

# Small Groups, Big Results: Community Based Invasive Species Initiatives



**Robert Canning**

Severn Sound Environmental Association

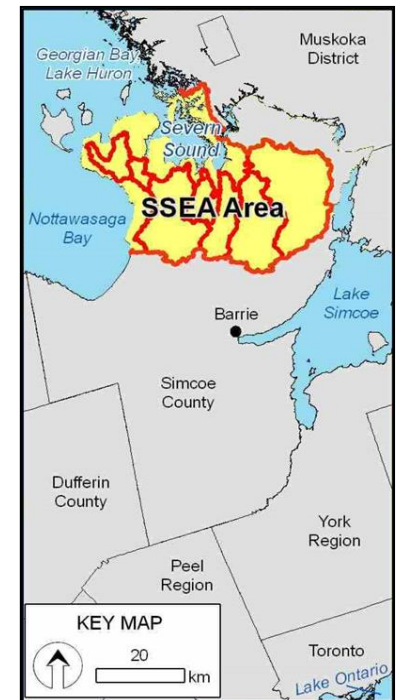


# Severn Sound Environmental Association (SSEA)

*To sustain and protect the environmental quality of the Severn Sound watershed*

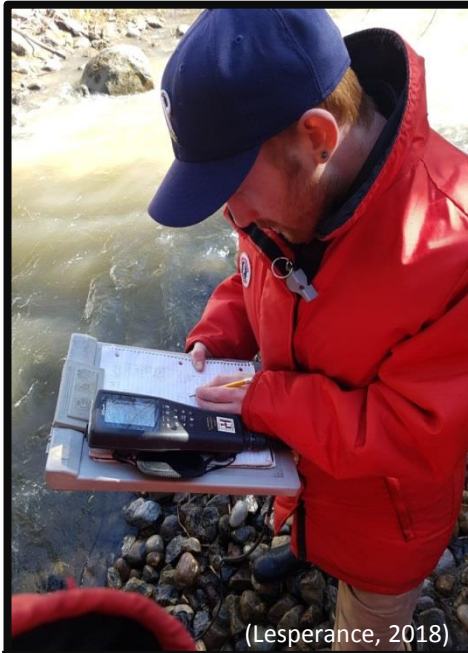
## Timeline

- 1987- Severn Sound listed as AOC
- 1997- SSEA was founded
- 2003- Severn Sound AOC delisted





# SSEA Operations



(Lesperance, 2018)



(Hudolin, 2018)



(SSEA, 2018)



(SSEA, 2018)



(SSEA, 2018)



(Madill, 2018)



(Chiandet, 2018)

# Invasive Species (IS) Program

*Reduce the ecological, social and economic impacts of invasive species in the Severn Sound watershed*

