



2026

BUDGET

Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority

APPROVED BY AUTH. RES. #39/26, DATED MAY 19, 2026



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History

On July 17, 1958, Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority was established by an Order-in-Council under the *Conservation Authorities Act*. It was formed by the Ontario Government at the request of the municipalities located within the area of jurisdiction.

As watercourses transcend municipal boundaries, all Conservation Authorities are established on the basis of natural watershed boundaries. A watershed is defined as an area of land that is drained by a river or creek. Similar to the branch of a tree, creeks empty into streams, which then empty into larger streams, eventually forming one main trunk. Within this system, everything is connected to everything else. In other words, actions which take place at the top of the system can and do affect those downstream.

Today, the province's 36 Conservation Authorities are regarded as world leaders in conservation, environmental protection, and flood control. Together Authorities own more than 407,550 acres (165,000 hectares) of land, including areas in the Oak Ridges Moraine, Carolinian zone, as well as Provincially Significant Wetlands and areas protecting important flora and fauna. Conservation Authorities operate in watersheds in which 90 per cent of the provincial population reside. Managing Ontario's watershed resources is a major undertaking that calls upon Conservation Authorities and their staff to work collaboratively with landowners, developers, educators, multi levels of government, professionals, and the general public.

The Central Lake Ontario Watershed

Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority's (CLOCA's) jurisdiction is based upon the watershed boundaries of four major watercourses draining an area of over 627 sq. km. The four major watercourses which begin with their headwaters in the Oak Ridges Moraine are from west to east Lynde Creek, Oshawa Creek, Black/ Harmony/ Farewell Creeks, and Bowmanville/ Soper Creeks. There are 17 additional watersheds which include Warbler, Cranberry, Whitby Shores, Heyden-shore, Pump House, Corbett Creek, Pringle Creek, McLaughlin Bay, Robinson Creek, Burk, Tooley, Osborne, Darlington, St. Marys, Westside, Bennett Creek and Rickard. The Municipalities within CLOCA's watershed include the Regional Municipality of Durham, City of Pickering, Town of Ajax, Township of Uxbridge, Township of Scugog, Town of Whitby, City of Oshawa, and the Municipality of Clarington.

A diverse landscape exists within CLOCA's jurisdiction which includes urban and rural settlements (hamlets), agriculture and natural areas. For the most part, the highly urbanized area is situated within the southern portion of the watershed, leaving the northern portion dominated by rural land uses and significant undeveloped natural areas.

There are three major physiographic features within CLOCA's watershed being the Lake Ontario waterfront, Lake Iroquois Beach, and the Oak Ridges Moraine. Each of these distinctive landscape features contribute to the overall ecological functions that support healthy watersheds in CLOCA's jurisdiction.

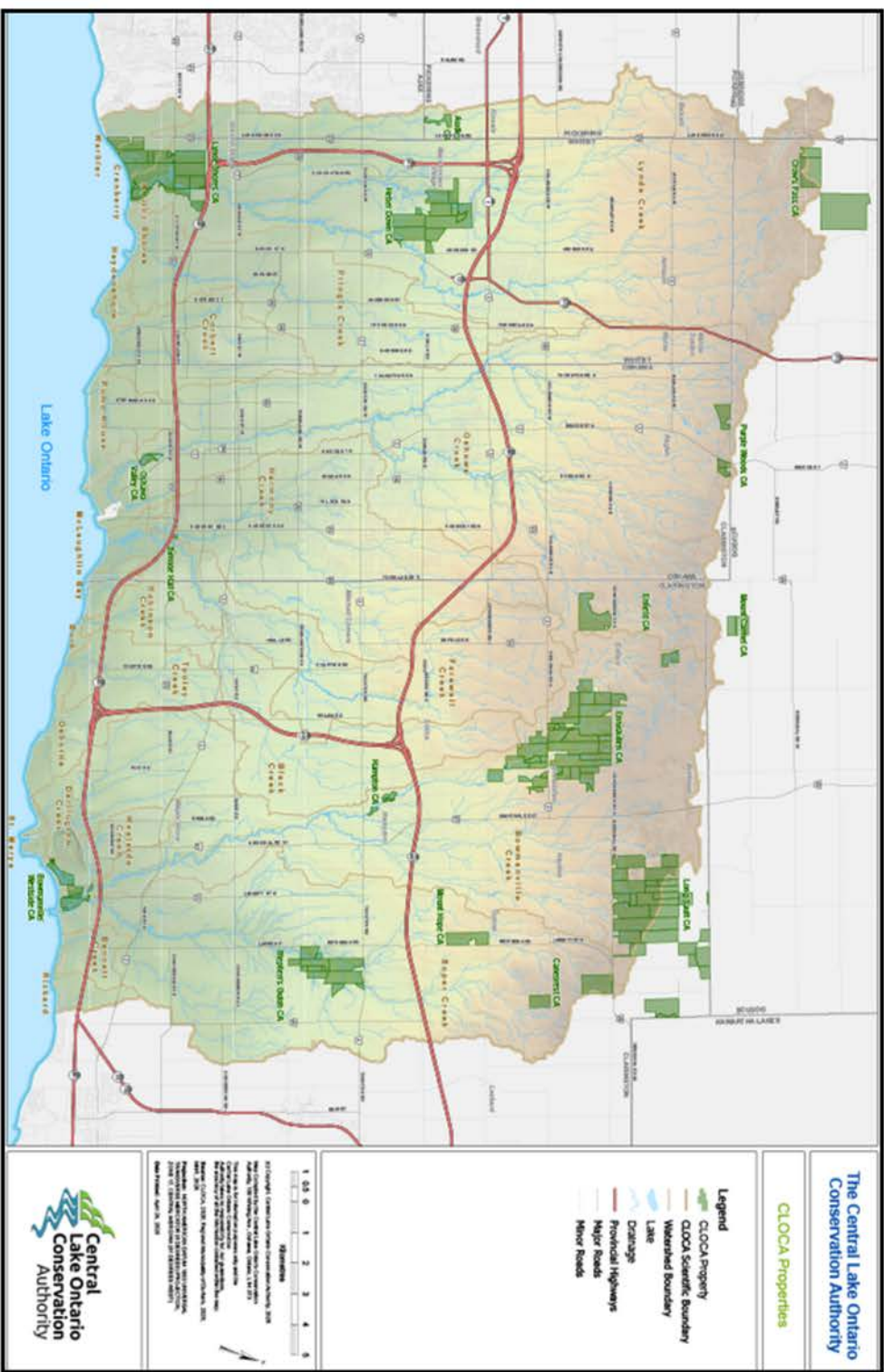
Our Watershed

Region-wide Initiatives

- Coastal Wetlands Monitoring
- Conservation Authorities
- Moraine Coalition
- Groundwater Monitoring and Assessment
- Oak Ridges Moraine Groundwater Program

Watershed-wide Initiatives

- Environmental Planning and Permitting
- Fisheries Management Plans
- Flood Forecasting and Warning System
- Natural Hazard Policy and Mapping
- Groundwater Monitoring Wells
- Natural Heritage Land Securement
- Source Water Protection
- Terrestrial and Wildlife Monitoring
- Watershed Stewardship and Restoration
- Water Quality and Stream Flow Monitoring
- Watershed Planning
- Environmental Education and Community Engagement Programs
- Conservation Areas, that help maintain core natural heritage systems across the region, while also providing opportunities for public access to nature and recreation
- Management of lands and trails, providing access to green spaces, as well as recreation and education programs



Mandate of Conservation Authorities

Established under the *Conservation Authorities Act R.S.O. 1990*, a Conservation Authority's mandate is to establish and undertake programs and services that further the conservation, restoration, development, and management of natural resources in watersheds.

Member Municipalities

Durham Region
Town of Ajax
Municipality of Clarington
City of Oshawa
City of Pickering
Township of Scugog
Township of Uxbridge
Town of Whitby

Watershed Population

Approximately 430,000

Our Business

- Watershed Studies
- Natural Areas Protection
- Municipal Plan Input and Review
- Natural Hazard Management
- Conservation Education
- Source Water Protection
- Floodplain, Valleyland and Shoreline Protection
- Management of Lands, Trails and Education
- Watershed Stewardship and Restoration

Our Vision

Healthy watersheds for today and tomorrow.

Our Mission

Advancing watershed health through engagement, science and conservation.

Governance

Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority is governed by a Board of Directors comprised of Councillors from the member municipalities, and one resident member, appointed by a municipality. Through the Region of Durham each of the municipalities appoints Councillors to represent their jurisdictions. The number of representatives per municipality is determined by the population of the municipality within the watershed.

The Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority Board of Directors meets monthly at CLOCA's Administrative office at 100 Whiting Avenue, Oshawa. The Board considers and approves all projects of the Conservation Authority and makes policy decisions related to the ongoing management, governance, and future direction of the organization.

Member Structure

2026 Board of Directors

Chair

Councillor Bob Chapman

City of Oshawa



Vice-Chair

Councillor Bruce Garrod

Township of Uxbridge



Marilyn Crawford, Town of Ajax

Sami Elhajjeh, Municipality of Clarington

Ron Hooper, Resident Representative

Rick Kerr, City of Oshawa

Chris Leahy, Town of Whitby

Tito-Dante Marimpietri, City of Oshawa

Ian McDougall, Township of Scugog

John Neal, City of Oshawa

David Pickles, City of Pickering

Elizabeth Roy, Town of Whitby

Maleeha Shahid, Town of Whitby

Corinna Trail, Municipality of Clarington

Steve Yamada, Town of Whitby

Human Resources

Chris Darling, Chief Administrative Officer

Directors

Rose Catulli, Corporate Services

Jamie Davidson, Watershed Planning and Natural Heritage

Chris Jones, Planning and Regulation

Dan Hipple, Engineering and Field Operations

Dan Hope, Land Operations and Education

Staff

Todd Backus, *Resource Technician - Lead Hand*

Lucy Benham, *Senior Water Resources Engineer*

Brandi Boardman, *Senior Executive/Accounting Administrator*

Meagan Breems, *Digital Communications Associate*

Lisa-Beth Bulford, *Development Planning Lead*

Brandon Burda, *Environmental Education Instructor*

Eric Cameron, *Infrastructure Planner/Enforcement Officer*

Godofredo Carpio, *Hydrogeologist*

Doris Cheng, *Development Planning Lead*

Alex Cooper, *Resource Technician - Field*

Andrew Cuning, *Financial Services Coordinator*

Ben DeWaal, *Resource Technician - Field*

Karen Gaudet, *Payroll/Accounts Payable Administrator*

Cara Gregory, *Coordinator, Conservation Education*

Michael Grieve, *Wetland Biologist*

Musharraf Khan, *Infrastructure and Regulation Planner*

Ian Kelsey, *Aquatic Ecologist*

Erin Kerr, *Terrestrial Biologist*

Dayna Kiriakou, *Service, Information and Records Coordinator*

Alex Kissel, *Terrestrial Biologist*

David Krupicz, *Systems Development Specialist*

Sylwia Kubrak, *Senior GIS Specialist*

Patricia Lowe, *Sustainable Neighbourhoods Coordinator*

Kathy Luttrell, *Senior Natural Heritage Ecologist*

Jason Maas, *Resource Technician - Field*

Annie Miller, *GIS Technician*

Bryan Mistak, *Senior GIS Analyst*

Haruna Monri-Fung, *Senior Water Resources Engineer*

Dan Moore, *Senior Ecologist, Environmental Monitoring and Ecosystem Science*

Roy Mosher, *Restoration Coordinator*

Matthew Murphy, *Resource Technician - Field*

Serem Nejad, *Development Planner*

Shreyas Prasad, *Web Application Developer*

Jackie Scott, *Wildlife Biologist*

Emily Silk, *Aquatic Monitoring and Restoration Crew Leader*

Savavanan Sivarajah, *Development Planner*

Yvonne Storm, *Festival Planner and Volunteer Facilitator*

Leena Vaja, *Executive Assistant / Health and Safety Administrator*

Holly Whittington, *Environmental Engineering Technician*

Nathan Williams, *Web Application Developer*

Rod Wilmot, *Information Management and Technology Manager*

Jacob Windolf, *Water Resources Engineer*

Oak Ridges Moraine Groundwater Program (ORMGP)

Mike Doughty, *Intermediate Hydrogeologist*

Richard Gerber, *Senior Hydrogeologist*

Steve Holysh, *Senior Hydrogeologist*

Mason Marchildon, *Integrated Groundwater Management Engineer*

Britt Smith, *Groundwater Management Analyst*

Budget Presentation

The Budget format is organized into Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority's (CLOCA's) Program Units. Each unit is intended to reflect all associated (direct and measurable) costs and revenues.

