

Funding

You may qualify for a grant or cost-share opportunity:

•GLASI – Farm Health Check-Up - OSCIA administered
www.ontariosoilcrop.org/oscia-programs/glasi/farmland-health-check-up/

•GLASI – Farmland Health Incentive Program – OSCIA administered
www.ontariosoilcrop.org/oscia-programs/glasi/farmland-health-incentive-program/

•Growing Forward 2 - OSCIA administered
www.ontariosoilcrop.org/oscia-programs/growing-forward-2/

•Species at Risk Farm Incentive Program (SARFIP) – OSCIA administered
www.ontariosoilcrop.org/oscia-programs/species-at-risk-farm-incentive-program/

•Agricultural Improvement Fund – LTVCA administered
www.lowerthames-conservation.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/Agricultural-Improvement-Fund.pdf

•Chatham Kent Greening Partnership – LTVCA administered
www.lowerthames-conservation.on.ca/forests-habitat/greening-partnership/

The views expressed herein are those of the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority and do not necessarily reflect those of Ontario. Publication date 2016.

Questions?

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Soil Conservation

Spring

Sun shining, kids playing, birds singing, snow melting ... carrying your soil to the creeks, river and our Great Lakes.

Best Management Practices

or BMPs for soil conservation, will help reduce soil erosion due to wind, precipitation and snow melt.

Options are Available and Funding Exists to Help You.

Helping Our Soil

Using Best Management Practices or BMPs helps improve yield, income, time spent in the field, equipment outlay and maintenance costs, not to mention soil condition and property value.

BMPs result in good PR for farmers. Water quality, biodiversity, and watershed health all improve. BMPs make your operation part of the solution!



Soil Types in the Thames Watershed

Sandy Loam and Loam-Textured Soils can resist erosion processes better than silt, very fine sand and certain clay-textured soils. Water can readily penetrate loam soils, and if organic matter and good soil structure is present, these soils have a greater resistance to erosion from wind as well.

Silt Loam Soils are most at risk for water erosion, especially on slopes.

Clay Loam Soils can form a surface crust and can become compacted, resulting in runoff of soil particles which increase the sediment load detrimental to our waterbodies. This proves costly to the producer, the water quality and community water treatment facilities.

Visit our Webpage for information on tillage, cover crops and crop rotation BMPs for your soil type: www.lowerthames-conservation.on.ca/forests-habitat/mcgregor-creek-education-and-outreach-great-lakes-agricultural-stewardship-initiative/



Is Your Soil Eroding?

Visit the Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association (OSCIA) website here www.ontariosoilcrop.com/oscia-programs/glasi/ and arrange to have a Certified Crop Advisor perform a Farmland Health Check-up. They can advise you on BMPs best suited to your needs and determine your eligibility for the Farmland Health Incentive categories available. Visit www.ontariosoilcrop.com/oscia-programs/glasi/farmland-health-incentive-program/ for more detail.

BMPs to Consider

- Use conservation tillage to leave 30-70% crop residue throughout the crop rotation cycle.
- Harvest as early as possible then seed cover crops. These will serve to anchor residue and soil.
- Rotate with forage crops to reduce erosion.
- Application of manure, compost or biosolids increase soil stability and organic matter, but ensure BMPs regarding tillage are used.
- Consult with an Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association representative to form a plan.



Funding opportunities exist. Read on!