

Ausable Bayfield Conservation Programs and Services

MIDDLESEX CENTRE COUNCIL
July 2, 2025

Davin Heinbuck – General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer

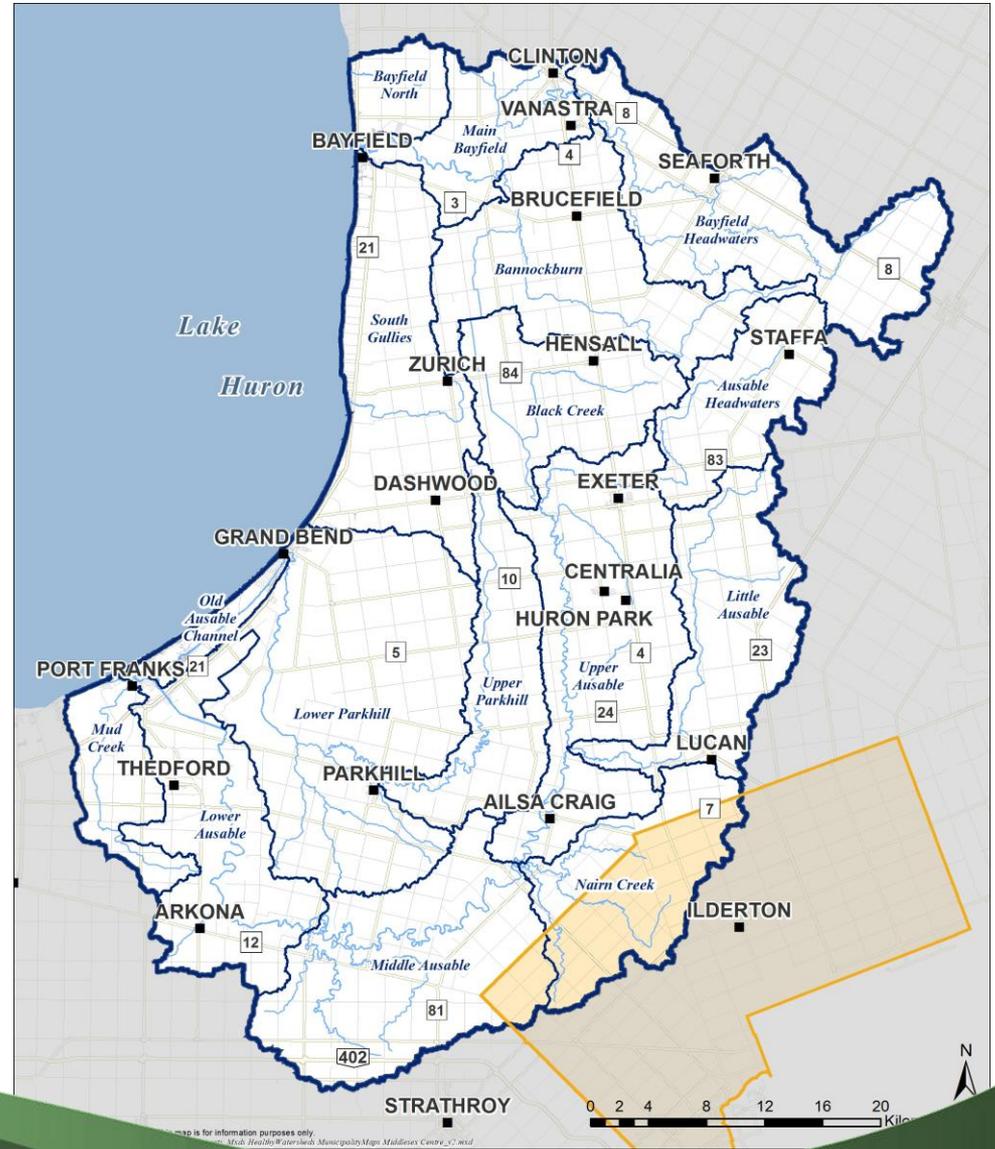


AUSABLE BAYFIELD
CONSERVATION

CREATING AWARENESS | TAKING ACTION

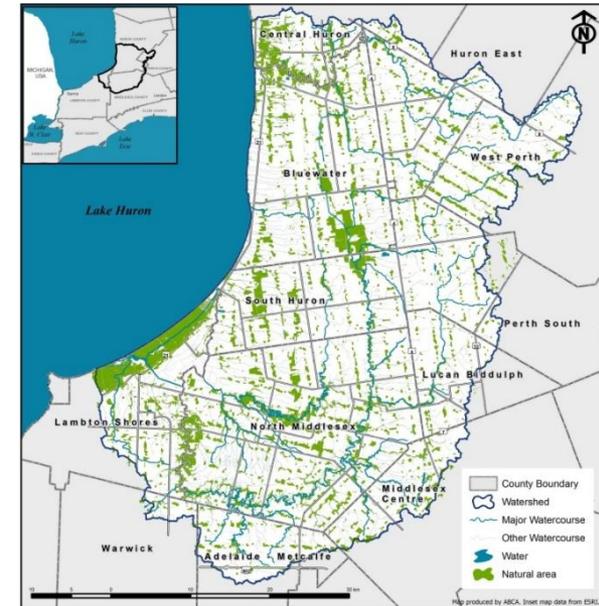
Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority

Where we are located.



Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority

- Your local voice for conservation
- Ontario's first conservation authority