Watershed Management and Health Monitoring

Program costs and revenues required to develop and implement the watershed management framework and associated strategies that guide a responsible approach to natural systems protection, restoration, and use. Also included in this unit is the operation and maintenance of the flood forecasting system, watershed planning, monitoring and restoration programs, a number of restoration projects across the watershed supported by federal, provincial and other partner grants, and capital projects that include watershed action plans, source protection planning, various groundwater studies and research and a number of provincial grant contracts administered by CLOCA.

Oak Ridges Moraine Groundwater Program (ORMGP)

As part of an ongoing contribution, CLOCA administers a number of contracts on behalf of a partnership of five municipalities (the Regions of Durham, Peel, York and recently Halton, as well as the City of Toronto) and 10 Conservation Authorities (the nine Conservation Authorities that formerly constituted the Oak Ridges Moraine-focused Conservation Authorities Moraine Coalition, plus Conservation Halton (beginning in 2021). Five staff for this initiative are housed in rental offices within the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority's office.

Environmental Plan Review and Regulation Services

Program costs and revenues associated with the provision of plan input to municipalities for development applications under the *Planning Act*. Plan input includes the review and analysis of planning applications as these applications may impact on natural hazards and water resources, as well as reviews of project studies under the *Environmental Assessment Act* in relation to natural hazards and water resources. Included in this unit are updates to floodplain mapping and the ongoing identification and associated data management for natural hazards. The Program also includes the implementation and efficient and effective administration of Part VI of the *Conservation Authorities Act* and Ontario Regulation 41/24 (Prohibited Activities, Exemptions and Permits), compliance, enforcement, and prosecutions. Finally, this program unit includes the development and maintenance of policy and procedural directions for efficient and effective environmental plan review and regulation services, as well as developing policy responses to related provincial directions.

Community Engagement

Stewardship, Outreach and Education programs include the direct costs, revenues and partnerships associated with the development and delivery of a suite of environmental programs that broaden CLOCA's relationships with the community. Outreach events like the Annual Purple Woods Maple Syrup Festival and seasonally themed hikes allow us to showcase our Conservation Areas and establish partnerships with the community. Our education program for school groups targets Grades 1 to 12, incorporating curriculum-learning outcomes to ensure we are relevant to the four school boards we serve.

Land Management

Program costs and revenues are associated with assets owned or managed by CLOCA and provide greenspace for residents of Durham Region. Also includes land acquisition and development of Conservation Areas, land management planning and special projects in Conservation Areas.

Corporate Services

Corporate Services includes corporate communications, management and non-direct program-specific costs, governance, head office operations, audit, legal, human resources, health and safety and the costs of GIS/IT support, Information Management Systems, and the continuous improvement of the Enterprise GIS for the dissemination, integration, and analysis of data throughout the organization. Our corporate communication products include managing an active website and ongoing creation and updating of printed, electronic, social media and Conservation Area signage.

Vehicles and Equipment

Costs and revenues associated with new acquisitions and the operation of the motor pool, and equipment required for the on-going work of CLOCA. Internal charges are made to the various projects and programs for the use of vehicles and equipment.

Budget Assumptions

1

Wages and Benefits

- As approved by Board of Directors on April 15, 2025.

2

Regional Operating Levy

- As approved by Durham Region Council on January 28, 2026.

3

Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR) Transfer Payments

- MNR transfer payments for natural hazard management reported in the budget continue to reflect the 50 per cent reduction in payments which took effect in 2019.

4

Ontario Government Funding

- Will continue the Source Water Protection initiative.

5

User Fees

- CLOCA fees for administration, plan review and regulation, community outreach and Conservation Areas/facility fees are based on a fee schedule approved by the Board of Directors on December 16, 2025.

6

Miscellaneous

- CLOCA supports the Oak Ridges Moraine Groundwater Program across the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) by providing payroll and administrative services.
- CLOCA utilizes government employment grants wherever feasible.



Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority
Consolidated Statement of Operations

Revenue	2026 Budget	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	2024 Actual
General Levy	4,854,138	4,735,745	4,735,745	4,620,240
Municipal Special Levy	613,523	460,000	376,960	1,335,120
MNRF Transfer Payment	64,445	64,445	64,445	64,445
Federal Grants	1,022,160	1,406,205	1,039,638	294,610
Provincial Grants	107,200	34,080	110,277	43,906
Other Revenue	556,770	1,030,075	692,445	1,912,655
Other Grants	12,880	43,700	59,477	57,924
Reserve Transfer	770,145	132,135	(187,935)	(229,789)
Deferred Revenue	114,000	-	-	1,882
Interest Earned	170,455	186,870	230,835	309,902
Administrative Services	79,450	63,450	63,450	65,300
Environmental Plan Review & Regulation Services				
Plan Review Fees	900,000	900,000	898,720	832,078
Regulations 41/24 Permit	400,000	425,000	381,815	572,499
Property Inquiry Fee	15,000	20,000	16,170	22,715
Map Sales	6,000	5,000	6,189	4,140
Community Engagement				
Education Fees	75,000	65,000	76,883	70,021
Maple Syrup Tours	7,500	8,500	7,094	8,689
Admission Fees - Purple Woods Maple Syrup Festival	67,700	55,000	54,337	57,018
Maple Syrup Sales	32,600	31,225	35,306	33,071
Maple Syrup Sales - Office	7,000	4,000	7,037	5,213
Merchandise Sales	21,800	8,720	22,696	14,937
Pancake Sales	52,500	41,250	45,164	47,494
Land Management				
Pay & Display	156,000	139,000	162,145	143,725
Seasons Passes	100,000	90,000	99,977	90,276
Donations	162,600	129,400	156,734	201,403
Property Rental	80,520	76,080	80,474	73,777
Facility Rental Fees	67,800	81,635	74,440	81,763
Commercial Rent Signs	7,400	7,400	7,785	7,509
Fill Sites Large Application Fees	40,000	50,000	51,788	8,435
Rental Recovery	162,250	162,250	146,480	152,246
Oak Ridges Moraine Groundwater Program				
Other Revenue	875,000	892,000	915,061	901,203
Other Grants	-	-	57,550	5,000
Deferred Revenue	299,450	58,000	-	(5,132)
Interest Earned	1,750	2,650	2,700	3,860
Website/Portal Access Fee	110,000	100,000	99,411	97,401
	12,013,035	11,508,815	10,591,290	11,905,535

Cost and Expenditures	2026 Budget	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	2024 Actual
Salaries & Benefits				
Salaries & Wages	5,645,440	5,355,300	5,294,499	4,972,288
Wages - Summer Student Program	177,000	188,600	164,024	167,637
Wages - PWMSF	16,200	13,900	30,834	23,574
Benefits	1,574,700	1,473,000	1,452,874	1,384,677
Future Benefit Expense	-	-	-	1,656
Members Per Diems	8,500	8,500	7,100	7,900
Administration				
Office Supplies/Postage/Promotion	6,065	7,465	8,269	7,485
Staff Mileage	9,100	10,500	7,244	9,917
Administration Expense	79,450	63,450	63,450	65,300
Course Registration	57,100	60,830	45,363	61,667
Publications & Subscriptions	70,430	44,630	39,466	42,159
Printing	3,800	3,500	3,774	3,154
Software	125,300	103,000	132,000	106,855
Services	1,761,050	2,363,365	1,463,142	524,339
Cellular	25,940	21,130	25,185	22,821
Travel	12,200	11,650	12,704	12,521
Payroll Processing Fees	9,900	9,900	10,984	9,929
Legal Fees	160,000	160,000	180,515	708,337
Audit Fees	48,250	47,500	33,743	33,590
Bank Service Charges	34,600	29,800	39,091	30,289
Insurance	114,295	130,410	129,413	160,233
Donation	20,000	21,950	15,509	21,620
Materials & Supplies	398,890	191,660	215,015	154,516
Water Quality Testing	64,700	64,400	56,688	50,656
Uniform Purchases	7,900	8,400	7,075	6,194
Conservation Ontario Levy	40,115	39,000	38,276	37,094
Utilities				
Telephone	18,275	16,775	16,921	16,145
Hydro	36,200	36,500	33,467	32,432
Alarm	4,010	4,010	3,984	3,984
Water	4,500	4,300	4,519	4,240
Gas	15,000	15,000	12,318	11,825
Property Taxes	56,950	59,725	53,899	56,513
Land Management				
Pay & Display Software Monitoring Fees	16,800	6,650	7,911	6,566
Capital Assets/Equipment	946,600	445,100	430,466	310,723
Equipment Rental	15,000	14,500	15,464	15,234
Small Tools	2,250	2,000	889	494
Land Acquisition	-	-	-	2,363,620
Vehicles & Equipment				
Vehicle Purchases	125,000	180,000	134,389	113,409
Vehicle Rental	20,600	14,200	13,391	12,924
Fuel	45,450	43,900	31,021	36,487
Licence	1,925	2,865	375	968
Vehicle Recovery	145,500	145,500	134,329	137,261
Equipment Recovery	12,750	12,750	12,150	14,985
Other				
Office Services (Rent - ORMGP)	17,300	17,300	17,299	12,511
Transportation (GW Festival)	23,000	20,000	22,977	19,454
Purchases for Resale (PWMS Festival)	11,000	14,000	9,775	13,500
Bulk for Resale (PWMS Festival)	13,000	11,600	15,367	6,841
Pancake Group Expenses (PWMS Festival)	11,000	10,300	11,547	7,684
	12,013,035	11,508,815	10,458,695	11,824,210
Surplus(Deficit) from Operations	0	0	132,595	81,325

Watershed Management and Health Monitoring

Program Operations

Program Operations provide comprehensive watershed health monitoring, watershed planning, and watershed management programs and services that support the development and implementation of overarching strategies for natural heritage system protection, ecological restoration, and land use planning. Staff with expertise in the fields of environmental engineering, ecology, hydrogeology, aquatics, wetland, wildlife and terrestrial biology, forestry and ecological restoration facilitate the development of programs and plans that prepare our watersheds and communities for anticipated future changes in the jurisdiction and address present day needs, issues, and opportunities in a responsible and relevant fashion.

The organization accomplishes its watershed management objectives through respectful consultation and partnership with First Nations, private landowners, stakeholders and all levels of government, providing input into the protection, restoration and responsible management of natural heritage features, developing planning tools to protect and grow the natural heritage system and protect and understand the water resource system, undertaking a long-term annual monitoring program that assesses changes in watershed health over time, and maintaining current and historical datasets for terrestrial, aquatic, wetland, and wildlife resources.

