



AGENDA
WINDSOR-ESSEX COUNTY ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
held on Thursday, January 10, 2013
Meeting at 5:30p.m.
At LOU ROMANO WATER RECLAMATION PLANT

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

2. **ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

3. **DECLARATION OF CONFLICT**

4. **MINUTES**

Adoption of the minutes of the meeting held December 6th, 2012 – *emailed separately.*

5. **PRESENTATION**

Director, Essex Region Conservation Authority, Richard Wyma: Introduction to the Trail On! campaign and Canada's response to the International Wildlife Reserve

6. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

- 6.1 Trip to the Detroit Wildlife Reserve
- 6.2 Energy Conservation Campaign update

7. **COORDINATORS REPORT**

WECEC Coordinator Monthly Report – *attached.*

8. **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

- 8.1 Air – *attached.*
- 8.2 Transportation
- 8.3 Provincially Significant Wetlands
- 8.4 Water Quality
- 8.5 Surplus Parks Strategy

9. **NEW BUSINESS**

- 9.1 Fluoride campaign update
- 9.2 Pitch In Ontario campaign – *attached.*

10. **COMMUNICATIONS**

- 10.1 *Monsters that lurk*, Raj Bejankiwar and John Nevin – The Windsor Star Oct 31st 2012 – *attached.*
- 10.2 *Restore area between swamps*, Ian Naisbitt – The Windsor Star Dec 14th 2012 – *attached.*

11. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting will be February 7th, 2013 at the Lou Romano Water Reclamation Plant at 5:30 o'clock p.m.

12. **ADJOURNMENT**



– DECEMBER 2012 –

ONGOING INITIATIVES

1. Provincially Significant Wetlands Subcommittee

The subcommittee spoke as a delegate to City Council on Monday, December 3rd when the airport woodlots and open space designation report was brought forward. The open space designation in between the three woodlots was passed through Council. However, the issue of the 120 metre buffer surrounding the woodlots did not. Council has asked for more information regarding the buffer and whether or not it is required or not.

2. Renewable Energy Media Campaign with Generator Design

This group is in the process of securing partners for our campaign. Potential ideas for the campaign include an energy conservation educational video as well as the showcasing of best practice examples from various industries to encourage conservation. Throughout January, we will continue to reach out to many organizations and companies championing energy conservation. We are looking to include a Green Speaker Series event in collaboration with the Windsor Home Show (April 5th-7th). This will include speakers from our partnership organizations discussing energy conservation.

3. Water Quality Subcommittee

The subcommittee continues to work on educating residents about the harm phosphorous is causing to our lakes and rivers and plans to begin a community phosphorous campaign. This would build on the blue green algae video by educating residents about how to read product labels such as fertilizer and laundry soap and compare the phosphorous content for various products. The group has talked of getting permission to use phosphorous free lawn signs on city parks as well as handing them out to homeowners to encourage and educate others. Another short video about how to read labels and make informed decisions would be of great benefit to this upcoming campaign.

4. Surplus Parks Strategy

A comprehensive map depicting the locations of the City of Windsor surplus parks was given to WECEC by the Parks Department. The Surplus Parks Strategy group will meet on January 8th to begin discussing which sites may be candidates for naturalization or community gardens.

5. Trip to the Detroit Wildlife Reserve

The tentative date of June 15th will be proposed at the January WECEC meeting for a tour of the Detroit Wildlife Reserve. Environmental groups as well as the media will be invited to join. A bus will likely have to be rented from Transit Windsor for the trip.

– December, 2012 –

WECEC Budget – Summary

2012 Budget		
Expense	Credit	Expenditure
2012 Budget	\$8,300.00	
Elizabeth May		\$855.00
Gord Miller		\$875.00
Jim McKenzie		\$81.56
Brochure printing		\$451.00
Earth Day		\$80.00
Website Updates		\$661.00
Website domain renewal		\$76.27
Pat on the Back		\$2,181.55
Airport bills		\$102.00
Enviro Expo Reimbursement	\$409.63	
Water Quality PSA		\$1,497.00
Conservation Campaign		\$1,017.00
Promotion		\$313.00
Website hosting fee		\$427.10
Totals	\$8,709.63	\$8,617.48
TOTAL		\$92.15

