



**LAMBTON SHORES
PHRAGMITES
COMMUNITY GROUP**



Building Partnerships to deal with Invasive Phragmites australis

a “Grass Roots Perspective”

Nancy Vidler-Chair, LSPCG



LSPCG

We are dedicated volunteers committed to working with other organizations and private landowners to restore wetland habitat and beaches

To date, over 200 acres in Lambton Shores along the shoreline and watershed has been restored

Minister's Award for
Environmental Excellence

Honourable Mention for Environmental Achievement, 2013





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Port Franks Beach 2009



- Role of Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation
- Private Property
- Letter of Opinion, Species Inventory
- Hired contractor and recruited volunteers



The Landscape

- Mud Creek, Ausable River, Private Property, roadsides
- Municipality of Lambton Shores, Ausable Bayfield CA, Property Owners
- Nature Conservancy Canada







ABCA-Demonstration project



Mosquito Island
August 2010
Completely infested with Phragmites



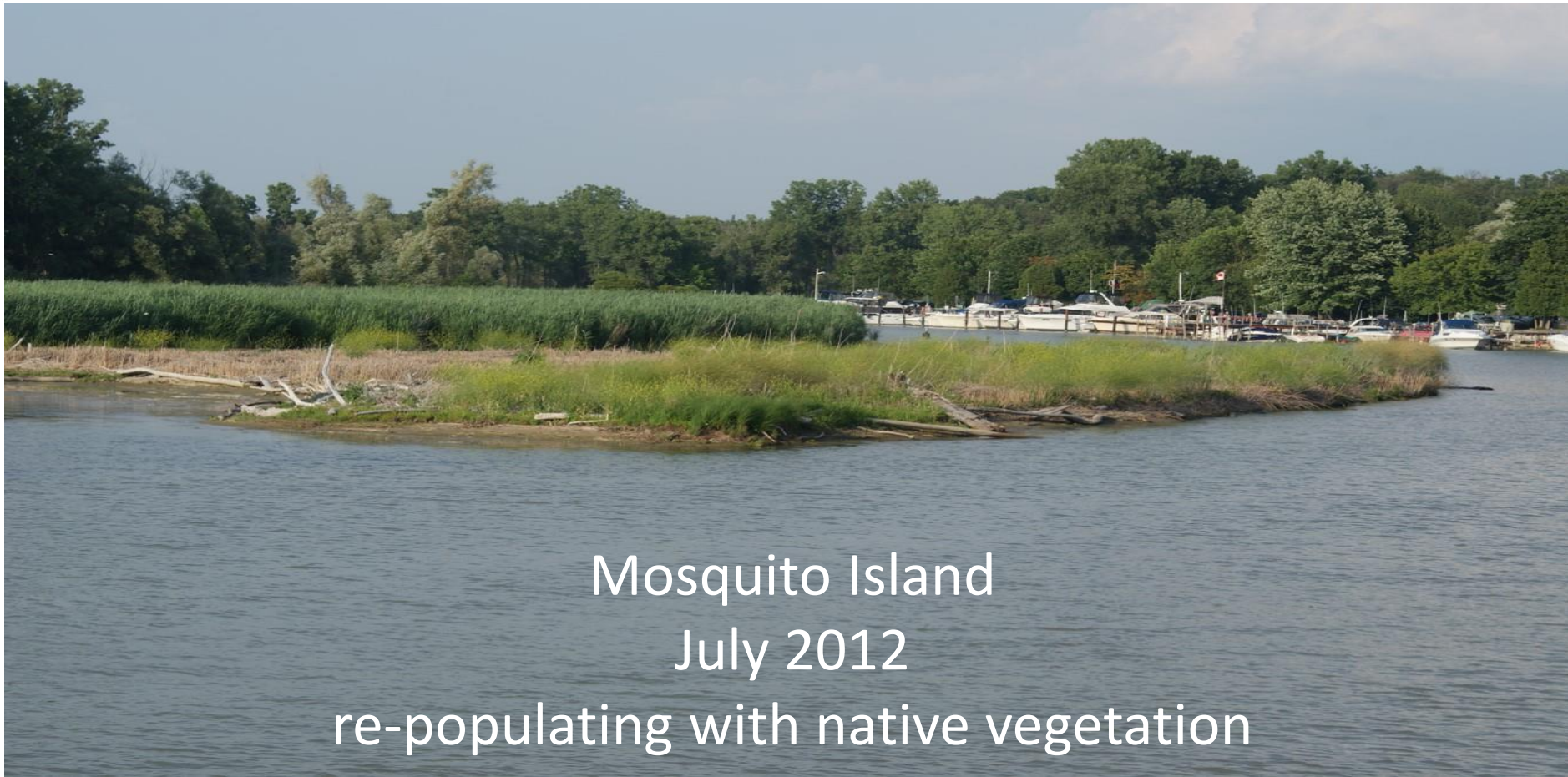
ABCA-Demonstration project



Mosquito Island
April 2012
after Spraying & Cutting



ABCA-Demonstration project



Mosquito Island
July 2012
re-populating with native vegetation



Other Shoreline Projects

- The Invasive *Phragmites* Management Plan for the Municipality of Lambton Shores adopted by council
- Initiated projects in other shoreline communities
- Municipality committed to managing *Phragmites* on their property and coordinated roadside work to coincide with shoreline



