

# **Lucan Conservation Area**

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## **A. Introduction**

Lucan Conservation Area is an 8 acre property adjacent to the Little Ausable River in the McGillivray Ward of North Middlesex. Half the property is floodplain and the remainder is a rolling upland hardwood forest. It is an out-of-the-way day use area used for hiking and fishing. Its remote location has resulted in unauthorized use but property damage is minimal. Increased use will reduce unauthorized activities. The Lucan Scouting organization has expressed an interest in using the property and perhaps using the area as a community service project.

The Little Ausable subwatershed has a high level of stress with respect to water quality. The property, although small, improves subwatershed health.

## **B. Goal**

To enhance the Little Ausable River and provide an area for recreation and nature appreciation

## **C. Objectives**

1. To conserve the Little Ausable River floodplain
2. To enhance the Little Ausable watershed
3. To provide an area for recreation, nature appreciation and education
4. To provide habitat for terrestrial and aquatic species
5. To demonstrate sound forest and river management practices

## **D. Action Plans**

Current management techniques achieve the property goals of protecting the Ausable River floodplain and providing an area for recreation. The following action plans will enhance water quality while providing an area for passive recreation.

1. Develop a self guided trail guide for tree species identification and demonstration of good woodlot management practices.
2. Update the aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems inventories.
3. Plant trees and shrubs along the Little Ausable River to shade the water.
4. Develop a partnership with the Lucan and Ailsa Craig scouting organizations to increase their use of the area and adoption as a community service project.