

The Manitoulin Phragmites Project

Eradicating and controlling
Invasive Phragmites
across Manitoulin Island and Cockburn Island

Giving everyone the knowledge and capability
to control Phragmites

Coordinated by Judith Jones, Winter Spider Eco-Consulting

2015

Doing habitat management
for SAR on Manitoulin
shorelines...

...I discovered there was a lot
more Phragmites on
Manitoulin Island than I
thought.

We had originally surveyed it
in 2011 and there wasn't much
but now it was an obvious
problem.



2016

I applied for \$30k specifically to work on Phragmites. I hired two technicians to help me.

We started out cutting by hand and hiring outside contractors for herbicide work.

We quickly realized how much more work was actually needed.



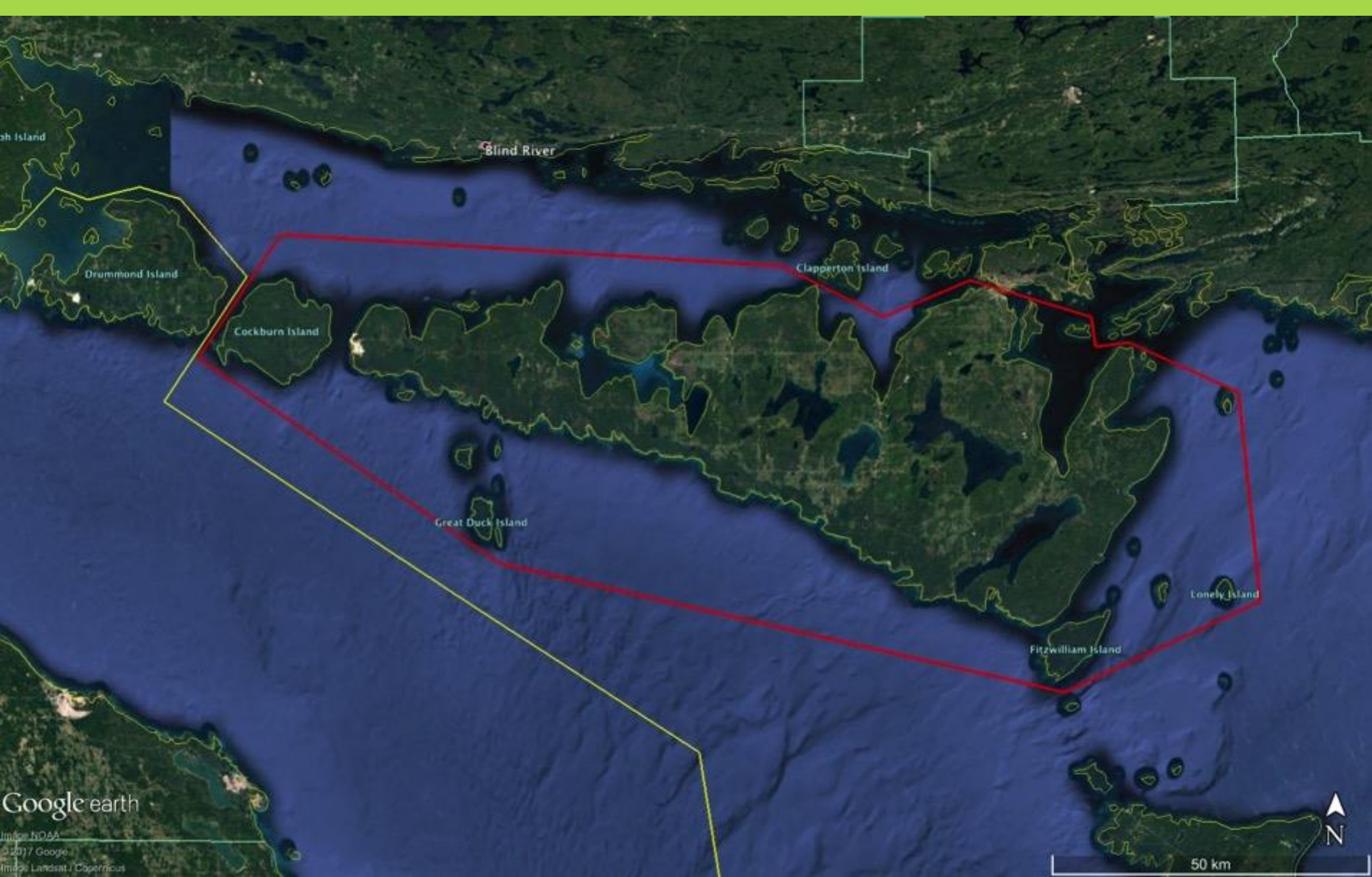
2017-2019

New funding

\$101 k each year for 3 yrs

- Crew of 3 plus myself
- Brush cutters
- Canoe
- Trailer
- Advertising & printing
- The Truxor & Crew
- Money to send municipal crew for exterminator course





Defined geographic area is large:

Manitoulin Island

Cockburn Island

Some surrounding islands

Manitoulin Phragmites Project Goal

To reduce Phragmites within the project area to a low enough level that it can be kept under control with regular annual maintenance.



Work bee volunteers during Manitoulin Phragmites Week

Ways we will accomplish our goal:

- Educate and help landowners to do control on their own properties
- Assist municipalities to bring control into their list of regular activities
- License three new exterminators and train them to work in sensitive habitats
- Host Manitoulin Phragmites Week, an annual event with education, control demonstrations, and work bees
- Maintain a Facebook page for the Project where the public can find info
- Maintain an email address where Phragmites can be reported directly to the Project and where the public can request us to come out for a “house call”
- Cut down and remove, or treat a hellova lot of Phrag
- **Mobilize the entire Manitoulin / Cockburn community to work together**

2017 results

- More than 40 sites worked
- Over 122 ha of habitat with Phrag under control
- With MTO: Manitoulin highway roadsides surveyed & Phrag work planned
- Phrag Week: more than 100 people participated in work bees and events
- Over 4000 views of our Facebook page
- More than 400 info pamphlets distributed
- Truxor work:

Site 1: 11 dump truck loads removed

Site 2: ~ 5 dump truck loads & 1 acre of very dense Phrag removed

Truxor Results

Site 2

Control at this site cost over \$10,000

24 trailer loads (size of 4 ATVs) and more than 1 acre of solid, dense Phrag removed

WAY more cost effective than paying for manpower to clear this with brush cutters.