Building Relationships-Lambton County

A meeting was held in December 2012

- **for the first time, the municipality and the County began sharing their ideas for roadside control**
- **we stressed the importance of cleaning heavy equipment to avoid spreading *Phragmites* and the importance of proper disposal of contaminating materials**
- **they later attended a workshop we hosted called “*Building Capacity for a Municipal Response to Invasive Phragmites australis*”**



Building Relationships-Lambton County

Wind Turbines





Building a Relationship with Agriculture

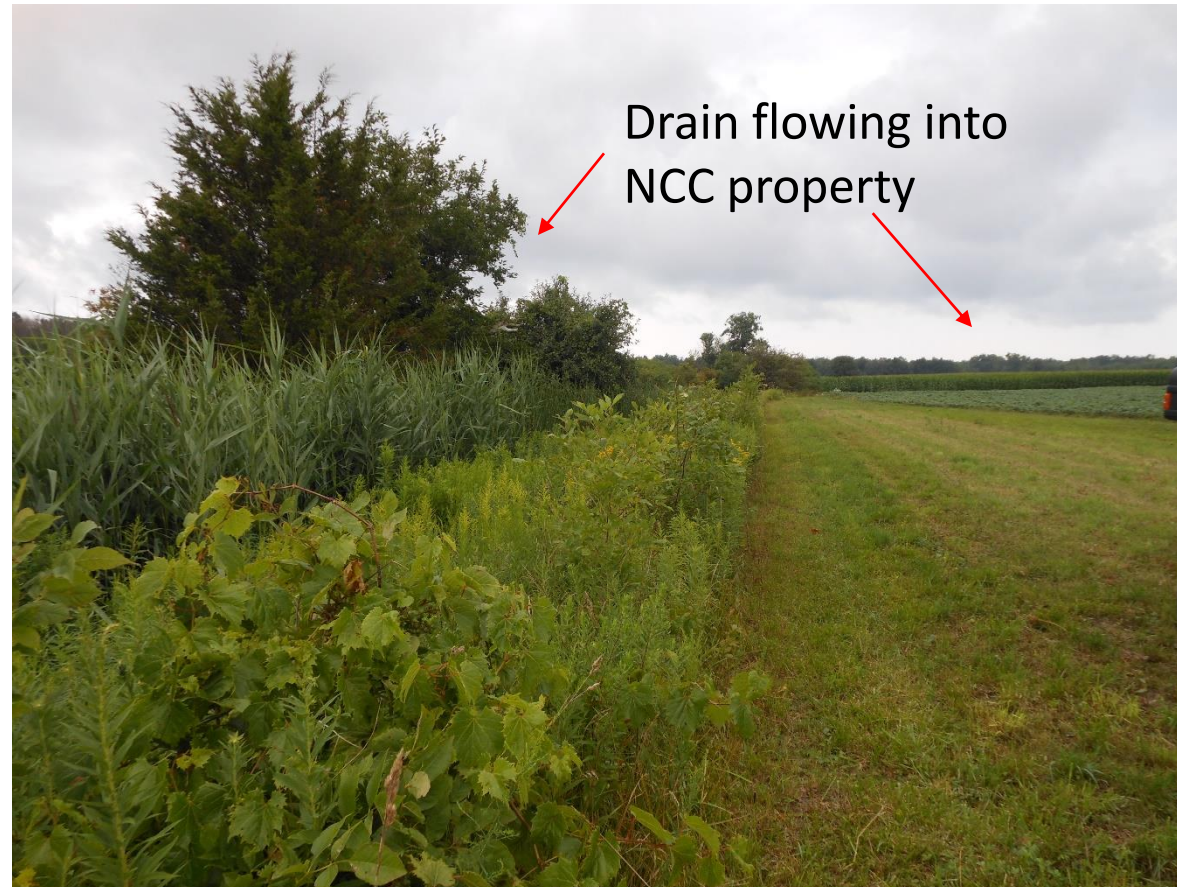
OFA recognizes the importance Phragmites control in drainage ditches

“OFA wants to rid Ontario of Canada’s most invasive plant

OFA....is taking key recommendations to the Ontario government, centred around four action items to reduce the impact of this invasive species. These recommendations include emergency use permits for herbicides, approval of aerial treatment application, establishing a province-wide control program and establishing an Invasive Species Act for Ontario” -Sept. 26, 2014 OFA news release



Building Relationships Agriculture (continued)





Building Relationships Agriculture (continued)

Roadside *Phragmites*



Same area after control measures
-will this work?





