**Invasive Phragmites Control Fund** 



Invasive

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The Green Shovels Collaborative (GSC) is a coalition of conservation organizations, including Ducks Unlimited Canada (DUC), Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations (FOCA), Invasive Species Centre (ISC), the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC), Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters (OFAH), and Ontario Turtle Conservation Centre (OTCC).

With assistance from the Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry, the Green Shovels Collaborative is seeking to support groups or organizations implementing Phragmites control activities in Ontario by providing grants of up to \$10,000.

## Program Objectives

The Invasive Phragmites Control Fund program will:

**GREEN SHOVELS** 

- 1. Amplify and expand Phragmites control implementation in Ontario, and/or
- 2. Address the leading edge and rapid spread of Phragmites, and/or
- 3. Increase collaboration and coordination, volunteer, and landowner participation & capacity.

## Eligible Applicants

Groups or organizations in Ontario (e.g., Community collaboratives, municipalities, Indigenous communities, organizations, non-profit or charitable groups, and conservation authorities) are eligible to apply. Should this be a barrier, we encourage collaborative applications where the recipient is a legal entity.

#### Award Terms

The total amount of funds available is limited (\$55,000). The Invasive Phragmites Control Fund strives to fund approximately six to ten projects. For applications to be considered, a minimum ask of \$2,500.00 is required, up to a maximum ask of \$10,000.00.

Award recipients will agree to provide project updates, stories, and photos to be used by the Invasive Species Centre and other Green Shovel Collaborative partners to communicate project outcomes and raise awareness about Phragmites in Ontario. Award recipients agree to report on specific performance indicators that will be used to communicate project outcomes to grant funders and the Green Shovels Collaborative partners.

#### **Proposed Timeline**

Phase	Start	End
Request for Proposals	August 23, 2021	September 14, 2021
Review of Proposals	September 15, 2021	September 20, 2021
Successful recipients notified (target date)	September 20, 2021*	
Agreements	October 2021	
Final Reporting	March 1, 2022	March 18, 2022**

\* Eligible expenses as of August 20, 2021, will be considered.

\*\* All funds must be spent by March 18, 2022.

# Funding Priorities

Funding for multiple categories may be requested in one application.

- 1. Equipment and materials (e.g., backpack sprayers, misc. parts, spades, cane cutters, small boats, rafts, health and safety supplies, personal protective equipment, chemicals, pesticide signs, interpretive/educational signage, etc.)
- 2. Winter control implementation (if completed by March 1, 2022) (e.g., prescribed burns, cutting, rolling)
- 3. Project Team and Volunteer Development (e.g., skills training and development, program and capacity building, training events, etc.)
- 4. Control Implementation and Management Planning (e.g., consultant fees, surveys, control plans, budgets, partner engagement, landowner engagement, long-term maintenance and sustainability plans, etc.)

### Key Performance Indicators

To support the evaluation of this fund and ensure future funding is available, the following key performance indicators (KPI's) may be requested. KPI's are not meant to be overly cumbersome and will be more, or less, appropriate for each project. A subset of the KPI's listed below can be chosen and will be agreed upon prior to the distribution of funds along with a final reporting template.

KPI	Unit	Description
Full-time staff	Number (n)	Total number of paid staff working 40 hours per week.
Volunteers	Number (n)	Total number of volunteers on the project contributed.
Volunteer hours	Time (hours)	Total number of hours donated.
Leverage	Dollars (\$)	Total amount raised using these funds as a match.
Area controlled	Metres sq. (m <sup>2</sup> )	Measures the total area of Phragmites managed.
Online engagements	Number (n)	Total number of online engagements.
In person engagements	Number (n)	Total number of in person engagements.
Indigenous involvement	Number (n)	Total number of indigenous groups engaged.

#### How to Apply

Interested applicants must complete an application form and email to **kalexander@invasivespeciescentre.ca** by **September 14, 2021 @ 11:59 pm**.

Please contact Karen Alexander at <u>kalexander@invasivespeciescentre.ca</u> or (519) 791-5626 to discuss project eligibility and other questions.