Low water and base flow surveys are being built on an existing information base to ensure the best information is available. Monitoring, data collection and analysis enables trends to be documented and characterized, and indicators of watershed health to be assessed on an ongoing basis.

OTHER PROGRAMS

Water Monitoring Network/Forecasting/Flood Warning

The Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority's Water Monitoring Network is a collection of stream gauges, rain gauges, air and water temperature probes, groundwater monitoring wells, snow measurement sites and surface water and groundwater quality sites. This Water Monitoring Network and the valuable information collected from it help us better understand and predict the impacts of land use activities on water. This knowledge allows us to make informed decisions about the management and protection of our water resource system.

Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority partners with Water Survey Canada and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry for the flood forecasting and warning program and the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks for the Provincial Water Quality Monitoring Network and Provincial Groundwater Monitoring Network to reduce duplication and offset program costs. The data is catalogued and analyzed to help us develop effective, watershed-wide management programs and policies such as the Flood Forecasting and Warning System, Low-Water Response and Source Water Protection.

Each year, CLOCA reviews the location of monitoring equipment and its effectiveness in

recording the required data and replaces outdated and inoperable equipment. Staff from the Engineering and IT/GIS departments also continue to advance several projects related to the Flood Forecasting and Warning program. These projects are improving the automation of data retrieval from the gauge stations, data management, and reporting.

Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority is a member of the Eastern Conservation Authorities Hub for access to the WISKI database for water monitoring data. This system is used provincially and provides efficient and consistent data retrieval and storage of information from our stream and precipitation gauges, groundwater wells, and stream water quality program.

Related information, including gauge data and floodplain information, is also being made more accessible to staff, municipal partners, and the general public through improvements to CLOCA's web-based products. Early Warning Systems are in place and will send email alerts to appropriate staff to advise of significant rainfall or water levels nearing flood conditions at various gauging stations, and the public is invited to subscribe to CLOCA's Flood Forecasting and Warning program and receive direct messages.

Watershed-Based Resource Management Strategy

Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority's Watershed-based Resource Management Strategy ("Watershed Strategy"), completed in late 2024 as required by regulation, helps guide our programs and services. The Watershed Strategy relies heavily on CLOCA's existing planning work, including its Strategy Plan, Watershed Plans and Action Plans and a range of other technical documents. Our Watershed Strategy helps us continue to protect nature and protect people from flooding and erosion in the communities we

serve and directs where to focus our conservation efforts. We use the latest scientific data, including climate change projections, to keep our watersheds healthy for the future. Implementation of this Strategy began in 2025.

Hazard Studies, Hazard Mapping and the National Disaster Mitigation Program

Between 2019 and 2025, CLOCA received funding through the National Disaster Mitigation Program (NDMP) to complete floodplain mapping, flood risk assessments, Lake Ontario shoreline hazard master plan and risk assessment, and flood warning system improvements. At the completion of the NDMP program, Natural Resources Canada initiated the Flood Hazard Identification and Mapping Program (FHIMP).

In 2025, CLOCA was awarded FHIMP grant funding for floodplain mapping of Soper Creek and Bowmanville Creek watersheds. The current Soper Creek and Bowmanville Creek floodplain mapping has become outdated with the multiple stream crossings of Highway 407 and significant urban development in the watershed. The grant will provide CLOCA with 50 per cent of the project cost with the Region of Durham providing the other 50 per cent of the funding through a Special Benefiting Levy. The project will be completed in 2027.

Watershed Planning

Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority's Watershed Plans for Lynde Creek, Oshawa Creek, Black / Harmony / Farewell Creeks, and Bowmanville / Soper Creeks were updated, and Board approved in 2020. These updated, long-term plans recognize the recent urban, rural and natural environment conditions present in the watershed, consider potential future growth, planning policy requirements, climate change and present specific recommendations to protect CLOCA's natural watershed resources.

The updated Watershed Plans are being used by CLOCA, municipalities, planning authorities, agencies, and other stakeholders as a definitive tool to guide decisions concerning the effective management of watershed resources in response to a changing environment. As part of these updates, CLOCA implemented a refined, science-based framework for watershed planning. This framework provides a systematic, comprehensive, and consistent process that links actions to results and ultimate outcomes.

Work towards implementation of Watershed Plan recommendations will continue through 2026 with the initiation, completion, or update of a range of Watershed Action Plans, including updating the Restoration Prioritization Tool, continuing to expand the restoration and stewardship program across the jurisdiction, implementing the Invasive Species Management Strategy, continuing to deliver the Sustainable Neighbourhoods Action Program, developing coastal wetland restoration and resilience plans and implementing those plans where opportunities exist, and completing stream assessments and focused stream restoration, among others.

Significant success has been achieved with the implementation of the Lynde Creek Restoration and Resilience Project and the Improving Climate Resilience at Oshawa Second Marsh Project over 2025, with additional implementation scheduled through 2026 and beyond thanks in part to

crucial funding and staff support from all levels of government and a range of other partners. These projects are crucial for safeguarding the ecological integrity of these significant regional assets amidst climate change. These initiatives create and maintain habitats for at-risk species, support biodiversity conservation, and maximize the climate resilience and functionality of these natural areas.

Integrated Watershed Monitoring Program

Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority's Integrated Watershed Monitoring Program focuses on key indicators of watershed health and provides critical information for many CLOCA programs, including natural hazard management, watershed planning, Conservation Area management, restoration and stewardship on public and private lands, education, and communication.

Long-term annual monitoring enables CLOCA to identify changes, whether incidental or persistent, in the quality and condition of the watershed. Together, this information helps to determine current watershed health, and whether indicators of health are trending up or down. Monitoring results are analyzed annually, with updates and historical data made accessible to the public through the Integrated Watershed Monitoring StoryMap on CLOCA's website. The StoryMap provides an excellent overview of watershed health in an easy-to-digest format by presenting complex monitoring results in a multimedia format that uses maps, text, and images.

Work is underway to complete a review of the Program to ensure that indicators and monitoring efforts are still adequately answering the key question of, "How is watershed health changing over time?"

Water quality and aquatic monitoring includes benthos sampling using the Ontario Benthos Bio-monitoring Network (OBBN) protocol, fish

sampling in accordance with the Ontario Stream Assessment Protocol, seine netting, spring and fall spawning surveys, identification and inventory of in-stream barriers, and the collection of temperature data using fixed and portable temperature loggers to evaluate in-stream thermal regime. This monitoring is expected to continue at full capacity in 2026. Bird, amphibian, forest, and other terrestrial monitoring also provide indications of watershed health and are also integral to the CLOCA Integrated Watershed Monitoring Program. Indicators of coastal wetland health, monitored through the Durham Region Coastal Wetland Monitoring Program (described further below) are also incorporated into the Integrated Watershed Monitoring Program. Long-term monitoring of these standard conservation targets will continue through 2026. Additional baseline monitoring of species, habitats, and other important ecological parameters is also completed every year at additional monitoring sites beyond the Integrated Watershed Monitoring sites.

This additional data helps to provide greater detail year over year regarding the presence and absence of sensitive, uncommon and species at risk across CLOCA's jurisdiction and provides some indication of habitat change. This information is leveraged on a continuous basis by governments, municipalities, consultants and landowners involved in the development process.

Other supplemental monitoring will be undertaken throughout the jurisdiction as opportunities allow. This includes the following, among others:

- The turtle monitoring project will continue in 2026 as resources allow. Data collected through this program will enable CLOCA to assess population trajectories of Painted and Snapping Turtles in particular. This work may also provide insight into movement patterns and population characteristics, survivorship, sex ratios, and range sizes of turtles. The outcome of this monitoring will be the development of management strategies, where possible, that will help local turtle populations persist and thrive within CLOCA's jurisdiction.

- As in past years, work will also continue with invasive species monitoring and programming throughout the jurisdiction, with an emphasis on conducting invasive species management projects within CLOCA Conservation Areas.
- Post-project monitoring will continue at restoration project sites implemented by CLOCA. This monitoring helps to determine ongoing maintenance requirements, project success and informs future project design and implementation.

The monitoring programs and projects outlined above are critical for watershed planning, which guides the development of detailed action plans. These plans guide and drive the implementation of projects that work to directly improve watershed health. Successful project implementation cannot occur without appropriate monitoring data informing project design.

Durham Region Coastal Wetland Monitoring Program

Long-term monitoring of 18 coastal wetlands across Durham Region will continue in 2026 at full capacity. The program is coordinated and implemented by CLOCA; however, a range of stakeholders, including Environment and Climate Change Canada, neighbouring Conservation Authorities, and local volunteers, assist with certain aspects of data collection. The data and information gained through this wetland monitoring provide valuable insights for assessing watershed and coastal wetland health in Durham Region.

This monitoring program provides feedback on restoration and management actions undertaken in coastal wetlands, like the ongoing work at Cranberry, Lynde Creek and Second Marshes, and provides critical data used in the development of coastal wetland restoration and resilience plans, which are focused on identifying high-value projects that will build climate resilience into these significant natural heritage features over time.

Provincial Groundwater Monitoring Network

Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority currently maintains 15 wells under the Provincial Groundwater Monitoring Network (PGMN). This program is now a provincially mandated activity of the Conservation Authority. These monitoring wells provide continuous water level data through the installed level loggers and telemetry equipment, which allows for remote retrieval of water level data.

Groundwater well monitoring equipment is checked regularly to ensure proper functioning, and data are collected, reviewed, and analyzed quarterly, providing input to the Oak Ridges Moraine Groundwater Program (ORMGP) shared database and the provincial online database. Through the ORMGP-CAMC (Conservation Authorities Moraine Coalition) municipal/Conservation Authority initiative, the data is available to the regional staff and supports both municipal Works and Health departments' groundwater analyses and programs. Data from monitoring wells support groundwater characterization and water budget modelling activities. Processed data are also provided to the Region in response to private citizen inquiries.

Water quality samples are also collected and analyzed annually from these wells. These analyses were conducted twice a year from the start of the program in 2002 until 2010. In 2011, with this established solid baseline, water quality sampling shifted to once a year. Provincial Groundwater Monitoring Network wells have over 15 years of water level and quality records.

The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) is working to make groundwater data records more accessible and is transitioning to a standard provincial (WISKI) database that will be available to Conservation Authority partners and the public.

Source Water Protection Plans

The Source Water Protection (SWP) initiative commenced in 2005, following recommendations made by Justice O'Connor after the Walkerton drinking water tragedy in May 2000. Conservation Authorities received funding from the Province of Ontario to complete technical Assessment Reports (ARs) and a SWP Plan based on the findings presented in the AR.

The Central Lake Ontario Source Protection Authority's (CLOSPA) AR was completed and approved by the Province in November of 2011. Work on the SWP Plan started in 2011 and included several rounds of consultation with municipalities and various affected stakeholders. The Source Protection Plan (SPP) was approved by the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change on August 14, 2015 and took effect on December 31, 2015. The SPP comprises several policies to manage or eliminate significant threats to drinking water sources identified in the provincially approved ARs. Staff of the Credit Valley, Toronto and Region, Central Lake Source Protection Region (CTCSPR) have been working with member municipalities since 2012, consulting on the plan and holding workshops and meetings to assist with the understanding and implementation of the plan.