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Lesson Learned

The importance of Partnerships



THE MUNICIPALITY OF
LAMBTON SHORES



Ontario



COUNTY OF
LAMBTON



GRAND BEND
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION





Other Lessons Learned

The Importance of:

- **Education**
- **Communication**
- **Community Involvement and help with monitoring**
- **Mapping and a Management Plan**
- **Support of experts**
- **Landscape approach**
- **Site visits**
- **Media support**
- **5 year permits**



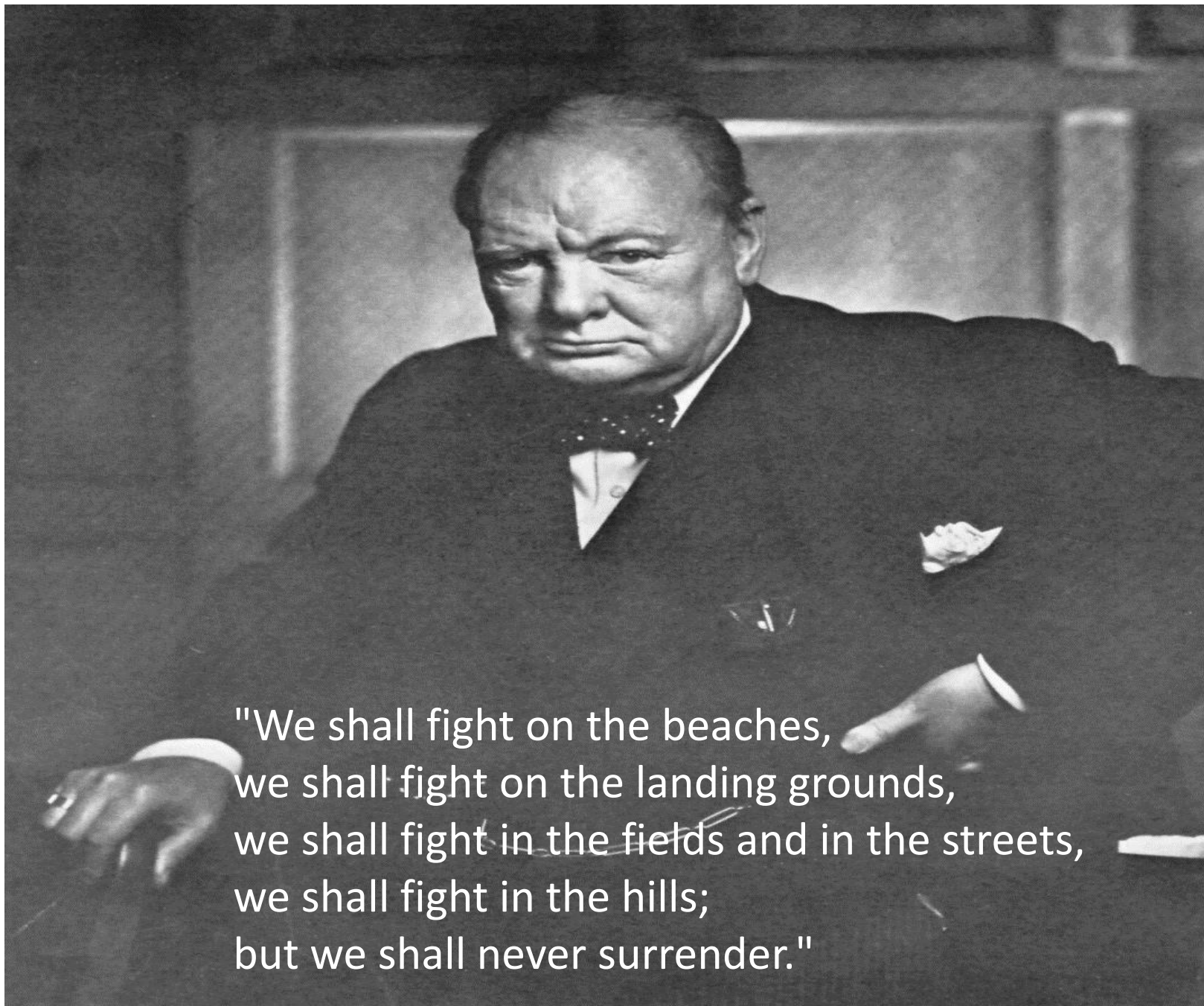
More Lessons Learned

- Planning for “touch up” in all projects
- Stress the cost- What happens if NO action?
- Demonstration project
- Education and training for front line staff
- Early detection and rapid response
- Solution focus



What is needed?

- **Province wide educational campaign**
- **The appropriate tools- Chemicals for overwater use**
- **Flexibility regarding deadlines**
- **Financial incentives for large property owners and orphaned property**
- **Success stories**
- **The infrastructure to respond quickly**
- **Commitment to projects for touch up and follow up**
- **Support for grassroots organizations**



"We shall fight on the beaches,
we shall fight on the landing grounds,
we shall fight in the fields and in the streets,
we shall fight in the hills;
but we shall never surrender."



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