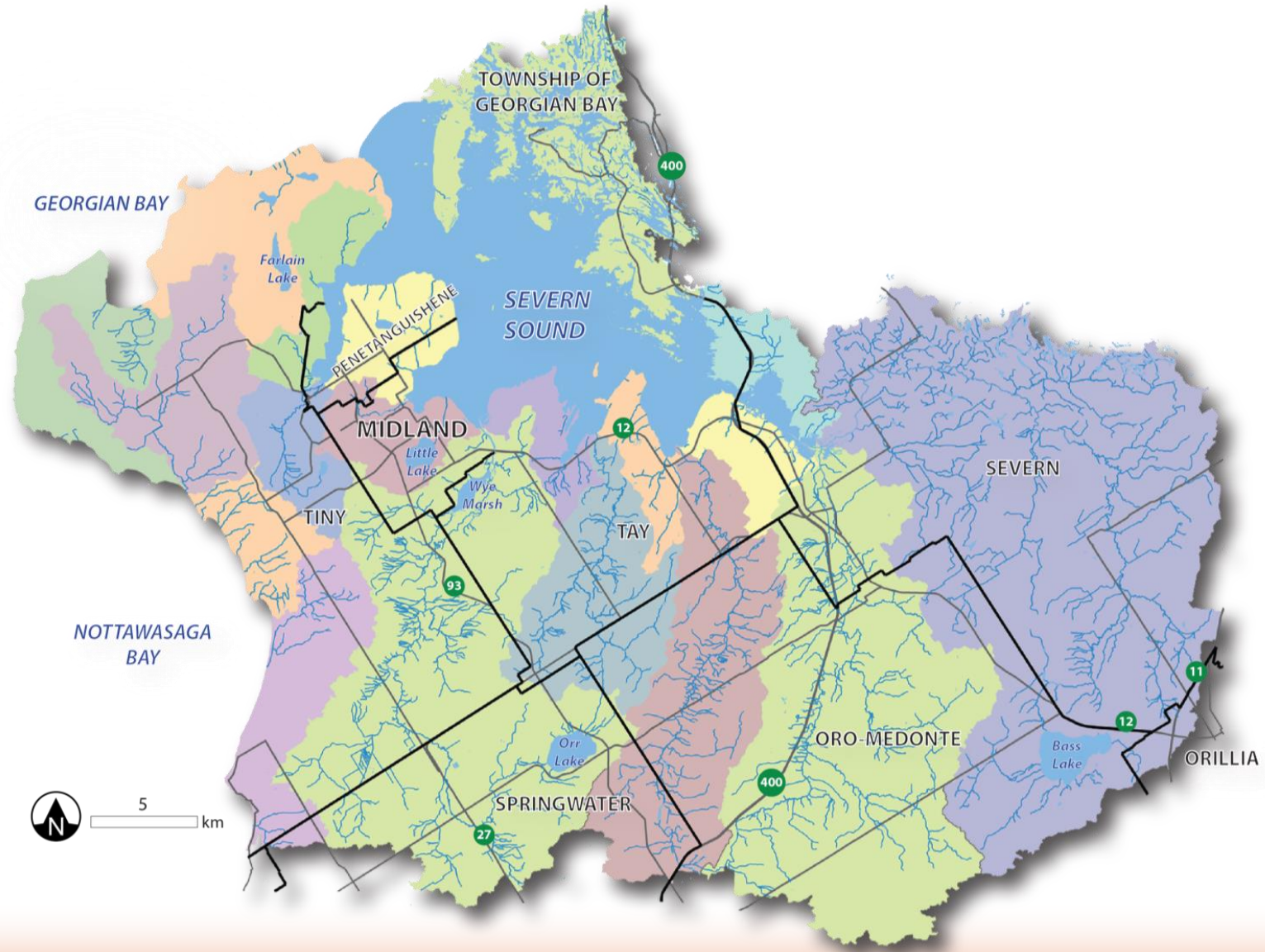
## Actions:

- 1) **Prevention**
- 2) **Monitoring**
- 3) **Management**
- 4) **Communication**





# Severn Sound Watershed



# Severn Sound IS

- **37** invasive species
  - **28** plants
- Introduction vectors:
  - 1) Ornamental trade
  - 2) Shipping + recreation
- Public perception





# Program Review: Lessons Learned

- 1) Way **MORE** IS
- 2) Way **LESS** resources
- 3) Comprehensive monitoring
- 4) Taking action
- 5) Spreading the word

## Knowledge Gaps:

- How to allocate limited resources over a large area?
- How to manage IS across private property boundaries?
- Whose responsibility are IS?



**How can we improve our ability  
to reduce the impacts of IS?**

**Engage the community!**





# Making Connections

*Educate the public, develop partnerships and promote collaboration*

- 1) Property associations
- 2) Local municipalities
- 3) Schools
- 4) Community groups
- 5) Residents



# Getting The Word Out

- 1) Community events
  - **39** events
- 2) Youth programs
  - **11** opportunities
- 3) Articles
  - **13** IS articles
- 4) Social media





# Community Events



**Farlain Lake Community Association AGM**



**Tiny Community BBQ**



**Canadian Heritage Day**



(Chiandet, 2018)

**Weed and Algae Seminar**



# Youth Programs



(Huron Historical Parks, 2014)

Discovery Harbour



(Hudolin, 2016)

Cold weather tree planting!