2013 Budget* (pending approval)		
Expense	Credit	Expenditure
2012 Budget	\$8,300.00	
Website domain renewal		\$76.27
Website hosting fee		\$427.10
Pat on the Back		\$2,500.00
Earth Day		\$80.00
Conservation Campaign		\$1,000.00
Green Speaker 1		\$1,000.00
Green Speaker 2		\$1,000.00
WQ video		\$500.00
Wildlife tour		\$500.00
Totals	\$8,300.00	\$7,083.37
TOTAL		\$1,216.63

Air Quality Subcommittee Report - October 2012

Some relatively minor and unheralded changes to provincial legislation http://www.claws.gov.on.ca/html/source/regs/english/2012/claws_src_regs_r12322_e.htm (Municipal Act, 2001) have set the stage for Ontarians to reduce emissions, save money and increase employment.

The amendments allow municipalities to lend homeowners money for improvements such as energy efficiency and renewable energy systems. The loans can be tied to the property rather than the homeowner.

Energy efficiency improvements are known to be the cheapest way to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. For example, http://www.mckinsey.com/Insights/MGI/Research/Natural_Resources/Averting_the_next_energy_crisis

Loaning to the property rather than the homeowner is a means to deal with high upfront costs and long lead time to break even for homeowners. Monthly payments on a loan can be set at less than the expected monthly savings on energy bills, thus defeating another deterrent: the long payback period.

These types of loan programmes have been used in many jurisdictions to break the logjam of improving energy efficiency and reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the residential housing sector. Twenty-eight U.S. states have either implemented similar programs or are in the process of implementation. In Canada, B.C. and Manitoba are implementing similar programs.

Ontario's housing sector consumes about one-fifth of the province's energy demand, <http://www.eco.on.ca/blog/tag/energy-conservation/> Thus improving efficiency at home could dramatically reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the province.

Additionally, energy efficiency retrofits create local green jobs at about 20 jobs for every \$1 million in increased economic output and boost overall economic output, <http://www.env-ne.org/resources/energy-efficiency-engine-of-economic-growth-in-canada>

Recommendation: Windsor and Essex County municipalities adopt changes in provincial legislation to create a loan programme for residential properties to improve energy efficiency and/or install renewable energy systems.



THE CITY OF WINDSOR

COUNCIL SERVICES/CITY CLERK
CITY HALL
WINDSOR, ONTARIO
N9A 6S1

Phone: (519)255-6211

Fax: (519)255-6868

E-mail: clerks@city.windsor.on.ca

WEBSITE: www.citywindsor.ca

NOTICE OF COUNCIL DECISION

Windsor City Council adopted the following resolution at its meeting held December 17, 2012

Communications

Moved by Councillor Marra, seconded by Councillor Payne,
M538-2012 That the following Communication Items 1 to 11 and 15 to 24 inclusive, as set forth in the Council Agenda **BE REFERRED** as noted except Communication No. 12, 13, 14 and 25 which are dealt with as follows:

Item	From	Description
14	Pitch-In Ontario	Request to participate in Pitch-In Week Campaign. Chief Financial Officer & City Treasurer City Engineer COUNCIL DIRECTION REQUESTED APR2012 EI2012

Communication No. 14:

Moved by Councillor Halberstadt, seconded by Councillor Hatfield,
M541-2012 That the request to participate in Pitch-In Week Campaign **BE REFERRED** to the Windsor Essex County Environment Committee (WECEC) and the Environmental Services Manager, for further consideration.

Carried.

Steve Vlachodimos

EI2012

Deputy City Clerk/Senior Manager of Council Services
January 2, 2013
/jr

Internal Distribution

Chief Financial Officer & City Treasurer
City Engineer

✓ Coordinator, Windsor Essex County Environment Committee
Environmental Services Manager

External Distribution

PITCH-IN ONTARIO

Volunteers in Action!

c/o National Head Office

Box 45011, Ocean Park R.P.O.

White Rock, B.C. V4A 9L1

Website: www.pitch-in.ca

COUNCIL AGENDA
COMMUNICATIONS
APR 2012 → DEC 17 2012
EI 2012 NO. 14
1-877-474-8244
pitch-in@pitch-in.ca

Patron, PITCH-IN CANADA
The Governor General of Canada

Dear Head and Members of Council,

PITCH-IN Ontario would like to acknowledge your involvement in past years with the PITCH-IN WEEK Campaign. Our success in cleaning up over 4.5 million tonnes of garbage and recycling last year was made possible by dedicated volunteers like you. Over 18,000+ action projects were completed nationally during the 2012 week long event.

