



Nottawasaga Valley
Conservation Authority

Healthy Waters Program

Projects that improve water quality in our rivers, lakes and groundwater, restore habitat and reduce flooding.

Project advice, free site visits, cost-share & grants, volunteer assistance and professional planting services.

Eligible projects can qualify for grants covering 30% - 100% of costs, up to \$10,000/year.

Visit nvca.on.ca for project guidelines.

Ready to apply?

Contact our Healthy Waters Coordinator
705-424-1479 x 239
sstephens@nvca.on.ca



Eligible Projects - Healthy Waters Program

Livestock restriction fencing from streams and wetlands

Improve water quality and stream health by establishing naturally vegetated buffers & restricting livestock access to watercourses and wetlands. Livestock in and near streams and lakes cause fecal bacteria and nutrient pollution. Eligible costs: materials and supplies; contract labour and fees.

Projects*	GRANT RATE**	MAXIMUM GRANT	Project Conditions
Livestock Restriction Fencing (Self-installed)	100%	\$10,000 Up to \$12/m	Fencing adjacent to watercourse or wetlands to exclude livestock from these sensitive areas. > 5m (15 feet) from top of bank or valley-top
Livestock Restriction Fencing (Contractor Installed)	75%	\$10,000	> 5 m (15 feet) from the top-of-bank or valley-top Material costs only.
Alternative Watering Source	75%	\$2,000	Must be associated with new livestock restriction project. Watering: Installing new primary hydro lines is not eligible
Livestock Stream Crossing	75%	\$2,000	Must be associated with new livestock restriction project.

Grassland and meadow projects

Over 95% of Ontario's native grasslands and 70% of Southern Ontario's wetlands have been lost. These habitats filter runoff, recharge groundwater, reduce flooding and safeguard biodiversity.

Projects*	GRANT RATE**	MAXIMUM GRANT	Project Conditions
Grass/Meadow Stream Buffers	75%	\$2,000	Grassed buffer width > 5 m from the top-of-bank of the stream.
Native grassland & Wetland restoration	varies	varies	Special project. Contact staff.

Tree planting

Stream-side vegetation filters runoff, improves water quality, stabilizes eroding stream banks, creates fish, bird and wildlife habitats and increases forest cover. Forests have one of the highest rain infiltration rates, recharging clean groundwater and reducing flooding. Tree planting projects can include professional, contract, self and community participation.

Planting Projects*	GRANT RATE**	MAXIMUM GRANT	Project Conditions Contact staff and see project guidelines for details.
Stream & wetland Tree Planting	85%,	\$6,000 (Max \$10/plant)	Reforestation of stream-side and wetlands, with native trees and shrubs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only for bare-root and small potted stock springtime tree planting Up to 30m each side (60m total width).
Full Service Professional Tree	Variable (25-95%)	Variable	Please contact for referral to our Manager of Forestry for details and available grants if you want the NVCA to plant trees on over 2ac (0.9ha)
Community Action Projects	Up to 75%	Variable	High priority habitat restoration: river rehabilitation, habitat restoration or water quality projects that engage community volunteers
Community Plantings	100%	\$1000	Streamside or wetland adjacent planting eligible that engages community volunteers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NVCA can help find and coordinate a volunteer plant

Other Projects*	GRANT RATE**	MAXIMUM GRANT	Project Conditions. Contact staff and see project guidelines for details.
On-stream Pond Mitigation	50%	\$7000	Must improve water quality or benefit habitat connectivity. Includes pond decommissioning with stream rehabilitation, stream bypass channels, installing bottom-draws, fish ladders, etc.
Livestock Yard Clean Water Diversion	50%	\$2,500	Eaves troughs, diversion berms, grading, to divert water away from manure sources
Agricultural Erosion Control Structures	30%	\$4,000	Bank & shoreline stabilization (bioengineering preferred), grassed waterways, WaSCoBs, contour terraces, stream restoration.
Runoff Treatment	50%	\$5,000	Includes: Treatment wetlands, carbon biofilters, engineered vegetated filter strips <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Projects may need professional engineer designs, permits and approvals
Tile Drain Control Boxes	60%	\$2,000	Retrofitting or new tile drainage with tile control boxes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note: cost of tillage drainage not eligible
Manure Storage Improvement	30%	\$5,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Projects may need professional engineer designs, permits, a Nutrient Management Strategy, etc. Can include milkhouse washwater effluent reception (liquid dairy storages)
Nutrient Management Plan & Strategy	50%	\$1,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nutrient management must conform with regulations Certified Contractors or self completed (OMAFRA training costs eligible)
Decommissioning Abandoned Wells	75%	\$1,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must use a licensed well contractor & comply with MOE Ontario Reg. 903 New wells, upgrading of wells, pumps and treatment systems are not eligible
Fuel, Chemical & Pesticide Storage	50%	\$1,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved storage of chemicals, mixing/sprayer washing structures, & spill containment Double-walled vacuum gauged fuel storage systems and ULC-approved pumps and hoses
Septic System Upgrade to Advanced Treatment Systems	30%	\$2,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing septic system must be within 30m of a permanent stream or lake. If possible, the new advanced system (ask for eligible types) will increase the set-back Those adjacent to private ponds are not eligible.

Why do we need to protect our lands & water?

The beautiful Nottawasaga Valley Watershed spans 3,700 km². Its headwaters spring from where the Niagara Escarpment (an United Nations Biosphere Reserve) and the Oak Ridges Moraine meet. The 6,000 km network of streams support a great diversity of aquatic life, including world-class trout and salmon rivers! However, this system is fragile.

Water quality monitoring shows we often fail to meet Provincial Water Quality Objectives for phosphorus, suspended solids due to erosion, and fecal bacteria. Over 1,200 dams fragment our river systems, decrease water quality and prevent fish from reaching spawning areas.

The Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority's Healthy Waters Program has helped thousands of landowners, volunteers and communities complete stewardship projects. Together we've planted millions of trees, protected kilometers of rivers, saved species at risk, and safeguarded clean water.

By fostering a strong, active environmental ethic, we hope to do many more projects that engage and benefit the watershed's 200,000 residents.

Together we can create a place to live with clean, swimmable, fishable, drinkable water, healthy habitats, sustainable farms and vibrant communities.

How to Apply

1. **Call** to discuss your project ideas
2. **Book your free visit**
3. **Submit** your application form with:
 - Two quotes per project from registered businesses
 - \$150 deposit (Refunded on completion or if not approved. The deposit is lost if not completed. Because funds are limited, we want to make sure they get to people who will use them!)
4. Project applications are reviewed on cost, environmental priority and benefit, and design.
5. You'll be sent a letter of decision. Approval letters commit the grant funds and terms for your project.
**** Receipts **MUST** be dated after your letter of approval.**
4. **Complete your project.**
5. Book your **final project visit.**
6. Submit all eligible receipts; each with a matching proof of payment (e.g. cancelled cheque).
8. **Receive your grant** cheque and deposit return.
9. Maintain your project for 10 years and **enjoy the benefits of clean water and healthy habitats!**



The Healthy Waters Program is supported by:

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Canada



THE
READY
COMMITMENT