

# Carolinian Canada Coalition



## Coastal Zone Program

Coastal Program Coordinator  
Megan Ihrig  
[coast@carolinian.org](mailto:coast@carolinian.org)

# Coastal Zone Program



## Goals of the Coastal Zone Program

- To **connect** rural and urban residents, and individual and group conservation and **stewardship efforts** along the North Shore Lake Erie coastal zone, into a network of interconnected projects
- To **enhance** ecological integrity, and **conserve** coastal ecosystems and Species at Risk in the Lake Erie Coastal Zone of Carolinian Canada
- To enhance the **enjoyment** of coastal landscapes, and provide greater **opportunities for access** to and **understanding** of rare species and habitats

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## The Lake Erie Coastal Stewardship Trail

- What is it?

A trail that will encourage **recreation, ecotourism, stewardship** and **conservation** of the Lake Erie Coast.

**Promote education, interactions** with nature, and raise **awareness** about SAR, coastal processes, agricultural, historical and cultural features, in Carolinian Canada.

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## The Lake Erie Coastal Stewardship Trail

- Where will it be?

The goal is to have the entire north shore of Lake Erie connected



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## The Lake Erie Coastal Stewardship Trail

- Where will it be?

Community interest will play a large role in determining the route

Participation in the trail is entirely voluntary

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## The Lake Erie Coastal Stewardship Trail

- Who is it for?

Local residents, day-trippers, vacationers, tourists, and conservation organizations.

Providing opportunities for local walks, educational outings, ecotourism, cultural explorations and nature-based volunteer activities.



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## The Lake Erie Coastal Stewardship Trail

- What will it look like?

Features to include could be national and provincial parks, scenic views, restoration and demonstration sites, agricultural tours, sites of historical and cultural heritage



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## The Lake Erie Coastal Stewardship Trail

- What will it look like?

“Best Practices” developed with stakeholder input at the forum, to form criteria for the trail and sites

Best Practice examples included:

- Features not to include are sensitive natural areas
- Protect and enhance natural and cultural heritage
- Demonstrate and engender respect for landowners, flora and fauna, other users

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## Conclusions from the Caring for Our Coast Forum

- The features to include in a Lake Erie Coastal Stewardship Trail exist
- The linkages between these features exist in some areas
- The desire to link local and regional projects on a landscape level exists
- The knowledge of how to build and manage a trail exists
- CCC can facilitate bringing trails, conservation, tourism and other groups together

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What are the next steps?

- 4 regional workshops will provide more opportunities for community input on:
  - Potential routes
  - Places to include
  - More on the “Best Practices” criteria for the trail



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## Linkages with Other Programs

- Conservation Action Plans (CAPs) in biodiversity hotspots provide the science to inform the Coastal Zone Program
  - Niagara River Corridor CAP underway
  - Elgin CAP in development
- Greenway Initiative

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Thank you to:



Parks  
Canada

Parcs  
Canada

