



Media Advisory

Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE OF ISSUE: September 23, 2009

The 'Youth in Action – Making Waves' **Lake Huron – Georgian Bay Environmental Youth Summit** is being held in Huron County for the first time. The Youth Summit takes place over three days (Sept. 25-27). The following two opportunities for media coverage have been created:

DATE: Friday, September 25

TIME: 7 p.m.

LOCATION: Bluewater Shores Lakefront Resort, 77683 Bluewater Hwy, Highway 21, between Bayfield and Goderich

OTHER DETAILS: Town of Goderich Mayor Deb Shewfelt and Municipality of Central Huron Reeve Bert Dykstra are scheduled to make remarks.

DATE: Saturday, September 26

TIME: 11 a.m.

LOCATION: Rotary Cove Beach

OTHER DETAILS: Pat Donnelly, Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation, will be speaking at that time (some other activities the participants are involved in are listed below).

CONTACTS: For more information, please contact Jenni Boles at youthsummit@huroncounty.ca or phone **519-235-2610** or **1-888-286-2610** or, by cell phone, **519-639-4863**.

The activities mentioned above are in addition to other participant activities during the weekend including: a farm tour at a local landowner's property; guest speaker Corrina Serda and much more.

The Lake Huron-Georgian Bay watershed stretches from Sault Ste. Marie to Parry Sound to Grand Bend. Close to 35 senior secondary school students are expected to attend this weekend of environmental education, inspiration and action planning. The Youth Summit focuses on fostering a community-based approach to restoring and protecting the lands and waters of the Lake Huron-Georgian Bay watershed through education, awareness and community action.. This year's Summit will focus on the positive linkages and healthy collaboration between the environment and landowners.

The students who participate in the Youth Summit return to their home communities and act as youth ambassadors. In previous years, students have used the skills and information they obtained at the Youth Summit to initiate school-wide events such as composting programs, walk-to-school days and presentations to school assemblies. Students have also undertaken activities outside their school by hosting local community water festivals, participating in tree planting and habitat restoration events and making presentations to municipal councils.

Each of the students is paired up with a mentor in their community who provides them with support and assists them in finding the resources they will need to work as a youth ambassador.

The Lake Huron – Georgian Bay Environmental Youth Summit is an event organized by a partnership of federal, provincial and local agencies – including Environment Canada and the Ontario Ministries of Natural Resources; Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs; and the Environment as well as the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority, the County of Huron and the Huron Business Development Corporation.

All meals during the weekend will include food produced by local farmers.