We cannot express how grateful we are to have your participation and involvement again this year and would like to encourage you to become a Municipal Patron.

A cost effective and tax deductible commitment, PITCH-IN Patrons enjoy many benefits and resources to aid in individual municipal PITCH-IN WEEK campaigns and also in community involvement and education year round.

PITCH-IN Ontario provides volunteers with the materials and ideas to undertake the often unpleasant and definitely challenging tasks of cleaning-up and beautifying our communities – all for FREE.

This year, our PITCH-IN WEEK focus, in partnership with our community clean-up and recycling campaign, is tree Awareness – we are developing in-school programs that educate our children and youth not only on taking care of our communities, but also planning for the future. The programs will focus on; tree Growth, tree Care, tree Regrowth and tree Planting.

With the help of our Campaign Sponsors, partners and communities like yours, we are able to continue with this important and worthy cause. Youth and community involvement is key - become a Patron now by calling or filling out the attached application form. If you have any questions please contact Erika at Erika@pitch-in.ca.

"The City's involvement in PITCH-IN CANADA Week, Operation: Clean Sweep, is a benefit to the community as it provides assistance in city-wide clean-ups, builds upon Communities In Bloom initiatives and promotes environmental awareness. This enhances both the urban and natural environment and develops a strong sense of community pride and responsibility. The estimated value.. of our PITCH-IN volunteers' hours IN 2008 is \$340,000 to \$612,000."
Sandra Kranc, City of Oshawa.

PITCH-IN ONTARIO.... VOLUNTEERS IN ACTION!!

Sincerely,

Alice Johnson

Alice Johnson
Volunteer Chair, PITCH-IN ONTARIO

CITY OF WINDSOR
COUNCIL SERVICES

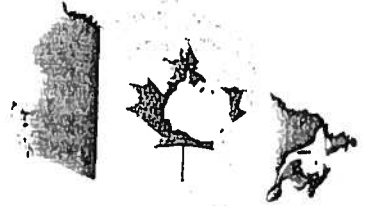
NOV 19 2012

RECEIVED



MISSION

We are dedicated to the preservation and sustainable growth of our natural ecosystems and communities. PITCH-IN CANADA falls outside of the science, business and research criteria, but represents hard working Canadian volunteers and consumers who care about making environmental change in their area and improving communities nation-wide for future generations.



PROGRAMS

NATIONWIDE VOLUNTEER SUPPORT & EDUCATION

There are a number of programs that we operate year round featuring: educational speakers, informative displays, poster contests, Litterless Lunch Programs, tree planting, recycling programs/projects, educational videos/DVDs, The Green Shopper Program, composting educational programs and energy efficiency and conservation programs. Each is customized for age, organizational size and implementation, and volunteer participation.



PITCH-IN WEEK & OPERATION CLEAN SWEEP

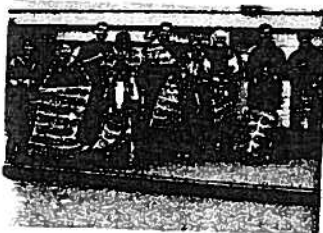
The PITCH-IN WEEK program is the largest environmental improvement campaign in Canada. It is a partnership between governments, the media, industry and the public. Volunteers and partners participate in a wide range of PITCH-IN WEEK activities with volunteer numbers totalling more than 622,000. This event is organised by more than 1,200 local volunteer coordinators.

1,343
COMMUNITY BASED
GROUPS PROVIDED
286,029
VOLUNTEERS (46%)
AND CARRIED OUT
39% OF ALL PROJECTS
COMPLETED.

The results from this project are incorporated in the world-wide 'Clean-Up The World' statistics and is supported by the United Nations Environment Program. UNEP.

