be cut by late July/early August to prohibit seed head development
  - this can be undertaken using gas powered brush saws
  - the roadside ditch could be cut using a tractor with a commercial grade sickle bar (or similar cutter)
  - the cut material will need to be trucked to a facility where it can be piled to dry in an isolated area; if the site is exposed to high winds the pile can be covered with a heavy duty tarp; another option would be to dump the biomass into a hole and cover with ~1 m overburden
  - the most efficient control method would be to treat the Phragmites with herbicide on dry sites and this could be undertaken using backpack spray units or a pickup truck equipped with commercial grade spray equipment including, tank, pump, spray wand and sufficient length hose
  - controlling the Phragmites in the roadside ditch and the edge of the sewage lagoons would not require a Letter of Opinion (LOP)
  - cells along the edge of the lake, along Bernard Creek and on the private property would require a LOP
  - the plants growing in water could be cut using the gas-powered brush saws or cane cutters in lower density areas

The IPCC provided cutting team members to cut x 1 at the Dam and x1 at the West End stand to help us with the largest stands on the lake. A local Forestry business supplied four additional men cutting for 5 hours with saws and volunteers used cane cutters, gathered in water material and piled and tied the cut biomass for the township staff to take to the landfill.

### **Meetings:**

Meetings were held as per the terms of reference for the working group: "6 - 9 annually or at the call of the chair."

- 1. May 7, 2019** 7:00 - 8:30, 8 individuals and 1 dialed in
- 2. June 4, 2019** 7:00- 8:30, 13 individuals
- 3. July 8, 2019** 7:00 -9:00, 25 individuals
- 4. July 22, 2019** 7:00- 8:30, 19 Individuals
- 5. August** - no meetings
- 6. September 16, 2019-** 7:00 - 8:30, 8 individuals
- 7. October 17, 2019** -Appreciation Event/showing picture albums and display, 9 individuals

### **Did the IPCC assessment occur?**

- Janice Gilbert with two crew members boated the lake on June 27 -28. The assessment did occur, a rough draft was received in July. The final report received October 27, 2019

### **Did the report provided meet our needs?**

The draft report was received prior to the July meeting where we discussed the possibility of purchasing the services of the IPCC for truxors to remove phragmites on the West End Stand. It did assist with decision making at that time. Based on concerns and Janice's recommendation Truxors were not brought to the West End stand.

### **What were the recommendations, are they achievable?**

The recommendations were in terms of three "areas":

1. The Dam,
2. The West End and
3. The smaller stands scattered along the shoreline in and around the lake.

The recommendations seem to be achievable.

### **What is needed?**

The pros and cons of all methods of management of invasive phragmites are outlined and the suggested methods for our stands.

Mechanical methods cutting with saws and/or cane cutting are suggested for all the small stands in water. Cane cutting and spading for stands in water too shallow to immediately drown, and on shorelines.

First year management for the west end stand: Cutting with saws, possibly a controlled burn in the fall if approved. If no herbicide is wanted as per our group - then cutting again to manage - ongoing stress to plant. With drowning on edge of stand and reassess each season. Mechanical cutting with saws at the dam and along Bernard creek is also recommended. Clearing the phragmites from the ditches at the dam with a tractor and sickle saw are suggested. Use of herbicide is outlined as a choice for dry areas.

### **How long and how many stands are there and can be cut?**

The number of small stands is unknown. Many property owners are removing on their property and some still are unaware or have not yet removed. There are small medium and large stands.

Management is stand specific and factors such as size, age (how high and how long established) depth of water (If in 0.6 metres and cut at shore bottom x 6 weeks to effect drowning), the nature of the shoreline (sand-spading to remove versus rock substrate - difficult to cut the rhizome below the ground) are all considerations. We are still as of October assessing new stands along the shoreline.

Strong Township sent out information requesting that property owners on the lake remove the phragmites and offered our contact information in case they require assistance to do so. Several requests for assistance have been received.

### **3) Organization of Volunteer Cutting events (20) at smaller stands on the Lake.** Cutting events defined

as a minimum of 4 hours in length and groups of 8-10 volunteers using recommended equipment and cutting removal strategies with transportation of the biomass provided by either the Village or the Township depending on the location.

