



Algal Blooms in Lake Erie

Lake Erie is the smallest in volume, shallowest and warmest of the five Great Lakes. In addition, 13.5 million people in Canada and the United States call the Lake Erie basin home making it the most populated basin of the Great Lakes.

Toxic and nuisance algal blooms in Lake Erie are increasing in frequency. These blooms are influenced by many factors, including excess nutrients, climate change and invasive species. Phosphorus is the primary nutrient driving increased algal blooms in Lake Erie and comes from multiple sources, both urban and rural. Algal blooms threaten fish populations, the quality of our drinking water, interfere with recreational activities and affect the overall health of the lake.

Conservation Authorities and other stakeholders across Elgin County are working together with landowners to reduce the flow of nutrients into local waterways through stewardship projects.



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Kettle Creek
Conservation Authority

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Long Point Region
Conservation Authority

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Conservation

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Content is provisional and for information purposes only. Funding is subject to availability and project eligibility. To apply or receive up-to-date program information, please contact your local Conservation Authority.



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Funding Available

Elgin Clean Water Program

The Elgin Clean Water Program provides technical assistance and financial incentives to Elgin County landowners to undertake projects that will improve water quality and habitat conditions across Elgin County.

The Elgin Clean Water Program funding covers up to 50% of the cost of eligible projects and can be combined with other cost-share programs.

Contact your local Conservation Authority to discuss your project ideas and find out how to apply.



>100
projects completed

Projects Eligible for Funding	Maximum Grant
Erosion Control Measures Grassed waterways, catch basins, terraces and berms to reduce erosion.	\$4,000
Wetland and Riparian Habitat Enhancement/Restoration/Protection Enhancement or restoration of wetland or riparian features to improve habitat conditions.	\$4,000
Clean Water Diversion Berms and eavestroughs to divert clean water from manure and exercise yards.	\$4,000
Livestock Access Restriction to Watercourses Fences, crossings and watering devices to eliminate cattle access to watercourses.	\$4,000
Other Projects Any other projects that help improve water quality, habitat or overall watershed health.	\$4,000
Wellhead Protection Pitless adapter caps, grading, sealing and upgrading well casings to prevent contamination.	\$500
Well Decommissioning Properly decommissioning abandoned wells to eliminate the link between surface and groundwater.	\$500



>\$300,000
total funding provided