# Monitoring Initiatives

- Technical training
- Monitoring
  - Group + independent
- Reporting
  - SSEA + EDDMapS
- Private property data







(Canning, 2018)



(SSEA, 2018)



(SSEA, 2017)



(SSEA, 2018)



(Hudolin, 2018)



(SSEA, 2018)



(Hudolin, 2017)



# Management Initiatives

- Management guidance
  - BMP's
- Linking municipalities and residents
- Removal
- Management Results:
  - **15** sites + **167** volunteers
  - Approx. **10, 000** lbs vegetation



# Tiffin Pond

- Target species:  
**Phragmites**
- Volunteers: **41**
- Amount removed:  
**2430 lbs**





# Coldwater River

- Target species:  
**Japanese knotweed,**  
**Himalayan balsam**
- Volunteers: **12**
- Amount removed:  
**1140 lbs**





# Lafontaine Beach

- Target species:  
**Spotted  
knapweed**
- Volunteers: **70**
- Amount removed:  
**2060 lbs**





# Community Project Challenges



(Lesperance, 2017)

**Copeland Forest Friends**



(McClymont, 2017)

**IS disposal**



(Rumney, 2017)

**Garlic mustard**



# Successful Partnerships

## Severn Sound Environmental Association



The Canada-Ontario Agreement  
Respecting the Great Lakes Basin  
Ecosystem



Accord Canada-Ontario concernant  
l'écosystème du bassin  
des Grands Lacs



Ontario

Ministry of the Environment  
and Climate Change

Ministry of  
Agriculture and Food



Ontario

Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry



Environment  
Canada

Environnement  
Canada



Fisheries and Oceans  
Canada

Pêches et Océans  
Canada



Chippewas of RAMA  
First Nation



Simcoe County  
District School Board



GEORGIAN  
YOUR COLLEGE · YOUR FUTURE

SIMCOE MUSKOKA CATHOLIC  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

UNIVERSITY  
of GUELPH

Ecole secondaire  
Le Caron



University  
of Windsor



Since 1918

COUNTY OF  
SIMCOE  
For the Greater Good

THE DISTRICT OF MUSKOKA  
Carrying Our Legacy Forward



simcoe  
muskoka  
DISTRICT HEALTH UNIT



Lake Simcoe Region  
conservation authority



NORTH SIMCOE / SIMCOE NORD  
Community Futures Development Corporation  
Société d'aide au développement des collectivités



DRINKING WATER  
SOURCE PROTECTION  
ACT FOR CLEAN WATER

South Georgian Bay  
Lake Simcoe  
Source Protection Region

HURONIA  
COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION



LA FONDATION  
COMMUNAUTAIRE  
DE LA HURONIE



Collège Boréal



SEGBAY.ca  
Chamber of Commerce



Dufferin Simcoe  
LAND STEWARDSHIP NETWORK

Green  
Communities  
CANADA



Ducks Unlimited Canada  
Conserving Canada's Wetlands



Yellow Fish Road™  
Trout Unlimited Canada



Kids For Turtles  
Environmental Education  
kidsforturtles.com

WYE MARSH  
WILDLIFE CENTRE  
MIDLAND • CANADA



BioTalent™  
Canada  
Building skills for Canada's bio-economy



TD Friends of the  
Environment  
Foundation



copeland forest friends

The Couchiching  
Conservancy



FARLAIN LAKE  
Community Association

Bass Lake  
Ratepayers Association

Orr Lake Ratepayers Association



ONTARIO  
INVASIVE PLANT  
COUNCIL

Golder  
Associates  
Boating  
Ontario





# SSEA Contact Info

Robert Canning

Invasive Species Program Coordinator

[invasivespecies@severnsound.ca](mailto:invasivespecies@severnsound.ca)

(705) 534-7283 ext. 211



# Thank You

A photograph of a beach scene. In the background, a wooden picnic table stands on the sand near the water's edge. To the left, a yellow sign with black text reads "CAUTION COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP IN PROGRESS" and features a small logo with the word "Tiny". The foreground is filled with dry, brownish coastal plants and shrubs. The sky is overcast and grey.

# Questions?