- Delivering services since 1946
- Watershed (IWM)
- 2400km²
- Population of 40,000



Mission

- Protect, improve, conserve, and restore the watershed in partnership with the community.



Vision

- Healthy watersheds where our needs and the needs of the natural environment are in balance.



Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority

Organizational structure:

- Nine-member Board of Directors
- Role of Board – Policy, Programs & Budget
- 30 ± Staff

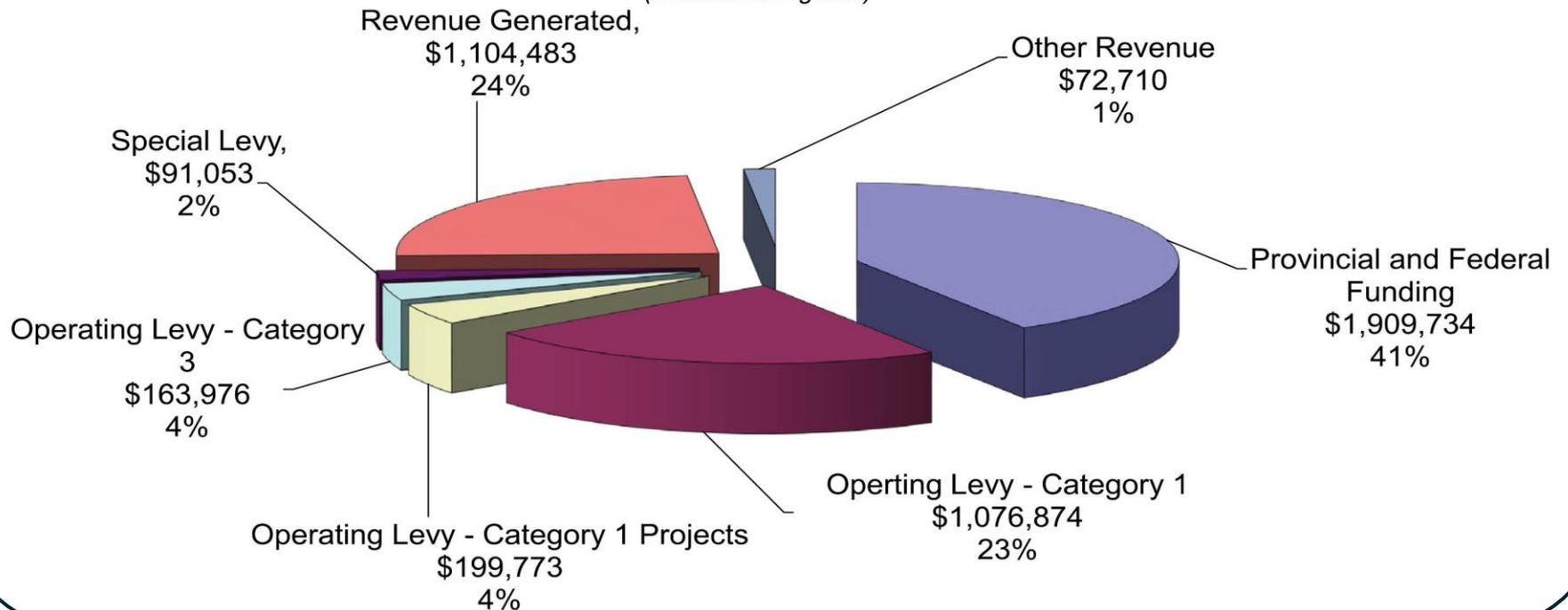
Services provided (Category 1 and Category 3)