The CTC and CLOSPA staff are working with municipal personnel to clarify responsibilities under the Source Protection Plan (SPP) and to provide the necessary support. Central Lake Ontario Source Protection Authority, with assistance from the ORMGP, is completing a Section 36 update to the AR. This update will reflect changes in the region's physical and human characteristics, water quality, and usage, along with water budget, vulnerable areas, and stress assessments, using CLOSPA data and Durham Region's recent Groundwater Modelling update.

Central Lake Ontario Source Protection Authority staff will continue developing the CTC SPR Data Portal and managing records through Microsoft Teams and the Conservation Authorities Content Management System (CACMS), which serves as a central hub for storing, searching, and retrieving all CTC SPR documents, reports, correspondence, and spatial data, while the portal offers mapping capabilities and access to metadata and spatial information.

Climate Change

Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority is working on several fronts to advance our scientific and adaptation knowledge with respect to climate change. In keeping with recommendations and actions identified through the watershed plan review and update process, CLOCA is taking a more detailed examination of the impacts of climate change on watershed processes, including identifying climate change adaptation practices that will help lessen these impacts.

In partnership with Durham Region, CLOCA has been working in a leadership capacity with the flooding and natural heritage sector to advance climate change adaptation work identified in Towards Resilience and its own watershed plans. This work includes understanding and using the results generated through the updated climate change ensemble model for Durham Region, and the incorporation of climate change considerations into municipal and regional plans, policies, and operational plans, and integrating climate change knowledge into watershed and natural heritage feature, management and restoration planning processes, including those being carried out for critical natural features within CLOCA's Conservation Areas. CLOCA is also supporting Durham Region and local-area municipalities in developing and/or updating their individual climate and sustainability strategies.

Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority has been working closely with Environment and Climate Change Canada and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada to undertake detailed restoration and resilience planning within select coastal wetlands across the CLOCA jurisdiction. The results of these planning exercises continue to help CLOCA leverage significant federal funding to implement climate resilience restoration projects in coastal wetlands. This includes recent implementation work as part of the Lynde Shores Conservation Area Restoration and Resilience Project and the Improving Climate Resilience at Oshawa Second Marsh Project. These projects are resulting in the implementation of a range of restoration projects over the next few years that will be valued in the millions of dollars in both hard asset improvements and long-term natural asset service value when complete. Additional projects are also being developed for other sites across the CLOCA jurisdiction, and CLOCA is hopeful that further funding announcements will be forthcoming throughout 2026.

Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority staff also continue to participate on provincial initiatives to modernize guidance for both riverine floodplain mapping and shoreline hazard mapping through Technical Guide development. Incorporating climate change into hazard determination is an important component of the provincial guide updates.

The Soper Creek and Bowmanville Creek Floodplain Mapping (to be completed in 2027) will show a climate-adjusted regional storm floodline. This practice follows the federal mapping requirements and will be the first climate-adjusted floodline mapped in CLOCA's watershed.

Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority will be working closely with Durham Region and other partners to ensure the updated modelling information will inform climate change related programs and into the future.



Watershed Restoration Program: Planning and Implementation

Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority uses a range of tools and frameworks developed through the watershed planning process to support strategic prioritization of restoration opportunities across its jurisdiction (the CLOCA Natural Heritage System, Restoration Prioritization Plan Mapping Tool, Wildlife Corridor Protection and Enhancement Plan, Conservation Area management plans, etc.) and ensure restoration projects are designed and implemented in such a way that they achieve measurable gains in watershed health (the Conservation and Restoration Planning Framework).

With these and other important tools and strategies guiding decision-making, CLOCA will continue to work on building its restoration programs and services through 2026. Building on successful implementation of restoration projects on both private lands and CLOCA conservation lands over the last several years, CLOCA will be looking to further enhance its suite of program offerings in 2026 with the addition of other service categories to its Stewardship and Restoration Program guidelines, and is working with municipal partners and other stakeholders to identify restoration opportunities within the urban environment that will enhance the resilience of our watersheds and communities to climate change.

Staff are constantly seeking additional external funding sources to help with the implementation of these other service categories so that the financial burden on private and government landowners is minimized. Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority will continue to support efforts to increase forest cover throughout the jurisdiction and is already aiming to coordinate the planting of 25,000 trees on private properties in the spring of 2026.

It is expected that uptake by private landowners for this and other types of stewardship will continue to grow with dedicated marketing and communications in 2026 and beyond.

Durham Trees: Durham Region – Conservation Authority Collaborative Tree Planting Program

Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority has continued to work closely with five Durham Region Conservation Authorities and the Region of Durham to deliver a coordinated and consistent tree-planting program across the Region with a goal to increase the number of trees being planted on both public and private lands. The collaborative is working actively with Durham Region and other stakeholders to see this program continue through 2025 and beyond as Phase 2 of the program.

This program is an example of climate action being achieved through the implementation of nature-based solutions and assists the Region, local area municipalities and Conservation Authorities' efforts to achieve climate change adaptation and watershed health goals and objectives. Funding support for landowner outreach, marketing and communications has been provided in part by the Region, with the remainder of funding secured through external partners. The full suite of marketing and communications tools developed by the collaborative through the project has been put to work by all partners and is generating new relationships with interested landowners and new planting projects.

Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority is now working with all of the partners in this collaborative to develop a Phase 2 work plan for this program that will achieve sustainable funding in 2025 and beyond, fill program gaps, and support local area municipalities with forest cover goals.

Funding for the tree-planting component of the program will continue to be sought by the Conservation Authorities through existing programs, including those delivered by Forests Ontario, Trees for Life, Tree Canada, and other tree-planting funders.

Resilient Agricultural Landscape Program

The new Resilient Agricultural Landscape Program (RALP) has been developed through a collaboration of the Region of Durham and its five partner conservation authorities. The collaborative was recently awarded \$300,000 from Conservation Ontario to implement the project into 2027. The Program will provide a suite of services to assist Durham Region's agricultural producers in implementing Best Management Practices (BMPs) on the farm, with funding support recently secured through the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership (Sustainable CAP), a Federal-Provincial-funded program, partially administered by Conservation Ontario.

Durham's agricultural sector is a cornerstone of the Region's economy and community identity, yet it continues to face pressure from urbanization, rising costs, and climate change. The Resilient Agricultural Landscape Program provides a significant opportunity to strengthen partnerships with the farm community while advancing ecological sustainability.

Through collaborative delivery by the five Conservation Authorities in Durham Region, RALP will help agricultural producers both technically and financially to implement practical and effective BMPs, with the goal of restoring marginal farmland and contributing to soil health, water quality, biodiversity, and climate resilience across the Region.

Well Decommissioning Program

Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority re-introduced the Well Decommissioning Program in 2017, providing technical and financial assistance to landowners in our jurisdiction.

An abandoned well can allow for surface runoff to flow directly to local and regional aquifers, potentially carrying organic waste, fertilizers, chemical residues including pesticides and petroleum products to groundwater. Uptake for this program has been limited to-date; however, with the private land stewardship program generating more contacts with landowners in the jurisdiction, we anticipate more opportunities to offer and promote this program.

Clarington Trees for Rural Roads

The Clarington Trees for Rural Roads program has planted more than 8,000 trees along rural roads in the municipality since it began in 2012. The program has many benefits aside from improving the aesthetics of the rural countryside, it increases tree canopy and provides wildlife habitat.

Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority will continue to partner with the Municipality of Clarington in 2026 to deliver this program with the Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority.

Forest Tending and Management

Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority had an updated Managed Forest Plan approved by Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) in 2020. The updated plan guides the management of these forested lands until 2030, while also providing a 75 per cent reduction in property taxes for approved parcels. A five-year Report of Actions will be developed by CLOCA for its own Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program (MFTIP)-approved lands as part of its reporting commitments under this program.

Forest management activities on CLOCA lands can include invasive species control, plantation management (competition control, infill planting, scheduled timber harvest and improvement cuts), hazard tree removal, and wildlife habitat establishment, among others.

This program and the associated property tax break are also available to eligible private landowners. Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority has developed a new fee-based service to help landowners develop a managed forest plan and submit a MFTIP application to the MNR. Several landowners benefited from this service in 2025, and staff are in discussions with several more landowners looking to develop plans in 2026.

Invasive Species Management

Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority continues to implement its Invasive Species Management Strategy within our conservation land holdings and in partnership with municipalities and stakeholders. With a focus on prevention, detection, response and management, the 2025 work plan will:

- continue implementing the Roger's Tract Invasive Species Management Plan;
- continue managing, monitoring, and mapping invasive species at Conservation Areas according to priority;
- continue to implement pilot projects in partnership with watershed stakeholders as opportunities align with funding and priority invasive species; and,
- continue to participate in virtual or in-person outreach initiatives to develop more community engagement and communication products for enhancing invasive species awareness.

Lynde Shores Restoration and Resilience Project

The Lynde Shores Restoration and Resilience Project outline a comprehensive plan to restore, enhance, and build resilience into the ecological integrity of the Lynde Shores Conservation Area. This project presents a series of restoration strategies aimed at addressing climate change impacts, habitat loss, and promoting biodiversity within the conservation area. These strategies will create a more resilient ecosystem capable of withstanding future environmental challenges. Each proposed project is thoroughly designed to maximize ecological benefits, while considering social and recreational aspects to ensure community engagement and enjoyment. It underscores the significance of ongoing monitoring and stakeholder engagement for the long-term success of the restoration endeavours. Through collaborative efforts and a shared vision for a healthy ecosystem, the Lynde Shores Restoration and Resilience Project seek to improve the ecological and recreational value of the conservation area while fostering climate resilience in the face of changing environmental conditions.

In late 2024, CLOCA was approved for \$2,177,000 in funding from Environment and Climate Change Canada through The Great Lakes Freshwater Ecosystem Initiative (now administered by the new Canada Water Agency). This funding aims to address significant environmental challenges affecting Great Lakes water quality and ecosystem health, aligning with Canada's commitments under the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement. A primary focus is restoring and protecting critical coastal wetlands from climate change impacts. Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority has used data from long-term monitoring programs to plan for enhanced resilience in these areas and will now work on implementing these plans with the new funding. Environment and Climate Change Canada selected the Lynde Shores Conservation Area Restoration and Resilience Project due to CLOCA's thorough background work, partnerships formed, and the area's importance for both ecology and community. Significant progress was made on this project through 2025 with the completion of extensive interspersion work in Lynde Creek Marsh, Phragmites control in Cranberry Marsh, and the creation of new wetland areas just south of the Lynde Shores Conservation Area main parking lot. Large areas of additional wetland creation and upland forest restoration are scheduled for 2026, among other work.

Oshawa Second Marsh Management Planning and Implementation

Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority, as a member of the Second Marsh Steering Committee, continues to provide input and guidance into the management of Oshawa Second Marsh by drawing on its intimate knowledge of the marsh that comes from its annual monitoring and the extensive data sets that have been generated through the Durham Region Coastal Wetland Monitoring Program.

Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority staff will also support, and guide restoration activities developed through the steering committee.

Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority has recently been leading the Improving Climate Resilience at Oshawa Second Marsh Project on behalf of the steering committee. This new project builds on years of CLOCA's monitoring and research, and partnerships with organizations such as Ducks Unlimited Canada, Friends of Second Marsh, the City of Oshawa, and others. CLOCA was recently awarded \$1,614,500 of funding, as the project lead, from the Canada Water Agency (CWA) through The Great Lakes Freshwater Ecosystem Initiative, which will enable the implementation of these long-term restoration plans. The project reflects CLOCA's vision for the area, the value of these partnerships, and the ecological and community significance of Oshawa Second Marsh. Canada Water Agency recognized the project for its strong scientific foundation, established partnerships, and potential to enhance wetland resilience in the Great Lakes region.

