

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – August 19th, 2025
***Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority Making Upgrades
to Stoney Island Conservation Area***

KINCARDINE, ONTARIO –

Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority (SVCA) is celebrating a [\\$100,000](#) investment from the Government of Canada through the [Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario](#) (FedDev Ontario) to support critical improvements at Stoney Island Conservation Area. [Announced in October 2024](#), this investment is enhancing accessibility and amenities to create a more inclusive and sustainable outdoor recreation experience for visitors.

The project focuses on strengthening Ontario's tourism sector by improving visitor access, safety, and engagement in natural spaces. Stoney Island Conservation Area is a key destination for outdoor activities such as hiking, biking, and skiing, attracting visitors from across the region.

Project Highlights:

- **Bridge Replacements** – Five existing bridges in deteriorating condition have been removed and replaced with new, safer structures, ensuring secure passage for visitors.
- **Parking Lot Expansion** – The existing parking lot is currently being expanded and regraded with proper aggregate to enhance capacity, improve stability, and facilitate snow removal, addressing long-standing accessibility challenges.
- **Inclusive Facilities** – A gender-neutral privy will be installed to ensure that all visitors have access to appropriate facilities, reinforcing SVCA's commitment to inclusivity in outdoor spaces.

"These upgrades at Stoney Island Conservation Area are a major step forward in creating a safer, more accessible, and visitor-friendly conservation area. With this support from FedDev Ontario, we can continue to enhance our natural assets while providing meaningful conservation and tourism amenities that benefit both the environment and local communities."

- Erik Downing, General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer, SVCA

By improving key infrastructure and increasing capacity, SVCA aims to extend the tourism season, attract new visitors, and foster economic growth in rural areas. These enhancements are helping to ensure that Stoney Island Conservation Area remains a premier outdoor destination for years to come.

For more information, please contact:

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Photo credit: Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority. A leashed dog and its owner cross the newly installed bridge at Stoney Island Conservation Area in the Municipality of Kincardine.