

Clinton Conservation Area

A. Introduction

Clinton Conservation is a 100 hectare property straddling the Bayfield River in Huron East. The property has two separate tracts. The western parcel is accessed from Hwy. 4 at Clinton and is the more intensively developed property and is managed through a partnership with the Clinton Lions Club. The eastern parcel (also known as the Van Gastel property) is accessed from Hwy. 8 is reforested and has informal trails.

The Clinton Lions Club manages the main area between Hwy. 4 and the Bayfield River. This is a valuable partnership enabling the ABCA to cost-effectively care provide recreation facilities and protect the river valley.

B. Goal

To protect and restore the Bayfield River valley while providing an area for recreation and nature appreciation

C. Objectives

1. To protect the Middle Bayfield River and Trick's Creek subwatersheds
2. To protect and enhance water quality in the Bayfield River
3. To provide habitat for terrestrial and aquatic species
4. To provide an area for recreation and nature appreciation
5. To provide an area for research and scientific study
6. To provide an area for the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Foundation Commemorative Woods

D. Action Plans

Current management techniques achieve the property goal of protecting and restoring the Bayfield River valley while providing an area for recreation and nature appreciation. The following action plans focus on enhancing visitor facilities, wildlife habitat and

aquatic health.

1. Continue the community partnership with the Clinton Lion Club.
2. Update terrestrial and aquatic ecosystem inventories and assessments.
3. Undertake habitat improvement projects in the Bayfield River and riparian area to improve habitat and demonstrate good riparian management.
4. Remove fitness stations along trail east of low flow crossing.
5. Install benches as rest areas and upgrade washroom facilities.
6. Acquire land between Clinton CA West and Van Gastel parcel (Clinton CA East) if available.