(4 hours x 8 volunteers = 32 volunteer hours approximately per "cut" x 20 cuts = 640 volunteer hours minimum)

### **Evaluation Data Cutting Events Summer 2019: pictures show before and after cut shots**

#### **1. Children's Garden**

(Across from Sundridge Public School- 118 Main Street Sundridge)

set up 8:30 cut 9 - 10:30

26 Volunteers (5 were youth), Very efficient as double the # of volunteers needed. **39 volunteer hours**  
**Equipment used:** 2 pool noodle booms, 3 rakes, 11 cane cutters, 2 spades (used minimally), Will have to spade next season as shoreline returning to soft sand in water.

**Biomass removed:** 6 leaf litter bags, 10 tied sheaves

Note: This was a test cut last summer - this is the second removal for this site. Much less growth on shore and much less in water.

**Next Season:** No saw needed, Cane cutters and spades, tarps, leaf litter bags, rakes, possibly toboggans



## **2. Sewage Pumping Station (beside HANDS)**

10:30 -12:00 plus clean up

26 Volunteers (5 were youth), moved from first sight to second location. Again, very efficient as many workers. **39 volunteer hours**

**Equipment used:** 2 pool noodle booms, 3 rakes, 11 cane cutters, Nippers x 3 ours and x4 brought by volunteers and two spades. 2 pair work gloves borrowed. Will have to use spades more next season as dead mat is gone and new growth will be in the sand on shore. Some still in water - good drown potential.

This was a test cut last year - there was lots of it in water - now much less in water.

**Biomass removed:** 7 leaf litter bags, 10 sheaves

Rhizome collected and frozen

**Next Season:** Remove any stragglers in water with Canes or spades. Use spades to remove growth on sandy shoreline. Probably no saw needed.



## **3. Sundridge Pharmacy Shoreline**

107 Main Street Sundridge

9:00 - 10 am

16 volunteers (6 Youth,) **16 volunteer hours**

Signed two high school volunteer hours sheets

**Equipment used:** Nippers, cane cutters, rakes. Very little in water growth

**Next Season:** Will need spades for next season. Some growth on side of property in healthy plants

**Biomass removed:** 4 Leaf litter bags, 7 sheaves



#### 4. **HANDS Children's Mental Health**

37 Main Street Sundridge

10:30 am - 12:15 pm

10 volunteers (1 youth) **17 volunteer hours**

**Equipment used:** Nippers, cane cutters, rakes, pool noodle booms.

Some in water growth, most of mat removed- some still on shore.

**Next season:** cuts need spades/cane cutters in water.

Note new growth: 5 cattails, Joe pie weed

**Biomass removed:** 2 leaf litter bags, 17 sheaves,

10 more bags in August - second cut



#### 5. **Caswells/Side Lion's Building**

91 Water Street, Sundridge

9:00 - 12:00 noon

15 volunteers, **45 volunteer hours**

**Equipment used:** Toboggans "phrag wagons", nippers and cane cutters, rakes, pool noodle boom.

**Biomass removed:** 10 leaf litter bags, 12 sheaves



Some old mat, very mucky mud next to Caswell side. Lions had been cut previously - but snorkels had been left.

**Next year** all will be 2nd or 3rd cut. Not a lot in water about 10 ft out - but is on shore and up on beach. Will need spades and cane cutters next year.



### **6. Sundridge Town Dock**

Beside Lion's Building

set up 8:30 cut 9 - 12:00 noon

18 Volunteers (4 broke off and went to Union street to start there) **54 volunteer hours**

**Equipment used:** 2 pool noodle booms, 2 rakes, 11 cane cutters, toboggans, 1 saw,

**Biomass removed:** 3 leaf litter bags, 50 tied sheaves

Could have used better (tight mesh) fish nets for floaters. Need at least 150 ft of pool noodle boom to contain length of dock. Some snorkels left from last years cut by town-snorkels and phrag hard to remove in the rocks along dock, rocks slippery \*\* safety issue need to lift the cut phrag in places. Healthy Pickerel weed left alone.

On east side - small amount of phrag left not cut - was cut later by unknown persons (thank you)

**Next Season:** No saw needed, Cane cutters and spades, tarps, leaf litter bags, rakes, possibly toboggans

Lion's Building

**\*\*\*Note:** One medium sized snapping turtle spotted in pickerel weed



### **7. Union Street Launch**

9:30 - 12:00

4 Volunteers removing, **10 volunteer hours plus second cut - 1 volunteer, 2 hours of volunteer time = 12 volunteer hours**

First time - another half day to finish. Very Thick dead old growth mixed with this season's growth.

Neighbour using as a barrier to the noisy launch area where nighttime activity occurs- some left. Tough cutting/bagging of old stalks. Cutting second amount - needed one further cut/neighbour has been using as privacy screen and refused to have section close to property line cleared this season.

