

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Thursday, May 1st, 2025
***Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority Invites Volunteers to
Help Plant Trees at Stoney Island Conservation Area***

ALL SAUGEEN WATERSHED MUNICIPALITIES – Municipality of Arran-Elderslie, Municipality of Brockton, Township of Chatsworth, Municipality of Grey Highlands, Town of Hanover, Township of Howick, Municipality of Morris-Turnberry, Municipality of South Bruce, Township of Huron-Kinloss, Municipality of Kincardine, Town of Minto, Township of Wellington North, Town of Saugeen Shores, Township of Southgate, Municipality of West Grey –

Following the successful completion of the ash tree removal to combat the emerald ash borer, Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority (SVCA) is taking the next step at Stoney Island Conservation Area. SVCA is excited to invite volunteers to join staff for a Community Tree Plant event on **Saturday, May 17th, 2025, from 8 a.m. until noon.**

The goal is to plant more than 1,000 native trees and shrubs, ranging in size from small seedlings to tall stock. A wide variety of species will be planted to rebuild a more resilient, diverse forest. While the landscape may look different, nature is resilient. With sunlight now reaching the forest floor in new ways, regeneration has already begun. Growth will take time, but every volunteer effort will help shape the long-term recovery of this beloved conservation area.

SVCA encourages visitors to trust the process, with a reminder that fallen treetops have been intentionally left in place. While some may expect groomed or chipped trails, this approach is not aligned with sound forest management practices. Fallen tops protect young seedlings from deer, provide critical wildlife habitat, and enrich the soil as they decompose, helping to build a stronger, healthier forest over time.

"The ash borer hit this property hard because there were so many ash trees and not enough diversity. We're planting a wide range of native trees and shrubs to make sure it stands up better in the future. Every tree planted is a step toward a stronger, healthier conservation area for everyone to enjoy."

- Donna Lacey, Manager of Forestry and Lands, SVCA

Volunteers are asked to bring:

- Gloves
- A shovel
- Drinking water
- Sturdy footwear

Please consider carpooling, if possible, to help reduce parking congestion at the site.

Participants of all ages are welcome. Whether you can plant one tree or one hundred, your help will leave a lasting impact on Stoney Island Conservation Area.

For more information, please contact:

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