Challenges for 2018

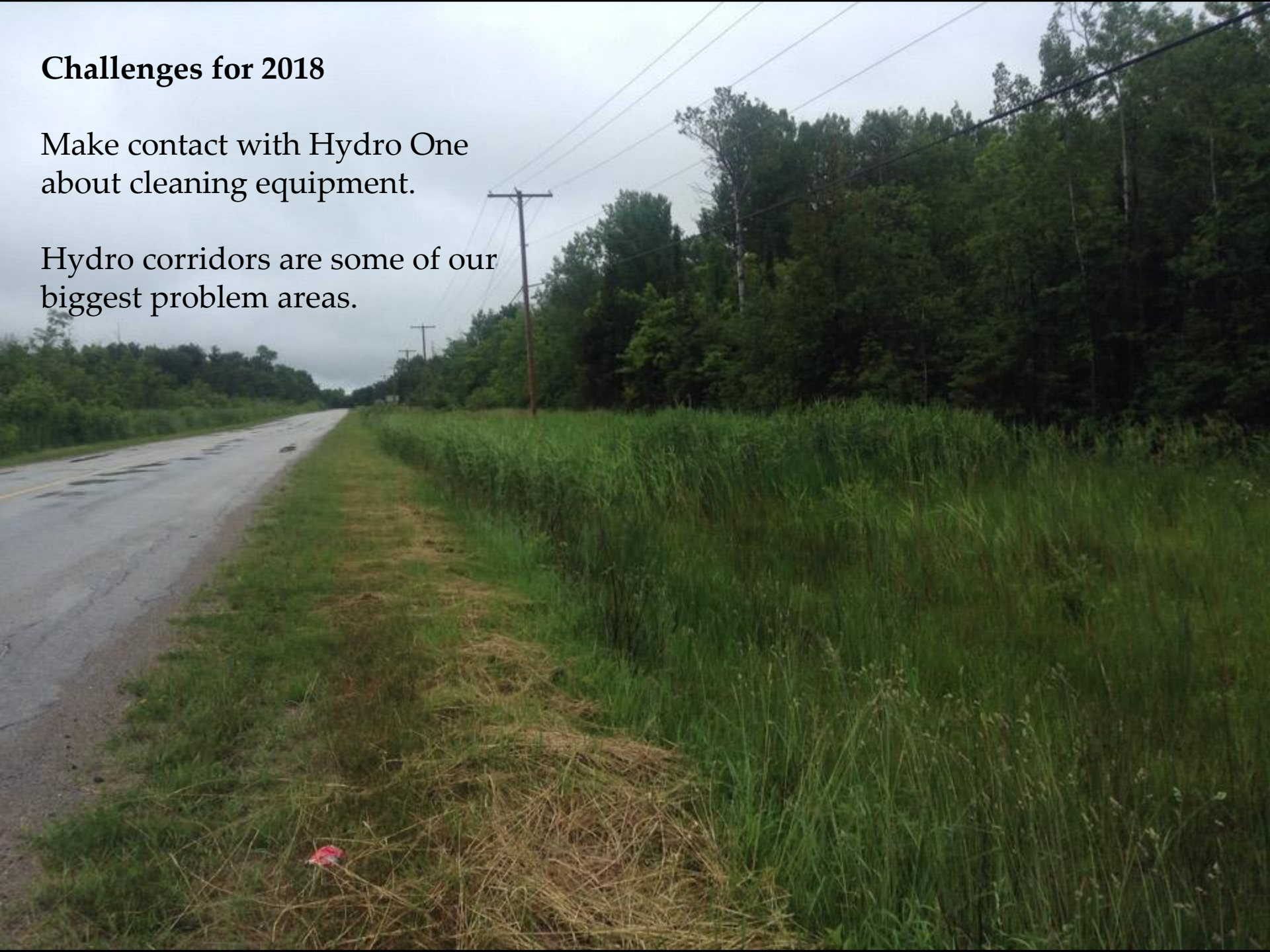
Get the message out about the need to clean equipment.