**Equipment used:** cane cutters, rake

**Biomass removed:** 20 sheaves plus 5 sheaves = 25 sheaves

**Next Season:** This season needed half day more removal. Natural barrier of either fence or trees needed along fence for privacy barrier for neighbour.



### **8. The Dam**

7:00 am - 5:30 pm

15 volunteers **90 volunteer hours + 3.25 more to return and pile and rake to finish = 93.25 hours**

Three youth volunteered, natural plants present and left in water. Deep wading waist high /muck - cutting in places up above water, uneven walking and cutting

2 access points: Ken M's dock area and Steep slope beside parking area (Had to cut access in with saw). Very mucky.

**Equipment used:** Pool noodle booms x 3 to mark the drop off and prevent cut phrag from going over dam. 3 saws/2 IPCC, 10 cane cutters, 9 toboggans (hard to haul phrag in water and up), Rakes, 4 large tarps/3 smaller, twine. Porta potty, lunch, water jug, signs to direct slow down of traffic, pylons for parking

**Biomass removed:** 10 leaf litter bags, 259 sheaves in 5 truck loads (thanks to the municipality) and at least 1 truck load left for pick up Monday.

**NOTE:** Cottager left some biomass from home cut as well as had no transportation to landfill. **Next**

**Season:** May need to assist with stands in ditches and on Bernard creek as well as in water stand. Will need saws.



### **9. The Large West End Stand Cut # 1**

Off Tamarack Lane



7:30 am - 5:30 pm

27 volunteers 118 **volunteer hours**

1/3 of the stand was cut, Drone shots taken

**Equipment used:** Pool noodle booms 380 feet to prevent cut phrag from floating away, 6 fish nets, 7 Saws/2 IPCC, 5 others, 12 cane cutters, 9 toboggans

Rake, 2 large tarps, Porta potty, lunch, water jug, signs to direct slow down of traffic, pylons for parking

**Biomass removed:** None. The 1/3 of the huge stands worth of biomass was hauled from the lakeside in to the centre and piled to dry. Saws were used to cut a path in during the early morning hours, then the volunteers arrived to work on the edges and bring to the centre. Extremely tough terrain, many sharp stalks. Hard to walk through the channel portion between the large piece and the outer piece. All were exhausted and sore after this cut. Tim's team and 2 from IPCC, 1 Property owner, 1 volunteer with saws worked x 5 hours. The rest of the time was hauling, cane cutting and piling.

Note: The stand in wet in the areas that have been walked on more then a few times. Seems to compress and path becomes wet. Drowning later?



### **10. United Church Manse**

8:00 am - 12:00 noon

11 volunteers **29 volunteer hours**

On shore and in water phrag. Pickerel weed and some cattails. Education to adjacent property owner at siesta cabins re native vs phrag. She joined in and assisted. No wind no rain. Great cutting weather.

**Equipment used:** Pool noodle booms x 3 to mark area and prevent spread (little wind). 1 saw, 10 cane cutters, 9 toboggans - not all used, rakes, nippers  
2 large tarps/3 smaller, twine. etc.

**Biomass removed:** 1 leaf litter bag, 35 sheaves

Soft sinking muck near cottage side- made walking difficult. Has spread to shore and adjacent vacant lot and Presbyterian church shoreline. Will need to return to finish at shoreline.

**Next Season:** Possibly cane cutters only - depending on shore regrowth between properties.



### **11. Presbyterian Church Shoreline**

8:00am - 12:00 pm

12 volunteers **28. 75 volunteer hours**

Lots of Healthy Cattail and Joe-Pye-Weed, Orange Jewelweed, Alder, Forget Me Not. Rained. Mucky in places/clay bottom. Finished at United Church manse at same time.

**Equipment used:** Pool noodle booms x 3 to mark the drop off and prevent cut phrag from going over dam. 3 saws/2 IPCC, 10 cane cutters, 9 toboggans (hard to haul phrag in water and up), Rakes, 4 large tarps/3 smaller, twine. Porta potty, lunch, water jug, signs to direct slow down of traffic, pylons for parking

**Biomass removed:** 2 leaf litter bags, 35 sheaves

**Next Season:** As above - possibly only cane cutters/ may be able to use spades in some areas



### **12. The West End Stand -Part 2**

7:30 am - 4:00 pm

23 volunteers, **74 hours of volunteer time**

Second cut weather great, no wind. Second third cut. Drone pictures excellent - provided by volunteer. Worked from the west side as a staging area. 5 saws - 4 going all am. Almost done - need one more day for large part. Have not worked on section across the little channel.