THE PROGRAM OBJECTIVES INCLUDE:

- Involve millions of Canadians, young and old, in local projects which clean-up, restore and/or preserve the environment, thereby promoting environmental sustainability and involving both young and 'older' people in local partnerships which benefit and enhance their communities.
- Clean up, restore and beautify the environment by cleaning up litter and other garbage from urban, rural and wilderness areas and by initiating local projects such as habitat preservation and restoration and urban renewal activities, thereby promoting respect for Canada's natural and urban environments.
- Encourage voluntary action as a means of resolving environmental problems.
- Stress the value of waste as a resource by encouraging Canadians to refuse, reuse, recycle and properly dispose waste.
- Educate Canadians to pack-in/pack-out their waste when they enjoy the natural environment.
- Encourage civic pride and develop long-term working relationships for the future which will help local communities develop in an environmentally friendly and sustainable manner, thereby leaving lasting benefits.



School group, BC



Shopping cart removal, AB



School group, ON



London, ON

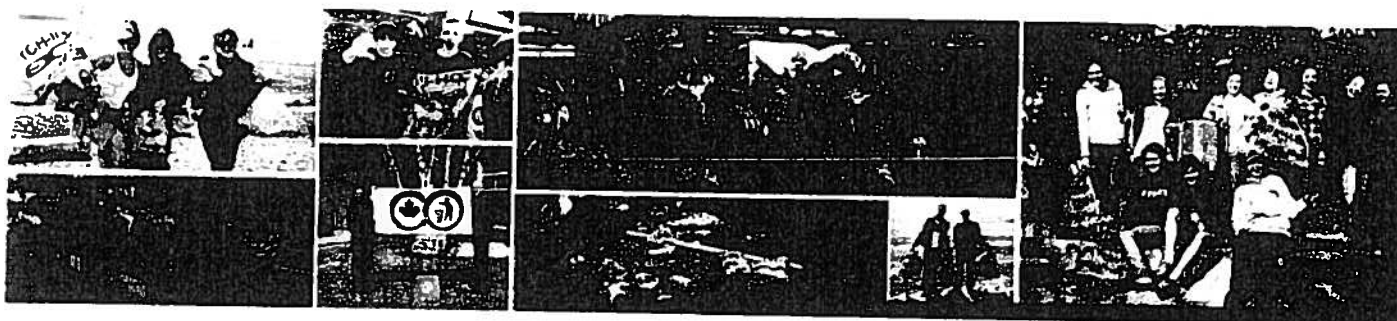
PARTICIPATION & VOLUNTEERS

HOW AND WHERE WE OPERATE

Currently, there are over 622,000 volunteers that participate with PITCH-IN CANADA every year through local and environmental action projects of varying length. Projects can range from annual events to year long sustainable programs. We focus on the clean-up of business and commercial areas, wildlife areas, parks and ravines, schools and neighborhoods, highways/roadside, sports fields, shorelines and waterways and nature and recreational trails.

Our success depends on the education of Canadian youth and the continued support from individuals, municipalities, businesses and government groups. We use your monetary donations to ensure programs are being taught in schools across the nation and to provide FREE clean-up materials to thousands of community groups of varying size and location. We operate with minimal expenses and less than 5% of donations are allocated to administrative costs. Please help us to beautify our nation and work towards a litter free, safe environment for all to live in.