- Floodplain Management
 - Flood Forecasting and Warning
 - Planning and Regulations
- Drought and Low Water Response
- Private land stewardship
- Conservation areas and conservation lands
- Monitoring of groundwater, surface water quality
- Protecting quality of water in creeks, rivers, and lake
- Community-based watershed projects
- Watershed protection and enhancement
- Species at Risk (SAR) and aquatic biology
- Conservation education
- Drinking Water Source Protection
- Research and Technical Studies

2024 Revenue Summary

2024 Sources of Revenue – Total Revenue: \$4,618,604

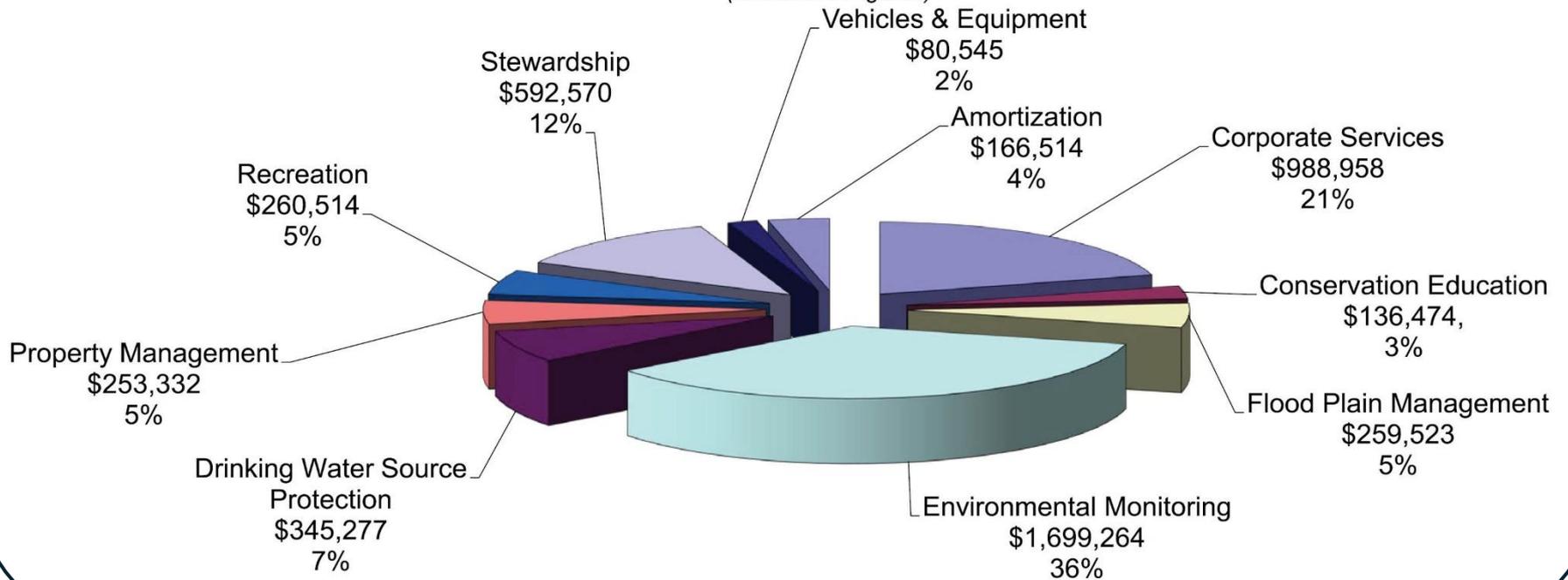
(Unaudited Figures)