Very hard to walk- uneven everywhere- cut stalks and varying amounts of phrag thatch. Had to carry cut phrag to pie it in the middle areas as most of the time pulling the loaded toboggans on the uneven thatch did not work well. Section through the channel avoided as sucking mud - will cut from inside and pull phrag into the middle at next cut.

**Equipment used:** 5 saws (1 only for an hour, 3 continuously throughout the morning to 1 pm, 1 saw mid morning to mid afternoon), cane cutters, pool noodle boom (left in place x two days), toboggans. Pizza lunch and drinks available throughout the cut.

**Piled cut biomass in the centre:** Still considering the possibility of a controlled burn in the fall

**\*\*\*NOTE:** There was an assessment of the smaller stand "behind the garage" in water on the property owners' site. It will be difficult to cut this in water - muck limits movement. Strategies from a boat or on-board walks will be needed. May not get this done this season but will keep it in mind for next cut on the west end site.



**13. Elizabeth Street Stand**

7:45 am - 12:45 pm

26 volunteers, **71.5 hours of volunteer time**

8 young people working with smiles and songs hauling toboggans, piling and tying, many volunteers with cane cutters and many gathered and pulled loaded toboggans in water 100+ feet to the staging area for tying and loading into the trailer to take to the landfill. Half was in water and the rest on the shore interspersed in old thatch and trees/shrubs. Owners took trailer loads to landfill and helped with cutting/registration. Provided assistance with pool noodles and with raking - very involved in efforts.

**Equipment used:** 2 saws to make it manageable (one for about one hour only), cane cutters, toboggans, pool noodle booms, rakes

**Biomass removed:** 8 leaf litter bags, 4 fully loaded trailer loads (approximately 40 sheaves)

**Next Season:** Saws will be needed again/ cane cutters - possibly spades on shore.



**14 Pevensy Road Stand small**

11:00 - 12:00 pm

1 volunteer, **1 Hour volunteer time**

Roadside ditch /wet area

**Equipment used:** cane cutters, rake

**Biomass removed:** 2 sheaves





**15. Stennings Electrical**

4 days x 3 hours (August to Sept 2)

2 volunteers, **24 Hours of volunteer time**

Roadside ditch areas

**Equipment used:** cane cutters,

**Biomass removed:** 25 leaf litter bags

**Next Season:** Cane cutters



**16. West End Stand Part 3**

7:30 - 1:30

10 volunteers, **48 hours volunteer time**

Cool and clear. Booms both sides overnight

Avoided channel - but significantly less muck

Finished cutting main segment - not across channel/lakeside

Landscape changing thatch flatter in places and wet

Seeds have formed. Regrowth from cut 1 on edge

**Equipment Used:** 6 saws, cane cutters

Coming to end of season

Request for controlled burn submitted to remove thatch and cut biomass

**Next Season:** Will reassess. Possibly three cuts. Stand is wet in many area where stalks remain



**Cutting Events Summary as of October 2019:**

**Number of cuts:** 16+ 1 (returned to HANDS site) cuts, (target is 20 by July 2020)

**Volunteer hours to date:** 709 volunteer hours (Target for Trillium is 20 cuts of four hours x 8 = 640 hours to achieve volunteer hour target by July 2020)

**Number of Volunteers:** 77 individuals have participated in a cutting event

**Biomass transported:** 489 sheaves and 82 bags plus biomass on west end stand piled in middle to dry

**Safety briefings distributed:** 17 cuts x 100 emailed

Significant issues with these events:

West End stand: Very hard to walk - uneven everywhere. Channel water low and mucky and lakeside remain uncut

The Dam: Bernard Creek and Ditches remain uncut

Two stands in water across from high rock

High rock drive - several stands in water/will need three or more days cutting

**4) Provide Education Sessions to the General Public/Evaluation:**

Did we provide 3 sessions?

To whom /attendance

# of handouts distributed, # names added to volunteer list,

Evaluations for event were completed.