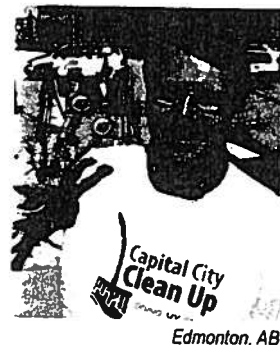
**NATIONAL
PARTNERS IN
CMC PRIDE**



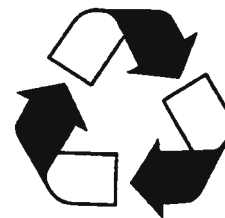
PATRON PARTNERSHIP

BENEFITS OF BECOMING A PATRON

- Priority registration in the annual PITCH-IN WEEK Program
- Priority access to free garbage/recycling bags for participating groups and schools in your community
- Detailed Action + Communication Plan for PITCH-IN CANADA Week
- Use of the PITCH-IN trademark and 20 Minute Makeover logo
- **FREE PITCH-IN WEEK** promotional DVD
- **\$125 Discount** on the official SEMAINE PITCH-IN WEEK flag
- **FREE** DVDs promoting litter control programs for use in your community
- Receive **FREE** materials, including a detailed Communication + Action Plan for The 20-Minute Makeover Program
- Access to The Civic Pride Program, a comprehensive, year-round, litter control and waste management program (manual, workshop materials, DVD, use of logo, etc...)
- **FREE** application for The National Civic Pride Recognition Program (SAVE \$750)
- Listing on the PITCH-IN CANADA Website as a Patron
- Reciprocal link from our website to your community's website
- Secure login/access to the Patron Section of the PITCH-IN website - download free materials, logos and more
- Reduced registration fee for workshops
- Access to PITCH-IN CANADA staff as you design local litter control + beautification programs
- Feel good that you are supporting a great program in your community and ensure it is able to continue!



RE-CYCLE



**IT'S BETTER
THE 2ND TIME
AROUND!**

PITCH-IN CANADA
www.pitch-in.ca

PATRON PARTNERSHIP

REGISTRATION AND INVOLVEMENT

Dependent on your community size and population we have developed a Patron Donation Scale so that even the smallest of towns or hamlets can participate.

Send this form to:
PITCH-IN CANADA National Office
 Box 45011, Ocean Park PO,
 White Rock, BC V4A 9L1

Name of Community _____
 Mailing Address _____
 City/Town/Village _____ Province/Territory _____
 Postal Code _____ Telephone () _____ Fax () _____
 Contact Person _____
 Title _____
 Email _____
 Community Website www. _____
 Most Recent Census Population _____ Amount of Patron Fee Included \$ _____
We need an invoice. Our Purchase Order Number (please attach PO) is: _____

Population In Your Community	Patron Fee
1-500	\$100
501-1,000	\$175
1,001-2,500	\$250
2,501-5,000	\$325
5,001-10,000	\$400
10,001-25,000	\$475
25,001-50,000	\$550
50,001-100,000	\$625
100,001-250,000	\$700
250,001-500,000	\$775
500,000+	\$850

If your community registers for PITCH-IN CANADA Week you are guaranteed free garbage bags for participating groups and schools in your community if you register by the March 15, 2013 deadline.

PATRON PITCH-IN WEEK REGISTRATION

Email (print clearly please) _____
 Name (Mr/Mrs/Ms) _____ Title _____
 Municipality/Village/Town _____



STREET DELIVERY ADDRESS

Delivery Address _____
 Village/Town/City _____ Province _____
 Postal Code _____ Telephone () _____ Fax () _____

Number of people estimated to participate in your campaign _____
 (This is very important because it helps us determine the quantity of FREE materials we send you)

Will you be organizing a clean-up event? Yes No

If yes, please let us know what areas you plan to clean-up (Check off as many as apply.)

- 01 Schoolyard
- 02 Neighbourhood
- 03 Park/Playground
- 04 Ravine
- 05 Shoreline/Waterway
- 06 Highway/Road
- 07 Business
- 08 Cemetery/Churchyard
- 09 Wildlife Conservation Area
- 10 Trail
- 11 Sports Fields
- 12 Other (Please Specify)

Date(s) of You Clean-up Project(s)? _____

Please provide more details about your clean-up project(s):



PITCH-IN CANADA

Do you plan to separate and recycle debris collected? Yes No

DOWNLOAD YOUR CERTIFICATE OF PARTICIPATION

at www.pitch-in.ca - go to "Hot Links" Save as a Word Document and individualize for each participant.

PLEASE EMAIL US A LIST OF YOUR PARTICIPANT'S EMAIL ADDRESSES.

Monsters that lurk

QUEST COLUMN

RAJ BEJANKIWAR
AND JOHN NEVIN

South Bay Bessie, Lake Erie Champagney Lemmy (short for Lake Erie Monster), for more than 200 years, there have been stories of a 30- to 40-foot serpent-like beast lurking in Lake Erie. In 2001, three swimmers near Port Dover were supposedly bitten by a "razor-toothed, unidentified creature."

Modern day marketers have tapped the legend to name a minor-league hockey team and a craft beer after Lake Erie's own version of the Loch Ness Monster.