Lynde Creek Watershed Stream Habitat Assessment, Enhancement and Restoration Project

Stream restoration is a newer stewardship project that has been piloted by CLOCA since 2023 to address impacts in stream health. The project consists of two activities: a watershed stream habitat assessment and stream enhancement/restoration. The watershed assessment is a streamside walking survey used to identify and prioritize areas needing restoration. The stream restoration focuses on both riparian and in-stream habitats.

The primary stream restoration technique focuses on using locally sourced woody material and holiday trees to build in-stream structures that mimic natural, woody material in these stream environments. These structures help reduce erosion rates and act as sediment traps to improve water quality while also providing important habitat for fish and other aquatic life.

The planting of native trees and shrubs species adjacent to the stream channel is the second restoration technique used to restore riparian buffers. Through this project, CLOCA has developed new partnerships with several organizations, including Ontario Streams, the City of Oshawa, the Town of Whitby, and Miller Compost. This work emphasizes CLOCA and its partners commitment to the ecological health of aquatic environments and the conservation of species at risk, which both contribute to achieving overall watershed health.

Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority is hopeful that a current application to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans Habitat Stewardship Program will continue to fund this project at its current levels for the next three years. A funding decision is expected mid-2026. Regardless of the decision on this external funding request, CLOCA is expecting to leverage this new knowledge to implement a number of stream restoration projects across its jurisdiction in 2026 as opportunities allow.

Long Sault Conservation Area Grassland Enhancement Project

The Long Sault Conservation Area Grassland Enhancement Project was approved for funding in 2024-2025 by Wildlife Preservation Canada (\$10,000) and the Greenbelt Foundation (\$33,700) and supported by Hydro One through in-kind work (valued at approximately \$25,000) on the site to address invasive species.

This project has established 17.5 acres of native grassland by connecting a contiguous, actively managed 60-acre native grassland ecosystem in the Oak Ridges Moraine. Restoring these lands supports CLOCA's long-term regional restoration priorities of enhancing and connecting rare and diverse grassland ecosystems, protecting species at risk and pollinator habitat, and improving climate and ecological resilience of the Greenbelt. Invasive species management and grassland mowing is expected to occur in 2026.

Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Program (SNAP)

Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority, in partnership with the Town of Whitby and the Region of Durham, continues to implement its first Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Program (SNAP) in CLOCA's jurisdiction. The Program, also known as SNAP, was originally developed by Toronto and Region Conservation Authority to help local municipal partners, public agencies and other organizations respond to the challenges of urban renewal and climate action. Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority is following this SNAP methodology.

The program is designed to connect participants with new techniques and technology, expertise and skill-building to create a resilient neighbourhood. The goal of SNAP is to accelerate the creation of sustainable neighbourhoods in older urban areas by taking an integrated approach at the neighbourhood scale to overcome urban retrofit and climate change challenges and address a broad range of objectives with locally tailored solutions. Working with local stakeholders, including residents, businesses, and groups, the SNAP team works to advance resilience at the neighbourhood scale, where implementation ultimately happens.

The SNAP introduces a variety of neighbourhood-focused initiatives such as:

- Renewable energy retrofits
- Water and energy conservation programs
- Revitalization of parks, roads, and public spaces
- Stormwater management
- Green and grey infrastructure
- Tower revitalization
- Flood protection
- Local food production
- Health and wellness promotion through connections with nature

In late 2024, Town of Whitby Council approved the selection of as the focus of this first SNAP project following a detailed neighbourhood selection process completed by CLOCA. With the focused neighbourhood now defined, CLOCA has been actively engaging with the residents and stakeholders in the West Lynde Neighbourhood and implementing initial quick win projects. A completed Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Plan for West Lynde is expected around mid-2026, with additional implementation throughout the latter part of the year.

Town of Whitby Invasive Species Management Plan

Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority has recently been retained by the Town of Whitby to prepare two complementary but distinct products for the Town of Whitby: a municipality-wide Invasive Species Strategic Plan and a set of Pilot Site Management Plans for two representative locations. Together, these deliverables will provide both the broad organizational direction needed to coordinate invasive species management across departments and two practical examples of the type of site-level guidance that will be required to understand what on-the-ground implementation would entail. This work will be developed through the spring/summer of 2026 and completed by the end of the year.

Ecological Compensation Services for Infrastructure Agencies

Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority staff have been actively engaged with Ontario Power Generation and Metrolinx regarding CLOCA's ability to accommodate a number of ecological restoration projects (i.e., wetland creation, woodland creation, and specialized species at risk habitat creation) on CLOCA lands as part of the two agencies ecological compensation requirements that have been triggered by Federal and Provincial permitting for the Darlington New Nuclear Project and GO Lakeshore East Line - Bowmanville Extension Project between Oshawa and Bowmanville. While conversations continue to be ongoing, CLOCA expects to both accommodate a number of these projects on CLOCA lands in 2026 and act as the service provider for this work (i.e. taking on the responsibility for coordinating the implementation of the restoration work and undertaking any long-term monitoring requirements dictated by the permitting on behalf of the two agencies).

Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority's role in supporting infrastructure agencies and municipalities in meeting their ecological compensation requirements on projects occurring within the CLOCA jurisdiction helps to ensure that the compensation work has meaningful net-positive impacts on local natural heritage system function, local biodiversity, and local climate resilience. These outcomes align directly with CLOCA's watershed planning goals and objectives.

Watershed Management

	2026 Budget	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	2024 Actual
Revenue				
General Levy	1,186,637	1,249,345	1,030,359	892,720
Municipal Special Levy	443,523	220,000	246,289	217,820
Grants/Transfer Payments				
MNRF Transfer Payment	28,500	28,500	28,500	28,500
Federal Grants	1,014,760	1,388,145	1,022,000	287,974
Provincial Grants	87,200	34,080	58,308	33,117
Other Grants	12,880	43,700	59,477	7,245
Other Revenue	404,320	648,450	276,676	214,536
Reserve Transfer	(28,350)	(16,315)	(38,245)	(16,393)
Deferred Revenue	114,000	-	-	1,882
	3,263,470	3,595,905	2,683,365	1,667,400

	2026 Budget	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	2024 Actual
Costs & Expenditures				
Salaries & Benefits				
Wages Permanent	1,153,400	1,079,500	1,097,871	974,977
Wages - Summer Student Program	107,200	101,900	96,896	88,329
Benefits	323,800	303,500	296,619	262,674
Operating Expenses				
Travel	900	1,800	1,779	2,812
Staff Mileage	3,600	3,000	1,990	4,702
Administration Expense	13,450	2,450	2,450	10,300
Course Registration	3,800	5,100	4,795	13,209
Postage	600	500	3,591	1,025
Materials & Supplies	258,750	44,660	94,513	39,032
Publications & Subscriptions	25,130	130	6,834	5,762
Software	16,300	13,200	18,492	13,442
Services	1,193,200	1,889,065	930,219	94,405
Cellular	10,340	6,800	9,940	10,230
Fuel	2,850	1,400	1,123	1,344
Promotion				56
Water Sample Testing	63,800	63,800	56,086	50,656
Uniform Purchases	1,800	2,000	1,506	1,537
Telephone	2,200	2,000	2,211	2,092
Insurance	950	1,300	1,287	1,692
Donation	-	5,000	-	
Equipment Purchases	30,000	24,000	11,088	47,625
Equipment Rental				712
Vehicle Rental	20,600	14,000	13,229	12,924
Equipment & Vehicle Recovery	30,800	30,800	30,847	27,863
	3,263,470	3,595,905	2,683,365	1,667,400

Oak Ridges Moraine Groundwater Program (ORMGP)

As part of an ongoing contribution, CLOCA administers a number of contracts on behalf of a partnership of five municipalities (the Regions of Durham, Peel, York, Halton, as well as the City of Toronto) and 10 Conservation Authorities (the nine Conservation Authorities that formerly constituted the Oak Ridges Moraine-focused Conservation Authorities Moraine Coalition, plus Conservation Halton (beginning in 2021). Five staff for this initiative are housed in rental offices within the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority's office.

Program Operations

The year 2026 marks the 25th anniversary of this leading-edge collaborative groundwater management program between the Regions of Durham, York, Peel, Halton, the City of Toronto, and their associated Conservation Authorities. The program continues to provide technical hydrogeological support to the 15 agencies partnered in the program, as well as some 25 consulting firms that have signed agreements with ORMGP.

With support from the Greenbelt, in 2026, program staff will be working to create marketing products with an aim of having the program more widely recognized.

In 2026, a new program video will be created and released on the program's website. Staff will also be registering for a trade show booth at strategic conferences where the message of effective groundwater management can be delivered and received by senior-level decision makers. The aim of the work will be to increase the profile of the ORMGP.

In the fall the program is looking to host a 25-year celebration where senior level decision makers from partner agencies and senior consultants can help the program celebrate 25 years.

Through the early parts of 2026, staff will continue working to restructure the program's database. The database is currently tied to a legacy software program that is no longer supported. There is a need to migrate away from the current structure. The transition will see the removal of superfluous tables that are no longer relevant to the ORMGP. In addition, the new structure will see the addition of new tables to address the revised structure. Concurrently with this transition is the development of a new user interface to facilitate database management. The interface will allow for the addition, deletion and editing of records in the database.

The year 2026 will also see the program's mapping interface shift to an updated format. Staff will ensure that users are made aware of the switch in advance of any changes being made on the website. Staff are hoping to work with MECP staff in 2026 to help the province with improved data management with respect to the water well record information system as well as with the permit to take water database.

In 2026, work will also continue on a number of regular/ongoing initiatives related to one of the four main program areas: 1) database, 2) geology, 3) modelling, and/or 4) website. The following reflect some of the new/ongoing initiatives for 2026:

- Provide technical expertise to partner agencies as requested.
- Build on the metadata available on the website to give users more background information on how different products on the website are produced.
- Work on speeding up the website so that in-person training opportunities can be developed.
- Work to refine and finalize an updated bedrock surface and associated bedrock valley thalweg configuration.
- Continued growth of the program database with incorporation of new boreholes and temporal data (water levels, pumping, chemistry, climate data, and stream flow data).
- Continued addition of consultant borehole logs as readily accessible PDF files; and
- Collection and incorporation of geotechnical and hydrogeological reports and associated high-quality data across the program study area.