2024 Expenses Summary

2024 Department Expenses – Total Expenses: \$4,782,972

(Unaudited Figures)



Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority - Middlesex Centre

Levy Apportionment Analysis

Current Value Assessment Determined by MNR (MECP) - Based on Data provided by MPAC

Year	% In Watershed	CVA in the ABCA Watershed (from MNR)		CVA Based %	Combined Levy \$	Increase (Decrease)	
		Municipality	\$ Amount			\$	%
2021	21	Middlesex Centre	732,330,659	8.1292%	108,636		
		Other Municipalities	8,276,297,599	91.8708%	1,227,734		
		Total	9,008,628,258	100.00%	1,336,370		
2022	21	Middlesex Centre	742,558,356	8.1739%	111,882	3,246	2.99%
		Other Municipalities	8,341,961,313	91.8261%	1,256,897	29,163	2.38%
		Total	9,084,519,669	100.00%	1,368,779	32,409	2.43%
2023	21	Middlesex Centre	767,871,808	8.3445%	117,048	5,166	4.62%
		Other Municipalities	8,434,284,947	91.6555%	1,285,654	28,757	2.29%
		Total	9,202,156,755	100.00%	1,402,702	33,923	2.48%
2024	21	Middlesex Centre	794,216,220	8.4398%	121,586	4,538	3.88%
		Other Municipalities	8,616,127,046	91.5602%	1,319,036	33,382	2.60%
		Total	9,410,343,266	100.00%	1,440,622	37,920	2.70%
2025	21	Middlesex Centre	818,015,465	8.5528%	128,057	6,471	5.32%
		Other Municipalities	8,746,339,998	91.4472%	1,369,209	50,173	3.80%
		Total	9,564,355,463	100.00%	1,497,266	56,644	3.93%

Flood Plain Management



Planning & Regulations
Flood Control Structures
Erosion Control Structures
Flood Forecasting and Warning



Monitoring across the watershed



- Surface water and nutrient sampling



- Benthic invertebrate sampling



Monitoring across the watershed



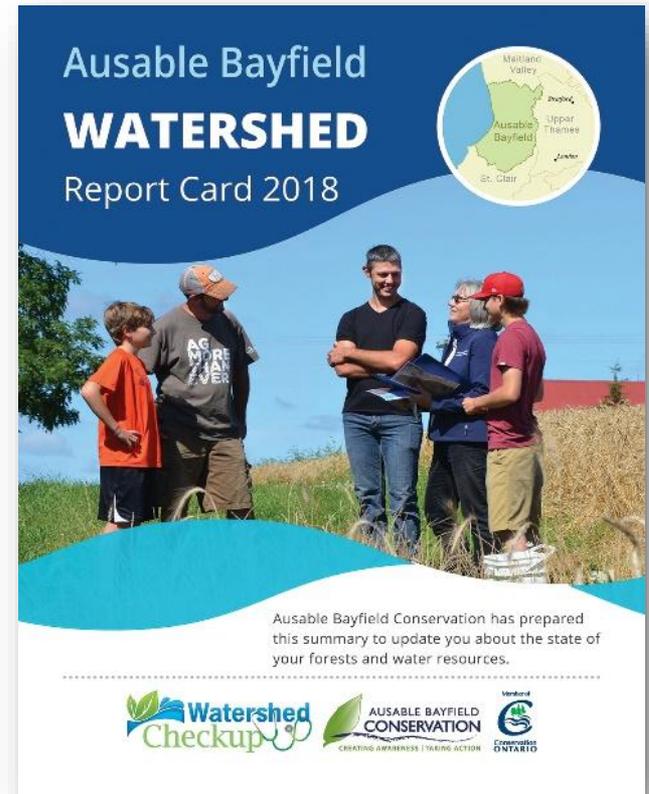
- SAR monitoring: Mussels



- Fisheries – Ausable River Recovery, SAR, Fish Forward, Municipal Drain Classification