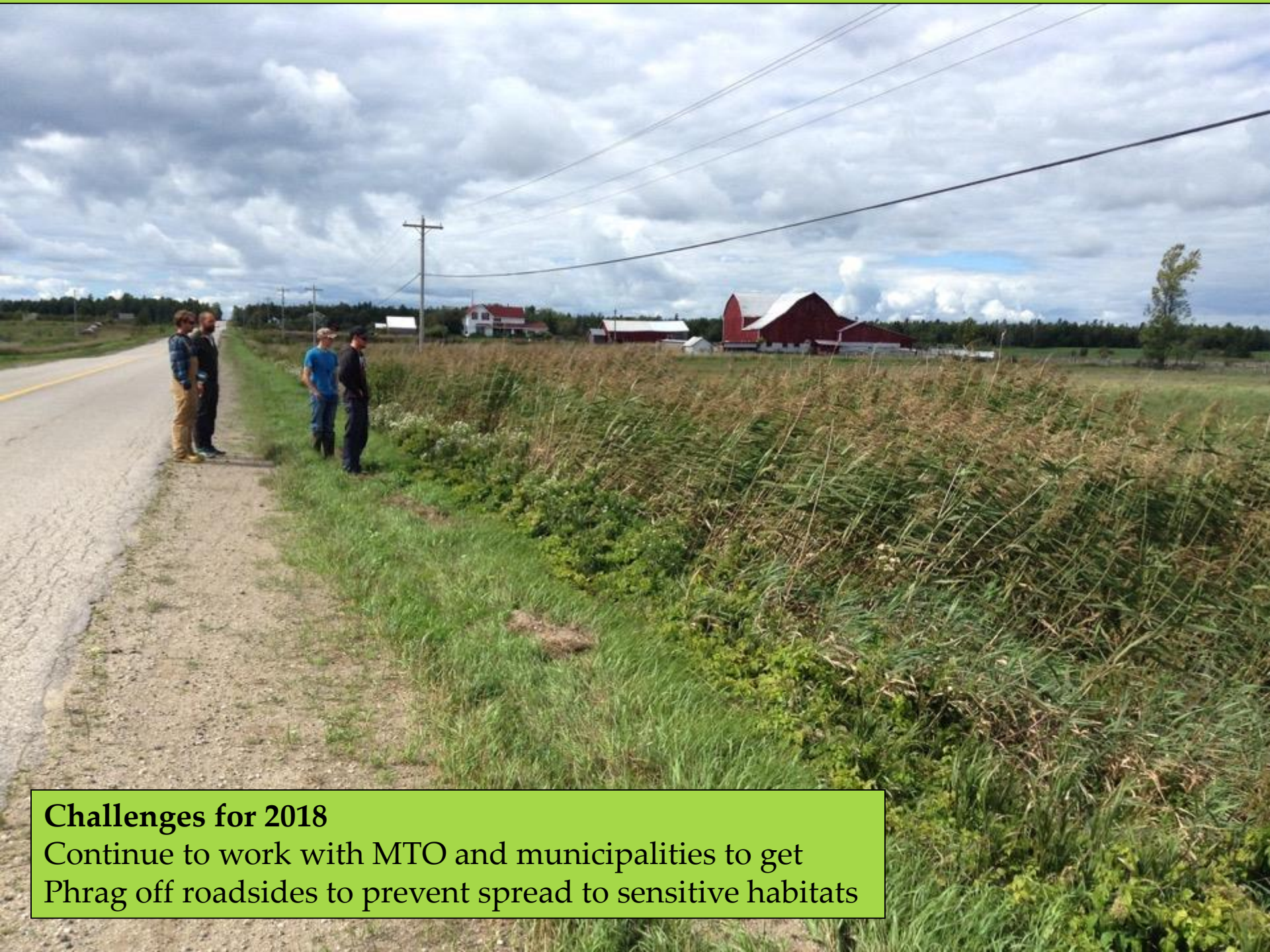


Challenges for 2018

Make contact with Hydro One about cleaning equipment.

Hydro corridors are some of our biggest problem areas.