ORMGP - Oak Ridges Moraine Groundwater Program

Revenue	2026 Budget	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	2024 Actual
Other Revenue	875,000	892,000	915,061	901,203
Other Grants	-	-	57,550	5,000
Deferred Revenue	299,450	58,000	-	(5,132)
Interest Earned	1,750	2,650	2,700	3,860
Website/Portal Access Fee	110,000	100,000	99,411	97,401
	1,286,200	1,052,650	1,074,720	1,002,330

Cost and Expenditures	2026 Budget	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	2024 Actual
Salaries & Benefits				
Salaries & Wages	765,600	669,900	648,395	621,588
Benefits	172,900	162,200	166,900	160,583
Future Benefit Expense	-	-	-	1,656
Operating Expenses				
Staff Mileage	1,500	1,500	1,784	1,298
Administration Expense	27,000	25,000	25,000	22,000
Course Registration	6,000	6,000	3,490	5,356
Postage	-	-	134	
Materials & Supplies	25,000	5,000	710	3,311
Publications & Subscriptions	7,000	7,000	2,170	7,034
Software	40,000	35,000	43,637	30,225
Services	93,000	82,000	124,064	100,488
Fuel	4,000	4,000	2,293	3,003
Uniform Purchases	-	-	391	
Telephone	3,100	3,100	2,468	3,053
Cellular	3,000	3,000	2,761	2,636
Travel	5,000	5,000	6,247	5,245
Insurance	7,000	3,110	2,284	3,110
Audit Fees	5,750	5,500	5,500	5,250
Bank Service Charges	1,500	1,500	1,019	1,498
Licence	550	540	-	-
Payroll Processing Fees	1,000	1,000	1,011	975
Office Services	17,300	17,300	17,299	12,511
Equipment Purchases	100,000	15,000	17,031	11,512
Vehicle Recovery	-	-	134	
	1,286,200	1,052,650	1,074,720	1,002,330

Environmental Plan Review and Regulation Services

Program Operations - Municipal Plan Review

The purpose is to promote CLOCA's watershed resource management interests through the provision of technical analysis and comments on land-use planning proposals and development applications made with watershed municipalities under the Planning Act, and public infrastructure projects advanced by public authorities under the *Environmental Assessment Act*.

Complementary work includes the continuous review and updating of natural hazard limits associated with flood plains, stream erosion, steep slopes, meander belts and Lake Ontario shoreline including associated planning and procedural policy directions.

2026 Program:

- Continuing our partnerships with the watershed municipalities to provide Plan review advice on watershed management, drinking water source protection and natural hazard planning in the context of recent and ongoing changes to the *Planning Act* and the *Conservation Authorities Act*.
 - Provide timely information and responsiveness to landowners and clients wishing to invest and build in the CLOCA watershed to assist in due diligence and initial feasibility decisions.
 - Provide policy input and commentary to implement key public safety and watershed protection directions of the Provincial Planning Statement.
- Consistent with previous years, it is anticipated that CLOCA will review and provide comments on over 200 planning applications and supporting technical reports on various scales and locations.
 - Implementation of the Fee Schedule for Planning Services including efficient revenue collection and alignment of service needs with staff capacity to maintain quality of service.
 - Continued implementation of CLOCA's Policy and Procedural Document for Land Use Planning and Regulations, as recently amended.
 - CLOCA staff will continue to support watershed and partner interests through working groups and committees with municipal and development representatives dealing with Official Plan reviews, Master Environmental Servicing Plans, sub-watershed planning, storm water management and environmental issues, including but not limited to:
 - Municipality of Clarington - Official Plan Update, Clarington Secondary Plans update and implementation.
 - City of Oshawa - Official Plan Update process, Kedron and Northwood Planning Area employment developments, Kedron Planning Area residential developments, and the Columbus Planning Area.
 - Town of Whitby - Brooklin Secondary Plan and Implementing Servicing and subdivision plans.
 - City of Pickering - Northeast Pickering Secondary Plan, Neighborhood Plans and Master Environmental Servicing Planning processes.

- Integrate climate change considerations into day-to-day review of development applications with an emphasis on promoting resilience through effective flood control, thermal mitigation, and low-impact development stormwater management techniques, landscape design for vegetation protection zones and stream corridor enhancement opportunities.
- Ensure timely responses for application review in line with Part VI of the *Conservation Authorities Act*, Ontario Regulation 41/24, and Conservation Ontario guidelines and assess performance against Strategic Plan Implementation performance measures while building staff capacity.
- Continue to transition archived planning files to electronic format accessible through CLOCA's electronic records management platform and practice efficient and effective records management practices.

- Consistent with previous years, it is anticipated that CLOCA will review and make decisions on over 200 permit applications.
- Implementation of the Fee Schedule for Regulation Services, including efficient revenue collection.
- On-going enforcement, court appearances and Ontario Land Tribunal proceedings include relationship building and training with our new partnership with the Region of Durham prosecution service.
- Comprehensive update to the conceptual regulated areas mapping pursuant to the requirements of Section 4 of Ontario Regulation 41/24, including public notice and consultation activities.
- Technical support for implementation of the finalized Provincial Excess Soil Management Framework regulations, including liaison with municipal planning and engineering staff.

Program Operations - Regulations

The Regulations program is designed to protect both the public and property from flood and erosion hazards, as well as wetlands and watercourses through the review and permitting of applications for Development Activity, and Interference of Watercourses and Wetlands (Part VI of the *Conservation Authorities Act* and Ontario Regulation 41/24).

2026 Program:

- Implement updated regulation policies and procedures, templates, and process in relation to the new legislative requirements that came into effect on April 1, 2024.
- Provide timely information and responsiveness to landowners and clients wishing to invest and build in the CLOCA watershed to assist in due diligence and initial feasibility decisions.

Studies

Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority will continue to review and provide comments on a number of special studies and environmental assessments for proposed infrastructure within our watershed to ensure protection of natural resources and address natural hazards.



Environmental Plan Review & Regulation Services

	2026 Budget	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	2024 Actual
Revenue				
General Levy	749,680	693,255	712,443	1,046,092
Grants/Transfer Payments				
MNRF Transfer Payment	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000
Federal Grants (Canada Summer Jobs)	-	7,225	6,806	-
Self-Generated Revenue				
Plan Review Fees	900,000	900,000	898,720	832,078
Regulations 41/24 Permit	400,000	425,000	381,815	572,499
Property Inquiry Fee	15,000	20,000	16,170	22,715
Map Sales	6,000	5,000	6,189	4,140
	2,095,680	2,075,480	2,047,145	2,502,525

	2026 Budget	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	2024 Actual
Costs & Expenditures				
Salaries & Wages	1,454,500	1,435,700	1,414,006	1,352,910
Wages - Summer Student Program	17,600	22,600	20,425	4,925
Benefits	421,000	397,100	393,594	384,701
	-	-		
Operating Expenses				
Staff Mileage	2,000	4,000	1,097	1,936
Course Registration	6,200	6,000	5,688	5,296
Materials & Supplies	700	600	910	643
Publications & Subscriptions	8,000	8,000	4,070	7,483
Software	6,000	9,000	5,862	9,666
Services	4,000	3,000	3,983	2,544
Uniform Purchases	1,200	1,000	1,211	971
Cellular	1,980	1,880	1,911	1,791
Travel	1,000	1,500	943	1,509
Insurance	26,000	37,600	37,603	56,581
Legal Fees	130,000	130,000	140,638	656,551
Bank Service Charges	12,000	12,000	11,291	11,267
Equipment Purchases	2,000	5,000	2,122	2,146
Vehicle Recovery	1,500	500	1,789	1,603
	2,095,680	2,075,480	2,047,145	2,502,525

Community Engagement

Education

Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority has delivered formal and informal education programs to ensure environmental literacy for students and CLOCA's watershed community for over four decades. These education programs are an important deliverable designed to be consistent with CLOCA's fourth goal in its Strategic Plan (2026-2035); to inspire action for nature through engagement and education.

In Your Watershed

Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority's suite of innovative, hands-on, curriculum-based education programs informs and raises awareness about the value of healthy watersheds, educating diverse audiences from Grades K-12 about CLOCA. Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority serves the Durham, Durham Catholic, Peterborough, Victoria Northumberland, Clarington Catholic, and Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Boards, various Montessori schools, private schools, home-school families, and some Toronto District School Board schools.

Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority has reached thousands of students through programs delivered in its Conservation Areas and in other natural areas within the watershed through its 'In Your Backyard' program. We anticipate that we will reach over 8,000 students in the 2025/2026 school year.

Exploring your Watershed – Primary Orienteering

In 2025, CLOCA launched a new primary Orienteering program, using table-top maps to teach young students navigation skills.

The curriculum-based program builds map-reading abilities that help give students the confidence to get outdoors and explore CLOCA's Conservation Areas and other natural areas in the watershed. It was well received by teachers, and look forward to its continued success through 2026.

Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) Program Certifications

Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority will continue to deliver GPS and ICE SHSM certifications in the 2025/2026 school year and plan on adding Bird and Tree ID SHSM certifications. This Ministry-approved program enables students to earn credits toward their Ontario Secondary School Diploma while focusing on a specific economic sector. After completing a bundle of eight to 10 courses in the student's selected field, earning industry certifications, and gaining important job skills through co-op placements, students earn an SHSM seal on their diploma.

Grade 12 Biology – Population Dynamics – Invasive Species Program

Over the past three years, CLOCA delivered an Invasive Species Program to Grade 12 Biology students at Uxbridge and Durham Christian High Schools, aligned with the population dynamics unit. Education and Natural Heritage staff collaborated on the initiative, with students at Durham Christian High School conducting annual plant surveys (plant stem counts within nine quadrats) and removing garlic mustard at Purple Woods Conservation Area. Comparison of the annually recorded data revealed a significant decrease in garlic mustard and a notable increase in native plant species this year indicating the successful impact their efforts have had. This successful program will be continued in 2026.

Nature Nook

The Nature Nook play-space at Enniskillen Conservation Area continues to gain popularity with teachers, with bookings steadily increasing as word about this space spreads through the education community. Only positive feedback has been received from teachers who have used this space.

New Education Animal – Eastern Fox Snake

An Eastern Fox Snake, native to Ontario, recently joined CLOCA's education program and will remain an active member of CLOCA's education team in 2026. This species is listed as Endangered under the federal *Species at Risk Act*, making it an excellent ambassador for the snakes in our watershed to teach the community about the threats they face. Being a constrictor and tree climber of docile nature, the snake is easy to handle and suitable for interaction with visitors. Named Waagoosh, an Anishinaabemowin name for 'fox'. Waagoosh has been a wonderful addition to CLOCA's education team and has been busy meeting many visiting students and other members of our community.

Pumphouse Marsh Restoration Project

Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority was selected for a \$55,000 Great Lakes Learning Grant awarded by the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) for January 2026 to December 2027. The objective of the project is to create and implement a prototype framework that will make it easier for Great Lakes partners and the education community to involve students in combined education and stewardship experiences that benefit the Pumphouse Marsh ecosystem in CLOCA's watershed.

Elementary and secondary schools from the Durham District School Board and the Durham Catholic District School Board within walking distance of the Pumphouse Marsh in Oshawa will be invited to participate in this CLOCA-lead project. Local community partners will also be given the opportunity to contribute their expertise to the student learning and stewardship activities.

A teacher tour that illustrates student learning and benefits to the wetland that this project provides will be offered on professional development days for both school boards.

Bring Back the Salmon

Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority will remain an avid supporter of the Bring Back the Salmon program in the 2025/2026 school year.

This successful education event is done in partnership with Ontario Power Generation (OPG) and the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters (OFAH). Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority will continue to connect its Watershed Wishes program with local elementary schools and students as part of this programming, as well as lead a watershed walk for Earth Day and contribute to the hatchery/launch and salmon fry release into the Bowmanville Creek.

Durham Children's Watershed Festival

The goal of the Durham Children's Watershed Festival (DCWF) is to provide grade four students with a day of fun, hands-on learning at over 40 curriculum-connected learning centers, aimed at increasing their awareness about the importance of water conservation and the ecology of their watershed. It is the hope that with this knowledge, they will become good water stewards in their home, classroom and community.

The festival is scheduled to be held again in the central Oshawa area at Camp Samac in late September and will be one week in length. The event is always a resounding success and connects over 50 schools and close to 3,000 Grade 4 students (located in the Region of Durham) with the importance of maintaining a healthy watershed. It also engages secondary students from several local schools as mentors to the Grade 4 students through the delivery of station activities.