Community Involvement: Turning data into action

- Important to summarize and communicate results to community
- Water quality information used as tool for identifying watershed problems and improvement projects
- Community concerns and issues, and community-guided management options



Conservation education is ...

- Curriculum-based
- Watershed-themed
- School programs
- Presentations
- Day camps
- Special Events

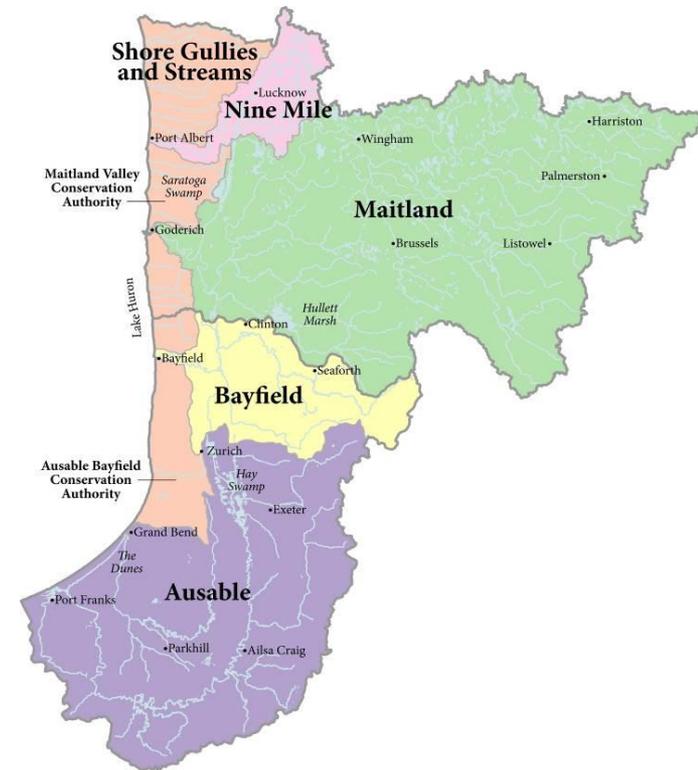
...for students, watershed residents, community groups at:

- Conservation areas
- Schools; Libraries



Drinking water source protection

- Ontario's *Clean Water Act, 2006* developed this locally driven, science-based process to implement the Walkerton Inquiry recommendations.
- Committee with local membership has developed local plans to protect municipal drinking water sources
- Ausable Bayfield and Maitland Valley conservation authorities work together as one region - 19 source protection regions in Ontario
- Significant threats assessed only near municipal wells in 9 municipalities of region
- Funded fully through the province