Challenges for 2018

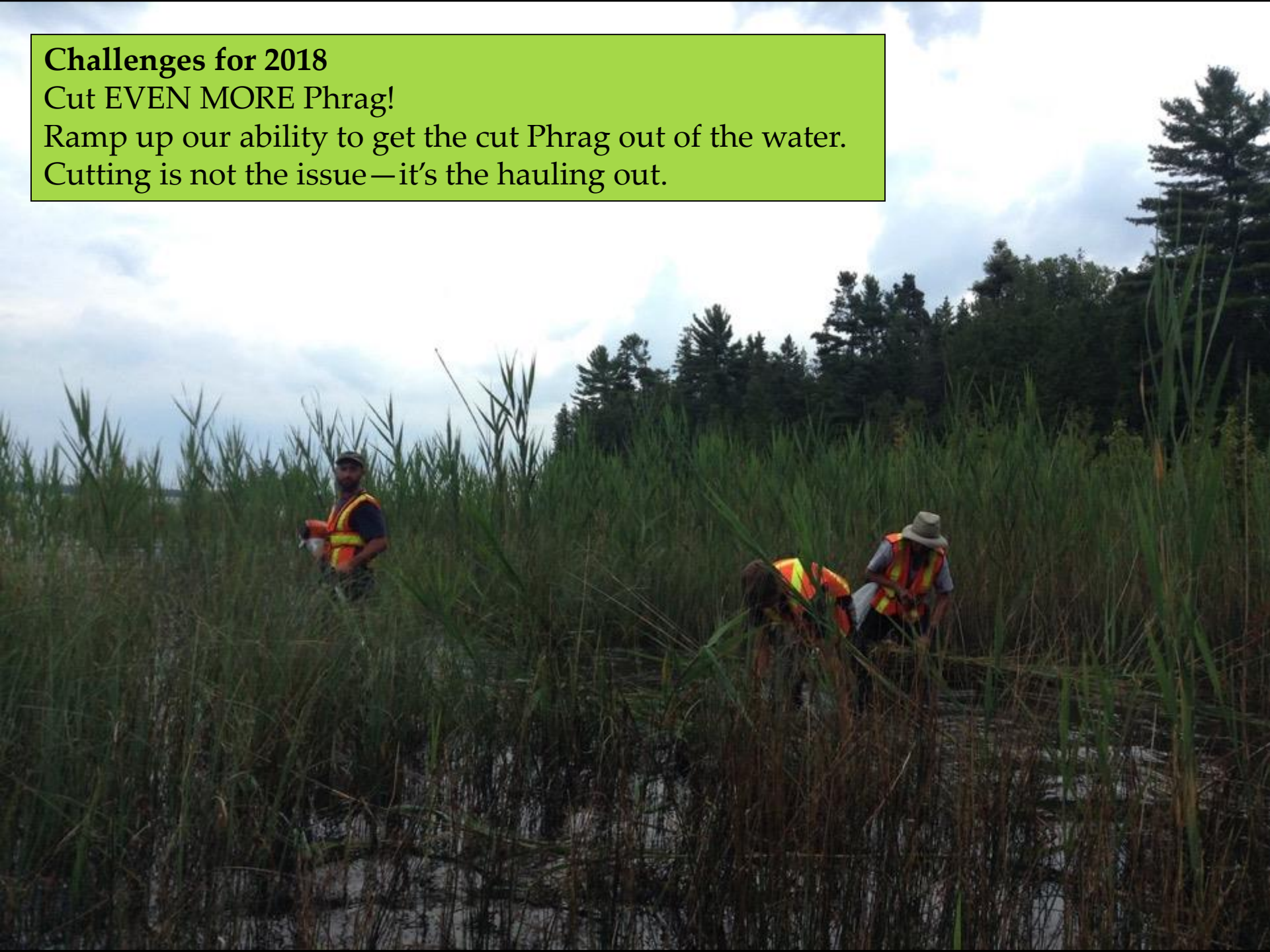
Continue to work with MTO and municipalities to get Phrag off roadsides to prevent spread to sensitive habitats

Challenges for 2018

Cut EVEN MORE Phrag!

Ramp up our ability to get the cut Phrag out of the water.

Cutting is not the issue—it's the hauling out.





Challenges for 2018

Continue to work at our signature site Michael's Bay.
This site will demonstrate that Phrag control is a question
of dollars and political will...that's all!

Decision-makers need to be able to see that control is
possible and have an example of what it takes to do it.

