The Natural Spaces Rural Landowner Stewardship Guide

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Agenda

- Background to the Stewardship Guide
  - History
- The Guide - Current Status and Strategies to Deliver the Guide
  - Plans for Summer 2007 (Huron Version)
- The Guide – Steps Ahead
  - Partnership Opportunities
- Discussion

Background to the Stewardship Guide

- Letter of Intent OMAFRA 2004

  Strategies to Engage Agriculture and Recreation Along the Lake Huron Shoreline: A Community Based Approach to Solving Water Quality Issues

- This proposal promised several deliverables including
  - **an Environmental Farm Plan like manual for both:**
    - **cottagers (Step 1 2005-2006) and**
    - **rural non-farm landowners (Step 2- 2006)**
    - **with both a Huron and Province wide version**

- Approximately 25 Federal, Provincial and Local partners contributed (funding, volunteers, etc). Sample partners included Environment Canada, Grand Bend Community Fund, Resident Associations and Municipalities.
- Thanks to the participation of the Huron Stewardship Council we were put in touch with Lynne and Chris (Natural Spaces)

The Lakeshore Version has a Water Quality Focus The Approach:

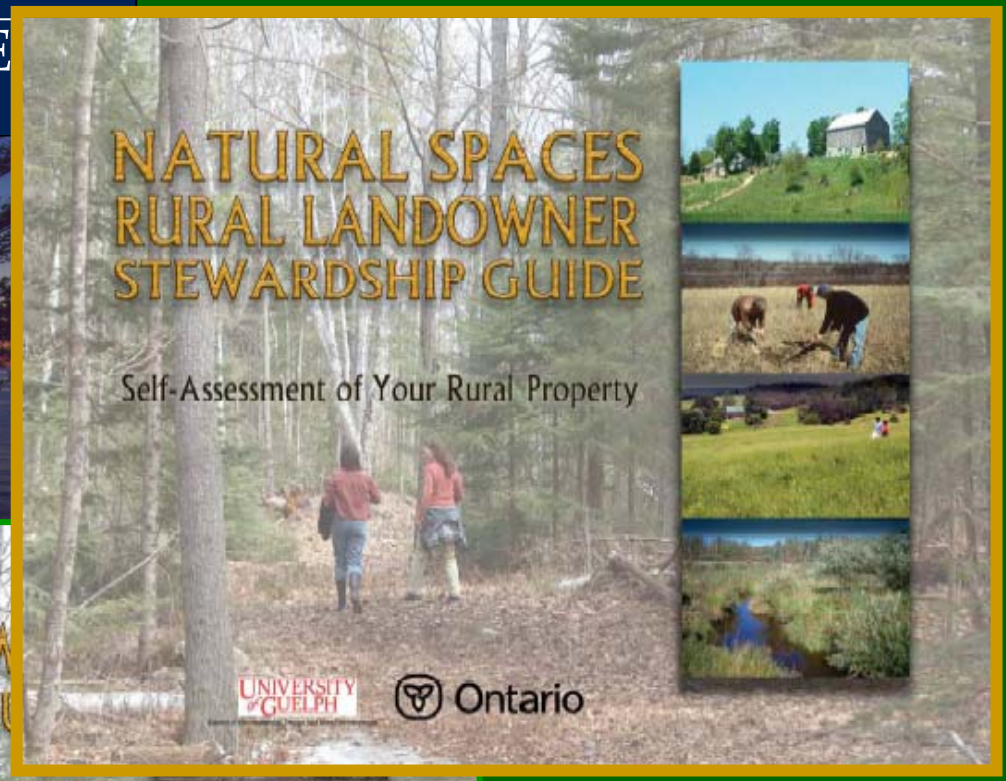
Water is a community-wide responsibility.

Water protection requires a community-wide response.

A **STEWARDSHIP GUIDE** FOR THE

LAKE HURON COASTLINE

Self-assessment of your environmental performance as a property ou



Current Status: The Lakeshore Version

- Lakeshore version - 15 workshops held during the summer of 2006
- Another 15-20 are planned for summer, 2007
- At a March 9 Workshop we will discuss the success of last summer's workshops and identify strategies for enhanced delivery in 2007 (participants are welcome)

Rural Land Owner Stewardship Guide

- Two versions (virtually identical) have been completed
  - Huron Watershed
  - Provincial version
- A very Successful Public Workshop was held December, 2006 (Huron)
  - I was impressed with the organization of the manual, the clarity of the information, the glossary, the references and general information. Well done!
  - I like it, a blend of reading levels, visual layout is good
  - Good coverage and consideration of many different types of owners and variables in properties
  - Well balanced
  - Very informative

Rural Land Owner Stewardship Guide

- Two versions (virtually identical) have been completed
  - Huron Watershed
  - Provincial version
- A very Successful Public Workshop was held December, 2006 (Huron)
- Funding is anticipated to deliver another 15-20 in the Huron Watershed (spring/fall 2007)
- In some respects the Huron version and the Lakeshore version are the laboratory for the provincial version.

Steps Ahead

- The Provincial version to be tested this winter
- Building on the very successful and proven EFP
- Building partnerships and broad participation
- Connecting this resource to other opportunities
- Building on the workshop-based self assessment and action focus
- Bringing rural landowners together with local resources and experts
- Making sure the ball doesn’t drop
- The University as a potential home for the Guide

Discussion