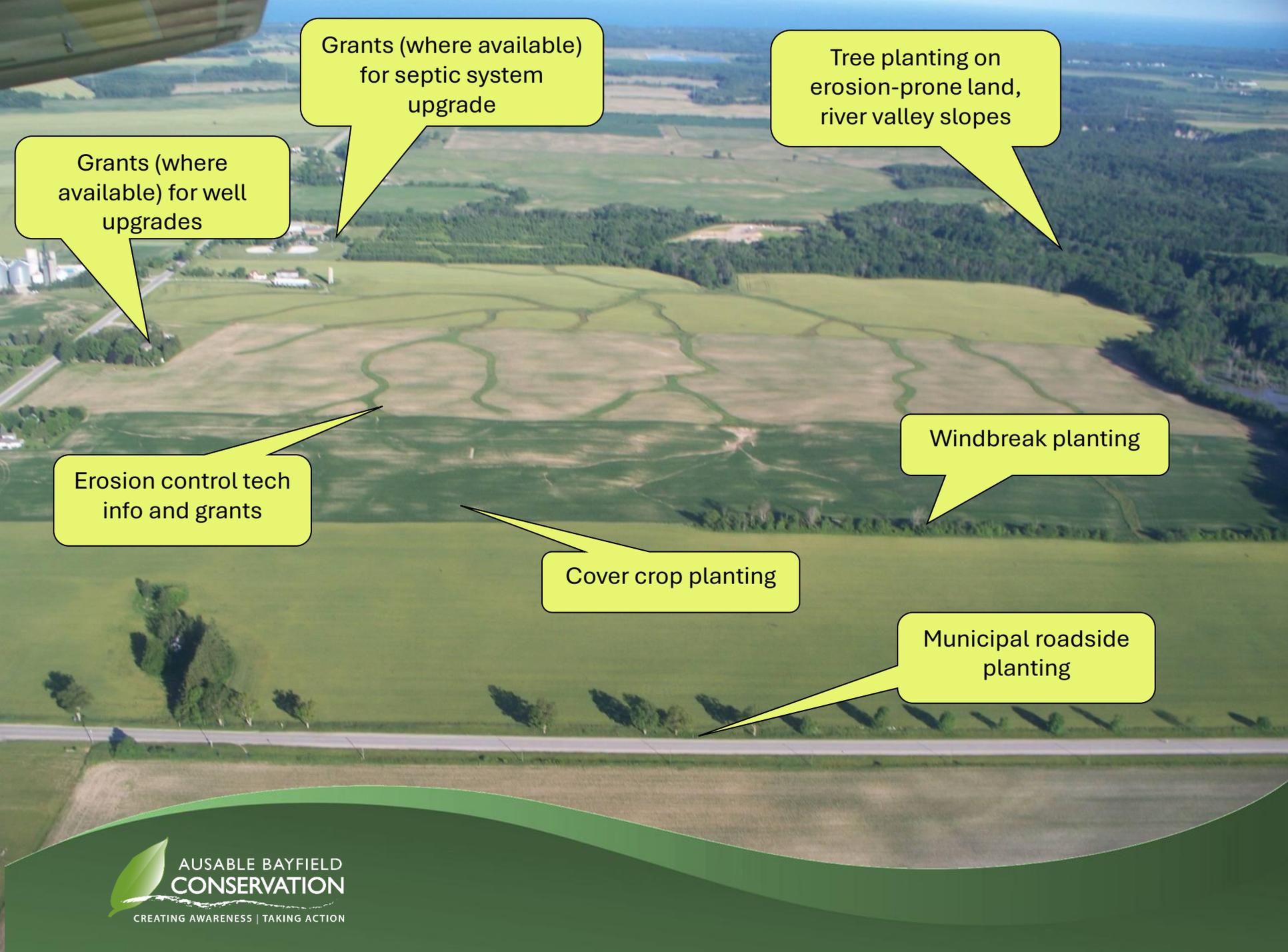


Ausable Bayfield
Maitland Valley
Source Protection
Region

Land Stewardship Programs



- Site visits
- Tree Planting
- Wetlands
- Technical advice
- Link landowners to funding where available



Grants (where available) for well upgrades

Grants (where available) for septic system upgrade

Tree planting on erosion-prone land, river valley slopes

Erosion control tech info and grants

Cover crop planting

Windbreak planting

Municipal roadside planting

Conservation Areas: Recreation lands for living and learning

- Partnerships key to funding and maintenance
- Critical for Community's recreation, Exercise and mental well-being
- Creating connections with nature





AUSABLE BAYFIELD CONSERVATION

CREATING AWARENESS | TAKING ACTION

Davin Heinbuck
General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer
Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority
dheinbuck@abca.ca
(519) 235-2610