

Phragmites, Invasive Species and Buffer Management

- Invasive Species
- Buffer Management
- Vegetation Management



Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake
September 2019



Phragmites, Invasive Species and Buffer Management



Background
Irrigation
Municipal Drains
Public Property



Vegetated Buffers & Invasive Species (Phragmites)



Creation of Phragmites Committee

This is a Committee of Council

Representation of
2 Agricultural Committee
2 Irrigation Committee
2 Council Members
2 Staff Members (Director & Environmental Services
Supervisor)

Next Steps

- Develop a Realistic Management Plan
- Council will be addressing a new piece of machinery for Phragmites Management
- Continue Vegetative Management Program
- Town has already purchased a basket cutter for current machinery
- Town is creating a storage and possible burn location for disposal of plant

Meeting with Minister's Office Staff at AMO Conference

- Requested assistance of senior policy staff to work through legislation as to what can be done
- Final response: This is under the Pesticide Act which is Federal Legislation, we need to deal with them directly
- MECP could not assist us
- Species is now listed as a restricted Invasive Species – MECP staff recently sent a link by email



Method of Phragmites Control

- Do the most good with the least harm
- Wet blade technique is application of choice
- Application 4.5 to 5% (VisionMax) with 1% surfactant (Peanut Oil)
- All assessed properties pay for maintenance costs including Town roads, County roads, and Provincial Highways
- Dig out when found
- Retain reputable contractor for assistance
- Create a working group to help educate and find ways to assist others

2007



Leamington County

May 2014



Nov 2011 – Full Cleanout



Next Species

Phragmites, Invasive Species and Buffer Management

- Buffer Management
 - Municipal Drains
 - Erosion Control
- Excessive Vegetation
 - Public and Private Interests
- Buffer Infringement
 - Occupying within buffer limits
- Environmental Management
 - Competing Interests
 - Private works
- Agricultural Requirements
 - Irrigation Needs
 - Grasses and Shrubs