With financial and in-kind support from local and regional sponsors, we will continue to strive to keep the festival affordable for

students. Contributions from sponsors help us to subsidize over 60 per cent of the cost for each full-day participant, update activity centers, provide lunch and refreshments for volunteers, and offset bussing expenses.

Summer Programs

Since 2016, the YMCA of Greater Toronto has delivered a summer camp from the Russ Powell Nature Centre at Enniskillen Conservation Area. In 2024 the YMCA also added the Purple Woods Conservation Area as a destination for their camps. These camps will operate for nine weeks during July and August 2026. Revenues generated through this program assist CLOCA in maintaining and upgrading the building and the facility. CLOCA education staff will be delivering watershed-based programming to YMCA campers at both sites once per week in summer 2026.

Community Engagement

Conservation Area Trail Stewards (CATS)

The Conservation Area Trail Stewardship (CATS) Program was initiated at Lynde Shores Conservation Area in 2020 with 11 volunteers completing their onsite and online training. Since then, it has expanded to include all eight of CLOCA's Conservation areas with 94 CATS volunteers. The program has been steadily increasing in popularity and provides CLOCA with 'eyes and ears' in the Conservation Areas, often when they are at their busiest. This successful program will continue through 2026.

Turtle Cover Program

Our turtle cover program will remain in operation again in 2026. Covers will be placed throughout our Conservation Areas in 2026. Conservation Area Trail Stewards (CATS) will assist again this year to place covers, monitor and report on covers and hatchlings, and return the turtle covers in the fall.

Conservation Areas' Library Program

In partnership with the Clarington Public Library, Story Walks continue to be placed along the trails in Conservation Areas located in the Municipality of Clarington. Education staff will continue to deliver interactive presentations on the importance of wetlands in our watershed at Clarington, Oshawa and Whitby public libraries.

The Conservation Areas' Library Program initiative continues to provide Back2Nature backpack kits, complete with wildlife and plant identification guides, to add to the borrowing programs in Whitby, Oshawa, and Clarington. This complements the free Conservation Area parking passes currently offered by these same libraries.

A Weather Watch and Water Watch citizen science program was launched in 2022 and is still delivered by both the Clarington and Oshawa libraries. Engaged volunteers collect water quality data and actively monitor local weather conditions as part of an effort to prepare CLOCA's watershed community to adapt to climate change.

Community Outreach

In addition to CLOCA's community partnership with local libraries, CLOCA will continue to participate in local events such as Big Drum Socials, school events to promote healthy watersheds, Conservation Area cleanups and guided hikes. In 2025, we connected with almost 5,000 community members, and we look to replicate those numbers for 2026.

Education Events for the General Public

Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority's Education staff will continue to host events for community residents, including family snowshoe hikes, evening Lantern Hike, Mother's Day Hike and Tea, and Summer Solstice Firefly Hike. These events provide members of the local communities with the opportunity to have a fun and informative experience in a CLOCA Conservation Area.

delivered by Education staff. Watershed connections made and learned through programming help promote good watershed stewardship within the community.

Purple Woods Maple Syrup Festival (PWMSF)

This annual traditional Festival has been a staple in Durham Region for decades and will return next year.

Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority will continue to celebrate all things Maple! Pancakes with syrup made from maple sap collected from the Purple Woods sugar bush, horse-drawn wagon rides, and displays of traditional and current methods of maple syrup and sugar production will be provided for visitors to enjoy as they hike through the sugar bush property. Staff will continue to rely on volunteers and sponsorships to connect over 10,000 visitors and students with nature!



Community Engagement

	2026 Budget	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	2024 Actual
Revenue				
General Levy	294,800	289,360	272,200	262,712
General Levy - Children's Watershed Festival	60,920	59,435	59,435	57,985
Provincial Grants	20,000	-	-	-
Other Grants				5,000
Other Revenue	9,450	6,600	23,801	6,889
Self-Generated Revenue				
Education Fees Elementary	75,000	65,000	75,688	70,021
Maple Syrup Tours	7,500	8,500	8,289	8,689
Admissions - PWMSF	67,700	55,000	54,337	57,018
Maple Syrup Sales	32,600	31,225	35,306	33,071
Maple Syrup Sales - Office	7,000	4,000	7,037	5,213
Merchandise Sales	21,800	8,720	22,688	14,820
Donations	72,600	64,400	62,002	58,653
Pancake sales	52,500	41,250	45,164	47,494
	721,870	633,490	665,950	627,565

Costs & Expenditures

	2026 Budget	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	2024 Actual
Salaries & Wages				
Salaries & Wages	391,700	350,600	349,724	339,054
Wages - PWMSF	16,200	13,900	30,834	23,574
Benefits	114,900	98,100	101,107	96,548
Operating Expenses				
Staff Mileage/Travel	400	400	920	637
Course Registration	3,000	2,000	4,696	3,249
Postage	-	-	195	47
Materials & Supplies	26,440	20,300	26,549	20,715
Publications & Subscriptions	5,800	5,000	5,900	4,437
Services	71,500	54,900	51,750	45,168
Fuel	100	-	103	
Promotion	165	165	-	664
Transportation	23,000	20,000	22,977	19,454
Uniform Purchases	500	500	586	336
Cellular	520	620	617	597
Cell Phone Allowance	120	240	120	
Insurance	1,350	1,390	1,378	1,444
Bank Service Charges	2,600	4,600	2,627	4,630
Licence	375	325	375	-
Donation	19,000	15,950	15,459	19,020
Purchases for Resale	11,000	14,000	9,775	13,500
Equipment Purchases	600	100	3,641	12,456
Equipment Rental	800	500	1,117	321
Vehicle Rental	-	200	162	
Vehicle & Equipment Recovery	7,800	7,800	8,419	7,190
Bulk for Resale	13,000	11,600	15,367	6,841
Pancake Group Expenses	11,000	10,300	11,547	7,684
	721,870	633,490	665,950	627,565

Land Management

Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority owns over 2,900 hectares of land within its watershed jurisdiction that includes valley lands, provincially significant wetlands, natural areas, forests, as well as flood plain lands. The natural value of these properties, and the public investment in these lands, is protected through CLOCA's Land Management Program.

Program Operations

Program operational costs include inspections following CLOCA's Conservation Areas Risk Management Policy; facility repair, trail maintenance, and hazard tree work required to maintain public infrastructure for eight public Conservation Areas and 60 kilometres of trails. Inspections and hazard tree management will continue for all public use portions of CLOCA's landholdings.

Conservation Area Development

Russ Powell Nature Centre – Washroom Improvements

The Russ Powell Nature Centre is the home of CLOCA's outdoor education programs and is based in the Enniskillen Conservation Area. The existing boys' and girls' washrooms will be renovated and updated to better meet accessibility and gender requirements. The washroom improvements will complete the renovations to this facility and provide improved functionality and accessibility for all visitors.

Equipment Storage Building – Enniskillen Conservation Area Workshop

An equipment storage building will be erected to provide cover for trailers and equipment that is currently stored outside.

The building is needed to add to the longevity of equipment and implements. The building will include a concrete pad and large open building with multiple garage bay doors.

Enniskillen Conservation Area – Enniskillen Maintenance Building Renovation

In 2026, architectural design work will be completed on the main Enniskillen Maintenance Building, with renovation planned for 2027. The building is a two-bay building with a small office space (i.e., under 200 sq ft) and one shared washroom. The building is dated and undersized for operational staff and needs. Six permanent staff and up to 10 seasonal staff share offices/desks in a small office area that requires expansion. Design work will address concerns associated with creating a reasonable space for offices; creating a central meeting space for staff; and adding universal washroom spaces equipped with shower(s), with improved natural light and lighting throughout the building.

Lynde Shores Conservation Area – Quonset hut roof repairs

The upper level of the existing Quonset building is used for equipment storage, and the lower level is rented out. The steel roof has developed leaks and will be patched and painted to eliminate the leaks and protect the building interior.

Roger's Tract Culvert Replacement and Wetland Naturalization Project

Part of the Crow's Pass Conservation Area land assembly, the Rogers Tract is located within the extreme headwaters of the Nonquon River watershed. The cold-water tributaries on this property support sensitive aquatic species like Brook Trout. Starting in 2020, CLOCA has been systematically completing a series of fish passage improvements and stream naturalization projects around the property.

Assessments of the control structures and berm integrity of the "House" ponds are ongoing, with plans to remove habitat and liability risks associated with these structures in 2026.

Post-construction monitoring of the two new culverts installed in 2023 will continue in 2026. Staff will be exploring partnerships with university researchers to undertake a more detailed assessment of fish passage through these upgraded features.

Invasive species monitoring and priority control work will continue through 2026. Invasive species control within plantations will continue in 2026 to ensure aggressive species are kept in check following the 2021 forest management work.

Property Management

Costs and revenues associated with ownership of land or buildings, taxes, insurance, maintenance and servicing of landholdings and facilities.

Acquisition Opportunities

Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority continues to pursue land acquisition opportunities and funding opportunities in accordance with CLOCA's Land Acquisition Strategy with an emphasis on implementing the Lake Iroquois Beach Securement Strategy and completing acquisition in important gaps in and around its Conservation Areas.

Property Disposition - Simcoe Hall, 760 Bloor Street, Oshawa

The property was originally acquired to facilitate the removal of a school within the flood hazard and to prevent any further development within the regulatory flood plain. The subject property comprises approximately 1.91 acres of vacant open space land. The lands are not serviced and subject to environmental and planning constraints due to the presence of natural hazards. Oshawa Zoning By-Law 60-94 designates the subject lands as OSH - Hazard Land Open Space as they fall entirely within the regulatory flood plain of Harmony Creek.

The Ministry of Transportation requires a full buyout of the subject lands to facilitate infrastructure improvements associated with Highway 401. The property is designated as Open Space and Recreation and zoned OSH - Hazard Land Open Space.

Antec Appraisal Group have generated a fair market value of \$30,000 based on other "open space land sale comparables" in the area. The Ministry of Transportation has offered to acquire the subject land parcel for \$30,000, which reflects fair market value.

Storoshchuk Restoration

Restoration of the abandoned aggregate pit on the Storoshchuk Tract in Enniskillen Conservation Area will continue throughout 2026. The purpose of this restoration project is to restore this former aggregate pit area and return the terrain to its original form. Clean fill will continue to be imported by a local contractor and monitored by CLOCA.