Manitoulin Phragmites Week

July 21-27, 2018

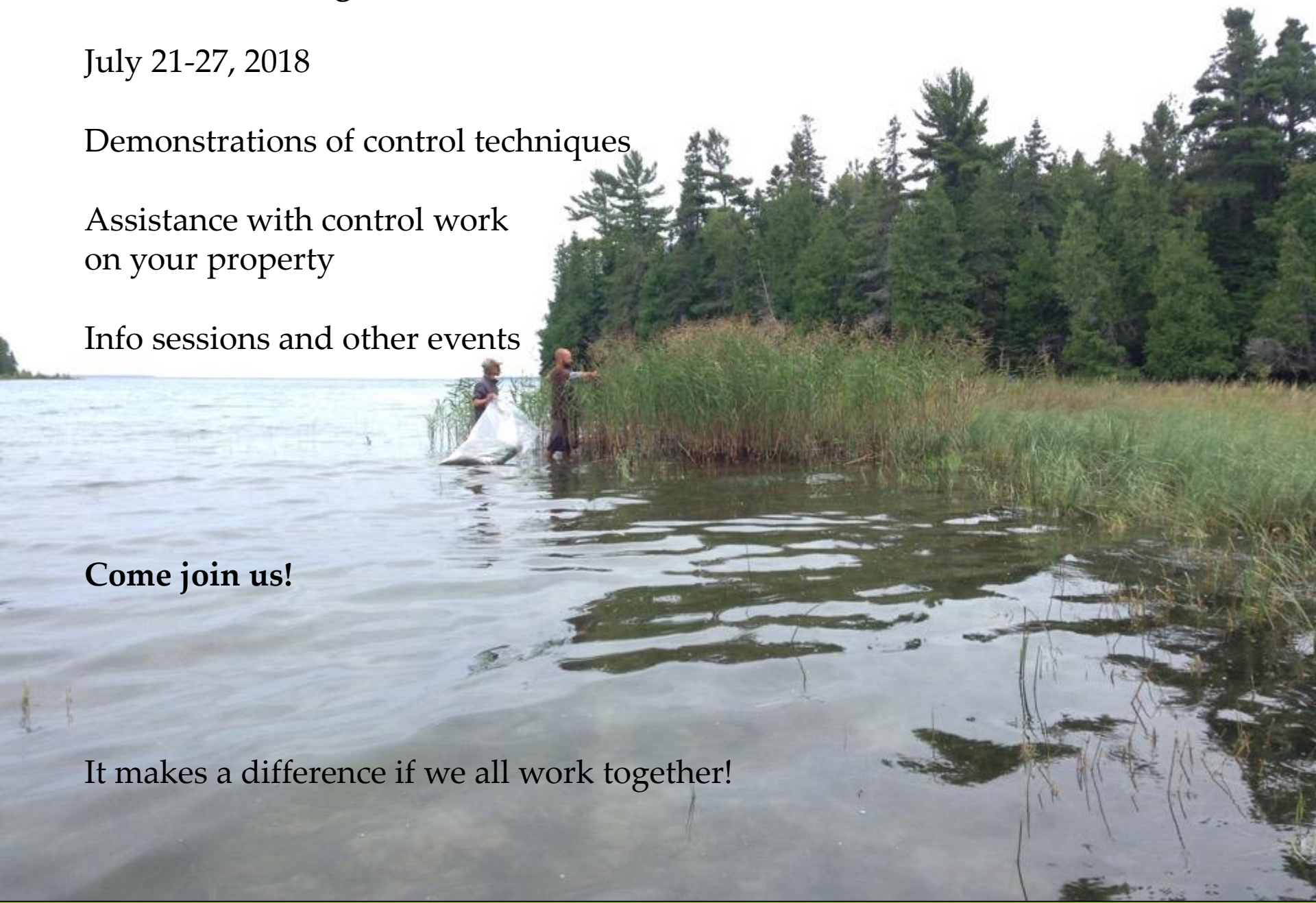
Demonstrations of control techniques

Assistance with control work
on your property

Info sessions and other events

Come join us!

It makes a difference if we all work together!



Report Phragmites to us at:

manitoulinphrag@yahoo.com

[Facebook.com/manitoulinphrag](https://www.facebook.com/manitoulinphrag)

OUR SPONSORS ❤️

The Habitat Stewardship Program of Environment and Climate Change Canada
Ontario's Species at Risk Stewardship Fund
Nature Conservancy Canada
(with support from the Gosling Foundation)
Manitoulin Transport
Manitoulin Streams
Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory
Township of Tehkummah
Escarpment Biosphere Conservancy
Municipality of Central Manitoulin
Township of Cockburn Island
Cockburn Island Sports and Conservation Club
Campbell Horticultural Society
TD Canada Trust Friends of the Environment
And a host of local volunteers
THANK YOU!

**Questions? Please contact Judith at
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