While these stories are the stuff of fuzzy camera shots and reality TV, real scientists will tell you there IS a monster in Lake Erie — algae, blue-green scum that closes beaches with health warnings and kills fish by starving them of oxygen. Fed by polluted run-off from farms and sewage overflows, this real Lake Erie monster reared its ugly head in the sum-

mer of 2011 with the biggest algal bloom ever recorded.

By this year, drought has limited run-off, yet the blue-green muck continues to close beaches on both sides of the border. On Labour Day weekend, tens of thousands of dead fish washed up on beaches from Port Stanley to east of Rondeau Provincial Park, possibly killed by a temperature inversion, a natural phenomenon that shifts oxygen-depleted water from lower levels up to the surface.

Created by the Boundary Waters Treaty of 1909, the International Joint Commission is tasked with helping Canada and the US manage and protect transboundary waters such as Lake Erie. First signed in 1972, the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement (GLWQA) asks the Commission to provide advice to the governments to help clean up and restore the lakes while also assessing progress. In fact, more than a generation ago, advice from commission scientists helped the two countries establish a regulatory framework and implement programs that brought Erie

back after it was degraded dead in 1970.

The good news is that federal Environment Minister Peter Kent and his US counterpart, EPA administrator Lisa Jackson recently signed an updated GLWQA, including language specifically tackling language pollution. Minister Kent also announced \$16 million for the Great Lakes Nutrient Initiative to advance the science to understand and address recurrent toxic and nuisance algae.

Our commission has made reducing harmful algal blooms its top Great Lakes priority. This initiative, the Lake Erie Ecosystem Priority (LEEP), recently held eight public meetings (in Windsor, Leamington, Port Stanley and Dunville, Ont.) to hear from local residents. Managed by the our Windsor office, LEEP is bringing together scientists and policy experts to analyze the scientific, economic and social issues related to the causes and controls of harmful algal blooms.

Our Canada-US task force is examining the source of phosphorus loads and how extreme

weather events associated with climate change might be spurring algae growth. They are also assessing the adequacy of monitoring programs and the effectiveness of agricultural and urban management practices. Other researchers are looking at economic impacts of excess algal growth compared to the costs and benefits of potential solutions.

Next summer, we will release for public comment a report that will help governments take additional actions to reduce phosphorus, inform stakeholders, strengthen coastal ecosystems and attack the blue-green muck that is plaguing Erie's shorelines.

A monster does lurk in Lake Erie. We created it. Now, it's our job stop feeding it so that Lake Erie can continue to be one of the best places in the world to fish, to swim and to enjoy fresh water.

Raj Bejankiwar is a physical scientist, and John Nevin is public affairs adviser at the International Joint Commission, Great Lakes Regional Office, Windsor. ic.org/LEEP/ and follow us on Twitter @ErieIJC

Dec. 14
2012
**Restore area
between swamps**

Re: City council delays decision on future of airport woodlots, by Doug Schmidt, Dec. 5.

In May 2009, the Province of Ontario evaluated the flora and fauna in these unique habitats and designated them as Provincially Significant Wetlands, also known as the "Windsor Airport Swamps."

Consequently, the Provincial Policy Statement states, "Development and site alteration shall not be permitted in provincially significant wetlands."

This effectively has preserved and protected these special habitat areas for the benefit of our community.

The PPS also states, "Development and site alteration shall not be permitted on adjacent lands," (to the PSWs) and "that there will be no negative impacts on the natural features or on their ecological function."

The city administration recommended a 120-metre buffer zone around the PSWs, and four of the five delegations to council supported their recommendation.

The open area between the PSWs could be restored with wetland trees and shrubs, which would successfully connect them. The Little River Enhancement Group has been suggesting this linkage since 1998.

Connecting the swamps will create another exceptional natural area in the Little River watershed, an interior forest. Furthermore, within

this open space, a mandatory stormwater retention facility will be constructed.

This facility will not only control the quantity of surface flood water, but it will improve the quality of the water flowing off the airport site into the Little River and ultimately the Detroit River.

An additional fact that must be considered, the two species at risk that make the airport their home — eastern fox and Butler's garter snakes — require these extraordinary habitats to survive.

Our community has the opportunity to expand a functioning swamp, establish an interior forest and create open space with a stormwater retention facility; together this complex will improve the quality of the air we breathe and water we drink.

IAN NAISBITT, chair, Little River Enhancement Group, Tecumseh