CA Land Management

Revenue	2026 Budget	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	2024 Actual
General Levy	726,655	623,530	756,886	690,875
Municipal Special Levy	85,000	135,000	110,671	1,117,300
Federal Grants	7,400	10,835	10,832	4,318
Other Revenue	72,000	171,125	199,827	1,589,971
Reserve Transfer	574,995	120,450	(119,714)	(213,396)
Interest Earned	3,755	6,000	6,903	8,730
Pay & Display	156,000	139,000	162,145	143,725
Seasons Passes	100,000	90,000	99,977	90,276
Donations	90,000	65,000	94,732	142,750
Property Rental	80,520	76,080	80,474	73,778
Facility Rental Fees	67,800	81,635	74,440	81,718
Commercial Rent Signs	7,400	7,400	7,785	7,510
Fill Sites Large Application Fees	40,000	50,000	51,788	8,435
	2,011,525	1,576,055	1,536,745	3,745,990

Cost and Expenditures	2026 Budget	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	2024 Actual
Salaries & Benefits				
Salaries & Wages	547,200	507,900	512,269	509,248
Wages - Summer Student Program	52,200	64,100	46,703	58,819
Benefits	159,100	150,400	146,443	147,496
Operating Expenses				
Staff Mileage	250	250	348	-
Administration Expense	39,000	36,000	36,000	33,000
Course Registration	5,000	5,000	4,496	3,047
Postage	-	-	153	132
Materials & Supplies	66,200	80,100	64,467	59,455
Publications & Subscriptions	100	100	54	224
Services	281,300	203,250	222,597	167,758
Promotion	-	-	-	265
Water Sample Testing	900	600	602	-
Uniform Purchases	3,000	3,500	2,941	3,046
Telephone	1,975	1,875	1,334	1,266
Hydro	16,200	16,500	14,592	13,554
Alarm	1,360	1,360	1,340	1,340
Gas	7,500	7,500	5,737	5,566
Cellular	6,570	5,350	6,743	4,653
Travel	2,200	2,000	2,319	2,171
Property Taxes	46,950	50,325	44,596	47,798
Insurance	16,470	18,345	18,254	17,905
Audit Fees	4,500	4,000	2,858	2,722
Bank Service Charges	16,500	9,700	22,440	11,089
Pay & Display Software Monitoring Fees	16,800	6,650	7,911	6,566
Land Acquisition	-	-	-	2,363,620
Equipment Purchases	605,000	286,000	268,189	172,489
Equipment Rental	-	-	198	71
Vehicle Recovery	103,500	103,500	93,082	99,632
Equipment Recovery	11,750	11,750	10,079	13,058
	2,011,525	1,576,055	1,536,745	3,745,990

Vehicles and Equipment

Usage of CLOCA vehicles and equipment are charged back to projects and programs at a rate intended to cover the cost of operations.

Vehicle and Equipment Purchases

Planned vehicle replacements include one office fleet vehicle and one Conservation Area fully electric servicing truck. Electric vehicle charge stations were installed at the main office and the Enniskillen Maintenance Building in 2025, facilitating electric vehicle usage in 2025-26. In 2025 we added a fully electric office fleet vehicle and will be adding a fully electric truck to the operations fleet in 2026.

There are plans to replace a 7-ton dump trailer in 2026, as well as a Kubota 56-horsepower tractor with a loader. Both existing units have escalating maintenance costs and will either be traded in or disposed of at public auction.

Vehicles & Equipment

Revenue	2026 Budget	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	2024 Actual
General Levy	(56,500)	48,850	157,781	58,855
Municipal Special Levy	85,000	105,000	20,000	
Other Revenue	-	20,000	20,000	4,272
Reserve Transfer	126,500	28,000	-	-
Rental Recovery	162,250	162,250	146,480	152,246
	317,250	364,100	344,260	215,373

Costs & Expenditures	2026 Budget	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	2024 Actual
Salaries & Wages	5,400	5,200	5,564	3,187
Benefits	1,600	1,600	1,494	934
Materials & Supplies	3,800	3,800	3,145	5,247
Services	34,000	30,000	52,250	30,090
Fuel	38,500	38,500	27,502	32,140
Small Tools	2,250	2,000	889	494
Insurance	14,200	15,500	15,304	19,244
Licence	1,000	2,000	-	968
Equipment Purchases	90,000	84,000	103,434	8,795
Vehicle Purchases	125,000	180,000	134,389	113,409
Vehicle Recovery	1,500	1,500	284	866
Equipment Recovery	-	-	5	-
	317,250	364,100	344,260	215,375

Corporate Services

Program Operations

Corporate Services includes general direction, coordination, and implementation of all approved CLOCA programs and policies, member services, governance, financial management and reporting, budgets, corporate records, Geomatics and Information Management Systems, health and safety, human resources, payroll and administration support for all programs.

Desktop Hardware and Software Upgrades and Maintenance

This includes the costs for ongoing licensing of software suites of Microsoft 365, Microsoft Teams Calling and endpoint security solutions. Hardware costs are related to replacing and maintaining end-user workstation infrastructure such as laptops, desktops, monitors, and peripheral devices.

Server/Network Infrastructure Upgrades and Maintenance

Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority has a heavy operational dependency on Information Technology. Information Technology focuses on innovative, reliable, responsive and secure information technology planning, management, service delivery, support, and maintenance to enable CLOCA's services and drive efficiency. This includes all systems, applications, computers, networks, data, internet access, security and policies critical to the delivery of CLOCA's services seven days a week, 365 days a year. In 2026, Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority will continue to plan, maintain, enhance and secure its hybrid cloud information technology infrastructure.

Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority's core IT infrastructure requires modernization to address increasing operational, security, and capacity demands. The existing FortiGate firewall platform is approaching end-of-life and must be replaced to maintain performance and advanced protection against evolving cyber threats. The current storage area network (SAN), which houses all on-premises virtual machines and data, has performed well over the past seven years but is nearing end of life and requires replacement.

Upgrading these systems will improve reliability, scalability, and service continuity for core programs that depend on secure and accessible data. Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority's participation in shared services initiatives, including the Oak Ridges Moraine Groundwater Program (ORMGP), provides opportunities to offset costs through established partnership funding models. In addition, alignment with OECM pricing supports cost efficiency through cooperative procurement and shared investment.

Together, these upgrades reduce long-term operational risk, use external partnerships to spread costs, and ensure a fiscally responsible approach that supports ongoing regulatory, environmental, and business operations.

The ORMGP relies on shared IT infrastructure to support critical groundwater data management, modelling, and partner access across multiple municipalities and conservation authorities. The existing server and storage area network (SAN) environment is aging and requires replacement to maintain the availability and integrity of key datasets and applications supporting water resource planning, regulatory decision-

making and scientific analysis. Upgrading this infrastructure will ensure continued service delivery, improve performance, and provide scalability to meet growing data and modelling demands. This investment aligns with the program's shared services model, distributing costs across partner organizations while supporting the long-term sustainability of a platform essential to regional environmental and operational functions.

Conservation Authority's Application Development Shared Services Agreement

Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority and Conservation Halton, Mississippi Valley, Ganaraska Region, Kawartha Region, Otonabee Region and Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority have implemented a coordinated shared-services application development program. Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority has been the leading agency providing planning, development, operation, and maintenance support for the Conservation Authority Content Management System. The shared services agreement helps standardize application development and business processes among the participating Conservation Authorities and ensures sustainability. In 2026, Hamilton Conservation Authority will be onboarding into the system, followed by Grand River Conservation Authority.

Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority Data Portal

The Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority uses technology to enable easy and convenient access to its core datasets. As such CLOCA will continue to maintain, enhance, and secure its data portal and tool development for staff, partners, and the public to provide a gateway for exploring and retrieving information about CLOCA's watersheds. This portal directs you to various interactive mapping, reporting, and data download tools to help partners and the public find the information they need.

The data portal leverages the information stored in the Water Information System and CLOCA's spatial data repository. Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority's Open Data community is where users can explore and download data, use, and build innovative apps to solve important local issues, and analyze information to share with the community.

Migration to Water Information System (WISKI)

Enhancing CLOCA's water and climate monitoring system (WISKI) to gain efficiencies in data collection, manipulation, and interpretation will continue in 2026. The system will maintain expansion to incorporate other business areas to facilitate data maintenance, analysis, and dissemination of CLOCA's monitoring information network.

Office Environmental Monitoring

Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority continues to work through environmental site monitoring and risk assessments for contaminated land surrounding its administration office. An Environmental Risk Assessment is being completed over a period of three years to satisfy both the Environmental Protection Act and the Public Sector Accounting requirements. We will continue to monitor these lands and have a qualified environmental consultant conduct bi-annual sampling as required by MECP.

Corporate Communications

This includes the operating costs associated with communications, to ensure the public and partners are informed about CLOCA's programs and services.

Central Lake Ontario Conservation's 2025 communications' products continue to build community awareness and engagement and media relations which includes:

- marketing CLOCA's corporate services, accomplishments, and new products;
- developing Conservation Area signage;
- design and production of corporate publications, brochures, reports, and fact sheets;
- producing the CLOCA Annual Report;
- maintaining and updating CLOCA's website, ensuring AODA (Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005) compliance;
- social media communications;
- developing new online services/tools
- servicing the communication needs of all CLOCA departments with branding, editing and publication services.
- supporting external community programs and projects with partners and stakeholders; and
- CLOCA representation on partner/stakeholder board, projects, councils.

In 2026, all Conservation Area main entrance signs will be updated and replaced.

Communications will continue to lead the marketing efforts of the Durham TREES program on behalf of the five participating Conservation Authorities and the Region of Durham in 2026.

Seasonal e-Newsletter

Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority continued to deliver the quarterly e-newsletter for each season to an opt-in database of over 4,500 individuals. The e-newsletters are well received and offer CLOCA another tool to engage a broad audience by showcasing the work CLOCA performs throughout the watershed across all departments. The e-newsletter maintains a significant open rate of over 40 per cent (vs an industry average successful open rate of 10 per cent).

Main Office Capital Improvements

Portions of the main office building are proposed for repainting to refresh the interior of the main administrative office. Landscaping is also required around the perimeter to replace deteriorating walkways that are over 35 years old.

Corporate Services

Revenue	2026 Budget	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	2024 Actual
General Levy	1,892,946	1,771,970	1,614,114	1,529,669
MNRF Transfer Payment	10,945	10,945	10,945	10,945
Federal Grants	-	-	-	2,319
Provincial Grants	-	-	51,969	10,789
Other Revenue	71,000	183,900	172,140	96,988
Other Grants	-	-	-	45,679
Reserve Transfer	97,000	-	(29,976)	-
Interest Earned	166,700	180,870	223,932	301,172
Administrative Services	79,450	63,450	63,450	65,300
Merchandise Sales	-	-	8	117
Facility Rental Fees	-	-	-	44
	2,318,040	2,211,135	2,106,585	2,063,020

Cost & Expenditures	2026 Budget	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	2024 Actual
Salaries & Benefits				
Salaries & Wages	1,327,640	1,306,500	1,266,669	1,171,324
Wages - Summe Student Program	-	-	-	15,564
Benefits	381,400	360,100	346,717	331,740
Members Per Diems	8,500	8,500	7,100	7,900
Operating Expenses				
Office Supplies	2,000	2,000	1,553	2,502
Postage	3,000	3,000	2,343	2,429
Printing	3,800	3,500	3,774	3,154
Promotion	300	1,800	300	359
Uniform Purchases	1,400	1,400	440	305
Travel	4,450	2,700	2,522	2,129
Cellular	3,410	3,240	3,092	2,914
Course Registration	33,100	36,730	22,199	31,509
Bank Service Charges	2,000	2,000	1,714	1,806
Payroll Processing Fees	8,900	8,900	10,041	8,954
Publications & Subscriptions	24,400	24,400	20,438	17,219
Services	84,050	101,150	78,279	83,886
Materials & Supplies	18,000	37,200	24,722	26,118
Software	63,000	45,800	64,009	53,522
Equipment Rental	14,200	14,000	14,149	14,130
Capital Assets/Equipment Purchases	119,000	31,000	24,961	55,701
Property Taxes	10,000	9,400	9,303	8,715
Utilities	45,650	44,250	43,526	41,754
Insurance	48,325	53,165	53,303	60,256
Legal Fees	30,000	30,000	39,877	51,786
Audit Fees	38,000	38,000	25,385	25,618
Donation	1,000	1,000	50	2,600
ACAO Levy	40,115	39,000	38,276	37,094
Vehicle/Equipment Recovery	2,400	2,400	1,840	2,035
	2,318,040	2,211,135	2,106,585	2,063,020



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