1. Canada Day: 34 attended, 3 new volunteers, 14 at demonstration
2. Lake Bernard Property Owners Meeting: over 100 attended, 2 requests for home visits, Cane cutters and fund raising (produce bags for a donation to get plastic out of landfill), 3 new volunteers
3. Sunflower Festival: over 6000 attended the event, 250 at booth, Many questions, very worthwhile. 21.5 hours of volunteers' time, 6 volunteers at the booth. Distributed 100 of the Cutting to drown and Spading Method to Remove Invasive Phragmites, 10 Cane cutters distributed
4. Spring 2020 Lynn Short speaker -Date in July to Be Determined. Girl Guides – planned for spring 2020



5. Foodland Booth x 2 days: 5 volunteers -21 volunteer hours, Post cards (100 distributed) ,cane cutters, cloth produce bags(100) , information shared -left early out of supplies
6. RBC Display x 1 week: post cards, cane cutter -display
7. Horticultural Society Presentation: 19 attendees

**5) Give Hands on Demonstrations: at all of the 20 Cutting event locations June -October,**

**Evaluation:**

Numbers who attended participant demonstration sessions each week:

Demonstrations occurred at the cuts done each week. 77 volunteers attended. Canada Day demonstration: 14

Numbers who indicated Increased knowledge/comfort with skills learned: (will need to assess)

**6) Offer Homeowner Visits:** Assistance with Identification, Education, Removal strategies, or to obtain a signed Neighbour Information Permission form asking for volunteer removal assistance.

**Evaluation:**

Numbers of Homes owners who asked for home visits to ID Phragmites:

M -**10 requests home visits** as of Oct, one we arranged a cut, **six we have to do next season** as part of high rock sweep, one was able to do own removal, **two will do in spring or ask for assist**

S - one request post property owners meeting + one request for identification of native aquatic plant "pond weed"

**7)\*\*\*To Do 2020 Engage Lakeshore Business Owners, Construction Company/Workers, Real Estate Brokers in**

Education Sessions -Regarding Stewardship responsibilities preventing spread and removal strategies that are best practices as offered in the control report, and point out the Economic Value of ensuring return to natural shoreline and buffer zone establishment.

**Evaluation:** Numbers of the lakeshore business owners who were contacted, out of total number of lakeshore businesses: \*\*\*Need to obtain in 2020

Number who have assessed property:

Number who have identified Phragmites:

Number who participated in removal strategies as per best practices:

Other comments: (refusals, continue to grow, etc). Plans for/resolution of difficulties.

**8)\*\*\*\* To Do 2020 Support Municipal Workers:** Include them in removal strategies education session from Dr. Gilbert

who will provide current Information and support for Safe Disposal methods? Utilize her mentorship as needed.

**Evaluation:**

Number engaged in education sessions using Current information:

# consultations to IPCC by municipalities (Dr Gilberts team)

**9)\*\*\*\*\* To Do 2020 Enlist Garden Centres:** Ask them to provide Invasive Species Identification resources, from the: Invasive Species Awareness Program; to the public and to provide native plants for sale for shorelines; Grow Me Instead; brochure is an example.

Evaluation:

# Garden Centres approached

# participating/# brochures left/# Handed out/ # native plants suggested and available

**10) Recruit Youth:** for Cutting days/ use posters for advertising hours for High School Graduation,

**Evaluation:**

# recruited: 17

# posters drafted by High school: 1

# posters posted: 1

# hours achieved: 2 students from high school requested signed sheets for 2 hours/each

# youth from communities of age appropriate to assist with cuts (12 - 18) for high school graduation: 5,

12 children 12 or younger

**11) Encourage local businesses to consider offering casual Employment of Phrag Fighters:**

Individuals educated on techniques and with safe chainsaw use course who show interest and are available to be employed by private citizens to remove Phragmites,

**Evaluation:**

# local businesses approached: **two**

# offering this service this summer: **1**

**12) Communicate Out:** newspaper articles, Facebook posts, Websites information,

**Evaluation:**

# newspaper articles: **2**

# Facebook posts: **5**

# websites offering information: **2**

**13) Distribute Resource Material:** Flyer Tax bills, Spading/Cutting to drown Information sheets, Neighbour Information/Permission Form -requesting assistance, Shoreline Buffer Zone/Love your Lake resource -various sites

Evaluation:

**# flyers or tax bills sent out including information on phragmites:** Strong Township sent out flyer to residents from the Dam to the village, Both Township of Strong and Village of Sundridge included information on Phragmites web sites with tax bills

**# spading/Cutting to Drown post cards:** 200 distributed at events, 20 left at village, 20 left at Strong Township, 20 left at Service Ontario License Site, Sent out by email to 110 on email list

**# Neighbour helping Neighbour Information /Permission Forms** -collected: 6 completed

**# Shoreline Buffer Zone/Love your Lake Resources distributed:** Village by law on buffer zone information and love your lake resource sent out with minutes and to 110 on mailing list,

**# neighbours assisted: \*\*\*\* total in 2020**

**# signs at launch sites:** Need signs