

Conclusions from Investigations

Monitoring of the Conestoga River via macroinvertebrate sampling and water quality monitoring has shown that overall the river is in good health (a decent mix of macros and generally good water quality) however some water quality sampling sites and times showed that there occasionally nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment levels are high. The land use in the Conestoga watershed is dominated by agriculture (cultivated crops and pasture = 50%) and forests (20%) followed up by developed land (16%). Both agriculture and developed lands are likely sources of excess nutrients and sediments.

	Solution #1	Solution #2	Solution #3
<p>What actions could be taken to address the environmental problem, issue, or phenomenon? See Types of Action Projects for ideas.</p>	Stormwater management project on the school grounds	Stormdrain stenciling event in Lancaster	Advocate for local planning dept. to apply for funds to support the installation of forest buffers along Conestoga River
<p>How would this help to address the environmental problem, issue, or phenomenon</p>	Better management of stormwater on the school grounds, especially the water that runs off of the parkinglot and athletic fields can help to reduce the sediment making it's way to the Conestoga River.	This event would raise awareness amongst Lancaster City residence about their connection to the Conestoga River and actions they can take to prevent sediment and other materials from flowing into the storm drains.	Forest buffers will reduce runoff heading to the Conestoga river, runoff containing sediment and nutrients.
<p>What resources would you need</p>	Funding, materials and expertise to support the design and implementation of stormwater management projects.	Storm drain stenciling kit.	Support for meetings with decision makers and the writing of grant proposals